Leper Healed and Response Recorded (Mt. 8:1–4; Mk. 1:40–45; Luke 5:12–16)

1. The first of several lepers will find healing during this episode (Mt. 8:1–4; Mk. 1:40–45; Lk. 5:12–16).
   a. λεπρός lepros #3015: leprous, affected with leprosy (Matt. 8:2; 10:8; 11:5; 26:6; Mk. 1:40; 14:3; Lk. 4:27; 7:22; 17:12).
   b. λέπρα lepra #3014: leprosy (Matt. 8:3; Mk. 1:42; Lk. 5:12,13).
   c. LXX has λεπρός lepros (12x) & λέπρα lepra (39x), plus λεπράω lepraō (3x) λεπρόομαι leproomai (3x) & λεπρόν lepron (1x).
   d. צָרַעַת tsāra'ath #6883: leprosy.
   e. צָרַע tsāra' #6879: to be a leper, to have leprosy.
   f. Great article in Unger’s Bible Dictionary, identifying Biblical leprosy with what modern medicine terms Hansen’s disease.

2. The leper understood that his cleansing was dependent upon the will of God rather than the merit of man (Mt. 8:2; Mk. 1:40; Lk. 5:12).
3. Note: he asked for cleansing (καθαρίζω katharizō #2511) rather than healing (θεραπεύω therapeuō #2323) Matt. 8:2; 10:8; 11:5; Mk. 1:40; Lk. 4:27; 5:12,13; 7:22; yet see ιάομαι iaomai #2390 Lk. 17:14&15).
4. Jesus’ miracle was instantaneous, and yet the cleansed leper was instructed to follow the Mosaic legislation (Matt. 8:4; Mk. 1:44; Lk. 5:14).
5. The cleansing of leprosy would compound the fame that Jesus gathered by His miscellaneous demon expulsions (Mk. 1:45; Lk. 5:15,16).