

Crippled Man

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

Who showed the faith in coming to Jesus?

Did Jesus ever talk about sin when healing in other cases?

What might Jesus' point be in this case?

Is it reasonable that he sensed spiritual need?

Was Jesus probably deliberately confronting the Pharisees?

What do we make of the man blind from birth?

John 9:1-3 "And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, 'Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.'"

Is there a question of sin in John 5:5-8?

"One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, 'Do you want to get well?' 'Sir,' the invalid replied, 'I have no-one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.'"

How about the follow-up in John 5:14? "Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, "See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you."

Is illness related to sin? How? In general and in specific individuals?

What is the danger of making assumptions? (see Job)

What are some ways that God works through illness?