

**Bad Investment Myths  
That Waste Your Time (Part 3)**

**Date:** May 23, 2021

**Series Summary: Investing in What Will Really Matter**

1. Family Investments (Investment advice from a mother to a son)
2. Personal Investments (Investing in your personal growth)
3. Mythical Investments (Do not believe everything you hear)
4. The Danger of Bad Investments (Are you investing in things that can harm you?)

**Text: John 5:1-9**

- Sometime later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. 2 Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. 3 Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. 5 One who was there had been an invalid for **thirty-eight years**. 6 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?”

**The Setting: The Pool of Bethesda Defined<sup>1</sup>**

- Bethesda: House of mercy, place of the flowing of water. This was a pool in Jerusalem. The remains still exist today.

**The Location of the Pool of Bethesda:**

- The Pool of Bethesda was located in northeast Jerusalem, just outside the walls during the time of Jesus and immediately north of the temple complex, while the Pool of Siloam<sup>2</sup> (John 9: 6-7) was located on the opposite side of the city, near the southeast corner but within the walls of Jerusalem.

**Introduction:** Let me give you a simple definition of a myth. A myth or fable is used to explain a world view or some social or religious value.

**I. Two Questions About The  
Myths You Have Believed**

1. What myth did you believe that was not true?
2. What are you waiting on God to do that he never promised?

**Note:** He waited thirty-eight years for something that was a myth.

**II. The Reason for a Thirty -Eight Year Myth**

7 “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.” 8 Then Jesus said to him, “**Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.**” 9 At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

1. Someone **told him** this myth and he believed it for thirty-eight years
2. He found **support in a group** of people around him that believed the same way
3. He was **enabled by the people who carried him** and picked him up at the pool every day

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<sup>1</sup> [Pool of Bethesda \(Click Here\)](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Pool of Siloam John v9 \(Click Here\)](#)

4. He had **no date set to reconsider his position** after a certain number of failures

Closing:

### III. Seven Myths I Had to Face in My Life

1. **A Prosperity Myth:** I believed for many years that my **prosperity** was determined by God alone
  - I grew to know I play a part (Galatians 6:7, "I reap what I sow")
2. **A Giving Myth:** I believed for many years that my greatest calling was to **give** and not to receive
  - I learned that I needed to be like the ant and save for my winters (Proverbs 6)
3. **A Church Myth:** I believed for many years there was **one main way** to do church
  - I learned that God has many ways to reach people (Acts 10)
4. **A Building Myth:** I believed for many years that we could not grow without more **meeting places**
  - **I learned that God's presence goes beyond a building** (Acts 7:48-49)
5. **A Schedule Myth:** I believed the **busier** we were the more successful we would become
  - I learned that running around is not a true sign of success<sup>3</sup> (Ecclesiastes 9:11)
6. **A Relationship Myth:** I believed for many years that if we both **served God** it should work out
  - I learned that believers can stop believing and depart from a relationship (I Corinthians 7:12-16)
7. **A Time Myth:** I believed for many years that I will have all the time I need (James 4:14)
  - I learned that time is much shorter than you could ever imagine when you are young.

**Next Time: Dangerous Investments That Harm You!**

**Big Question:** What are you investing in to improve your work

**Read Ahead:** Ecclesiastes 9:10 and Psalms 39:4-6

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<sup>3</sup> **Ecclesiastes 9:11** I realized another thing, that in this world fast runners do not always win the races, and the brave do not always win the battles. The wise do not always earn a living, intelligent people do not always get rich, and capable people do not always rise to high positions. Bad luck happens to everyone. **12** You never know when your time is coming. Like birds suddenly caught in a trap, like fish caught in a net, we are trapped at some evil moment when we least expect it.