

Holy, Wholeness or Full of Holes

Offered by Rev. Stephanie Burns

MCC of Northern VA

Fairfax, VA

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New Testament Reading John 5: 1-9

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, ‘Do you want to be made well?’ The sick man answered him, ‘Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Stand up, take your mat and walk.’ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a Sabbath.

From “The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill” by Lauryn Hill

My world, it moves so fast today.
The past it seems so far away
and life squeezes so tight that I can't breathe.
And every time I've tried to be
What someone else thought of me;
So caught up, I was unable to achieve.
But deep in my heart,
The answer it was in me.
And I made up my mind
To define my own destiny.

My own destiny
And in my heart,
The answer it was in me.
And I made up my mind to define my own destiny.

I look at my environment
And wonder where the fire went.
What happened to ev'rything we used to be?

I hear so many cry for help,
Searching outside themselves.
Now I know that [God's] strength is within me.
And deep in my heart,
The answer it was in me.

And I made up my mind
To define my own destiny.

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Sermon
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