

Enmity of Scribes and Pharisees

The Paralytic, Borne of Four, Healed

Matthew 9:1-8

Mark 2:1-12

Luke 5:17-26

Healing a Paralytic

Texts:

Matthew 9:1-8,

- 1. Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to his own town.**
- 2. Some men brought to him a paralytic, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.”**
- 3. At this, some of the teachers of the law said to themselves, “This fellow is blaspheming!”**
- 4. Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, “Why do you entertain evil thoughts in your hearts?”**
- 5. “Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk’?”**
- 6. “But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins . . .” Then he said to the paralytic, “Get up, take your mat and go home.”**
- 7. And the man got up and went home.**
- 8. When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe; and they praised God, who had given such authority to men.**

Mark 2:1-12,

- 1. A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home.**
- 2. So many gathered that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them.**
- 3. Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them.**

- 4. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on.**
- 5. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”**
- 6. Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves,**
- 7, “Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”**
- 8. Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things?**
- 9. Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’?**
- 10. But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins . . .” He said to the paralytic,**
- 11. “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.”**
- 12. He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”**

Luke 5:17-26,

- 17. One day as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law, who had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem, were sitting there. And the power of the Lord was present for him to heal the sick.**
- 18. Some men came carrying a paralytic on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus.**
- 19. When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.**

20. When Jesus saw their faith, he said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven.”

21. The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, “Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

22. Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, “Why are you thinking these things in your hearts?”

23. Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say ‘Get up and walk’?

24. But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins . . .” He said to the paralyzed man, “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.”

25. Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God.

26. Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, “We have seen remarkable things today.”

Commentary:

I. Jesus, after casting out demons from two Gadarenes, went in a boat across the Sea of Galilee, a distance of six miles, and came to his own city of Capernaum.

A. The people of that area (Gadara) had asked Jesus to leave!

B. He never returned to that place!

C. We must be extremely careful of our decisions ... they have temporal and eternal consequences.

D. We are what we decide!

II. In Capernaum, after some days, a man suffering from palsy was brought to Jesus for healing. Jesus was in the house (at home) teaching. He likely was staying with Peter and Andrew.

A. He was brought to Jesus lying on a cot borne by four people.

B. When in need nothing takes the place of helpful friends, a strong support group.

C. The men who brought this person to Jesus were not easily discouraged. The house was so crowded they couldn't go straight in the door.

1. They somehow got him up to the roof; uncovered the roof, and let him down into Jesus' presence.

2. Jesus saw the man's faith and the faith of his friends. Jesus is fully aware of our faith or the absence thereof.

III. The man sought healing for his palsy, but Jesus saw he needed forgiveness of his sins even more!

A. Only deity can forgive sins. Jesus was deity.

B. Some of the scribes thought within themselves, "This man blasphemes."

C. God/Jesus knows what we think!

D. These scribes did not believe Jesus was divine.

E. We think in our hearts, our minds, the seat of our emotions and intelligence.

F. Why do we think evil in our hearts?

IV. Which is easier to say: “Thy sins are forgiven,” or “Arise and walk?”

A. One is as easily said as the other.

B. One who is able to miraculously heal in his own right can forgive and he who can forgive sins in his own right can miraculously heal the sick.

C. Jesus could do either, both or neither!

V. Jesus then healed the man of his palsy, proving that Christ could both heal and forgive.

A. By this demonstration of power Jesus made it clear that he could both heal and forgive.

B. The one sick of the palsy was told to arise, take up his bed (cot), and to go to his house.

C. Jesus did not half way heal. This man now healed after a lengthy convalescence could immediately stand unaided and walk all the way home!

D. The miracle was complete, immediate, accomplished by a mere word, and accomplished with the utmost care on Jesus’ part.

E. The man now healed obeyed Jesus and headed home.

VI. When the multitudes saw this wonder, they were afraid and glorified God who had given this power to Jesus who appeared to them to be a man.

A. The multitudes saw in this event the power of God!

B. Jesus was Son of Man and Son of God.

C. The multitudes declared that they had never seen anything like this before!

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Questions

1. Jesus stepped into a _____, crossed over and came to his own town of _____.

2. One day as Jesus was _____, _____ and _____ of the _____, who had come from every _____ and from _____ and _____ were sitting there.

3. The _____ of the _____ was _____ for him to _____ the _____.

4. Some men came carrying a _____ on a _____. When they could not find a way to do this because of the _____, they went up on the _____ and lowered him on the _____ through the _____ into the middle of the _____, right in front of Jesus.

5. When Jesus saw their _____, he said, “_____, your _____ are _____.”

6. Some of the teachers of the law said, “The _____ is _____.”

7. Why did Jesus forgive this man’s sins when what he really wanted was to be healed of his paralysis?

8. The paralytic was then healed. He _____ stood up in front of them, took what he had been _____ on and _____.

9. The miracle proved that Jesus was able both to heal the _____ and forgive _____.

10. Everyone was _____ and gave _____ to _____. They were filled with _____ and said, "We have seen _____ things today."

11. Jesus, after casting out _____ from _____, crossed the _____ of _____, a distance of _____ miles, and came to his own city of _____. The people of Godara had asked Jesus to _____! He never returned to that place. It is a grave error to tell Jesus to leave. He may never come back.

12. The paralytic had _____, a _____, _____, a _____.

13. Which is easier to say, "Thy sins are forgiven" or "Arise and walk!"? Why? _____

14. Jesus did not _____ . This man could not _____ and _____ all the way _____.

15. This _____ was _____, _____, accomplished by a mere _____ and with the _____ east on Jesus' part!