

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Mark 2:1-12**.
- B. The story of Jesus healing the paralytic is a short and simple one but it teaches us some valuable lessons about X, miracles, the word of God, and our faith.

## I. READING AND TALKING ABOUT THE TEXT (Mk. 2:1-12).

Things to note:

- A. There was a crowd gathered.
- B. The house was full, clear to the door.
- C. Four men were helping one less fortunate.
- D. Jesus' first words were not to perform the miracle.
- E. Jesus is a mind reader.
- F. Jesus amazed all the people with His words and actions.

## II. JESUS AND HIS POWER.

- A. First, we recognize that Jesus came preaching the word (Mk. 2:2; Jn. 17:7, 8; 6:68).  
(**Jn. 17:7-8**) "Now they have come to know that everything Thou hast given Me is from Thee; for the words which Thou gavest Me I have given to them; and they received them, and truly understood that I came forth from Thee, and they believed that Thou didst send Me."  
(**Jn. 6:68**) Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life."
- B. Second, we see that Jesus has the power on earth to forgive sins (Mk. 2:10; Lk. 19:9; 23:43).  
(**Mk. 2:10**) "But in order that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"-- He said...  
(**Lk. 19:9**) And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham."  
(**Lk. 23:43**) And He said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise."
- C. Jesus still has the authority on earth to forgive sins by the power of His baptism (Mt. 28:18-20; Ac. 2:38).  
(**Mt. 28:18-20**) And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."  
(**Ac. 2:38**) Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."
- D. There is no forgiveness of sin outside of X (Col. 1:13-14).  
For He delivered us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

## III. MIRACLES AND THE WORD OF GOD.

- A. Mark closes his gospel account with the purpose of miracles and the gifts of the HS (Mk. 16:20).  
And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed.
- B. This is exemplified in the book of Hebrews (Heb. 2:3-4).  
...how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, God also bearing witness with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.
- C. But our scripture text is a perfect proof of how signs confirm the word spoken (see Mk. 2:5-11). It is easier to say "your sins forgiven" so Jesus proved He could do that with doing what was more difficult "rise, take your bed and walk.")
- D. Jesus confirmed he could forgive sins, by performing the miracle. Without the miracle He could not

prove His authority to forgive sins.

- E. If miracles were possible today, then there must be more of the word of God to confirm. Since we have the word of God in its totality (2Tim. 3:16-17; Jude 3; 2Pet. 1:3) miracles are no longer needed and therefore not possible.

#### IV. LESSONS ABOUT FAITH.

- A. First, **the paralytic believed in Jesus without seeing Him** (Mk. 2:3; Jn. 20:29).  
(Mk. 2:3) And they came, bringing to Him a paralytic, carried by four men.  
(Jn. 20:29) Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed."
- B. Second, **the four men did not stop with a setback of not getting in the door** (Mk. 2:4; Jas. 1:4).  
(Mk. 2:4) And being unable to get to Him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and when they had dug an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic was lying.  
(Jas. 1:4) And let endurance have its perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.  
(If God closes a door, He will open a window or roof.)
- C. When these things happened (lowering through the roof) Jesus did not see their works, He saw their **faith** (Mk. 2:5).  
And Jesus seeing their faith said to the paralytic, "My son, your sins are forgiven."
- D. Third, **let us work so that men see our faith**, not our works (Mt. 5:16).  
"Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."
- E. It was because of faith, that the paralytic was healed and forgiven. We can have spiritual healing and forgiveness if we will come to Jesus in faith.

#### CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Lessons learned:
  - 1. Jesus has the power on earth to forgive sins (by baptism).
  - 2. Jesus confirmed this power by performing a miracle.
  - 3. Miracles are no longer needed to confirm the word, because the entire body of truth has been given us.
  - 4. Our faith should be strong enough to keep trying through various setbacks.
  - 5. Let us work so that men (and Jesus) will see our faith.
- B. Jesus has the power to forgive sins, come to Him in faith.
- C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring-Xians.