

THE BOOK OF MATTHEW

JESUS IS KING



Power of Sin and Disease

Text: Matthew 9:1-8

1. A Paralytic is Brought to Jesus. - Matthew 9:1:2

Other Gospels (in Mark 2 and Luke 5) explain how the man was brought to Jesus. Because of the crowds, his friends lowered him down to Jesus through the roof.

This is another example of Jesus healing the sick and diseased, and the Messiah's role as healer was clearly prophesied in passages like **Isaiah 35:5-6**

Jesus' miracles were a testimony not only to the fact that He was sent by God, but that also He was the anticipated Messiah.

This week we celebrate Christmas! See **Luke 2:10-11**

Jesus seeing their faith: Jesus saw the faith of his friends, not of the paralyzed man himself. It was evident that they had the faith to bring their paralyzed friend to Jesus and their faith was active enough to take apart a roof and lower the man down before Jesus.

We also can assume that the paralyzed man might have lost courage; Jesus wanted to encourage this man's faith by His next words.

Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee: The faith of the paralyzed man's friends *did* something – they brought this man to Jesus. Yet they only thought of bringing him to Jesus for the healing of his body. They certainly didn't think that Jesus would forgive His sins.

But Jesus addressed the man's greater problem. As bad as it is to be paralyzed, it is infinitely worse to be bound and lost in your sin.

2. The Response of the Religious Leaders. - Matthew 9:3

We notice that they objected immediately yet privately, saying it **within themselves**. Jesus will address what they said **within themselves**, showing that our thoughts and opinions are open to God and are important to Him.

This Man blasphemes: The scribes correctly understood that Jesus claimed to do something that only God can do. But they were incorrect in assuming that Jesus was not God Himself, and that Jesus blasphemed by considering Himself God.

3. Jesus Questions their Thoughts. - Matthew 9:4-5

This alone should have been enough for Jesus to prove His deity, demonstrating that He could know their evil hearts. Yet He would also offer a greater proof of His deity.

For whether is easier, to say: Both healing and forgiveness are impossible with man. Yet only the promise of healing could be immediately proven, because though you can't see someone's sin being forgiven, you can see that they are healed.

“This appears to have been founded on **Psalm 103:3. *Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases.***

4. Jesus has Power over Sin and Disease. - Matthew 9:6-8

Jesus answered His own question before the religious leaders did. Since He could make good on His claim to heal the man, it gave proof of His claim to also have the authority to forgive sins.

And he arose and departed to his house: The man was instantly healed, proving that Jesus did have the power of God both to heal and forgive.

When the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God: At the man's healing, the crowd properly gave God the glory for this miracle. Jesus obviously did not draw attention to Himself by the manner in which the healing was done.

