

§42: THE HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC

Matt. 9:1–8; Mark 2:1–12; Luke 5:17–18

Jesus Teaches and Heals at Capernaum

Matt. 9:1	Mark 2:1–2	Luke 5:17
<p>1 And He got into a boat and crossed over and came to His own city.</p>	<p>1 And when He came again into Capernaum after <i>several</i> days, it was heard that He was at home.</p> <p>2 And many were gathered together so that there was no longer any room, not even around the door; and He was speaking the word to them.</p>	<p>17 And it came about on one of the days, that He was teaching, and there were <i>some</i> Pharisees and teachers of the law, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and Jerusalem,</p> <p>and <i>the</i> power of <i>the</i> Lord was <i>present</i> for Him to heal.</p>

The Paralytic Brought to Jesus

Matt. 9:2a	Mark 2:3–4	Luke 5:18–19
<p>2a And behold, they were bringing to Him a paralytic lying <i>sick</i> on a bed-stretcher.</p>	<p>3 And they came, bringing to Him a paralytic carried by four men.</p> <p>4 And not being able to bring <i>him</i> to Him on account of the crowd, they removed the roof where He was, and they dug out <i>an opening</i> and let down the pallet where the paralytic was lying.</p>	<p>18 And behold, some were bringing a man on a bed-stretcher , who was a paralyzed,</p> <p>and they were seeking to bring him in and to set him down in front of Him.</p> <p>19 And not finding by what way they could bring him in on account of the crowd, they went up on the housetop and lowered him through the roof tiles with his bed-stretcher into the middle, before Jesus.</p>

Jesus Forgives the Paralytic's Sins

Matt. 9:2b	Mark 2:5	Luke 5:20
<p>2b And Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the paralytic: Child, your sins are <i>being</i> forgiven.</p>	<p>5 And Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the paralytic: Child, your sins are <i>being</i> forgiven.</p>	<p>20 And seeing their faith, He said: Man, your sins have been forgiven you.</p>

Complaint of the Scribes and Pharisees

Matt. 9:3	Mark 2:6-7	Luke 5:21
<p>3 And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves:</p> <p>This one is blaspheming.</p>	<p>6 But there were some of the scribes sitting there and reasoning in their hearts:</p> <p>7 How does this one speak? He is blaspheming. Who is able to forgive sins except one—God?</p>	<p>21 And the scribes and Pharisees began to reason, saying:</p> <p>Who is this who is speaking blasphemies? Who is able to forgive sins except God alone?</p>

Jesus' Explanation

Matt. 9:4-6	Mark 2:8-11	Luke 5:22-24
<p>4 And Jesus, seeing their thoughts, said:</p> <p>For what reason are you thinking evil in your hearts?</p> <p>5 For which is easier to say:</p> <p>Your sins are <i>being</i> forgiven; or to say: Rise, and walk?</p> <p>6 But in order that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on the earth to forgive sins— then He said to the paralytic:</p> <p>Rise, take up your bed-stretcher, and go into your house.</p>	<p>8 And immediately Jesus, perceiving by His spirit that they were reasoning thus in themselves, said to them:</p> <p>Why are you reasoning about these things in your hearts?</p> <p>9 Which is easier, to say to the paralytic: Your sins are <i>being</i> forgiven; or to say: Rise, and take up your pallet and walk?</p> <p>10 But in order that you may know that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on the earth— He said to the paralytic:</p> <p>11 I say to you: Rise, take up your pallet, and go into your house.</p>	<p>22 But Jesus, perceiving their reasonings, answered and said to them:</p> <p>Why are you reasoning in your hearts?</p> <p>23 Which is easier, to say: Your sins have been forgiven you; or to say: Rise, and walk?</p> <p>24 But in order that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on the earth to forgive sins— He said to the paralyzed one:</p> <p>I say to you: Rise, and take up your bed-stretcher, go into your house.</p>

The Paralytic Healed

Matt. 9:7	Mark 2:12a	Luke 5:25
<p>7 And he rose, and departed into his house.</p>	<p>12a And he rose and immediately took up the pallet, and went out in the sight of all,</p>	<p>25 And at once he rose up before them, took up what he had been lying on, and departed into his house glorifying God.</p>

The Reaction of the People

Matt. 9:8	Mark 2:12b	Luke 5:26
<p>8 But when the multitudes saw this, they were afraid, and glorified God, who had given such authority to men.</p>	<p>12b so that all were astounded and glorified God,</p> <p>saying: We have never seen anything like this.</p>	<p>26 And astonishment seized all, and they were glorifying God</p> <p>and were filled with fear, saying: We have seen remarkable things today</p>

Notes

1. **Blaspheme.** The English word is derived from the Greek which means “to speak against someone in such a way as to harm or injure his or her reputation (occurring in relation to persons as well as to divine beings)—‘to revile, to defame....’” LN 33.400.
2. **Bed-stretcher/pallet.** Two different words in Greek with similar meanings. They both probably refer to a thin mattress with a light, portable frame.