

Church of God Sunday School

A PALSIED MAN HEALED

Mark 2:1-13

In the days when Jesus lived upon the earth, He went about all Galilee and Judea (*joo-DEE-uh*), teaching and preaching about the Kingdom of God. Throughout this time, many people believed in Him and were saved from their sins, and their faith was so great that many were healed of diseases and sicknesses. Everywhere Jesus went, great crowds of people followed Him—some were believers, some were doubters, some were curiosity seekers, and some were outright enemies of Jesus.

One day Jesus was in the town of Capernaum (*kuh-PUHR-nee-uhm*), in the country of Galilee. He stopped at the house of Simon and Andrew. As soon as the people there heard that Jesus was in town, they began to gather in the house to hear His teachings. The crowd soon grew so large that not all the people could get in the house to see Jesus; many people were left to stand outside, to hear whatever they could.

While Jesus was preaching, four men were walking down the road, carrying a man on a stretcher. This man had an affliction called palsy. It caused him to shake uncontrollably, and at the same time it paralyzed him. His friends were taking him to see Jesus. No doubt, these kind friends thought if they could just get this man to Jesus, he would be healed.

When the men came to the house, there were so many people there that they could not even get near to Jesus. So they decided to go up on the roof of the house. The roof of the house was flat, and the men began tearing a hole in it. When they had made a large hole in the roof, they lowered the sick man on his bed through the hole into the room. Jesus, as well as everyone else in the room, could not help but see him.

When Jesus saw what great effort these men had put forth, just to get their friend to Him, and seeing the

faith of those men, Jesus said to the man with the palsy, "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee."

Now sitting there among the people were some scribes. These men were enemies of Jesus. They did not like Jesus and His good works. These scribes were thinking to themselves: "Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?"

Immediately Jesus knew what they were thinking, and He asked them why they were arguing about this in their hearts. Jesus also asked them, "Is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk?"

Jesus has power to both save and heal. So He said, "But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house."

Instantly the palsied man's faith took hold. He believed Jesus' words, and he got up. In front of all the people, he picked up his bed and walked away. He was a living miracle and a testimony to the power of God, working through Jesus, to save and to heal.

All the people were amazed at what they had seen. They began praising and glorifying God, and they went away saying they had seen strange things happen that day. They said, "We never saw it on this fashion."

Later on, Jesus went down to the seashore. There the whole multitude came together once more to be taught by Him.

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**MEMORY VERSE:**

*"Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house."*  
—Mark 2:11

