



## Repentance Tabernacle Church

RepentanceTabernacle@gmail.com  
www.RepentanceTabernacle.org (984) 369-5171

### Jesus Forgave Sins!

**Lesson Text:** Mark 2:1-8

**Focus Verses:** Mark 2:5-7 - <sup>5</sup>When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee. <sup>6</sup>But there was certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, <sup>7</sup>Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?

**Truth About Covenant:** Jesus identified Himself as the Christ by forgiving sins.

**Covenant Context:** Jesus angered His audience when He forgave a man's sins, proving He was more than a messiah sent from God; He is Almighty God incarnate willing to forgive and save us.

Jesus had returned home where He had been staying in the fishing village of Capernaum. A large group pressed themselves into the house to hear what He had to say. Mark 2:2 tells us, "*And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them.*"

Four men arrived carrying their friend who was paralyzed. They had heard of the many healings Jesus performed, and they believed if they could get their friend to Jesus, He would heal him also. However, no one was willing to make room for them. Perhaps out of frustration, but certainly with determination, they climbed the outdoor stairs to the flat rooftop of the residence. Then in an act of audacious faith, they began to peel away the roofing material until they had opened a hole big enough to lower their friend into the room where Jesus was preaching.

He looked at the unnamed, diseased man and announced with authority mixed with compassion: "*Son, thy sins be forgiven thee*" (Mark 2:5). This appears to be the first time Jesus specifically talked of His ability to forgive sins. They knew Him as a healer and a miracle worker, but this was new. This moved the conversation from the physical to the spiritual—from the temporal to the eternal. So, when the scribes heard Jesus forgive sins of the man who was sick, they silently questioned who He thought He was. They thought Jesus' startling words were blasphemy because they knew only God Himself had the power to forgive sins. He called them on it: "*Whether 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?*" (Mark 2:9).

God warned Adam if he ate of the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, death would begin its relentless assault on his life. From that day to this, sickness has been part of the human experience. God's good creation suffered from the pollution caused by sin. Sin brought decay and death.

As wonderful and miraculous as healings are, they are only temporary. Death's grip may be loosened, but it never lets go. Eventually, or at least until the Rapture, death will claim everyone. But all is not lost. The Messiah came to free us from the curse of sin. He offers the promise of eternal life. we should focus principally on our eternal destiny. The salvation of our **souls is eternally** more valuable than even the healing of our bodies.

Although we cannot forgive sins for another, we can preach or proclaim that Jesus has provided forgiveness for sin. He has come to reconcile the world to Himself. He paid the price to purchase our freedom. Our mission is to boldly let the world know, both with our words and by our actions that He desires to extend that forgiveness to all who seek Him.

The four friends had acted in faith when they moved Heaven and Earth—well, roof and ceiling—to get their sick friend to Jesus. Jesus responded to their faith and then some. He physically healed the man, but He also forgave the man's sins. Jesus made him whole. He then insisted the man pick up his bed—a reminder of his sickness—and return home a whole man. Ultimately this is what God wants for each of us. He wants to touch us physically and spiritually so we can live life more fully. He wants to make us whole.

The Bible is not just a piece of great literature or a fascinating historical account. God wants each of us to find our place in His story. He is asking us to submit to His plan to transform us both spiritually and physically.