

"THE LORD OVER SIN AND THE DAMAGE DONE" MARK 2:1-12; SUPPORT SCRIPTURE

- I. JESUS QUIETLY RETURNS TO CAPERNAUM
 - A. The enthusiasm of the leper led him to <u>disobedience</u> keeping Jesus out of the cities but not away from people Mark 1:45
 - B. He returned to Peter and Simon's house where previously he had performed many miracles 1:29-34; 2:1
 - C. Crowds heard of his presence and went there in large numbers, filling the house to an overflow capacity 2:2
 - D. Jesus speaks to them the word
 - 1. The word is not <u>designated</u> or identified
 - 2. We know He was mission-focused and had come specifically to announce the coming of the <u>kingdom</u> of <u>God</u> as good news
 - 3. We <u>assume</u> He is continuing to speak of the Kingdom of God as is witnessed by the other gospels
- *II. JESUS QUIETLY STIRS UP ANOTHER CONTROVERSY*
 - A. The <u>authority</u> with which Jesus speaks quieted all others so that only He is speaking; attentive
 - B. The quiet of the evening is broken by bits of the roof falling around the crowd gathered around Him followed by an individual being lowered through it
 - C. The <u>unspoken</u> faith of 5 people

EDGEMONT BIBLE CHURCH PASTOR DOUGLAS A WHITE "BEING A RESTORED HUMAN" Page 2



- 1. No one is <u>recorded</u> as having said anything about what they wanted
- 2. Yeshua sees their <u>action</u> and recognizes it as faith; it is <u>their</u> faith (plural)
- 3. Faith without works is dead
- 4. It is their faith that prompts a response from Yeshua - "Son, your sins are forgiven you."
- 5. This response reveals Jesus knows the <u>root</u> of the problem not just the <u>symptom</u>
- D. That response stirs up an internal <u>dialogue</u> in the scribes present;
 - 1. Yet Yeshua <u>hears</u> this internal argument
 - 2. No one but God can forgive sins and they "know" He is NOT God
 - 3. Therefore He must be a blasphemer
 - 4. <u>Evidence</u> is not <u>proof</u> to those who doubt; unless God opens the eyes of understanding, one will not/cannot understand

E. Our Lord sets up a situation whose answer would lead to obvious evidence requiring a positive response of faith in Yeshua as Lord over sin, death and its ravages; but they will not/cannot give it!

- 1. Which is <u>easier</u>? Forgiven or rise?
- 2. Yeshua commands the man to rise and he does!
- 3. Demonstrates Yeshua is <u>authorized</u> to forgive sins on earth
- F. Even though all are amazed, having never seen anything like this before, there is still no commitment to Yeshua as Lord of all; doubt is here

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PASTOR DOUGLAS A WHITE

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