



# Spurgeon's Notes on Mark

- 2:2** - Although human beings in their natural state of heart are opposed to the gospel, they are yet drawn to hear it. Though they abhor it, often they cannot help listening to it.
- 2:4** - Where there is a will, there is a way; and when there is no way, a resolute will can make one. Better to come to Jesus through the ceiling than not to come at all. Better to be let down to Jesus by a rope than not to be in his presence.
- 2:5** - We do not read that they had said anything; and, therefore, they had not *expressed* their faith; yet this bold and adventurous action in breaking up the roof and letting all the dust fall about the Savior's head, not fearing that they would provoke him but trusting in his gentleness and patience, showed their confidence that they had only to get the man where Jesus could see him and good would come of it. Jesus blessed this man because of the faith of the four who carried him and, possibly, because of his own faith. "thy sins be forgiven thee." This was laying the axe to the root because sin is at the bottom of sorrow; and where sin is pardoned, even the effects of sin will be removed.
- 2:14** - Here is a change in the method of Jesus displaying his power. To the paralytic he said, "Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way in to thine house." But to the man engaged in a calling that degraded him, Jesus said, "Follow me. And he arose and followed him."
- 2:24** - According to some rabbis, someone could pick an ear of wheat on the Sabbath, but if he rubbed it between his hands, they said that was a kind of labor that must not be performed on the Sabbath. These disciples were, therefore, according to them, chargeable with sin because they had plucked ears of grain and had performed the operation of threshing them on the Sabbath. And we have some of that sort of folk living now who take the smallest matter, which is altogether insignificant, and in which there is neither good nor harm, and magnify it and distort it--and then make a person a grave offender all for next to nothing.