

# Mark 2:1-22 – 11 April 2021

## “Peering Beyond our Physical Life”

### Introduction

- \*Jesus has begun travelling thru Galilee in the north
- \*Preaching all should repent & prepare for the Kingdom
- \*Jesus didn't ultimately come...
  - to deliver new doctrine (although He did)
  - to deal with deceivers (although He did)
  - to destroy demons (although He did)
- ...He ultimately came...to die... and be the Deliverer
- \*He came to deliver not from a physical bondage to Rome, but to deliver from our spiritual bondage to sin
- \*Jesus calls us to live beyond this earthly life, while in this life
- \*Christians are in this world, in this body, but not this world
- \*New life from Christ frees us to live not by the impulses of our body and physical world, but by the spirit of God that is within us

**Today we'll look at 3 parts of living the spiritual over the physical**

# **1<sup>st</sup> part of living the spiritual over the physical is the entrance is that of faith (Vs 1-12)**

## *1-12 – Palsied Man lowered thru roof*

Read Vs 1-2

1. Remember, He went about to preach & teach
  - a. The healings/miracles are a side effect
  - b. He's teaching of a spiritual kingdom that is a real reality behind this physical reality
2. Day's coming when they'll have to decide if they're following Him for the physical healings or for His offer of spiritual life (Read John 6:26-29)

Read Vs 3-4

1. They believed Jesus could heal and help.
2. Their faith even pushed thru obstacles, b/c they believed!
3. Oh, to have friend that believe as you do!
4. Faith is the key that activates grace in our lives.
  - a. Jesus isn't obligated to help anyone

- b. But He delights to grace those whose hearts are perfect toward Him

### Read Vs 5

1. Jesus' forgiveness is activated b/c of their faith
  - a. It's a gift that becomes effective, when you believe it's effective and take it
2. Why say this? B/c it answered his greater need
  - a. If God only heals your spiritual problem and nothing else....IT IS ENOUGH!

### Read Vs 6-7

1. They didn't believe Jesus is God
2. Can only God forgive? (Psm 51:4 & Gen 39:9)
3. So, this is blasphemy if Jesus isn't God

### Read Vs 8

1. Matthew says they said, "Why think ye evil?"
  - a. 'Why is your 1<sup>st</sup> thought that Jesus must be doing something wrong?'
2. First, find out if Jesus is speaking truth

## Read Vs 9-11

1. The word *power* is authority not *dunamis*
  - a. Jesus has rightful position to forgive sins
2. Which is harder to do?
  - a. Well, for Jesus neither is hard
  - b. But He performs the physical act to prove the spiritual reality
3. Paralyzed man's friends believed / received
  - a. Scribes didn't believe so Jesus showed them openly – had no choice but to accept it
  - b. Entrance into the Kingdom is by faith

## Read Vs 12

1. From Matt – “Marveled & glorified God who had given such authority unto men”
  - a. Ladies & Gentlemen, the man Jesus is God!
2. Where's this leading to?
  - a. All His works point to His teachings
  - b. All His teachings point to God
  - c. It's our part to believe!!

## **2<sup>nd</sup> part of living the spiritual over the physical is the activity is to leave & cleave (Vs 13-17)**

### *13-17 – Publican Matthew called & repents*

#### Read Vs 13

1. Like in vs 2 – His purpose was to teach
2. He taught entrance into the Kingdom of God
3. He taught of accepting the spiritual by faith

#### Read Vs 14

1. Luke 5:28 says Matthew “left all”, rose up & followed Jesus.
2. Jesus doesn’t just call you ‘to’ but also ‘away from’ things.
  - a. Matthew Levi didn’t start dragging his tax collecting booth behind him
  - b. To follow Christ is to leave what you know is wrong
  - c. When you married, you didn’t agree to be w/ them, but you agreed to be w/ ONLY them

## Read Vs 15

1. Just takes 1 to influence a whole group to come

## Read Vs 16-17

1. Read Matthew 9:12-13
  - a. The quote is from Hos 6:6 but said more in I Sam 15:22
  - b. If the spiritual act isn't happening, then the physical act is worthless
2. They're not mad that Jesus ate w/ "bad guys"
  - a. They're mad that they may lose their influence over people
  - b. They'd find a way to be mad at anyone who was taking away their power and control
    - i. Read Matt 11:16-19
3. When you become a believer, the enemy is enraged b/c you've not only begun serving God, but you've left his service
4. A woman leaving her family to cleave to another family is a picture of us coming to Christ!

**3<sup>rd</sup> part of living the spiritual over the physical is the reward is new freedom & grace (Vs 18-22)**

*18-22 – Jesus is here to bring freedom & grace*

Read Vs 18-20

1. Why mourning?
  - a. Pharisees mourned longing for Messiah to deliver them from Roman
  - b. John Baptist's disciples mourned longing for Messiah to come
  - c. Jesus' disciples rejoiced in the presence of Messiah
  - d. Physical act of mourning/fasting (or not) has to correctly represent the spiritual reality
2. This is 1<sup>st</sup> reference to the heavenly wedding
  - a. Children of the bridegroom is Israel.
  - b. Bride is the church (Read Rom 7:4)
  - c. John the Baptist is the best man (Jhn 3:29)
  - d. Jesus is here on earth to take a bride!
3. There's a time to fast/mourn, this ain't it!!

## Read Vs 21-22

1. Explain the 2 analogies – You can add the new to the old – had to be two separate things
2. Jesus is here to complete the Law, but He's here to do something new also!
  - a. Read Rom 7:4 - completion of the Law means dead to the 1<sup>st</sup> & freedom to live for another.
  - b. We live by a new standard...that of grace.
  - c. Read John 1:17 – “grace and truth”
3. The reward of living the spiritual life is that of freedom to live in God's grace w/o condemnation!



## Conclusion

So the spiritual life is far greater than this earthly life! But how do we experience this life in the 4<sup>th</sup> dimension?

- 1. The entrance into it is by faith in Jesus**
  - a. There is a way to eternal life, there is a way to have your sins forgiven?
  - b. Do you believe Jesus has healed you?
- 2. The activity is a constant leaving & cleaving**
  - a. I John 1:6: “If we say that we have fellowship w/ Him & walk in darkness, we lie, & do not the truth”
  - b. The closer you grow to Christ, the more distant the cares of this world become
- 3. The reward is that of new freedom & grace**
  - a. In this physical world, we are bound to sin & toil
  - b. Walking in the spiritual life, we find freedom
  - c. I John 1:7: “But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship 1 w/ another & the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin.”