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## The Healing Of A Paralytic

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**Matthew 9:1-8; Mark 2:1-12; Luke 5:17-26**

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**Matthew**, **Mark**, and **Luke** record this healing of a paralytic. This specific miracle took place in **Capernaum** (**Mark 2:1**), after **Jesus** had taken a boat and crossed over into **Capernaum**, which is referred to as “his own city” (**Matthew 9:1**). The reason **Capernaum** is called “his own city” is because it was where He began His public ministry (**Matthew 4:13, 17**), it was His adopted home as an adult, and He performed more miracles there than any other place. No city appears to have had the privilege of **Christ’s** presence more than **Capernaum**, yet there was very little affect upon the hearts of the inhabitants of **Capernaum** (**Matthew 11:23-24**).

Leading up to this miracle, news spread throughout **Capernaum** that **Jesus** had arrived—*“and it was noised that He was in the house”* (**Mark 2:1**). As a result of this fast-spreading news, energetic crowds had gathered to that particular house to see and hear **Jesus**—*“And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them (in the house), no not so much as about the door (no room on the porch, or in the yard), and He preached the word into them”* (**Mark 2:2**). **THEY CROWDED TO SEE JESUS TILL THERE WAS NO MORE ROOM!**

### I. PRESENT AT THE HOUSE THAT DAY

#### ① Present At That House That Day Were Many Needs:

**Luke** says in his account (**Luke 5:17**), that the massive crowd that gathered that day was partly comprised of the “**Pharisees** (self righteous religionists), and **doctors of the law**” (so called experts in interpreting God’s law), they are also referred to as “**scribes**” (**Matthew 9:3; Mark 2:6**). These “**Pharisees**” and “**doctors of the law**” or “**scribes**” as always, **these were there to judge Jesus Christ, and to attempt to trap Him**. There were many others there as well, perhaps out of mere curiosity, some perhaps were there out of love to **Christ**, some were there who perhaps needed physical healing of some kind. **THERE WAS A MASS OF PEOPLE THERE FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS!** Without a doubt, **THERE WAS A GREAT VARIETY OF NEEDS AT THAT HOUSE!**

#### ② Present At That House That Day Was Jesus Christ:

**Mark** records that “**he (Jesus)** *“was in the house”* (**Mark 2:1**). For this reason the crowd had gathered in and around that house! **JESUS WAS THERE!** This being so, **Luke** records “*and the power of the Lord was present to heal them”* (**Luke 5:17**). **JESUS WAS IN THAT HOUSE AND HE WAS LORD!** **Jesus** was in that house, as “**Lord**”

and as such He possessed “*power*” (*ability, force, strength, skill, and authority*). This “*power*” is **omnipotence**, or **all-power, all-might!** IN THAT HOUSE WAS OMNIPOTENT, ALMIGHTY GOD IN A BODY OF FLESH! He was there with “*power to heal them*” The word “*heal*” means to **mend**, to **cure**, to **repair**, to **restore**, to **deliver**, to **strengthen**, to bring **relief** and **comfort**. **Jesus** was there with the **ability**, the **skill**, and the **authority** to **mend** whatever needed mending, to **cure** whatever needed curing, to **repair** whatever needed repairing, to **restore** whatever needed restoring, to **deliver** whatever needed delivering, to **strengthen** whatever needed strengthening, and to **comfort** wherever comfort was needed. JESUS WAS THERE WITH POWER GREATER THAN EVERY NEED PRESENT!

## II. A PROPER SPIRIT TOWARD THE LORD’S HEALING POWER

### ① *Attention Is Drawn To Five Individuals:*

**Matthew** and **Luke** in reference to these individuals said “*And behold*” (**Matthew 9:2; Luke 5:18**), and **Mark** says “*And they came unto Him (Jesus), bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne (carried) of four*” [**Mark 2:3**]. FOUR MEN CARRYING A PARALYTIC ON A BED TO THE HOUSE WHERE JESUS WAS!

### ② *They Came To That House With A Recognized Need:*

**Matthew** in referring to the **paralytic** used the phrase “*sick of the palsy*” **three** times in his account (**9:2, 6**), **Mark** uses the phrase **five** times in his account (**2:3, 4, 5, 9, 10**), and **Luke** uses the phrase **one** time in his account (**5:24**), but in addition, records that the “*man was taken (overcome and seized), with a palsy*” (**5:18**). THE PARALYTIC KNEW THAT HE WAS A PARALYTIC, AND HIS FOUR FRIENDS KNEW THAT HE WAS A PARALYTIC! Knowing and fully aware of the great need, and knowing and fully aware of the **paralytic’s** inability, and knowing and fully aware of their own inability to cure this **paralytic** WHEN THEY HEARD THAT JESUS WAS IN A CERTAIN HOUSE, THEY CAME CARRYING THIS PARALYTIC!

### ③ *They Came To That House With A Desire:*

The **four** came carrying the **paralytic** with a desire to see him delivered from his paralysis, and the **paralytic**, without a doubt had a desire to be healed! WHEN THEY HEARD THAT JESUS WAS IN A CERTAIN HOUSE, THEY CAME WITH A DESIRE FOR HEALING!

### ④ *They Came To That House Believing That Christ Was Able:*

**Matthew** writes “*and Jesus seeing their faith*” (**Matthew 9:2**), and **Mark** writes “*When Jesus saw their faith*” (**Mark 2:5**), and **Luke** writes “*And when he saw their faith*” (**Luke 5:20**). FAITH IS SOMETHING THAT IS SEEN! These **four** who carried this **paralytic**, believed that **Christ** could heal him, and the **paralytic** also believed that **Christ** could heal him. These **four** believing in **Christ**, carried this man to where **Jesus** was, and when they arrived, they were met with an obstacle-“*And when they could not come*”

nigh unto him (**Jesus**) for the press” (**Mark 2:4**), and **Luke** writes “And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude” (**Luke 5:19**). THERE ARE ALWAYS OBSTACLES TO FAITH, BUT FAITH PERSEVERES! They were not deterred by the crowd blocking the entrance to the door, **Luke** says that “*they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him*” (**Luke 5:18**). The means they found, was to break the roof and let the **paralytic** on his bed down through the roof [**Mark 2:4; Luke 5:19**]. FAITH IS WILLING TO MAKE WHATEVER EFFORT IS NECESSARY TO GET TO WHERE JESUS IS AND LAY DOWN OUR NEEDS BEFORE HIM!

### III. THERE WAS A MIRACLE PERFORMED

#### ① **Jesus Forgave The Paralytic’s Sins:**

**Matthew, Mark, and Luke** all record the first words of **Christ** to the **paralytic**, “*thy sins be forgiven thee*” (**Matthew 9:2; Mark 2:9; Luke 5:20**). JESUS HEALED THIS MAN’S SOUL! THIS WAS THE GREATEST MIRACLE THAT TOOK PLACE THAT DAY! As soon as **Jesus** spoke those words, the “*scribes*” thought to themselves, that **Jesus** was guilty of blasphemy, and **Jesus** knowing their thoughts rebuked them (**Matthew 9:3-4; Mark 2:6-8; Luke 5:21-22**).

#### ② **Jesus Healed His Body:**

**Matthew, Mark, and Luke** give record of **Jesus** saying to the **paralytic** “*Arise, take up thy bed*” (**Matthew 9:6; Mark 2:11; Luke 5:24**). As a result of this strength-enabling command, **Matthew** records “*And he arose and departed to his house*” JESUS NOT ONLY GAVE HIM THE POWER TO RISE FROM HIS BED, BUT ALSO TO CARRY HIS BED HOME! **Mark** and **Luke** add that he did so immediately (**Mark 2:12; Luke 5:25**), and **Luke** also adds that he did so “*glorifying God*” (**Luke 5:25**). THIS MAN WENT HOME DIFFERENTLY THAN HE CAME! He was not carried home, HE CARRIED HIS BED HOME! As this **paralytic** was being carried to the place where **Jesus** was, there may have been moans and groans, BUT AS HE CARRIED HIS BED HOME, THERE WERE NO MOANS OR GROANS, JUST PRAISE AND REJOICING! I am sure that he rejoiced all the way home! I am sure that he thanked the Lord all the way home! I am sure that he told everyone along the way about the Lord! When he got home, he was able to walk in the door, no one had to assist him! OH, WHAT A DIFFERENCE JESUS MAKES!

This miraculous healing of the **paralytic** was manifest to the crowd—“*And immediately he (the paralytic) rose up before them*” (**Luke 5:25**). **Matthew, Mark, and Luke** all record the affect that this had upon the crowd that had gathered at that house. **Matthew** states that they marveled or stood in awe, and glorified God (**9:8**). **Mark** and **Luke** state that the people were amazed and glorified God (**Mark 2:12; Luke 5:26**). **Luke** adds that they were filled with fear (**5:26**), and **Mark** and **Luke** both state that the people were mystified, **Mark** writing “*we never saw it on this fashion*” (**Mark**

**2:12**), and **Luke** *“We have seen strange things today”* (**5:26**). One of the purposes of this miracle manifest that **Jesus Christ** was and is the **Son of God**, or **God** Himself (**Matthew 9:6; Mark 2:10; Luke 5:24**). Again, **WHAT A DIFFERENCE JESUS MAKES!**