

Curing the Paralytic (*M'shario*)

Luke 5: 17-26

- 17 One day as Jesus was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and Jerusalem, and the power of the Lord was with him for healing.
- 18 And some men brought on a stretcher a man who was paralyzed; they were trying to bring him in and set [him] in his presence.
- 19 But not finding a way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on the stretcher through the tiles into the middle in front of Jesus.
- 20 When he saw their faith, he said, "As for you, your sins are forgiven."
- 21 Then the scribes and Pharisees began to ask themselves, "Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who but God alone can forgive sins?"
- 22 Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them in reply, "What are you thinking in your hearts?
- 23 Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'?
- 24 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the man who was paralyzed, "I say to you, rise, pick up your stretcher, and go home."
- 25 He stood up immediately before them, picked up what he had been lying on, and went home, glorifying God.
- 26 Then astonishment seized them all and they glorified God, and, struck with awe, they said, "We have seen incredible things today."

Deuteronomy 31:19-29

- 19 Now, write out this song for yourselves. Teach it to the Israelites and have them recite it, so that this song may be a witness for me against the Israelites.
- 20 For when I have brought them into the land flowing with milk and honey which I promised on oath to their ancestors, and they have eaten and are satisfied and have grown fat, if they turn to other gods and serve them, despising me and breaking my covenant,
- 21 then, when great evil and distress befall them, this song will speak to them as a witness, for it will not be forgotten if their descendants recite it. For I know what they are inclined to do even at the present time, before I have brought them into the land which I promised on oath.
- 22 So Moses wrote this song that same day, and he taught it to the Israelites.
- 23 Then he commissioned Joshua, son of Nun, and said to him, Be strong and steadfast, for it is you who will bring the Israelites into the land which I promised them on oath. I myself will be with you.
- 24 When Moses had finished writing out on a scroll the words of this law in their entirety,
- 25 Moses gave the Levites who carry the ark of the covenant of the LORD this order:

- 26 Take this book of the law and put it beside the ark of the covenant of the LORD, your God, that there it may be a witness against you.
- 27 For I already know how rebellious and stiff-necked you will be. Why, even now, while I am alive among you, you have been rebels against the LORD! How much more, then, after I am dead!
- 28 Assemble all your tribal elders and your officials before me, that I may speak these words for them to hear and so may call heaven and earth to witness against them.
- 29 For I know that after my death you are sure to act corruptly and to turn aside from the way along which I commanded you, so that evil will befall you in time to come because you have done what is evil in the LORD's sight, and provoked him by your deeds.

Sirach 9:10-18

- 10 Do not abandon old friends; new ones cannot equal them. A new friend is like new wine – when it has aged, you drink it with pleasure.
- 11 Do not envy the wicked for you do not know when their day will come.
- 12 Do not delight in the pleasures of the ungodly; remember, they will not die unpunished.
- 13 Keep away from those who have power to kill, and you will not be filled with the dread of death. But if you come near them, do not offend them, lest they take away your life. Know that you are stepping among snares and walking over a net.
- 14 As best you can, answer your neighbor, and associate with the wise.
- 15 With the learned exchange ideas; and let all your conversation be about the law of the Most High.
- 16 Take the righteous for your table companions; and let your glory be in the fear of God.
- 17 Work by skilled hands will earn praise; but the people's leader is proved wise by his words.
- 18 Loud mouths are feared in their city, and whoever is reckless in speech is hated.

Ezekiel 33:23-33

- 23 The word of the LORD came to me:
- 24 Son of man, those who live among the ruins in the land of Israel are saying: "Abraham was only one person, yet he was given possession of the land. Since we are many, the land must be given to us as our possession."
- 25 Therefore say to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: You eat on the mountains, you raise your eyes to your idols, you shed blood—yet you would keep possession of the land?
- 26 You rely on your swords, you commit abominations, each defiles his neighbor's wife—yet you would keep possession of the land?
- 27 Say this to them: Thus says the Lord GOD: As I live, those among the ruins shall fall by the sword; those in the open field I have made food for the wild beasts; and those in rocky hideouts and caves shall die by the plague.
- 28 I will make the land a desolate waste, so that its proud strength will come to an end, and the mountains of Israel shall be so desolate that no one will cross them.

- 29 Thus they shall know that I am the LORD, when I make the land a desolate waste because of all the abominations they committed.
- 30 As for you, son of man, your people are talking about you beside the walls and in the doorways of houses. They say to one another, "Let's go hear the latest word that comes from the LORD."
- 31 My people come to you, gathering as a crowd and sitting in front of you to hear your words, but they will not act on them. Love songs are on their lips, but in their hearts they pursue dishonest gain.
- 32 For them you are only a singer of love songs, with a pleasant voice and a clever touch. They listen to your words, but they do not obey them.
- 33 But when it comes—and it is surely coming!—they shall know that there was a prophet among them.

Isaiah 5:18-25

- 18 Ah! Those who tug at guilt with cords of perversity, and at sin as if with cart ropes!
- 19 Who say, "Let him make haste, let him speed his work, that we may see it; on with the plan of the Holy One of Israel! Let it come to pass, that we may know it!"
- 20 Ah! Those who call evil good, and good evil, who change darkness to light, and light into darkness, who change bitter to sweet, and sweet into bitter!
- 21 Ah! Those who are wise in their own eyes, prudent in their own view!
- 22 Ah! Those who are champions at drinking wine, masters at mixing drink!
- 23 Those who acquit the guilty for bribes, and deprive the innocent of justice!
- 24 Therefore, as the tongue of fire licks up stubble, as dry grass shrivels in the flame, their root shall rot and their blossom scatter like dust; for they have rejected the instruction of the LORD of hosts, and scorned the word of the Holy One of Israel.
- 25 Therefore the wrath of the LORD blazes against his people, he stretches out his hand to strike them; The mountains quake, their corpses shall be like refuse in the streets. For all this, his wrath is not turned back, his hand is still outstretched.

Acts 5:12-16

- 12 Many signs and wonders were done among the people at the hands of the apostles. They were all together in Solomon's portico.
- 13 None of the others dared to join them, but the people esteemed them.
- 14 Yet more than ever, believers in the Lord, great numbers of men and women, were added to them.
- 15 Thus they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and mats so that when Peter came by, at least his shadow might fall on one or another of them.
- 16 A large number of people from the towns in the vicinity of Jerusalem also gathered, bringing the sick and those disturbed by unclean spirits, and they were all cured.

Romans 5:1-11

- 1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
- 2 through whom we have gained access [by faith] to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God.
- 3 Not only that, but we even boast of our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance,
- 4 and endurance, proven character, and proven character, hope,
- 5 and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy Spirit that has been given to us.
- 6 For Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly.
- 7 Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die.
- 8 But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.
- 9 How much more then, since we are now justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath.
- 10 Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life.
- 11 Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Mark 2:1-12

- 1 When Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it became known that he was at home.
- 2 Many gathered together so that there was no longer room for them, not even around the door, and he preached the word to them.
- 3 They came bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men.
- 4 Unable to get near Jesus because of the crowd, they opened up the roof above him. After they had broken through, they let down the mat on which the paralytic was lying.
- 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Child, your sins are forgiven."
- 6 Now some of the scribes were sitting there asking themselves,
- 7 "Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming. Who but God alone can forgive sins?"
- 8 Jesus immediately knew in his mind what they were thinking to themselves, so he said, "Why are you thinking such things in your hearts?"
- 9 Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, pick up your mat and walk'?
- 10 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth" –
- 11 he said to the paralytic, "I say to you, rise, pick up your mat, and go home."
- 12 He rose, picked up his mat at once, and went away in the sight of everyone. They were all astounded and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this."