

## PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

## MATTHEW 9:1-8

## LESSON: AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE SINS — February 17, 2019

## HISTORY:

**8:28-34** Jesus and the disciples have finally come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, and were met by two men possessed with devils coming out of the tombs. They had been so fierce and dangerous that no one was able to come near or go through the area of the tombs. The demons cried out to Jesus, *"What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time?"* There's a herd of swine they noticed feeding, and begged Jesus to allow them to go into the swine. Jesus said "Go", and the devils came out of the men and went into the swine and the swine ran wildly off the cliff and drowned in the sea. The herdsmen themselves fled into the city to tell the story. The people rushed to see Jesus and begged Him to go away and leave them alone.

## LESSON: I. ACT OF DIVINE MERCY MATTHEW 9:1-4

**9:1** And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city.

And so Jesus left\* the Gergesenes or Gadarenes and entered his own city, Capernaum.

## NOTE:

\*This is a warning to every man, city, or nation. Jesus will not force Himself upon any person or society.

**9:2** And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee. We have just witnessed the authority and power of Jesus speaking the Word over a man sick of the palsy. The man was not near Him, but the man sick of the palsy was healed at that same hour Jesus predicted it because of the great faith of the centurion in chapter 8. Now in this chapter of Matthew some men bring a man sick of the palsy to Jesus who was lying on his bed. Jesus also sees their faith and calls the man sick of the palsy, son. This story is similar to Mark 2:1-12, but it does not account to four friends or removing the roof to lower the man down to Jesus. But, the similarity is that Jesus tells the man *"your sins are forgiven."* This meant that Jesus had forgiven the man sick of the palsy of his sins. In order to have the physical healing, he had to be spiritually healed to be of good cheer.

**9:3** And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth. Certain scribes standing around wouldn't say anything out loud, but said within themselves that Jesus had blasphemed. Blasphemy was claiming to do what only God could do; to slander or insult, say untruths. The scribes didn't believe Jesus was God's Son.

**9:4** And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?—Jesus knew that there was rejection around Him especially from the scribes. If it was up to the religionists, Scribes, the man sick of the palsy wouldn't get healed because of their unbelief, so Jesus had to prove that He was God's Son. By knowing what they were thinking at that particular time. He asked them why are they thinking evil in their hearts. This should have led them to the conclusion that Jesus knew their evil thinking hearts and He revealed it to them.

## II. AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE SINS MATTHEW 9:5-8

**9:5 For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?**—Jesus further asks them what should He have said? - *"Is it easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or Arise, and walk?"* He did not touch the man, he simply said something.

**9:6 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.** But Jesus says, well since you've said that, let me answer the question. Jesus said what He said that they might know that the Son of man has power on earth to forgive sins. All Jesus had to do was speak the Words to the man sick of the palsy and his sins were forgiven, just as He commanded him—*"Arise, take up thy bed and go unto thine house."* Either one was easier to say. They will see the man rise up. Now, that's power without touching him! Jesus knew the man's heart needed spiritual healing first before the physical healing.

**9:7 And he arose, and departed to his house.** Now, they actually see the Son of man with power on earth, for the man rises up from his bed and departs to his house. Now, that's a site to see. Jesus proved His deity without touching the man, but only speaking to the man! Jesus proved His deity when He demonstrated His power because if He can say arise and walk, and the man gets up, then he can say, your sins are forgiven—and they are forgiven. Jesus refused to argue with the scribes, He simply demonstrated His power because He could see what the Scribes could not see—in the heart! It took both for the man to rise up. He is the Messiah, the Son of God!

**9:8 But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.** The multitudes seeing this, were amazed and glorified God because He had given such power unto men. Two things should stir unbelievers to glorify God: (1.) The fact that the Messiah has really come (Jh.3:16); and (2.) the fact that unbelievers can be forgiven their sins, that is" saved" (Heb.7:25).

### SUMMARY:

Jesus gets onto a ship and enters his own city, Capernaum. Some men bring a man sick of the palsy to Him who's lying on his bed. Jesus sees the men's faith and says to the man sick of the palsy, *"son, be of good cheer, your sins are forgiven."* Certain scribes standing around wouldn't say anything out loud, but said within themselves that Jesus had blasphemed. Jesus knew the thoughts in their hearts, for He asked them why were they thinking such evil thoughts? (9:1-4).

Jesus goes on to ask them what should He have said. - *"Thy sins be forgiven thee; or Arise, and walk?"* Jesus' answer was that they may know that the Son of man has power on earth to forgive sins. Now, Jesus says to the man sick of the palsy: *"Arise, take up thy bed and go unto thine house."* He spoke it and it was manifested, therefore, showing them that it was just as easier to say your sins are forgiven or rise up and walk! The man got up and went to his house after Jesus spoke to him. Jesus proved His deity when He demonstrated His power because if He can say arise and walk, and the man gets up, then he can say your sins are forgiven—and they are forgiven. They blasphemed what they couldn't see, but it was done within the man's heart. But, the multitudes seeing this were amazed and glorified God because He had given such power unto men (9:5-8).