

Matthew: Jesus, The King of Kings

## Go and Learn What This Means

Matthew 9:1-13

**Previously:** Jesus healed many - servant, leprosy, demoniacs.  
Traveled across the sea to reach people...rejected.

*Disciples said: "Who is this who the wind and waves obey?"*

**Today:** More than a doctor ...

### Healing Far Beyond the Physical

*Being sick this past week. Praying for wisdom. For healing.*

**Chuck Smith - 3 levels: easy, hard, impossible**

*Headache, cancer, missing limb*

**James 5:13-18 NKJV - Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess [your] trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.**

## [Pray]

### 9:1-8

**His Own city**

It's good to go home

Same story in other gospels - through the roof

**They brought**...the friends did.

**Their faith**...including the friend? Maybe not the friend?

**Having faith for those in our lives** (like Job's prayers for his kids)

For healing, for success, for faith.

**It's important we're praying for our friends.**

## **Friendship from heaven**

Getting saved - eventually losing worldly friends.

Lonely. Exit in Chester. Bible study with the guys.

**Christian friendship patterns: Paul/Barnabus/Timothy**

Up, to the side, down

## **Said within themselves...blasphemy**

*More than taking God's name in vain - cursing*

**Taking his name in vain by claiming to be God**

Only God Forgives

## **Knowing their thoughts:**

### **Not just reading their expression**

This was revealing who he was too.

### **Think evil in hearts**

*Old world: Mind, heart, kidneys*

*Heart - seat of the emotions*

*18 inches between salvation and judgment*

### **Brain death, vegetative state**

## **So, which is easier?**

*Talk the talk or walk the walk?*

*Words have weight with action*

### **Power on earth to forgive sins**

*God's power extends beyond heaven.*

*He's not an "absentee landlord" - he's involved*

**The ability to walk again**

**Jesus used this man to show his power over sin.**

***Not the leper***

**There's something about sin preventing us from walking with God**

Walks in the cool of the day in the garden...no more

Cast out of the garden

Physically fit - spiritually paralyzed

***Decision paralysis***

*Walking with God. Faith to faith. Step-by-step.*

*Steering a car without power steering.*

*Just take the step. God will guide you. Even if it's to turn around.*

**Paralyzed but now able to walk.** Not just the nerve connections, atrophied muscles? More?

How was he paralyzed, how long?

**Marveled - glorified god**

Evidence of the work's source - who is exalted?

**But they still didn't quite realize - such power to men**

A good fruit. A good response from the people. But not yet a complete journey to who Jesus is.

*DGC*

*ii. However, as noted earlier, Jesus' miracles were not primarily calculated for crowd effect. Instead they were primarily done to minister to the humble needs of humble people. For the most part, most Jewish people of that time would have preferred much more spectacular signs — like calling down fire from heaven upon a Roman Legion.*

*iii. We also note that the presence of so much sickness among Israel was evidence of their unfaithfulness to the covenant and their low spiritual condition. God gave them the opposite of what He promised under Exodus 15:26: If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the LORD who heals you.*

## :9-12

**Who wrote Matthew up to this point? He wasn't around for the first 8 chapters!**

*DGC a. A man named Matthew: Mark 2:14 says that this man was also named **Levi the son of Alphaeus**. Matthew 10:3 mentions that there was another disciple who was a son of Alphaeus (James, often called James the Less to distinguish him from James the brother of John). So it seems that both this Matthew and his brother **James (the less)** were among the 12.*

So had his brother already followed?  
The others filled him in.  
There was certainly word on the street.

**Matthew could read and write**  
**Not everyone could then.**

**(and keep track of finances). Numbers guy.**  
**Very thorough books.**

The responsibility to use our gifts and talents.  
Gifts & talents != the call

**Tax Collector = traitor**

Taxation is theft! That really rung true then.

**Ate at Matthew's house**

Eating a meal at someone's is intimate  
See where they live  
What they're like  
Maybe think they're cleaner than they are because they cleaned before you came

**Matthew's friends came over**

*Getting saved, friends and Jesus*

**Pharisees saw it** - are they just lurking around like creeps, seeing what's going on?

**They don't ask him, they're too afraid, they ask his disciples**

**Consider the source:** *Never take criticism to heart if they can't sign the letter*

**Love that Jesus hears and answers****V12 “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick”****People misquote, take out of context, distort what’s going on here!***Jesus wasn’t going to the bars. Wasn’t getting drunk.**But people who normally did that, came to dinner where he was going to dinner.**They wanted to hear from Jesus. They wanted to be affected by Him, not Him by them.***Pulling someone up harder than pulling you down***Old friendships**Work parties**Friends with unbelievers***Friendship != fellowship & friendship with the world = enmity with God***But we must engage with the world. Let them see us. Let them see Jesus in us.**Not calling out “i don’t drink” in a pompous way***We need rightful boundaries****How could these people be healed if the doctor would never let them in?***Chuck & Kay Smith and the hippies***Anyone can come to church if they’re seeking God***Want to be affected by God, changed by God***But if they’re coming to change the church, and there isn’t a realization that they’re sick, eventually they can’t be welcomed****:13****Mercy, and not sacrifice***Mercy - not getting the punishment you deserve**Grace - one step more than mercy, getting a reward when you deserve punishment***God wanted those who knew him, to be merciful**

**Micah 6:8 NKJV - He has shown you, O man, what [is] good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?**

To allow, to invite, to draw those in the world near...who would draw near  
*All those gentiles in scripture who would be grafted in*

**God doesn't want believers sacrificing those who would seek him  
 Those who don't seek him are sacrificing themselves**

**Isaiah 42:3 NKJV - A bruised reed He will not break, And smoking flax He will not quench; He will bring forth justice for truth.**

If you're hurting, broken - and come to God. He's not going to beat you up.  
*But Go and sin no more*

If your flame is going out - he will not condemn you and snuff you out  
*He wants to relight your flame*

**Romans 2:4 NKJV - Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?**

It doesn't mean you're fine in your sin and want to be around godly things too.  
**Repentance is necessary.**

**We can't make ourselves well.**  
 We can't make ourselves holy.  
 We can't clean ourselves up first.

**We come to Christ and He cleans us up.**  
**We must let him heal us.** But he can't if we don't come to him for healing.

When were you and I called? At our best? No! At our worst.  
 Wretched! Broken.

**And the call we heard? Repent!**

**The call isn't come to Jesus, stay as you are.  
 It's come to Jesus, leave all you are behind.**

**That's real discipleship.**  
**Picking up your cross daily, and following Him...BECAUSE he forgave us. Not to EARN forgiveness.**

## **What's easier for God to say to you? Be healed? Or be forgiven?**

Have you been healed? Have you been forgiven?

Then get up, and pick up your bed - the things you've been lying around in...

**Proverbs 26:11 NKJV - As a dog returns to his own vomit, [So] a fool repeats his folly.**

**Proverbs 24:16 For a righteous man may fall seven times And rise again, But the wicked shall fall by calamity.**

## **And walk. Follow the call.**

**We can't really know the scriptures. Know what God is saying. Until we obey it.**

Book smarts Christianity is unsanctified.

Street smarts Christianity - sanctification by walking it out

**Philippians 2:12-13 NKJV - Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for [His] good pleasure.**

**Don't be paralyzed anymore. If you've received Jesus. You are healed.**

*12 step program...there's 1 step. Jesus. The cross. His blood.*

*You're not still an alcoholic - that person is dead at the cross, left in the grave of baptism.*

*Walk in newness of life.*

**2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV - Therefore, if anyone [is] in Christ, [he is] a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.**

But, if you're still stuck. Don't know Jesus. Turn to Him. He's the healer.

He's left a seat for you at His table.

We must go and learn what this means - for ourselves. In our own lives. Through obedience. Through repentance. Through reaching out to others to lift them up.

So today, this week. Go and learn what this means.