

Matthew Chapter 9

"Faith that heals."

V: 1 He entered the ship to leave, not forcing himself upon the Gadarenes. (Rev. 3:20)

- His city, Capernaum – His headquarters. ([Book of maps](#))

Matthew 4:13 "And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim:"

V: 2 [Synoptic Gospels](#): Matthew, Mark, Luke.

- Composite picture from three accounts, details.

Mark 2:3-12

Luke 5:17-26

Matthew

Paralytic
Brought by others on a bed.
Be of good cheer / Sins forgiven
Scribes / blasphemes
Knew their thoughts – evil.
(What was evil about them?)
Explanation / take up bed and go.
Marveled & glorified God.

Mark

Carried by 4 men.
Un-covered roof & lowered down.
Jesus saw their faith.
Son your sins are forgiven you.
Amazed, glorified God.

Luke

As He was teaching, Pharisees sitting by.
Power of the Lord present to heal them.
They did whatever they had to do to get to God.
Praising God and filled with fear.

- [Why did Matthew only include these specific details?](#)
- [What was he trying to accomplish?](#)
- "sick of the palsy..." The end result of VD, debilitating, a locking up and fusing of the various joints, physically very painful, yet leaving the mind in tact.

"Their" faith Who's faith is that? Those who carried the paralytic as opposed to the paralytic himself, may have included him also.

Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

- Their hope was that their friend might be healed, the paralytic certainly hoped for that.
- Their actions were proof / evidence as to their certainty that Jesus was able to do this.
 - [Leper – blood woman – centurion – Jairus' daughter – Lazarus](#)
- [Jesus always dealt with the greatest need first; in this case the greatest need was the "sin problem".](#)

Doctrine of forgiveness: unique to Christianity. **Psalms 32:1-2**

Psalm 32:1-2 “¹Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. ²Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.”

Proverbs 28:13 “He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.”

Isaiah 43:25 “I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.”

V: 3 1st sign of resistance from the religious leaders. (Scribes / lawyers, Sadducees, Pharisees)

- They were right in a way, only God can forgive sins.

Psalm 51:4 “Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.”

Blasphemy:

1. impious utterance or action concerning God or sacred things.
2. an act of cursing or reviling God.

Blasphemy: is a transliteration of a Greek word meaning literally "to speak harm."

- In the biblical context, blasphemy is an attitude of disrespect that finds expression in an act directed against the character of God.
- In this case from their perspective, Jesus is usurping the privilege or power of God to forgive, or implying His own deity in that He is able to forgive, something that only God can do.

V: 4 Jesus is demonstrating His Godly characteristic of omniscience – the all knowingness of God.

Psalm 147:5 “Great is our Lord, and of great power: His understanding is infinite.”

Isaiah 40:13 “Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being His counselor hath taught Him?”

Romans 11:34 “For who hath known the mind of the Lord? Or who hath been His counselor?”

- These last two verses take a negative approach, they help us to understand what God is by helping us to understanding what He is not – He is not someone who had to be taught, in fact it is impossible for God to learn – because He already knows everything.

- Why were the thoughts of the Pharisee's evil?
- Their thoughts were evil; Jesus declared it.
- Possibly like blasphemy of the Holy Spirit, their thoughts were at the least a denial of the deity of Jesus , they were even a refutation of the witness of the Holy Spirit
- At the very least they are judging God, and they are being un-merciful and un-loving.

Micah 6:8 “He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doeth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God?”

V: 5 Which is easier? *Are you kidding, they are both impossible for us!*

- Jesus has the power to say, “be healed”, or “live!”
- He also has the ability to say “you are forgiven”, He died for that.
- Grace in action!

V: 6 So that they would know that His words were not just mere words:

Hebrews 4:12 “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

Revelation 4:11, Colossians 1:16 – Rightly attribute all of creation to Jesus.

Genesis 1:3 “And God said, let there be light: and there was light.”

2nd / physical problem was also addressed and used as a qualifier; validating His authority and who He was representing.

- Like the healed demoniac at Gadera, he is told to go to his house – where real testimonies are lived out and observed by those who can appreciate it the most.
- God's commandments are His enablements. He won't command us to do something that we can't do.

Philippians 2:13 “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure.”

V: 7 Simple obedience – vindication, validation, proof: who can forgive sins? Only God can do that.

- Who can cause the lame to walk, the blind to see? Only God can do that!

V: 8 They marveled.

- Marveled: (G2296). thaumazo, thou-mad'-zo; to wonder; to admire, have in admiration, marvel, wonder.
- Jesus' actions always pointed to the Father, consistent with His teaching, with God's word, that all works were to bring glory be to God.

Matthew 5:16 “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

“Power to men” - Just like the disciples in the boat when Jesus calmed the storm these people were astonished but still don't understand whom they are dealing with.

- They knew that the power was from God, and they glorified God for it.
- Notice that it doesn't read – and they all believed... the miracles simply validate the authority of the messenger to speak for God.

Romans 10:17 “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

- There are many other instances where Jesus spoke – and people believed.
- Often times miracles excite us, and they should, but our faith isn't based on the emotion of the event, but on the word of God, which is the anchor to our soul.

V: 9 Matthew – “Levi”, a Levite but not acting “priestly”.

- “Levi” - “attached” or “joined”, 3rd son of Jacob w/ Leah

Genesis 29:34 “Now this time my husband will become attached to me, because I have borne him three sons. Therefore his name was called Levi.”

- “Matthew” “The gift of Yahweh”. Matthew went from being a curse to being a blessing.

2 Corinthians 5:17 “Therefore, if man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

- **Tax Collectors:** even Jesus used them as bad examples.
 1. Collecting taxes in Capernaum, a major trade route.
 2. This must have been very lucrative.
 3. Tax collectors were very imaginative, going in, going out, number of wheels, he set the limits.
- Matthews's actions spoke for him, he voted with his feet.

2 Corinthians 6:2 "For He saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

- Synoptic / parallel accounts: **Mark 2:14-17** **Luke 5:27-32**
- They all say it the same way, Jesus called, and Matthew was obedient.

V: 10 This takes place in Matthew Levi's house. (Luke 5:27-32)

- Many publicans / sinners.

Luke 19:10 "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Revelation 3:20 "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me."

- Matthew opened that door and invited Jesus in!

V: 11 No categories of sin, they all lead to the same place, and apart from Jesus we're all headed there.

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord."

- We tend to look at different sins with varying degrees of judgment: but they are all the same.
- Culturally: a meal with someone was "Koinonia" – fellowship in a deep sense, becoming one with someone through food.
- Culturally we don't identify the same way; but if I invite you out to lunch to Jack in the Box – then I order one big hamburger, and after taking a big bite, I offer that same burger to you.

V: 10-11 Jesus is breaking with tradition, He's violating their social taboos in sitting down to a meal with publicans and sinners.

2 Peter 3:9 “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”

Luke 19:10 “For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

V: 12 Jesus came to minister to those in need, but not all recognized their need.

Romans 3:10, 23. “For there is none righteous, no not one.” “For we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.”

- As **Romans 3:10** and **3:23** describe, we're all sick and in need of healing.

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever should believe in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

- The need is there for everyone, but people can't or won't appreciate the free gift unless they recognize the need itself.
- This is where the ministry of the Holy Spirit comes in.
- People get very focused on the gifts of the Spirit, and the empowering of the Holy Spirit – both of which are real, and needed – but the first dispensation of the Spirit is the most important. (para)

John 16:7-9 “⁷Nevertheless I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you. ⁸and when he is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹Of sin, because they believe not on Me.”

2 Timothy 3:16-17 “¹⁶All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: ¹⁷That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

James 2:10 “For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.”

Galatians 3:24 “Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.”

- The Holy Spirit working in conjunction with God's word brings us to a place of seeing our “need” – revealing our sin to us, and causing us to seek the only remedy which is Jesus Christ.

V: 13 He didn't come to call the righteous because there aren't any.

- Jesus directs them to the prophet Hosea:

Hosea 6:6 “For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.”

- God spoke about the importance of forgiveness over sacrifice.
- Olivet discourse: They tithe of their mint, cumin, and anise – yet they omit the weightier matters of the law: justice, mercy, and faith.
- God was teaching them that He wasn't interested in their religious observances, especially since their hearts weren't inclined towards Him.

1 Samuel 15:22 “And Samuel said, hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.”

- There had developed the over emphasis on the “ritual” of sacrifice, as opposed to the “heart” of sacrifice – which leads to error.

Mark 7:6-9 “⁶He answered and said unto them, well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, this people honoureth Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. ⁷Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. ⁸For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. ⁹And he said unto them, full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.”

- In this passage Jesus not only describes what God is looking for in terms of those who would worship Him:

John 4:24 “God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in truth.”

- But this passage also gives us the back drop of where the religious leaders are at and the state of their hearts – which is hard and cold.
- God's heart is a heart of compassion, a heart of mercy towards others.
- So Jesus challenges them to go and learn what that means, that “I would have mercy and not sacrifice.”

Micah 6:8 “He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doeth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with thy God?”

V: 14-15 Disciples of John? John pointed to Jesus, “He must increase, I must decrease” – they weren’t listening to their teacher...

- The question, not necessarily hostile, possibly self righteous: “why do we and the Pharisee’s fast often – but your disciples don’t?”
- By challenging the disciple’s behavior they are challenging the teacher, or the teaching.
- In the O/T, fasting was a sign of mourning, in the N/T it is indicative of self denial or chastening.
- “Children of the bride chamber” = wedding guests stayed for a week long during the “honey moon” / party time. They were children of the bride & groom, the “King & Queen”.
- Bridegroom = Jesus.

Psalm 16:11 “Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.”

V: 16-17 Jesus came to give us spiritual wholeness, not just to patch us up.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 ¹⁶“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: ¹⁷that the man of God may be perfect / complete, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

2 Peter 1:2-3 ²“Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, ³according as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue.”

- Traditions like old wine skins became rigid, brittle, and in-flexible.
- Old & new; Law & Grace.

John 1:17 “For the Law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

Jeremiah 31:31 “Behold, the days are come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.”

V: 18 “Ruler” – of the Synagogue. The 10 elders elect a “ruler” or spiritual leader, he is then the judge and becomes wealthy and influential as a result.

- “Worshipped” – this particular word is only used in reference to worshipping God. The same as the leper in **Matthew 8:2**.

“**Worshipped**” (G4352) proskuneo, pros-koo-neh'-o; to kiss, like a dog licking his master's hand; to fawn or crouch to, i.e. (lit. or fig.) prostrate oneself in homage (do reverence to, adore), worship.

- Correct priorities! Daughter over his job or position.
- **Mark 5:22** – Jairus' daughter was 12 years old.
- Parallel accounts: **Mark 5:22-24; 35-43 & Luke 8:41-42**

V: 19 Jesus “arose” – He got up and went – He took action.

- Cause & effect: Jairus demonstrated faith, he believed that Jesus could raise his daughter from the dead, he worshipped Jesus as God because of this – and God moved on his behalf.

V: 20 A parenthetical break – interruption.

Mark 5:25-34 **Luke 8:43-48.** (Parallel accounts)

- Matthew's account is a synopsis intended to portray Jesus as the King, all powerful.

Leviticus 15:19-30 The issue of blood made this woman “un-clean”.

- The woman was un-touchable, an outcast.
- When she's healed, after the days of her purification she's to take a sacrifice to the priests, two turtle doves for a sin offering and a burnt offering. Her testimony.
- Contrast: 12 years of disease, life had been flowing out of this woman Vs Jairus' daughter who had 12 years of life, love, and laughter.
- 2 opposites: 12 years of good times suddenly turning for worse.
12 years of bad times and a sudden turn for the better.

1 – a “Godly” man, righteous, clean, but in need.

1 – an unclean woman, but just as desperate.

- Both met at the feet of Jesus, both required prayer and the power of God.
- Hem of the garment represented power and righteousness, and it's low to the ground.

James 4:6 “... **God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.**”

- Jairus is waiting; did he need to see this miraculous act of kindness?

V: 21-22 Point of faith. Trigger mechanism.

Acts 5:15 “Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing my might overshadow some of them.”

Acts 19:11-12 “¹¹And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: ¹²So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.”

“... *thy faith hath made thee whole.*”

V: 23 “Minstrels” – Flute players, etc. Roman law limited to 10 max., too noisy.

- They could however, hire lots of whalers and mourners. (Professionals)

V: 24 “Give place” = stand aside.

- “sleep”, the death of a believer is only temporary.
- “Laughed” – not very sincere mourners.
- “Scorn” – resistance, ridicule.

V: 25-26 3 times Jesus raised someone from the dead. This is the first.

- **Mark 5:41** “*Tali tha cumi*” = “little lamb, wake up, I say”
- *Each time Jesus raised someone from the dead, He spoke directly to them.*
- He took her by the hand – “defiled” by dead body, but not really dead.
- 3 raised from the dead:
 1. Jairus’ daughter – **Luke 8:55** – *came to life hungry.*
 2. Widow’s son – **Luke 7:15** – *came to life speaking.*
 3. Lazarus – **John 11:44** – *came to life walking.*

2 Corinthians 5:17, new creatures alive in Jesus should be *HUNGRY* for the Word, *SPEAKING* the truth of Jesus, and *WALKING* with Jesus, no longer bound by sin!

V: 27 *“Son of David”* – **Matthew 1:1** – Messianic title.

- The blind men recognized him without their eyes.

John 1:9 “That was the true Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.”

- These men were blind, how could they follow Jesus?

John 10:27 “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me:”

- They followed His voice.

V: 28 *“House”*, when they came into the Lord’s house / presence, they were made to see.

Psalm 73:17 “Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end.”

Psalm 27:4 “One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.”

V: 28-30 Faith first, then healing / miracles, not miracles then faith.

Romans 10:17 “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

- Faith in Jesus is what saves not faith in miracles.
- Cause & effect: Jesus speaks (the word of God), their eyes are opened.

Psalm 19:7-8 “⁷The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. ⁸The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.”

“See that no man know it.” – even Jesus was into a good pun... ☺

- It is not yet His time. Not time to be “King” yet.
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V: 32-34 We don't know who the "they" was, but we know that they believed that Jesus could heal this person.

- This is the first time that we don't read "... thy faith hath made thee whole", or "according to thy faith..."
- This is simply God's grace.
- This man is delivered and immediately he begins to speak, no doubt testifying as to his deliverance.
 - Jesus does a good work, a supernatural work, a miracle.
 - "*But*": not understanding the power of God, they equate to what they think they do understand – the power of the enemy.

What was their motive? What was their hang up?

John 11:46-48 ⁴⁶But some of them went their ways to the Pharisees, and told them what things Jesus had done. ⁴⁷Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, what do we? For this man doeth many miracles. ⁴⁸If we let Him thus alone, all men will believe on Him: and the Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation."

Matthew 27:17-18 ¹⁷Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ? ¹⁸For he knew that for envy they had delivered Him."

Matthew 12:25-29 House divided against itself will not stand.

V: 35 Teaching – Preaching – Healing: Jesus' ministry.

- Multitudes were touched, many more than are recorded.

John 21:25 "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen."

1. **Preaching**: herald, evangelistic, leading people to the Lord. (Repent for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand.)

Romans 10:13-14 ¹³For whoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. ¹⁴How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?"

2. **Teaching:** being grounded in the Word, learning & understanding doctrine – being brought to maturity in the Lord.

V: 36 Compassion; the heart of a shepherd - no shepherd

- Moses & David were both shepherds first then leaders.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

John 10:11 “I am the Good Shepherd: the good shepherd giveth His life for the sheep.”

- Jesus is moved with compassion for two reasons:

1. “Because they fainted”

Amos 8:11 “Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord.”

Ezekiel 34:2 “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel, prophesy, and say unto them, thus saith the Lord God unto the shepherds; woe be to the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flock!”

- This is exactly what Jesus commissioned His disciples to do – to feed the sheep!

2. Because they “*were scattered abroad.*”

Isaiah 53:6 “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; ...”

V: 37-38 Jesus had the disciples pray for workers, then they became the workers.

Matthew 10:5