

Jesus is in the House

Mark 2: 1-12

The setting for our text today is very early within the earthly ministry of Jesus. He had completed a preaching campaign in the surrounding area and has returned to Capernaum. This was an important place for Jesus, becoming the central location for His ministry work in the north. Jesus had become well known in Capernaum, more so for the miracles He performed than for the message He preached. Upon returning there, word quickly spread that Jesus was back in town. Although the emphasis was likely on the miracles, the people were excited that Jesus had returned and they told everyone they met that He was there. There is a danger in seeking the benefits of the Lord without actually desiring Him, but their excitement over Jesus' presence is commendable.

As I considered this passage, I was reminded that Capernaum would have differed greatly from other cities, but they enjoyed the presence of Jesus. Our church differs from others as well. Often churches are identified by their style of worship, their pastor, denomination, or location. Our community identifies Fellowship in a particular way. I am not so much concerned about how people view our style; I am interested in people hearing of Jesus. Are they aware that we meet and worship the Lord here? Is it evident that Jesus is among us?

I want to examine the [details](#) of this day in Capernaum as we consider: [Jesus is in the House](#).

I. The Intent of Jesus' Ministry (1-2) – As Jesus began His public ministry multitudes of people came to Him. Some came for healing, others to receive material blessings, some came out of curiosity, and others came to hear His message. The text reveals that Jesus came for a specific purpose. He has ascended back to the Father, but the intent of His ministry hasn't changed.

A. His Presence (1) – [And again he entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised that he was in the house](#). I can imagine the excitement that filled the streets of Capernaum as the news was told that Jesus had returned. It didn't take long for a crowd to gather. No doubt people from all walks of life began to show up at the house. This was exactly what Jesus desired. He always made Himself available to those who sought Him.

- He still desires that today. Jesus wants to meet with us here at the house of God. You may be here today and have never met the Lord. You maybe haven't experienced His presence. Jesus is here today and He wants to meet you!

B. His Preaching (2) – *And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them.* The house quickly filled with those who wanted to meet Jesus. I'm sure they had heard of the many miracles He had performed. Many of those present that day were probably looking for healing of a physical infirmity. Jesus didn't immediately begin to heal the sick; *He preached the word unto them.* This was His mission, the intent of His ministry. Jesus wanted men to believe on Him as the Messiah, Savior of the world. He wanted them to believe in Him, not the miracles He performed.

- The church has many benefits associated with it. I am thankful for the help and encouragement I receive here, but the added benefits are not why I come. It is here that the Word of God is taught and preached, where I find help for my soul. The Word brings conviction and reveals man's need for salvation.
- Jesus is concerned about your physical needs, but He is far more interested in the condition of your soul. The multitudes He fed would hunger again. The lame that walked would grow old and face other infirmities. However, a heart that hears the gospel and believes in Christ is forever changed. Jesus came to eternally free us from sin. He is here to meet you!

II. The Impact of Jesus' Ministry (3-4) – For those who meet Jesus, their lives are never the same. These verses reveal those who were impacted by Jesus' ministry. Notice:

A. The Men's Devotion (3) – *And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four.* The Bible doesn't say, but I believe these men had met the Lord. They must've seen His power and believed on Him. They had a friend who needed the Lord's touch. Their faith compelled them to get him to Jesus. They knew he needed what Jesus could offer.

- Some of you may be here today because of the devotion of a friend. They have met the Lord and experienced His power in their lives. They know the life they used to live and how Jesus brought them out. The dread and discouragement of life has been replaced with hope and joy in the Lord. They have found something that is real, something that transformed their lives. Just as these men did, that friend desires you to find all they did in Jesus. They want you to enjoy life lived in the grace and power of God!

B. The Men's Determination (4) – *And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay.* The men had carried their friend to the house, but couldn't get in for the crowd. It would've been easy to have given up. "Well we did the best we could; we tried." These men

wouldn't give up. They were determined to get him to Jesus. They carried him to the top of the house and lowered him down.

- Maybe someone has shared their faith or invited you to come to church. They're not just a nag. They love you and want you to have what they have! They are determined to get you to Jesus; it is that important! I can assure you that Jesus can supply whatever you needs you have.
- Maybe someone has invited others, but as of yet they haven't attended. Let me encourage you, don't give up! We all have those we care about who need the Lord. We know that He can solve their problems and give them a life of hope. We cannot give up on them! We must determine to do whatever it takes to get them to Jesus, even if it means tearing up the roof. Just keep praying; keep living an upright life. Keep telling others what Jesus has done for you. We will have to work through some obstacles, but we must be determined to get them to Jesus.

III. The Interaction of Jesus' Ministry (5-12) – In the remaining verses we see how Jesus works in the lives of people. He still has the power to change lives today. Notice:

A. The Master's Provision (5, 11) – Here we see the Lord's compassion and faithfulness to those who seek Him. We all have different needs and come from different backgrounds, but Jesus died for all who will come to Him. There are two aspects of Jesus' provision that we need to consider.

1. He Honors Faith (5a) – **When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.** The faith of these men played a significant part in their friends healing. They came in faith, believing, and Jesus honored their faith. That ought to encourage us to keep praying and telling others of Jesus. If we as God's people will be faithful, He will honor our faith.

2. He Offers Forgiveness (5b, 11) – **he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.**
^[11] **I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.** This man came in faith that Jesus would heal him. It's interesting that Jesus spoke of forgiveness before physical healing.

- The Lord is well able to do both, but our spiritual needs are far more important than our physical ones. You may need one or both today. Jesus is well able to provide for you. He wants to heal and forgive!

B. The Man's Conversion (12a) – [And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all.](#) When Jesus spoke to the man he was immediately healed. He came crippled on a bed, but left walking on his own. We don't know how long he had been this way, but can you imagine the joy he felt?

- I remember a time when I was crippled by sin. Then one wonderful day I met the Master. At the very moment I trusted in Him, I was made whole. At that moment I was completely and eternally saved. There are no 12 step programs or phases of salvation. A repentant and accepting heart is immediately saved! If you need salvation, Jesus can do that in an instant. You can leave here completely transformed and fully whole in Jesus!

C. The Multitude's Admission (12b) – [insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.](#) The crowd that was gathered experienced a great miracle and praised God. They saw a crippled man rise and walk.

- Many people doubt the power of God to save, but I have seen too many changed lives. I've seen those gripped by alcohol, drugs, and infidelity get saved and walk away from a life of sin. When Jesus touches a life it is forever changed. It will be evident for all to see. Lives once dominated by sin have changed, something is different. The difference is Jesus.

Let me close with: **The Intolerance toward Jesus' Ministry (6-7)** – [But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts,](#) ^[7] [Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?](#) Jesus faced those who didn't believe and rejected His power to save. The world would have you deny Christ and seek another way of salvation. Satan will tell you that I haven't shared the truth or that there is plenty of time to get saved later. Jesus has the power to save you today. He will take your life of sin and give you life eternal.

Jesus is the only way of salvation. You can't work it out on your own or earn it through good works. Faith in the power of Jesus secured this man's healing and salvation. Don't let Satan deceive you and cause you to deny the One who can save your soul! Jesus died on the cross so you could have forgiveness. Don't be as countless others and reject the call of God. Won't you come and seek the Lord for whatever need you have?