



Lecture #7 Part 5

OUTLINE OF MARK

2. The man and his friends possessed a sincere, desperate faith in Jesus' power—a faith that would not quit.

"If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth" ([Mark 9:23](#)).

3. ([Mark 2:5](#)) **Forgiveness**: the reality of being forgiven. Note what happened.

1. Jesus saw their faith (*pistin*)—the faith of the man himself and the faith of the four men who brought him. The faith of the friends played a large part in the man's being healed and in his receiving forgiveness of sins.

"We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves" ([Romans 15:1](#)).

"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ" ([Galatians 6:2](#)).

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" ([Galatians 6:9](#)).

"I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor: and the cause which I knew not I search out" ([Job 29:15-16](#)).

"She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy" ([Proverbs 31:20](#)).

"But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, and went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him" ([Luke 10:33-34](#)).

2. Jesus proclaimed forgiveness of the man's sins. Forgiving the man's sins was far more important than healing him ([Mark 2:10](#)). A sound body assures life for only a few years at most; a sound soul assures life forever.

a. Jesus forgave the man's sins first. By so doing He taught that the most important thing in a man's life is for a man to seek forgiveness of sins. A man should always seek to be forgiven before anything else. Jesus wishes man to live eternally, not just for a few short years. But before he can live eternally, man must willingly come to Jesus for forgiveness of sins.

b. Jesus proclaimed forgiveness in tenderness and compassion. When a man comes to Jesus for forgiveness, Jesus does not...



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- accuse the man of past sins.
 - find fault with the man: what he has done—why he has come—from where he has come.
 - begrudge or hesitate in forgiving the man.
- c. Jesus proclaimed forgiveness in His own authority. It is critical to see this. He did not say, “**God, forgive this man,**” or “**God, I wish You would forgive this man.**” Jesus said, “**Child, thy sins be forgiven thee.**” He forgave the sins Himself, in His own name, by His own power and authority.

The point is unmistakable. Jesus is proclaiming to be God, the very Son of God, and the people understand exactly what He is doing ([Mark 2:6-7](#)).

Thought 1. Combine the two points: (1) Jesus proclaims forgiveness, tenderly and compassionately, and (2) He possesses the power to forgive sins because He is truly the Son of God. A man becomes a fool if he does not come to Jesus for forgiveness of sins.

"Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins" ([Acts 5:31](#)).

"Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins" ([Acts 13:38](#)).

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace" ([Ephes. 1:7](#)).

4. ([Mark 2:6-7](#)) **Blasphemy—Forgiveness:** the question aroused by being forgiven. Apparently, the ruling body in Jerusalem, the Sanhedrin, had heard about a prophet in Galilee who was carrying on an unusual ministry. Unbelievable miracles were being claimed. The prophet, who called Himself Jesus of Nazareth, needed to be checked out to make sure He was not teaching error and misleading the people; not threatening insurrection against the Jewish religion and nation which was under Roman domination.

The Sanhedrin sent a delegation to Capernaum to investigate Jesus. The Scribes mentioned in these verses are that delegation. When the Scribes heard Jesus forgive the man's sins, they immediately saw the point Jesus was making. They began to reason in their minds and hearts: “Why does this man blaspheme? Who can forgive sins but God only? Is He claiming to be God? The promised Messiah?”

Thought 1. The question was logical and reasonable.

- 1) Most people and religions in the world ask the very same question: “Who can forgive sins but God only?” They view Jesus only as a prophet or some great man. In their minds He could never possess the right or power to forgive sins.
- 2) Some in the world simply ask, “Who can forgive sins?” And they rejoice when they find out that Jesus is the Son of God and that He does forgive sins.



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"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" ([John 3:16](#)).

"Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee" ([John 9:35-37](#)).

"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? She saith unto him, yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world" ([John 11:25-27](#)).

Thought 2. Note: If Jesus was not the Son of God, then the Scribes were correct. Jesus was speaking blasphemy. However, since He is the Son of God, He truly forgave the man's sins. The conclusion is glorious: He can forgive our sins, too.

"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost" ([Acts 2:38](#)).

5. ([Mark 2:8-11](#)) Forgiveness: the source of being forgiven. Jesus revealed His power to forgive sins in **four strong steps**.

1. Jesus revealed that He knew the human heart: exactly what man thinks, his motives and reasonings.

2. Jesus revealed His God-like wisdom and fearlessness. He suggested that He be tested with the impossible.

3. Jesus stated His purpose: to prove that He is the Son of Man.

4. Jesus proved His power to forgive sins. He must be able to forgive sins, for He healed the man and caused the man to arise and walk. His power is indisputable.

Note the proof of His power to forgive sins.

⇒ Jesus *willed* the man to walk. He simply *spoke the Word* "arise," and the man arose and walked. The power was in Jesus' *will and Word*. His will is His Word, and His Word is His will.

⇒ It follows, then, that if Jesus *wills* to forgive sins, all He has to do is *speak the Word*, "Thy sins are forgiven"; and the sins are forgiven. (Cp. [Ephes. 1:7](#); [1 John 1:9](#); [1 John 2:1-2](#); [Acts 5:31](#); [Acts 13:38](#); [Luke 24:47](#).)



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"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed" ([1 Peter 2:24](#)).

"Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases" ([Psalm 103:3](#)).

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed" ([Isaiah 53:5](#)).

"Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon" ([Isaiah 55:7](#)).

6. ([Mark 2:12](#)) **Witnessing— Faithfulness:** the impact of being forgiven.

1. The man walked before all as a living testimony to the power of Jesus to forgive and heal a man's whole being.

2. The crowds marveled and praised God.

Thought 1. Jesus forgives the sin of any man, no matter how terrible the sin. When a man's sins are forgiven, it should dramatically affect both him and those who know him. However, the great tragedy is that few pay attention to the claim that sins are forgiven. They ignore the fact and go on their merry way, continuing to walk in the selfishness of this world (cp. [1 John 2:15-16](#)).

"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also" ([2 Tim. 2:2](#)).

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" ([1 Peter 3:15](#)).

VII. THE SON OF GOD'S LAST JERUSALEM MINISTRY: JESUS' WARNING AND CONFLICT WITH RELIGIONISTS, [11:1-12:44](#)

A. The Triumphal Entry: A Dramatic Warning, Jesus is the Messiah, [11:1-11](#) ([Matthew 21:1-11](#); [Luke 19:28-40](#); [John 12:12-19](#))

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(Mark 11:1-12:44) DIVISION OVERVIEW: Jesus Christ, Ministry— Jerusalem:
three significant points need to be made about Jesus' ministry in Jerusalem.

1. The first three gospels (**Matthew, Mark, Luke**) say little about Jesus' ministry in Jerusalem. The present passage is the first mention of a specific visit.

The three synoptic gospels give only a hint that Jesus was ever in Jerusalem, hints such as...

- **Matthew 23:37 (NASB)**
³⁷ **“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling.”**

This indicates He had been in the city and made appeal after appeal to the people.

- His warm family-like relationship with Martha and her sister and brother, Mary and Lazarus. Their home was His home when in Jerusalem (see note below—
• **John 11:1-3**).

John 11:1-3 (NASB)

¹ **Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.**

² **It was the Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.**

³ **So the sisters sent *word* to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick."**