

Mark 2:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four.

Analysis

The paralytic's friends demonstrate saving faith through persistent action—they 'come' and 'bring' despite obstacles. The fourfold bearing (likely one at each corner of the mat) pictures the community nature of faith and evangelism. Their determination to get the paralytic to Jesus, despite the crowd barrier, models the earnestness and creativity required in bringing souls to Christ.

Historical Context

Palsy (paralysis) had multiple causes in ancient times—stroke, birth defects, disease, or injury. The portable bed (Greek: krabatos) was a simple mat or stretcher. Four bearers were necessary for stability and to navigate the crowded streets of Capernaum.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does the faith of the paralytic's friends challenge us to persistent evangelism on behalf of others?

2. What 'barriers' prevent us from bringing people to Jesus, and what can we learn from these men's determination?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἔρχονται πρὸς αὐτὸν παραλυτικὸν φέροντες

And **they come** **unto** **him** **one sick of the palsy** **bringing**

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αἱρόμενον ὑπὸ τεσσάρων

which was borne **of** **four**

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