

# Mark 2:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy,  
Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

## Analysis

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When Jesus saw their faith he said unto sick of palsy Son thy sins be forgiven thee. Jesus saw their faith active demonstrated faith. Their refers to friends who brought paralytic corporate faith intercession. Faith visible in actions not mere mental assent. He said direct address to paralytic. Son teknon term of affection endearment. Thy sins be forgiven present passive sins being forgiven. Jesus addresses spiritual need before physical. Sin is deeper problem than paralysis. Physical healing authenticates spiritual healing demonstrates Jesus authority to forgive. Reformed theology emphasizes priority of spiritual healing salvation over physical comfort. Christ came primarily to save from sin secondarily to heal bodies. Faith expressed through bringing others to Jesus intercessory ministry. Corporate faith supports individual need.

## Historical Context

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First-century Judaism often connected physical suffering to sin. Job friends falsely assumed this. Jesus rejected simplistic cause-effect (John 9:3) but here addresses actual connection between mans sin and condition. Forgiveness of sins was God prerogative alone. Jesus pronouncing forgiveness was implicit claim to deity. Religious leaders correctly understood implication blasphemy unless Jesus actually was God. Paralytic came for physical healing received spiritual healing first. Greater gift though he may not have initially realized. Early church prioritized gospel preaching over social ministry though caring for bodies was important.

Medieval church sometimes reversed this emphasizing last rites over evangelism. Reformation recovered biblical priority salvation primary physical care secondary.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does Jesus addressing sin before paralysis challenge contemporary emphasis on physical wellness over spiritual health?
2. What does corporate faith bringing friend to Jesus teach about intercessory ministry responsibility for others salvation?

## Interlinear Text

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ἰδὼν	δὲ	ό	Ἰησοῦς	τὴν	πίστιν	αὐτῶν	λέγει	τῷ
saw	When	G3588	Jesus	G3588	faith	their	he said	G3588
G1492	G1161		G2424		G4102	G846	G3004	
παραλυτικῷ	Τέκνον	ἀφέωνται	σοι	αἱ	ἀμαρτίαι	σου		
unto the sick of the palsy	Son	be forgiven	thee	G3588	sins	thy		
G3885	G5043	G863	G4671	G266	G4675			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 9:2** (Faith): And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.

**James 5:15** (Faith): And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

**Matthew 9:22** (Faith): But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.

**Ephesians 2:8** (Faith): For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

**John 5:14** (Sin): Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.

**Luke 5:20** (Faith): And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.

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