

I. Case Study: Is guilt the cause of your sickness?

Description: Jesus healed a man by telling him his sins are forgiven. Is it possible that guilt and shame have such a hold over us that we can become paralyzed with sickness and disease?

When He had come back to Capernaum several days afterward, **it was heard that He was at home.** And many were gathered together, so that **there was no longer room**, not even near the door; and He was speaking the word to them. **And they came, bringing to Him a paralytic, carried by four men.** Being unable to get to Him because of the crowd, **they removed the roof above Him;** and when they had **dug an opening**, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic was lying. And Jesus seeing their faith said to the paralytic, "Son, **your sins are forgiven.**" But some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming; who can forgive sins but God alone?" Immediately Jesus, aware in His spirit that they were reasoning that way within themselves, said to them, "**Why are you reasoning about these things in your hearts?** "Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven'; or to say, 'Get up, and pick up your pallet and walk'? "But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" — He said to the paralytic, "I say to you, get up, pick up your pallet and go home." And **he got up and immediately picked up the pallet and went out in the sight of everyone**, so that they were all amazed and were glorifying God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this." - Mark 2:1-12 NASU

1. Jesus is home!

"...it was heard that He was at home..."

- a. But being full of the Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; - Acts 7:55 NASU
- b. Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. - Hebrews 7:25 NASU

2. People will keep you from hearing Jesus

"...there was no longer room, not even near the door..."

- a. People love to hear but hear is they often stop
- b. People will block the door so you can't come in
- c. "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites, because you shut off the kingdom of heaven from people; for you do not enter in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. - Matthew 23:13 NASU

3. It is good to have friends with faith

"...And they came, bringing to Him a paralytic, carried by four men..."

"Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven. "For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst." - Matthew 18:19-20 NASU

4. Go higher! Remove the roof of unbelief given to you by the crowds

“...they removed the roof above Him...”

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the Lord. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts. - Isaiah 55:8-9 NASU

5. Dig deep into the Word and the Spirit

“...dug an opening...”

He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. - John 7:38 KJV

"Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; For the Lord God is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation." Therefore you will joyously draw water From the springs of salvation. - Isaiah 12:2-3 NASU

6. Much sickness is caused by past sin: guilt and condemnation

“..."Son, your sins are forgiven."...”

“..."Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven'; or to say, 'Get up, and pick up your pallet and walk'?...”

- a. Why did Jesus say you are forgiven? Why not just be healed according to your faith?
- b. Do you believe you deserve the curse of sin in your body because of past sin?

The spirit of a man can endure his sickness, But as for a broken spirit who can bear it? - Proverbs 18:14 NASU

7. Stop reasoning only believe

“..."Why are you reasoning about these things in your hearts?..."”

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. - Luke 2:19 KJV

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us — for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE" - Galatians 3:13 NASU

~~You made your bed, now lie in it.~~

You made your bed, now pick it up and be done with it.