

1201
Sermons
New Testament
Mark 2:1-5

1

Theme: Faith rewarded.

Proposition: Faith will always be rewarded.

(from Hall's Evangelistic Encyclopedia)

Scripture: Mark 2:1-5.

And again he entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised that he was in the house.

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.

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

And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, thy 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.

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

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Text: Mark 2:5.

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

Introduction: Christ had been at Capernaum before.

After he had gone they missed him.

Now, again he entered into Capernaum.

I. The multitude gathered around Christ. He entered into a house and began to speak, but the place could not contain the people. "There was not room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door." There was not even standing room. But what was it that so attracted the crowd?

1. It was the fact that Christ was there in that house, healing the sick, that drew the crowd. The surest way to secure an audience is to have it known that Christ is in a house healing and saving sinners.

2. People gather where Christ is. It is not so much a question of the kind of preaching as it is whether or not Christ is present. "Unto him shall the gathering of the people be."

II. Christ preached the word to them, and the ~~xxxxxxx~~ preaching got them to do something for someone else.

1. They thought of the paralytic. The probably said, "There is that poor sick man, he ought to be here that Christ might heal him; let us go and bring him." So do we know that is the best preaching which incites people to work and bring others into the presence of Christ.

2. Ones who might be brought into the presence of Christ are:

a. Ourselves, first and more completely, that we might be fit for the job of bringing others.

b. The indifferent.

c. The deliberate sinners, or non-Christians.

d. Unsaved and uninformed ~~xxxxxxx~~ children.

III. The useful work to which Christ's preaching was devoted was that of inciting the people to save someone.

1. The purpose of bringing that paralytic to Christ was that he might be healed. They wanted to save him.

2. There is the need today for a longing in the hearts of Christians that will lead them to try to save the less fortunate, who know Christ not.

3. Horace Man, after visiting a reformatory, noting its costly buildings and expensive corps of teachers, said; 'If all this results in saving only a boy, it were worth all the expense and labor.' A cautious, calculating man heard the remark, and thought him extravagant, and said, "Do you not go a little too far when you say that the reformation of one boy would be sufficient compensation for all this immense outlay?" "Not if it were my boy," was the quick reply. To the true Christian all men are brother men.

IV. Some people will not come to Christ unless they are helped to do so.

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1. This man, sick of the palsy, would probably never have found Christ had he not received the assistance of his friends.

2. Carry your friends to Christ.

3. No one was ever brought to Christ without the co-operation of human agents.

V. Christ answered the cry for help because he saw that those who asked help had faith in him.

VI. In saving souls, do not let ceremony or departure from accustomed ways of doing things deter you.

1. In this story an unusual method was used. A door is the most proper way by which to enter a house. To enter through a window is not very becoming, nor the usual thing. But to go down through the roof is contrary to all custom. But the only idea of these men was to get the sick man to Christ. They did not hesitate in regard to methods. We are in danger of being too much afraid of departing from accustomed ways of doing religious work.

VII. Do not despair in even the hardest situations.

Palsy was regarded as an incurable disease. But though it was thought a hopeless case, Christ met and cured the disease. There are no hopeless cases to Christ.

Mt. Haver - 7-3-44

Leftwich - 8-6-44

Salem - 4-26-46

Powhatan 4-28-46

~~Huntington~~, Ark. 7-26-48