

What Jesus Said

7. Matthew 9:1-8. *In his own town Jesus heals a paralysed man*

This story is found in the Gospel of St. Matthew, Chapter 9 between verses 1 and 8. – we write it like this: **Matthew 9:1-8**. *BibleHomework* uses this format throughout its website.

The Scripture:

9:1 - Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to his own town.

9:2 - Some men brought to him a paralyzed man, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the man, **“Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.”**

9:3 - At this, some of the teachers of the law said to themselves, “This fellow is blaspheming!”

9:4 - Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, **“Why do you entertain evil thoughts in your hearts?”**

9:5 - **Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk’?**

9:6 - **But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.”** So he said to the paralyzed man, **“Get up, take your mat and go home.”**

9:7 - Then the man got up and went home.

9:8 - When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe; and they praised God, who had given such authority to man.

The Explanation:

Jesus heals a paralysed man, but tells him his sins are forgiven, rather than ‘get up and walk’. People think this is blasphemy - but Jesus tells them He has the authority! The man gets up and goes home and the crowd praise God.

Places and People Mentioned:

Nazareth: Is today Israel's largest city in the North District. In the New Testament, we are told that Jesus grows up in Nazareth.

Questions:

1. Why would Jesus say "your sins are forgiven"?
2. Who has the power to forgive sins?
3. Why were the crowd praising God?
4. Who is the Son of Man?