

ANSWER:

God bless you, dear sister. To understand this moment clearly, let's first read the passage:

Mark 2:1-12 (NKJV)

"And again He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, 'Son, your sins are forgiven you.'

And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, 'Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?'

But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, 'Why do you reason about these things in your hearts?

Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven

you,” or to say, “Arise, take up your bed and walk”?

But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins’—He said to the paralytic, ‘I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.’

Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, ‘We never saw anything like this!’”

Why Did Jesus Begin with Forgiveness?

The first thing Jesus noticed was **their faith**—not just a desire for healing, but a deeper faith that recognized **who Jesus truly is** (v. 5). These men didn’t just believe Jesus could heal—they believed **He had authority**, and that’s what opened the door for both forgiveness and healing.

Jesus’ response, “*Son, your sins are forgiven you,*” shocked the religious leaders (v. 7), because in their view, **only God** could forgive sins. They were correct theologically—but what they missed is that **Jesus is God in the flesh**, fully divine and fully human (see John 1:1,14).

By forgiving sins **first**, Jesus was addressing the man’s **greatest**

need—the condition of his soul. Physical healing, as wonderful as it is, only affects this present life. But forgiveness of sin determines **eternal destiny**.

Matthew 1:21 (NKJV)

“And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”

Jesus came primarily to save us from sin—not just from sickness or suffering. He declared this again in:

Luke 19:10 (NKJV)

“For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

A Spiritual Priority: Forgiveness Before Healing

When Jesus asked in **Mark 2:9**, “*Which is easier...?*”, He was pointing out a spiritual truth: **anyone can say** “You are healed,” but **only one**

with true divine authority can say “You are forgiven”—and it be real.

And He proved that He had that authority by performing the visible miracle *after* declaring the invisible one: forgiveness.

This echoes what Jesus said in:

John 8:24 (NKJV)

“Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.”

Forgiveness through faith is essential. Without it, even a healed body is still condemned if the soul remains under sin.

What Does This Mean for Us Today?

As Christians today, we often emphasize miracles, breakthroughs, and healing—and these are biblical and powerful. But we must never let the pursuit of the miraculous **overshadow the message of the gospel**, which is about **repentance, salvation, and eternal life**.

Romans 6:23 (NKJV)

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Yes, Jesus heals, blesses, and delivers—but above all, He forgives. And without forgiveness, no miracle can truly save us.

Matthew 16:26 (NKJV)

"For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?"

It's better to be forgiven and not healed, than to be healed and remain lost in sin. Of course, God's desire is often to do **both**—to restore the soul and the body. But we must keep our priorities clear.

Conclusion: Which Is Greater?

When Jesus healed the paralyzed man *after* forgiving him, it wasn't just

to help the man walk—it was to reveal to everyone that **He is the only one with power to forgive sins**. And that same Jesus is still forgiving and saving today.

So, which is greater: physical healing or forgiveness of sins?

Forgiveness is eternal. Healing is temporary. Let us never exchange what is eternal for what only lasts for a season.

Let's be believers who **preach Christ crucified**, who share **repentance and the forgiveness of sins**, and who believe in His power to save **and** heal.

Acts 3:19 (NKJV)

“Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.”

Be blessed and stay rooted in the truth of the gospel.

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