



The Gospel According to Matthew

Lesson 4 – Chapters 9 – 12

Forgiving the Paralytic

And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

- . (1993). (Mk 2:4-5). Washington, DC: National Council of Churches of Christ.

Objection of the Scribes

- Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?

– . (1993). (Mk 2:7). Washington, DC: National Council of Churches of Christ.

**No one patches an old cloak
with a piece of unshrunk
cloth... People do not put
new wine into old wineskins.**

MATTHEW 16-17

Christianity is not a mere mending or adjusting of the old suit of Judaism. The redemption wrought by Jesus involves a total regeneration. Its spirit is too new and too vital to be suited to old forms of penance, which will no longer apply.

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Although Jesus speaks of sleep, there is no question of the girl—or Lazarus, later—not being dead. For our Lord there is only one true death—that of eternal punishment (cf. Mt 9:24 Mt 10:28).

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we will see how practically every move Jesus made was charged with great symbolic meaning and played a key part in His plan of building His kingdom.

EDWARD P. SRI



“Behold, I am sending you like sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and simple as doves. But beware of people, for they will hand you over to courts and scourge you in their synagogues, and you will be led before governors and kings for my sake as a witness before them and the pagans.

MATTHEW 10:16-18

The “Sword”

“I have come to bring not peace but the sword” (Mt 10:34)

“the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God”...“lively and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart”

The “Sword”

The word of God in fact leads to these divisions. It can lead, even within families, to those who embrace the faith being regarded as enemies by relatives who resist the word of truth. This is why our Lord goes on to say that nothing should come between him and his disciple—not even father, mother, son or daughter: any and every obstacle must be avoided.

Mt 11:2. John knew that Jesus was the Messiah. He sent his disciples to him so that they could shed their mistaken notions about the kind of Messiah to expect, and come to recognize Jesus.

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The Unforgivable Sin

If Jesus expelled demons by the power of the Holy Spirit, then the Pharisees were identifying that Holy Spirit of Jesus with the power of the devil. That is serious blasphemy.

The Unforgivable Sin


Once the Pharisees cut themselves off from the very source of salvation—Jesus and His Spirit—there was nothing more Jesus could do to work with them. That is why this sin cannot be forgiven. They had closed themselves off from the very Spirit by which Jesus offered forgiveness of sins.

(Edward Sri) (cf. Mt 12:32)



CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1864 "Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven."



Queen of the South (Sheba) (Gina Lollobrigida)



Brethren

“Brethren”: ancient Hebrew, Aramaic and other languages had no special words for different degrees of relationship, such as are found in more modern languages. In general, all those belonging to the same family, clan and even tribe were “brethren”.

Brethren

likely Saint Jerome is right in arguing that the “brothers” are Jesus’s cousins; by comparing the different Gospels that mention the “brothers,” we can make a good argument for that interpretation. James and Joses are sons of another Mary who stood with the Mother of Jesus at the foot of the Cross

(Scott Hahn)