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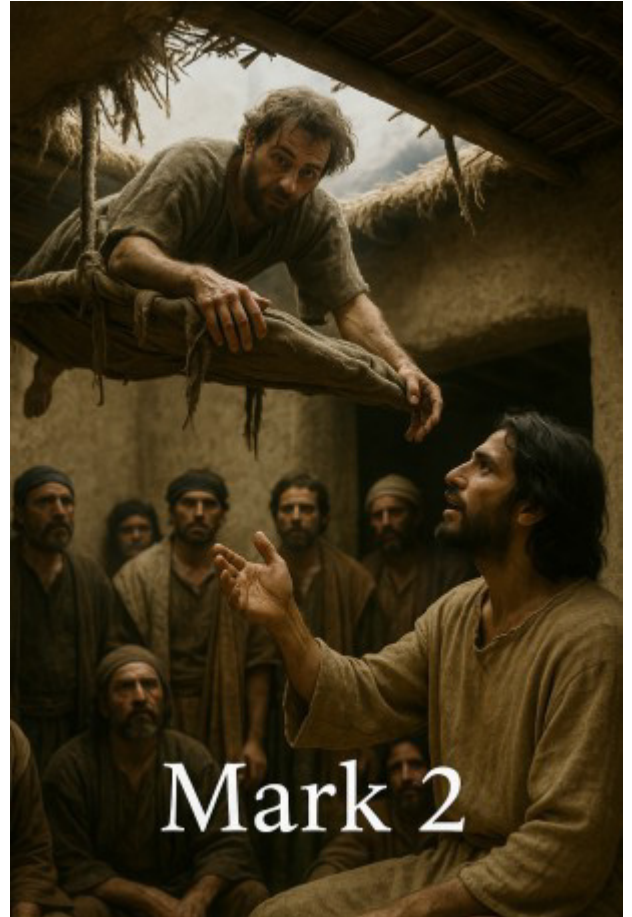
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Mark 2 This study has not been posted on facebook yet



By Dan Maines

Mark 2

Mark 2:1-12

When He came back to Capernaum a few days later, 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 some people came, bringing to Him a man who was paralyzed, carried by four men. And when they were unable to get to Him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Him; and after digging an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralyzed man was lying.

And Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven." But some of the scribes were sitting there and thinking it over in their hearts, "Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins except God alone?" Immediately Jesus, aware in His spirit that they were thinking that way within themselves, said to them, "Why are you thinking about these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralyzed man, '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 paralyzed man, "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!"

† The healing of the paralytic proved Jesus' authority to forgive sins, a direct claim of divinity.

† The scribes' charge of blasphemy showed their blindness to God's work.

† The miracle revealed the New Covenant's arrival with forgiveness at its center.

Mark 2:13-17

And He went out again by the seashore; and all the people were coming to Him, and He was teaching them. And as He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting in the tax office, and He said to him, "Follow Me!" And he got up and followed Him. And it happened that He was reclining at the table in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners were dining with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many of them and they were following Him. When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that He was eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they said to His disciples, "Why is He eating with tax collectors and sinners?" And hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick; I

did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

† Levi (Matthew) left everything immediately, displaying true discipleship.

† Jesus' fellowship with sinners revealed the mission of grace.

† He came not to call the self-righteous but those in need of healing.

Mark 2:18-22

John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting; and they came and said to Him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?" And Jesus said to them, "While the groom is with them, the attendants of the groom cannot fast, can they? As long as they have the groom with them, they cannot fast. But the days will come when the groom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day. No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; otherwise the patch pulls away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear results. No one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the wine will burst the skins, and the wine is lost, and the skins as well; but one puts new wine into fresh wineskins."

† The presence of Jesus, the Bridegroom, meant joy and celebration, not fasting.

† His coming introduced something entirely new, not an addition to the Old Covenant.

† The kingdom required new wineskins, a New Covenant, which replaced the old.

Mark 2:23-28

And it happened that He was passing through the grainfields on the Sabbath, and His disciples began to make their way along while picking the heads of grain. The Pharisees were saying to Him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" And He said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was in need, and he and his companions

became hungry; how he entered the house of God in the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the consecrated bread, which is not lawful for anyone to eat except the priests, and he also gave it to those who were with him?" Jesus said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord, even of the Sabbath."

† Jesus confronted legalism, showing that mercy outweighs ritual.

† By appealing to David, He revealed that human need transcends ceremonial law.

† His declaration as Lord of the Sabbath affirmed His authority over the covenant itself.

How it applies to us today:

† Mark 2 demonstrates Jesus' authority to forgive sins, call the unworthy, introduce the New Covenant, and redefine true righteousness. The fulfilled perspective reveals that the Old Covenant restrictions were temporary and gave way to the kingdom reality in Christ. For us today, we live in that fulfilled kingdom, forgiven, restored, and freed to walk in His grace, not bound by the old system.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

Source Index

† Josephus, Antiquities 20.9

† Tacitus, Annals 15.44

† Justin Martyr, Dialogue with Trypho 35

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies 3.10.5

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