

13 March 2016: Preached by Dr Jeffrey Khoo

Topic: Who can forgive sins?

Scripture Text: Mark 2:1-12

1. While man can forgive others of their sins, there is no saving power to it. The sins of the person still remain. Only the forgiveness of God has saving power which leads to no condemnation for the person. God's forgiveness is absolute.
2. There was great faith and zeal demonstrated by the palsy person and his 4 friends in coming to seek the Lord Jesus for healing. It was faith full of zeal. It was full of people at the house where Jesus was preaching. However the crowd of people did not stop them to seek Jesus. There was a lot of hard work for the 4 friends to bring the palsy man to the roof and then lowered him down to the Lord Jesus. They sought Jesus with all their heart and no difficulty could stop them.
3. Jesus saw their faith and knew the palsy man thoroughly to say to him, "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee". It was not a physical healing but a spiritual healing. He was sick because of his sins. Jesus called him "son" knowing his heart that he has faith in Him.
4. There was another group of people there but they possessed no faith in Jesus. They were the scribes. Though they knew the laws of God very well but they did not believe Jesus is God. They said in their hearts who can forgive sins but God only. Jesus saw through what was their thoughts as He is omniscient.
5. To prove to the people that He is God, Jesus raised the palsy man to walk. Only God can do such miracle and only God can forgive sins. However, the Scribes remained unrepentant in their pride and unbelief.