

# Forgiveness

## Matthew 9:1-13

### Context

- Matthew 5-7 is the Sermon on the Mount
- Key is “seek first the kingdom of God”—or the key to the kingdom is the king—Jesus
- Matthew 8—
  - 3 healing stories (shows the credentials of the king)
    - Leper
    - Centurion (Gentile) servant
    - Peter’s mother in law

- 4 stories of tested faith (trust-faith)
  - 1-Scribe wants to follow—material test
  - 2-Disciple wants to bury father—relationship test
  - 3-Storm at sea—safety test
  - 4-Demons and pigs—treasure test
- The miracles of Matt 8 and 9 show Jesus power:
  - 1. Over nature (disease, storms etc)
  - 2. Over supernatural (demons)
  - 3. Over spiritual problems—(SIN)

### There are 3 questions about forgiveness answered in Matthew 9:1-13

- I. Who forgives sin?— Matt. 9:1-8
  - Definition of forgive—remove the barriers to having a relationship with another person

### APPLICATION

- 1. Jesus has the power to forgive your sin—Only trust him!!!
- 2. Do not continue to carry the weight of your sin—when he forgives
- 3. Not only does Jesus have the ability to forgive he has the desire to do so—HE removes the barriers to our relationship with HIM—Remember I Jn. 1:9—“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive...”
- 4. Realize that forgiveness is greater than healing (healing will come)

### II. Who receives forgiveness? Matthew 9:9

- 2 ends of the moral spectrum in Israel
  - Pharisees—devout and dedicated to Torah
  - Tax Collectors (publicans)
    - Traitors—Jews working for Rome
    - Usually overcharged (bribes)
    - Normal tax was oppressive (perhaps 30-40%)

### APPLICATION

- 1. Jesus forgives individual persons—like you and me and Matthew
- 2. He is not a respecter of persons—so we have hope
- 3. He does expect his people to be followers of HIM—action required

### III. What is the extent of forgiveness?

#### Matt. 9:10-13

- Vs. 10—Room full of tax collectors and sinners
  - Sinners
    - Common people—not observe dietary and Sabbath laws
    - Also--worst of people—prostitutes, Gentiles, evil people

### APPLICATION

- 1. Jesus' arms of forgiveness are open wide—to those who know they need HIM
- 2. Notice the table of fellowship—similar to Lord's table—for forgiven sinners
- 3. Notice words to "Come Ye Sinners"

Come ye sinners, poor and needy  
Weak and wounded sick and sore  
Jesus ready stands to save you  
Full of pity, love and power  
Come ye weary, heavy laden,  
Lost and ruined by the fall  
If you tarry till you're better  
You will never come at all  
I will arise and go to Jesus  
He will embrace me in his arms  
In the arms of my dear Savior,  
Oh there are ten thousand charms

### Application 4 – Warnings of the doctrine of forgiveness

- 1. Do not take advantage of forgiveness
- 2. How do you do in forgiving others????????
  - Lord' prayer (Matt 6—Sermon on Mount)—forgive us AS we forgive others
  - Eph. 4:32—"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you"