

Study of Mark 2

by

Marc Gravelle

marc@bondservantsofyeshua.ca

Mark 2:1-28

1 And again He entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised that He was in the house. 2 And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and Messiah preached the Word unto them.

I know that I keep asking the same question, but it is worth repeating it, **IF** Messiah **IS** indeed the Words of Living Torah made flesh, as Scripture confirms that He is, **THEN** what **WORDS** do you suppose, He was preaching to the people? It is, or should be very obvious, that He was preaching the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, since our heavenly Father, **IS** the One that sent the Words of His Living Torah to earth, and then, caused His Word to be manifested in the flesh, as His only begotten Son, who is full of **GRACE** and **TRUTH**, furthermore, He Commanded Him, to **ONLY** speak the Words that He, the Father, gave Him to speak.

Verse 3 And they come unto Him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne by the four people. 4 And when they could not come near unto Messiah because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was: and when they had broken it up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay.

As you can see, these **four** people were very determined to bring this paralytic person to Messiah, so that he could be healed. Now, take a moment and just think about this, what kind of mindset do you think these four men had, that caused them, to go to this great length, to get their friend, or maybe he was a family member, into the presence of Messiah?

With that thought in mind, let us look at the details of this incident and see what message YHVH is trying to convey to us through this story. First of all, we are told that Messiah was surrounded by a crowd of people that wanted to be near Him, which more than likely means, that they wanted to be near him, to be healed of whatever illness or disease that they had, and then, we are told that there are four men, who are carrying a man, on a stretcher, and that that man is stricken with palsy, and they are trying to ensure that this man, is brought into the presence of Messiah, **BUT** they cannot reach, nor get near, Messiah, **BECAUSE** of the crowd that surrounded Him.

What do you think the **crowd** that is prohibiting these four determined men to draw near to YHVH so that their friend can be healed, represents?

What do you think the four men represent?

What would you say are the things that are prohibiting **MOST** people from approaching Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, today? Well, according to Scripture, it is the work of the devil, and the lust of men's fleshly desires, and these detriments, are exacerbated by the false religious and or secular man made doctrines of the world, that I believe are inspired by satan. Therefore, this crowd could represent, the devil and or the false doctrines of men, that say that the Words of the Torah of

YHVH, **ARE** abolished, and or done away with in whole or in part, which keeps you away from the Truth, just like the crowd is keeping them from approaching Messiah.

Next we have the four men, and I believe that they **represent the four Gospels** that when understood and willingly followed, will bring all people, who are truly searching for the **TRUTH**, into the presence of Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, where they will receive forgiveness, and enlightenment, and be set free from their bondage, as this paralytic man is about to be set free.

What do these four men, (*these four Gospels*) do? They decide to climb upon the roof of the house, and make a hole in the roof, to drop their friend, or family member, that is stricken with palsy, into the presence of Messiah. What do you think the roof, that is keeping them from entering the presence of Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, **represents?** There are many obstacles, deterrents and road blocks, that pop up in one's life, obstacles and barriers, that can, and do keep us away from believing and following the Words of the Father's Torah of Life made flesh!

It could be, things that we have been taught to believe, such as false man made secular or religious doctrines.

It could be, our fear of being ridiculed or called fanatics, for believing in someone or something that we cannot really see.

It could be the fear of being secluded or set apart from the majority, and then segregated and or labelled as a religious nuts or religious fanatics.

Therefore, to me, the roof represents these types of obstacles, that all of us have to overcome, **IF** we are come into, and remain in the presence of Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father, made flesh.

What do these four men (the Four Gospels) do, to this so called **obstacle** (the roof) that is keeping them from getting their friend, or their family member, their charge, into the presence of Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh? In their determination to get to the **TRUTH**, the Words of our heavenly Father's Living Torah, made flesh, Messiah, they tear this obstacle apart, which means, they make a path to the **TRUTH**, a path to the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life made flesh, Messiah, for their charge, the man that has the palsy **IS** bound to his bed.

Then these four men (the four Gospels), attach ropes to the stretcher that is carrying their friend or family member, their charge, who is sick with the palsy, and they lower him down into the presence of Messiah. In their determination, to get their friend exposed to the **TRUTH**, they did **NOT** let the obstacles that the enemy put before them, stop, nor hinder them, **BUT** instead, they **OVERCAME** them and pushed through the obstacles, so that their charge, the man who was sick with the palsy, the one who was in bondage and bound to his bed, could be exposed to the **TRUTH**. And what was their reward, for their determined effort to get this man exposed to the **TRUTH**? We are told what their reward is, in *verse 5*:

*When Yeshua saw their **BELIEF** (in the Father's everlasting **TRUTH**, the Words of His Torah of Life, made flesh), He said unto the sick of the palsy (the man that was in bondage to his sins), Son, your sins **ARE forgiven you.***

Now, we can see, that the road to forgiveness for our sins, the road to being forgiven for our

transgressions of the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, can and will be difficult, for their will be many obstacles that the enemy puts in front of us, to stop us from getting to the **TRUTH**, **BUT, IF** we are determined, as these four men (these four Gospels) **ARE** determined, and if, with the help of the four Gospels, we push through those obstacles, **THEN** our end result, **WILL BE**, **forgiveness** for our past sins, our past transgressions of the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, freedom from our past bondage to Sin, **AND THE RIGHT** to remain in the presence of Messiah for eternity.

Please understand the gravity of the situation and what has happened here. Even though this man, who had the palsy, which is a metaphor for being in deep bondage to Sin, was indeed forgiven of His Sins by Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, the religious leaders of the day, and their followers, who were present at the time, actually **doubted** that Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father made flesh, had the power to forgive Sins, and they wanted to **KILL** Him, for invoking the Name of YHVH. This indicates to us, how far away from the True Words of the Father's Torah of Life, that man made religions and their false doctrines take people, they get so far away, that when the **TRUTH** is actually staring them right in the face, as Messiah, who **IS** YHVH's Living **TRUTH** manifested in the flesh, was in their presence standing right in front of them, they still did **NOT** believe the **TRUTH**.

*Verse 6 But there were certain of the **SCRIBES** sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, 7 Why does this man speak these **blasphemies**? Who can forgive sins **BUT** Elohim only?*

It is pretty evident in Scripture, that our heavenly Father prophesied, that He would send His Word made flesh to earth, **BUT** these so called religious leaders, had so **perverted** the Word of the written Torah of YHVH, the very same Torah that YHVH gave to Mosheh at Mount Sinai, that they did **NOT** recognize, that Messiah **WAS and IS** the One that was prophesied to come, therefore they wanted to **KILL HIM**, they wanted to destroy **ALL** that He stood for; which means, they wanted to destroy YHVH's **TRUTH**, and replace it with their so called **relative truth**, which is nothing but falsehoods, sprinkled with a little bit of truth. Furthermore, their man made doctrines are forever changing, to suit whatever new wind of man made doctrine is popular at the time.

Verse 8 And immediately when Yeshua perceived in His Spirit, that they had this type of reasoning within themselves,

Now I want you to try and picture this event in your mind's eye; these scribes or the religious leaders of the man made religion of the day, in Tzion, Yisrael/Judah, are confronted **BY** the **TRUTH**, the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father, made flesh, Messiah, and they actually **REJECT** the **TRUTH**. This makes it very obvious that these Scribes and Pharisees, the religious leaders of the man made religion of the day, Judaism, in Yisrael/Judah, were **NOT obeying the Words of the written Torah of YHVH**, which **IS**, the very same Torah that YHVH gave to Mosheh at Mount Sinai, **BUT**, instead, they had chosen to follow their own **man made religious doctrine**, **AND passing it off as the TRUTH**, **BUT**, as we all **KNOW**, or should **KNOW**, there is only one **TRUTH** that sets all people who obey it, **FREE** from bondage to Sin, and that **TRUTH**, my friends, **IS** the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, for all other doctrine, are doctrines that **PLACE** people into bondage, **AND**, that bondage, will eventually lead all who chose to follow those man made false doctrines, to total and everlasting destruction.

He said unto them, Why do you reason these things in your hearts? 9 What is easier to say to the sick of the palsy,

Your Sins are forgiven you;

OR is it easier to say, Arise, and take up your bed, and walk?

It is obvious to anyone that reads these words, that it is much easier to **SAY**, your sins are forgiven, because no one, **BUT** Elohim Himself, can know when a person's Sins are actually forgiven, therefore, we have to conclude that it is much more difficult to say, **take up your bed and walk, BECAUSE** that can be proven, for **IF** you say the words, **get up and walk**, to a person that is sick in bed, a person that is paralyzed, and he does **NOT** get up and walk, **THEN**, you **are labelled as a false prophet**, and destined to receive a false prophets punishment, which is **DEATH** by stoning, Therefore Messiah took the difficult path, and said to the man who was sick with the palsy, **get up and walk**, and the man **did get up and walk**. We have to understand that Messiah did that, just so He could prove to these unbelieving Scribes and Pharisees, that He was indeed the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father, His eternal **TRUTH**, the Words of His Torah of our heavenly Father made flesh, and that He **IS** the prophesied Messiah, the Son of Elohim, that was **NOW** come.

*Verse 10 But that you may **KNOW** that the Son of man **HAS** the power on earth to **FORGIVE SINS**, (He said to the sick of the palsy), 11 I say unto you, Arise, and **take up your bed**, and **GO** your way into your house. 12 And **immediately**, he arose, **took up the bed**, and **went forth before them all**; insomuch that they were all amazed, and **glorified** Elohim, saying, We never saw anything like this, that someone with palsy was healed in this fashion.*

ALL miracles are done by our heavenly Father, through His vessels. Messiah, in the flesh, never did one miracle, it was our heavenly Father that did the miracles through Him, because Messiah was fully surrendered to our heavenly Father, and willingly chose to obey all the Words of His Torah of Life. *Acts 2:22-24 You men of Yisrael, hear these words; Yeshua of Nazareth, a man approved of Elohim (our heavenly Father) among you, by **Miracles and Wonders and Signs**, which Elohim did **BY HIM** in the midst of you, as you yourselves also know: 23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of Elohim, you have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: 24 Whom Elohim has raised up, having **loosed the pains of DEATH**: because it was **NOT** possible that he should be held by it (death).*

*Verse 13 And He went forth again by the sea side; and **ALL** the multitude resorted unto Him, and He taught them.*

Again we have to ask ourselves, **WHAT** is it, that Messiah taught these people? The answer is very obvious to the people who **KNOW the TRUTH**, the people who **KNOW**, that Messiah **IS** the **WORDS** of the Living Torah made flesh, and therefore, we have to believe that Messiah taught the Words of the Father's Torah of Life to all the people that He met. *John 1:1 and John 1:14*, tells us that Messiah **IS** the Living Word of our heavenly Father's Torah made flesh, and **IF** anyone, chooses to reject **any** or **all** of the Words of the Torah of our heavenly Father, they are actually **REJECTING** Messiah, for Messiah, as I mentioned above, **IS the Words of the Living Torah made flesh**.

Verse 14 And as He passed by, He saw Levi the son of Alpheus sitting at the receipt of custom, and said unto him, Follow me. And he arose and followed him.

Here we are told that as soon as Messiah walked by Levi, the son of Alpheus, and told Levi to follow Him, Levi jumped up right away, and followed Messiah, as did Simon and Andrew, and James and John, who were sons of Zebedee, and I believe they did that, because they were confronted with the pure **TRUTH** that they had been searching for, and now, the **TRUTH** that they were searching for, **WAS** right there in front of them, and I believe that they felt compelled by the Holy Spirit, to follow the Living Truth made flesh.

*Verse 15 And it came to pass, that, as Yeshua sat at meat in Levi's house, many publicans and sinners sat also together with Yeshua and His disciples: for there were many, and they followed Him. 16 And when the **Scribes and Pharisees** (religious leaders of the man made religion of Judaism, who rejected the Words of the written Torah of Mosheh, in favour of their own man made oral torah, their own man made doctrine) saw Messiah, eat with publicans and sinners, they said unto His disciples, How is it, that He eats and drinks with publicans and sinners?*

Now this is the **perfect picture** of all man made religions of the world and how intolerant they are, of other people and their beliefs. Here these religious leaders are condemning Messiah, for simply eating some food with these so called Sinners. This is a picture of **ALL** man made religions of the world, for they are **NOT** really interested in saving souls, they are only interested in making people **SLAVES to their false man made doctrines**; they want everyone to become bricks that conform to their **version of the truth**, rather than individual rocks that YHVH Himself has shaped.

*Verse 17 When Yeshua heard it, He said unto them, They that are whole, (they that are walking in obedience to the Words of My Father's Torah of Life) have no need of the physician, **BUT** they that are sick (they that transgress the Words of the Torah of My Father, those who do **NOT** know the **TRUTH**): these are the ones I came for.*

*I did **NOT** come to call the **righteous**,*

Who are the **righteous** people that Messiah says He did not come for, according to Scripture?

*Deuteronomy 6:24-25 And YHVH Commanded us **TO DO ALL** these Statutes, to fear YHVH our Elohim (the fear of YHVH **IS** the beginning of wisdom), for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as it is at this day. And **IT SHALL BE OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS, IF WE OBSERVE TO DO ALL** these Commandments (Torah) before YHVH our Elohim, as He has Commanded us.*

Why did Messiah say, I did **NOT** come for the **RIGHTEOUS**? It is because, according to Scripture, the **Righteous** people, have already answered the call, and willingly chosen to believe, follow and obey, **ALL** the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, which is the only Path that leads to everlasting Life in the Kingdom of Elohim.

Messiah continues talking to the Scribes and Pharisees and says: **BUT, I came to call Sinners, transgressors of the Words of My Father's Torah of Life, to repentance.**

*Verse 18 And the disciples of John and of the Pharisees used to fast: and they came and said unto him, Why do the disciples of John and of the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples **DO NOT FAST**?*

First of all we should ask ourselves, in a biblical sense, **WHY** do people fast? For the most part, it is to draw nearer and nearer to YHVH, it is to convince Elohim, to allow them to draw nearer to Him, and here Messiah's disciples **ARE** already **near to Him**, and He is instructing them, as to what they are Commanded and expected to do, to stay in His presence. Next Messiah uses a metaphor to explain to the Pharisees what He means, *verse 19*

And Yeshua said unto them:

*Can the children of the bride chamber **FAST**, while the **Bridegroom** is with them? As long as they have the **bridegroom** with them, **they cannot fast**.*

Here, we have to understand that when Messiah says, the bridegroom, He is speaking of Himself, and since Messiah **IS** the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, YHVH's **TRUTH** in the flesh, He means that as long as we have the **TRUTH** with us, and have willingly chosen to believe, follow and obey the **TRUTH**, the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, then we do **NOT** need to fast, we do not need to sacrifice and or afflict our flesh, to draw nearer and nearer to Him, for our surrendered **obedience** to the Words of YHVH's Torah of Life, does that, it draws us nearer to Him.

1 Samuel 15:22-24 And Samuel said, Has YHVH, as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, AS IN OBEYING the Voice of YHVH? Behold, TO OBEY, IS BETTER THAN SACRIFICE, and to hearken (to shema, to hear, listen, pay very close attention to, understand believe, follow and OBEY, what YHVH says) than the fat of rams. For rebellion IS as the Sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness IS as iniquity and idolatry. Therefore, because you, Saul, have rejected the Word of YHVH, He, YHVH, has also rejected YOU from being king. And Saul said unto Samuel, I have sinned: for I have transgressed the Commandment of YHVH, and your words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice (and NOT YHVH's Voice).

*But the days will come, when the bridegroom **SHALL be taken away from them**, and **then** shall they fast in those days.*

Messiah is telling us, that **when we are distant from Him**, for whatever reason, because of our thoughts, our words and or our deeds, **THEN** that is the time to fast, to afflict ourselves, so that we can draw nearer and nearer to Him, so that we can again get into a Right relationship with the Words of the Living Torah made flesh, and then, choose of our own accord, to continue to obey the Words of the Father's Torah of Life as Messiah did and taught us to do.

Next Messiah/YHVH uses a metaphor to explain something to us. *Verse 21 No man also sews a piece of NEW cloth on an OLD GARMENT: because the New piece that filled it up, tears away from the old, and the rent (the problem) is made worse. 22 And no man puts new wine into old bottles: BECAUSE the new wine will burst the old bottles, and then, the wine that you worked so hard to get is spilled, and the bottles will be marred (unusable): But new wine **MUST** be put into new bottles.*

What is Messiah teaching us here, what does He want us to understand? Messiah is telling us that we must put our old man (old garment) to death, before trying to walk in obedience to the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, because, if the old man (*old garment*) is still alive within us, he will rebel against obeying the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, and will cause us to distance ourselves more and more from YHVH's Words of Life, that can only be found in the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, thereby causing us to tear away from the Words of His Torah of Life.

*Verse 23 And it came to pass, that He went through the Grain fields on the Shabbat day; and His disciples began, as they went, to **pluck** the ears of grain. 24 And the Pharisees said unto Him, Behold, why do Your disciples do that which is **NOT** lawful on the Shabbat?*

The question that absolutely has to be asked here, **IS, BY** whose Law, **IS THE ACT** of plucking a handful of grain, unlawful to do on the Shabbat. According to the Torah of YHVH, it is **NOT** unlawful to do that, so, whose law prohibits this **ACT** of plucking a handful of grain out of the field, and then, munch on that handful of grain on the Shabbat? Well, according to the leaders of Judaism, and their oral torah, their man made doctrine, it is unlawful to do that. The Rabbis, are the ones that have unilaterally decided, that the practice, of grabbing a handful of grain, out of the field, on the Shabbat, and then putting it in your mouth, and chewing on it, constitutes an act of harvesting, then sifting the wheat, and then grinding the wheat to get the grain, so that in their eyes, Messiah's disciples are **WORKING** on the Shabbat.

*Verse 25 And Messiah said unto them, Have you never read, in the Tanak, what David did, when he and the people that were with him, had need, and were very hungry? 26 How David went into the house of Elohim in the days of Abiathar the High Priest, and he **DID EAT** the showbread, which **IS NOT LAWFUL TO EAT** except for the Priests, and **NOT** only did David eat it, **BUT** he also gave some of the showbread to them who were with Him? 27 And He said unto them, **The Shabbat was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath:***

Here Messiah is giving these Pharisees and Scribes a Torah lesson, and He makes it perfectly clear that the Shabbat is made for man, and that the reverse is **NOT** true, for man was **NOT** made for the Shabbat. Therefore it is **OK** to save lives and do good on the Shabbat.

Messiah is telling these Pharisees and us, that the Shabbat, **IS** our servant. Let me ask you a question, Have you ever thought of the Shabbat in that Light, that it is actually **OUR servant**. Well, let's look into it. What are the duties of a servant? A servant is to ensure that he takes care of his master's needs, and he is to complete all the chores that His master has given him, so that his master can rest easy, and know that his possessions are well taken care of. How does the Shabbat take care of our needs? First, it serves us, by **CAUSING** us to spend time in the presence of YHVH on that day, which provides us with both physical and spiritual rest. It recharges our batteries, so that we can go out and face the world and all its problems. It causes us to stop, and think about, what is important in life, and it causes us to spend time on focusing on those important things. It serves us, by causing us to fellowship together to gain knowledge and strength from each other and from the Word of YHVH's Torah of Life, the very same Torah that He gave to Mosheh at Mount Sinai. It also causes people to reflect on what is important for their well being and the wellbeing of our families, and I believe it is a very fun time also.

Verse 28 Therefore the Son of man is Master also of the Shabbat.

Scripture tells us that Messiah **IS** the Word of Elohim, and that the Word of Elohim **IS** Elohim, and furthermore we are told that the Word of Elohim, Created **ALL** things, including the Shabbat, therefore, it should not come as a surprise, that the Living Torah made flesh, who created all things, **IS Master** of all things, including the Shabbat, **BUT** please remember, the Master of all things, the Creator of the universe, who created the Shabbat, is telling us, His created beings, that He Himself created the Shabbat **FOR US**, and **NOT** the other way around, therefore, please understand that this

IS the only day of the week that **IS** created for us **TO ENJOY AND To REST IN HIM**, all other days, **LABOUR** can be done, **BUT** this Day, Shabbat, is where we are to rest **IN YHVH**, and replenish our strength, so that we can battle, and conquer, whatever the enemy throws at us throughout the new week that we are about to face. Amein

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

*Have a great Elohim blessed week and may YHVH bless your every thought,
and your every deed. Until we meet again. Amein*