

Faith Is Action

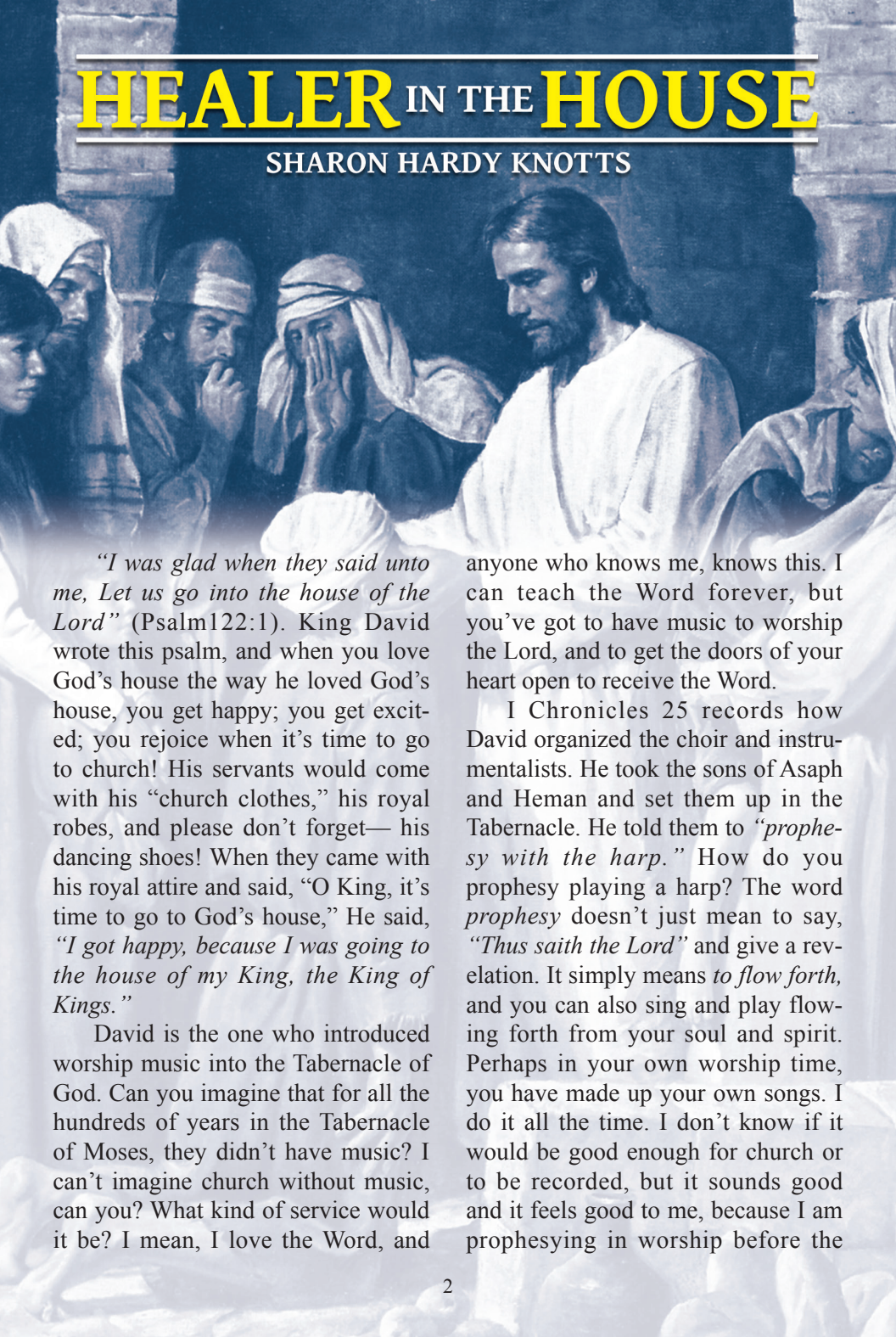
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Merry Christmas

HEALER IN THE HOUSE

SHARON HARDY KNOTTS



"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord" (Psalm 122:1). King David wrote this psalm, and when you love God's house the way he loved God's house, you get happy; you get excited; you rejoice when it's time to go to church! His servants would come with his "church clothes," his royal robes, and please don't forget— his dancing shoes! When they came with his royal attire and said, "O King, it's time to go to God's house," He said, "I got happy, because I was going to the house of my King, the King of Kings."

David is the one who introduced worship music into the Tabernacle of God. Can you imagine that for all the hundreds of years in the Tabernacle of Moses, they didn't have music? I can't imagine church without music, can you? What kind of service would it be? I mean, I love the Word, and

anyone who knows me, knows this. I can teach the Word forever, but you've got to have music to worship the Lord, and to get the doors of your heart open to receive the Word.

I Chronicles 25 records how David organized the choir and instrumentalists. He took the sons of Asaph and Heman and set them up in the Tabernacle. He told them to *"prophesy with the harp."* How do you prophesy playing a harp? The word *prophesy* doesn't just mean to say, *"Thus saith the Lord"* and give a revelation. It simply means *to flow forth*, and you can also sing and play flowing forth from your soul and spirit. Perhaps in your own worship time, you have made up your own songs. I do it all the time. I don't know if it would be good enough for church or to be recorded, but it sounds good and it feels good to me, because I am prophesying in worship before the

Lord.

Altogether, there were 288 singers and musicians set up in the Tabernacle, including women. Asaph and Heman's daughters were not disqualified because they were females. It was a huge thing that David did in introducing worship into the Tabernacle. Later, in the time of King Jehoshaphat, the singers became instrumental in winning the battle against three united enemies as they went out in front of the army singing, *"Praise the Lord! His mercy endures forever!"* (2Chron.20). David's psalms are filled with praise and worship, and his very last, Psalm 150, goes out with a bang:

"Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary.... Praise him with the sound of the trumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord."

This is how we should be happy when we come into God's House, and realize that this is not just Faith Tabernacle, or whatever church you may belong to, but God's House, and He dwells there in the midst of His people. Jesus said, *"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them"* (Mt.18:20). I want you to know tonight, *Jesus is in the House!*

When Can I Get to Church?

Psalms 42 shows the heart of a man who was a true worshiper: *"As the hart pants after the water brooks, so pants my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?"* (vv.1-2). Note what he said: *When can I come and appear before God?* Now we know David was always worshiping God, and God was with him all the time, just like He is with us when we're not in church. We don't leave Him at the church door. We take Him with us when we go home, on the job, shopping, etc. What David was talking about is *God's House*. He was saying, *"When can I appear before God? When can I come into His house, into His presence— especially when I'm in a test!"*

"My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?" (v.3). Sometimes, *your tears talk to you!* David said that his tears were *his meat*, meaning *his food*. In other words, *"I am not eating... and my tears are talking to me, saying, 'Where is your God?'"* Have you ever been there? I have.

David continued: *"When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me. For I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday"* (v.4). In the midst of his tears, David was making himself remember the times when he was

shouting and dancing, worshipping and singing in God's House, and he said, *"I'm going to get back there—to God's House!"*

In Psalm 63:1, David again said, *"O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsts for thee, my flesh longs for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is."* This is a superlative metaphor of someone who's in a desert and has not had water to drink, and this is the kind of thirst David equates to his thirst for God: *"To see thy power and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary"* (v.2). Have you ever been in a service where you saw the glory of God and felt the power of God? Well, I want to tell you that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever, and He is in the house tonight! And if you have sickness in your body, if you have been attacked in your body by the enemy, I want to tell you specifically, *the Healer is in the house tonight!*

Jesus in the House!

"And he came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and taught them on the sabbath day.... And he arose out of the synagogue and entered into Simon's house. And Simon's wife's mother was taken with a great fever; and they besought him for her. And he stood over her, and rebuked the fever; and it left her: and immediately she arose and ministered unto them" (Lk.4:31, 38-39).

Capernaum was Peter's hometown and basically, Jesus' headquar-

ters. The Gospels show that Jesus wasn't all that fond of Jerusalem, as He had many enemies there. The holy Temple was there, the seat of Jewish life, but most of the religious leaders opposed Him. Even when He was in Jerusalem, He didn't spend the night in Jerusalem, but would go to Bethany, a few miles away, and stay with Lazarus, Mary, and Martha. But He loved the Sea of Galilee. Anyone who has ever been on a Holy Land tour knows why: It is so beautiful! Also, Jesus grew up in Nazareth, one of the towns by the Sea of Galilee. Whenever He was not in a particular crusade, or needed to be in Jerusalem, He would go back to Galilee to Peter's house, to *Capernaum*, which means *village of comfort*.

We can imagine there were many times when Peter's mother-in-law fixed meals for Jesus and His disciples. But when Jesus got there that day, instead of Mama being busy in the kitchen fixing a meal, she was in the bed, down on her back, very sick. We read *"she was taken with a great fever."* This Greek word means *to be seized by something*, causing great suffering and distress. It's one reason we know it was a demonic attack.

Sometimes you get sick because you ate bad food, and sometimes you get sick because you picked up a germ from the kids from daycare etc. Sometimes you get sick because you haven't been taking care of yourself; eating right and sleeping right, and your immune defenses were down, but this was different. She was *taken*

by a great fever. She was *attacked* by the devil. She not only had a fever, but the Greek word is **MEGA**, which means *great*. It wasn't a run-of-the-mill snotty nose; it wasn't just a "I feel a little bad today, but I'll be up and about tomorrow" 24-hour bug.

When Jesus arrived, *they besought him* to help her. The word *besought* is very strong. The need was urgent. They probably said, "O Lord, we are so glad you're here! Mama is sick. We have never seen her so sick, and you know Mama doesn't stay in the bed for anything. She's always cooking and preparing meals for us, so when she goes to bed, you know it's bad!"

We can assume they had done all they could do to help her. If there was something that they could do to alleviate her problem, they would've already done it. You know how hard it is to see someone you love down in the bed suffering, and you don't know what to do. You fix them a cup of tea and hope that will make them feel better, but really, you are trying to make yourself feel better, because you feel so awful watching them suffer and feeling helpless to do something. Especially if it is a child, you will do everything you can think of. You will get a cold rag; you'll get a warm rag; you will wipe their brow; you will give them soup; you will give them ice cream—you *will do anything*. I am sure they tried everything, but it wasn't helping. This woman was down in the bed taken with a great fever.

But when Jesus came into the house—the moment He stepped through the door, there was a shift in the atmosphere. The authorities of darkness began to tremble; the powers of sickness and disease began backing off. Once Jesus stepped over that threshold and came into Peter's house, everything changed. Mama was lying in that sick bed, her head pounding with a high fever, her body aching all over, but somebody said, "*Mama, Jesus is here! Jesus is in the house!*" As soon as she heard that Jesus was in the house, her faith meter jumped straight up. *Jesus is here! The Healer is here! The Healer is in the house!* Mama said, "*I know I am getting out of this bed!*" Jesus came to where she was lying, maybe in the bedroom, maybe in the living room on the sofa; wherever it was, *Jesus was in the house!*

He Took Authority

Here's the thing: He didn't pray for her and say, "*Be healed.*" But He *rebuked* the fever. This tells us it wasn't just an ordinary sickness, but a demonic attack. If you read the history of Jesus' healing ministry, He didn't always do this. Reading this account in Matthew and Mark, Matthew tells us "*Jesus touched her hand,*" and Mark says, "*He lifted her up,*" but only Luke tells us that *He rebuked the fever*. This is an important detail we need to understand, because some sicknesses are caused by a direct attack of Satan—when it strikes you out of the blue and seems

to knock the wind right out of you. In these cases, you must do what Jesus did: Use the authority that Jesus delegated to us to use His Name, and rebuke the sickness. You have to rebuke the devil and let him know that he is trespassing on God's property, because *the devil is a trespasser!*

You may be thinking that *he is not supposed to trespass*. Well, nobody is supposed to trespass on private property. That is why there are signs posted: "*No Trespassing.*" But it's also why they have punishment if you do, because somebody always will. There will always be somebody who will trespass and end up at the court before the judge. That is exactly how the devil does. No, he's not supposed to trespass! No, he is not supposed to touch God's property! But if he can get away with it, he will. We can't let him! We have to use our God-ordained, Jesus-delegated authority and kick the devil out! When Jesus walked in Peter's house, the devil had to GO! Immediately, the fever left her: If the enemy has been trespassing in your life with sickness and disease, today you're going to evict the devil!

The House of Healing

Mama was up in the kitchen, probably frying St. Peter's fish. Let's see what happened next: "*Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed*

them. And devils also came out of many, crying out, and saying, Thou art Christ the Son of God. And he rebuking them suffered them not to speak: for they knew that he was Christ" (vv.40-41).

When Peter's mother-in-law was healed, the word of her healing spread quickly. There was apparently some kind of Holy-Ghost grapevine going on, because people began to spread the news all over town saying, "Did you know Peter's mother-in-law was very ill?" "Yeah, I heard how sick she was." "Well, did you hear when Jesus came into the house, He prayed for her, and now she's up in the kitchen cooking?" Somebody said, "Well, if Jesus is still there, I'm going to Peter's house!"

The sun was going down, and they had no streetlights. They got out their candles and lanterns and began pouring out of neighborhoods from every corner of Capernaum. Soon there was a line of sick people at Peter's door. They had come because they heard *the Healer was in the house!* They brought those with all manner of diseases. Anybody who had a sickness, no matter how small or great, chronic or acute, showed up at the door, and Jesus healed every one of them. Not one was denied healing.

Do I think maybe Jesus had a soft spot in His heart for Peter's mother-in-law? Sure! *She was Mama!* She had cooked many meals for Him and His disciples when they stayed there. Of course He had a ten-

der spot in His heart for her, *but He is no respecter of persons*. When the sick were lined up at the door deep into the night, Jesus didn't turn one away. He wasn't too busy, too hungry, too tired. He didn't say, "Come back tomorrow; it's getting dark." He didn't say, "You know, I haven't had a chance to sit down and eat." Now this was Jesus in His earthly body that got tired, that got weary, that got hungry, that got sleepy. So do you think the glorified Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord, is too busy for you? Do you think He's going to heal Mama, but pass over you? Do you think He's going to heal Brother So-and-so, or Sister So-and-so, but pass you by? *The devil is a liar!*

If Jesus is in the house—if the Healer is in the house, you can be healed!

Jesus was in the house with a prayer line going down the block and around the corner. Those possessed with demons were becoming agitated. Stirred up by His presence, they were crying out: "*We know who you are, the Christ, the Son of God.*" Perhaps they thought if they cried loud enough, made enough noise and commotion, Jesus would close the healing service down, but they would have been wrong. Jesus rebuked them—told them to shut up. If somebody wanted to be set free from demonic powers, Jesus delivered them. You have to want to be delivered from demons. If somebody doesn't want to be delivered, leave them alone. Don't fool with them,

because they will open the door for more demons to come in, and they will be worse (Ref. Matt.12:43-45).

Sometimes the enemy plants demon-possessed vessels in a service in order to agitate the atmosphere and try to shake people's faith and cause them to waver. Often when someone is at the point of getting a healing or miracle, the devil will try to create some kind of disruption. But Jesus did not allow them to speak. He bound them with His authority and shut them down. I know personally how important that is.

Demonic Disruption

Years ago, when I was suffering greatly with my back, Charlotte, a dear friend and sister in Christ, drove me from Baltimore to Providence, Rhode Island to attend a Good Friday Candlelight Healing Service. We got a hotel room where we could look out of the window and see the arena across the street. We were getting dressed for the service when all of the sudden, out of the blue, I had an attack where I couldn't breathe. I had never had a panic attack before, and my back condition did not affect my breathing, but suddenly I couldn't breathe. Charlotte is a nurse, and so *the nurse nature* in her kicked in, and she got a paper bag, put it over my mouth, and told me to breathe. She was telling me to do different things, but somewhere along the line, *the Holy-Ghost nature* in her kicked in and overrode the nurse part of her.

She recognized that it was not an ordinary attack. She knew it was the enemy trying to keep me from making it to the service. She took authority over it in Jesus' name and

leaving me by myself, trying to get in through the crowds. I needed to sit on the main level, because I could not climb the many stairs going up the tiers of the circumference of the



rebuked the spirit, and it stopped immediately. It was an attack of the enemy, and the enemy wasn't done.

We proceeded to go over to the arena. Charlotte had signed up to sing on the choir and was allowed in a special entrance for choir members,

Since I wasn't in a wheelchair and didn't use a cane or walker, I looked perfectly fine. I kept explaining to the ushers that I couldn't do the steps. Finally, I was allowed onto the ground floor, and I sat down next to a young woman who turned out to have a beautiful spirit. I will never forget her name; not because I am good at remembering names, but her name was *Robin Bird*. (Her mother did not name her *Robin* with the last name *Bird*—she married a *Bird*.) She had a very serious leg and feet condition and was in agonizing pain. She had suffered for years, and she was probably only in her late 20s or

early 30s. My heart went out to her, and I was more concerned about her getting healed than myself at that point.

Seated on our left, about five people down, was a woman with multiple sclerosis who had come with several other women. The wor-

ship service got to going, and the Spirit of God was moving. I was entering into the worship, when suddenly, this woman started to flail her arms and loudly yell out. We were sitting on a cement floor, and she reared back wildly until her whole chair went straight back, and she fell backwards on that hard cement floor. *This is a lady who is suffering in pain with multiple sclerosis!* She didn't do this once, but over and over again. It was so distracting it got to the point that it was harassing. It was harassing me and Robin who really needed God to touch us. It kept pulling us out of the worship, because the noise of her yells and banging on the floor was so loud.

Adding to the oddity, the women with her were acting as though it was wonderful; that it was the Spirit of God. I thought: *The Holy Spirit doesn't make you do that. He doesn't heal you by knocking you out over and over again on a cement floor!* I kept thinking: *This is not the Holy Spirit!* I looked over at her, and when I saw her countenance, I knew it was a demon manifesting. Now on the inside of me, something was saying, "You need to go over there and rebuke that demon," but I was in a very fragile state physically, mentally, and emotionally because of my prolonged suffering. So when the thought kept coming to me to go and rebuke that devil, I would think: *What if she rears back and takes you down with her?* This was not without merit, so I thought: *I'm not messing*

with her. I'll just leave her alone.

But she vexed my spirit for the rest of the night. It also upset me to see that it was affecting Robin too. When the service was over, her face was dejected, and I knew the devil had planted that woman there. I'm not saying that she didn't really have that condition, but I am saying she was yielded to a demon that night. She threw caution to the wind. She could have killed herself all the times she fell straight back onto that cement floor. I am saying that demons seek to act up when somebody is close to a miracle or healing, to create interference.

I was also thinking: *What if people see me rebuke the demon in her and think that I'm the one who is acting weird, because they believe it is the Holy Spirit moving on her?* The devil was so sly. Who knows how many people sitting around her she affected that night. And that's what the devil was doing that day at Peter's house. All those people who had heard that *Jesus is in the house*, had come to be healed. Satan was trying to distract them and put fear on them, so they would not receive their healing. But Jesus was not going to have it, and He shut it down. *When Jesus comes in the house, the devil goes out!*

Power in the House

"And again he entered into Capernaum after some days; and it was noised that he was in the house. And straightway many were gathered

together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them” (Mark 2:1-2). This is another healing service that took place in Capernaum at Peter’s house, and apparently, the grapevine was still active. It was noised about that Jesus was in the house, and as soon as this was heard, people began coming from everywhere to Peter’s house, until there was no room in the house; people were blocking the door, and no one else could get in.

We will now continue the story in Luke 5:17: “*And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee and Judea and Jerusalem and the power of the Lord was present to heal them.*”

The reason I went first to Mark’s account is to show *when it was noised about of Jesus’ coming*, crowds of people had come, until none could even get in the door. I want to show you in Luke’s account who some of these people were: “*Pharisees, doctors of the law, and scribes*” (v.21). The doctors of the law were lawyers with PhD’s.— not in Roman law, but in the Scriptures— God’s law. They knew the law of Moses inside and out. They were always reminding Jesus what Moses said. One time they said about Jesus, “*We are Moses’ disciples. We know God spoke to Moses, but as for*

this fellow, we know not where he comes from” (Jn.9:28).

I also want to draw your attention to the fact they came from all over, as far as *Judea and Jerusalem, and every town of Galilee*. This is significant: Jerusalem was 85 miles away, and Judea was almost 50 miles away. That was a long way to travel to attend a Jesus’ healing service.

And how many towns do you suppose were around Galilee? Galilee is a huge lake four miles wide. I don’t know exactly how many towns there were in Jesus’ day, but I’ll name a few: *Capernaum*, Peter’s hometown; *Nazareth*, Jesus’ hometown; *Cana*, where Jesus did His first miracle and turned water into wine; *Gadara*, where He set Legion free from demons; *Magdala*, Mary Magdalene’s hometown; *Bethsaida*, Phillip’s hometown; *Nain*, where Jesus raised a widow’s son from the dead; *Corbin*, where Jesus did many mighty works; *Dalmanutha*, where the Pharisees asked Jesus for a sign; *Gennesaret*, where Jesus held a great healing revival and people brought the sick on their beds; *Tiberius*, a royal city. *These are some of the towns that were around the Sea of Galilee.*

The Pharisees, doctors, and the scribes had come as far away as Jerusalem to Peter’s house, because they heard *the Healer Jesus would be in the house*. We don’t know how they found out, but they did have spies following Him, because they were always trying to find something they

could use against Him. There was also much curiosity because of the great miracles He performed. Nicodemus, himself a Pharisee, had come to Jesus at night, saying, “We know you’re a man sent from God, because no man can do these miracles except God be with him” (Jn.3:2). Somehow they got the message that Jesus was conducting a healing service, and they booked the next camel to Capernaum.

The place was packed with skeptics and those needing healing. I don’t think it was incidental what Luke recorded next: “*And the power of the Lord was present to heal them.*” I guarantee you some of those Pharisees and PhDs needed healing too, and the power of the Lord was present to heal every one of them! Not one should have left that house with sickness in his body, *because the Healer was in the house!* The power to heal was present, and it was their day to be healed. *Power* in Greek is **DUNAMIS**—*the inherent, divine ability to perform anything*, was in the house! The divine, supernatural, sickness-chasing, demon-defeating, Heaven-sent, power of God to heal was present to heal them all!

Mark told us that first *Jesus preached the word*. This is important, because “*Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God*” (Rom.10:17).

Faith In Action

“And, behold, men brought in a

bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him. And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus”(Lk.5:18-19). Mark said that *they tore off the roof*. Here was a man who was paralyzed to the point that the only way they could get him there was to carry him on his cot. When they got there, it was impossible to get him in the house, *but this was his day to be healed*. He was not going back home on a cot!

Sometimes it can be a struggle to get to church or to a healing service, but you may have to press your way! I’m sure it was painful for him to be carried on his cot along the uneven terrain. Just because a person is paralyzed does not mean he doesn’t feel pain. Often when the motor nerves have been paralyzed, they can’t move their limbs, but if the sensory nerves are still working, they still receive pain messages. They didn’t have sidewalks and paved roads. He would have been jostled about, and when you are in pain and somebody is moving you, you scream. I remember being in so much pain, I could not stand for anybody to touch my bed, and I would yell out. This man was suffering. When he finally got there, he could not get in, not even through a window. But his friends (I’m guessing four) said, “We didn’t

come this far to turn around and go back!” One of them climbed up on the roof and said, “Come on, get up here and help me.”

They began tearing tiles off the roof until they had a hole big enough to lower the man and his cot down in front of Jesus. It could not have been easy to hoist him up on the roof, especially in his condition, but they did it, because they knew *the Healer was in the house!* Sometimes you have to go after your miracle. Sometimes you have to go after your healing. Sometimes you have to fight the good fight of faith. You have to fight through obstacles and discouragements and hindrances and setbacks.

“And when he (Jesus) saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee. And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone? But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, What reason ye in your hearts? Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house. And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God. And they were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, We have seen

strange things to day” (vv.20-26).

I tell you, when Jesus is in the house, you will see some strange things. Jesus *saw* their faith, because faith is followed by *action*. However, *action is not always faith*. Let me say that again: *Action is not always faith, but faith is always action*. What some think is faith in action is actually *presumption*. People act in presumption, that is, they act in themselves, and when they don't get the desired result, they are shook up, and may even say, “I don't believe this faith thing is real.” The problem was they were not acting in faith to start with. Even so, when you have faith, there will be action. When Jesus saw they had torn off the roof to get that man in the house, *He saw their faith*

Sometimes people in need of healing need the help of others. We should never hesitate to ask others to pray for us for healing. We are commanded in James, “*Pray one for another that you may be healed*” (Js.5:16). We don't even know these men's names. Luke, who was a stickler for details, didn't get them. Had he told us their names, hundreds of parents down through the centuries would have named their sons after them. These were true heroes of the faith, as well as the best friends you could have in your hour of need. Give me friends like them when I'm in trouble! Give me friends like them when I'm sick in the bed; suffering and too weak to pray for myself! Give me Faith Tabernacle friends, like Charlotte and many others, who

came in my bedroom and prayed for me until the pain lifted. We don't know these guys' names, but when we get to Heaven, we will know who they are!

Minister First to the Soul

Jesus said to the sick man, "*Your sins are forgiven.*" It is usually necessary to minister to a person's spiritual condition first. When a person is weak spiritually, his faith is anemic, he is under condemnation, or attacked by a spirit of fear, it's not wise to jump right to the healing part. He might get healed on your prayer of faith, but when you leave, along comes the lying devil sitting on his shoulder, telling him he didn't really get healed; he's just imagining that the pain is gone. If you have suffered with chronic pain, you are not imagining when it's gone. You know when you have received something in your body.

Many times I came through the prayer line and would receive a healing touch, but on the way out the door, somebody would say something to me that the enemy would distort and—boom—fear would jump on me. The person did not mean to say anything to upset me, but the devil could take a remark and distort it because of *my* mindset. I was hearing everything through a *filter of fear*. This is why we must be mindful when ministering to sick people, especially if it has been going on for a long time, to minister to their faith, so they can receive their heal-

ing and keep it. Jesus knew this man had condemnation in his life because of sin. He needed a clean slate so the condemnation would lift, and he could freely believe to receive his healing.

Faith's Four Functions

Jesus ministered first to *his spiritual need*, but the Pharisees and scribes *reasoned*: "*Who does he think he is, telling him he can forgive his sins!*" Reasoning is always of the intellect. Faith is not of the intellect; it is not of the mind, but of the spirit. Paul said, "*We have the spirit of faith*" (2 Cor.4:13). We all have *the measure of faith* (Rom.12:3). No one can be saved without the measure of faith (Eph.2:8-9). Then there is *the gift of faith*, one of the nine gifts of the Spirit (1Cor.12:7-11). This occurs when supernaturally, in a moment of need for a specific miracle or rescue, this powerful anointing of faith comes upon us, enabling us to act instantly and boldly to bring deliverance in that moment. Paul also described *the fruit of faith*, one of the nine fruit of the Spirit (Gal.5:22-23), which is actually *faithfulness*. Then there is also *a spirit of faith, which comes by hearing the word of God* (Rom.10:17).

They *reasoned with the intellect*, but Jesus *perceived with the spirit* their thoughts. He rebuked them: "*Why reason ye in your hearts?*" They were questioning His authority to forgive sins. He said, "It's no harder for me to tell this paralyzed man to

rise up and walk, and prove that God has sent me.” When He did, the supernatural power (**DUNAMIS**) of God was released by the authority (**EXOUSIA**) He had received from His Father. He had the power to heal the man, and the authority to forgive his sins. The works that He did verified and validated His authority. In Jerusalem, Jesus said to His critics: “*If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though you believe not me, believe the works*” (Jn.10:37-38).

Immediately, the man arose, carrying his bed and glorifying God. I tell you, he didn’t have to go back through the roof either! People made way in amazement as he went out the door carrying his bed. The people outside who couldn’t get in, suddenly saw the door fling open, and the same crippled man they had seen pulled up onto the roof, came walking out with his bed, *because Jesus the Healer was in the house!*

They were all amazed and glorified God: “*We have seen strange things here today.*” In Greek, *strange* is **PARADOSOUS**, which was brought into English as *paradox*, *paradoxical*. A paradox is something that seems to contradict itself, but it is true. This is exactly what happened here. We might say that something is *incredible*, which means you cannot believe it. But that’s not literally what we mean when we say this. We *do believe it*, because we are *seeing it*; yet it defies what seems to be possible. For example, it was incredible

to see a famous tightrope walker walk across Niagara Falls. It is incredible that he can perform such gymnastics in that precarious situation, but *it’s not incredible* in that you can’t believe it, because you believe what you saw. You’re saying that it seems to contradict what you can expect someone to do, but he was doing it!

They were saying: “We have seen *incredible* things here today! If you would have told us when they took that man up on the roof on his cot, that he would come walking out the door carrying his bed, we would have said, ‘*No way,*’ but here he comes! We have seen the incredible, *because the healing power of God is in the house!*”

Editor’s Note: The anointing on this message was powerful, and can be felt, heard, and transferred on the audio. If you or someone you know is in need of healing, you can order on CD & MP3s.