



The Gospel of Mark

JESUS

The King Who
Came to Die

A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. ² So many gathered that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them.

³ Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them. ⁴ Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

⁶ Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁷ “Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

⁸ Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things? ⁹ Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’?”

¹⁰ But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins. . . .” He said to the paralytic, ¹¹ “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” ¹² He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

Mark 2:1–12

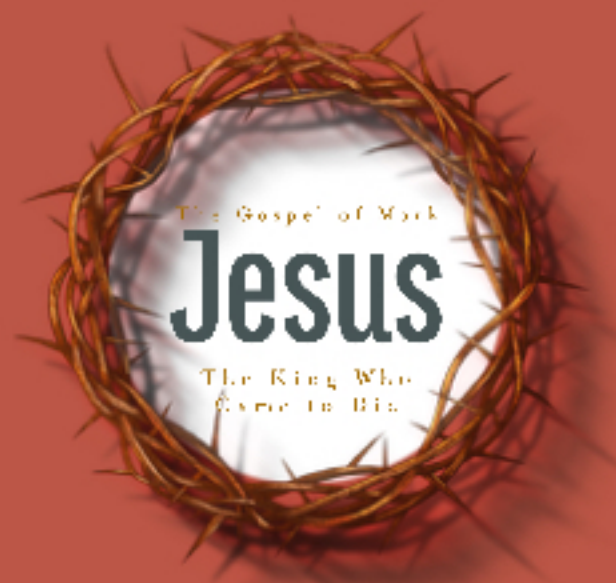
The image features a crown of thorns, a symbol of suffering and sacrifice, framing the central text. The thorns are golden-brown and sharp, set against a blurred background of a crowd of people, suggesting a public setting. The overall color palette is dominated by reds, oranges, and yellows, creating a sense of intensity and drama.

The Setting: Crowds In Capernaum

The Crowds Gather Around Jesus In Capernaum

A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. ² So many gathered that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them.

Mark 2:1–2



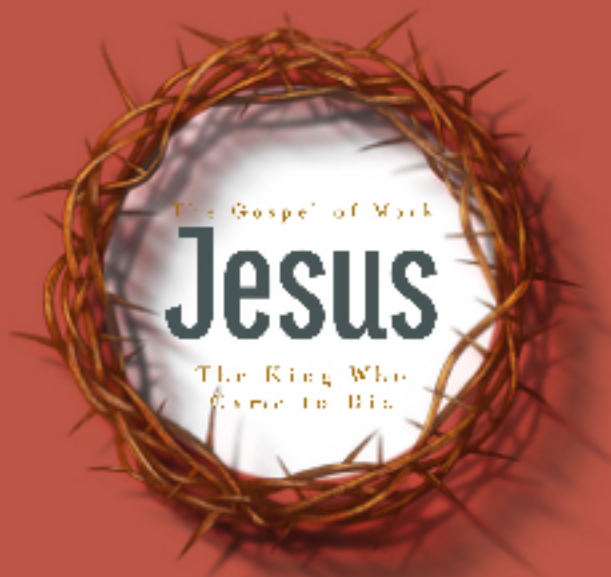


**The Event:
A Paralytic
Brought To Jesus**

Four Friends Bring A Paralytic To Jesus

Some men came, bringing to him a paralytic, carried by four of them. ⁴ Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on.

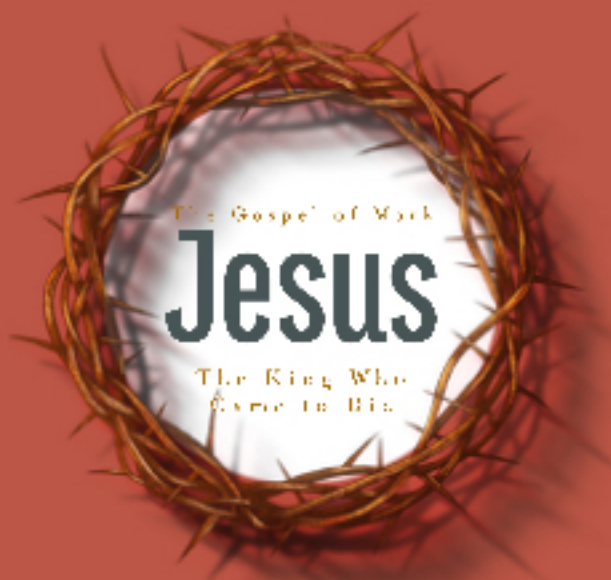
Mark 2:3–4



A Display of Great, Resilient Faith

Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and, after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man was lying on. ⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

Mark 2:4–5



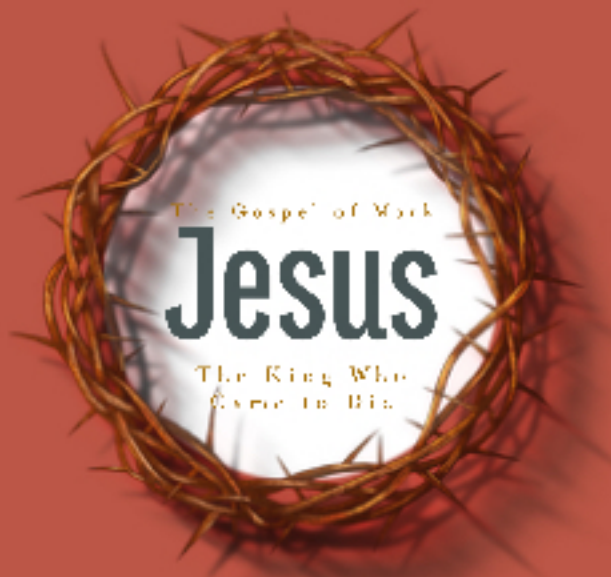


The Conflict: Who Can Forgive Sins?

Jesus' Surprising Statement

When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic,
“Son, your sins are forgiven.”

Mark 2:5



Sin, Sickness, Forgiveness, and Healing

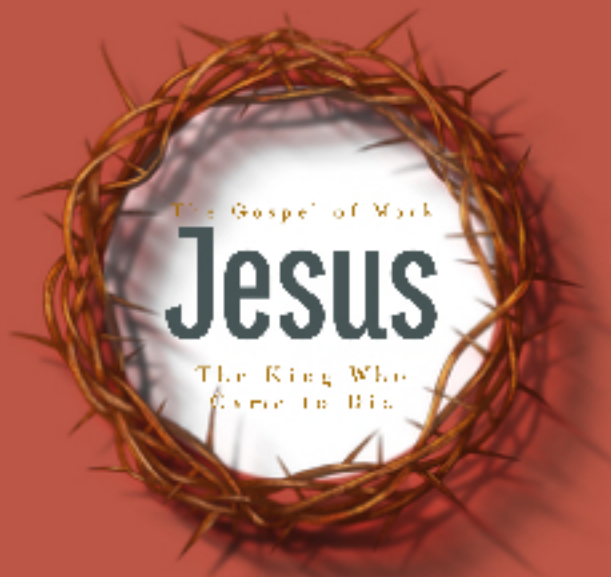
who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases

Psalm 103:3

I said, “O LORD, have mercy on me; heal me, for I have sinned against you.” Psalm 41:4

Return, faithless people; I will cure you of backsliding.

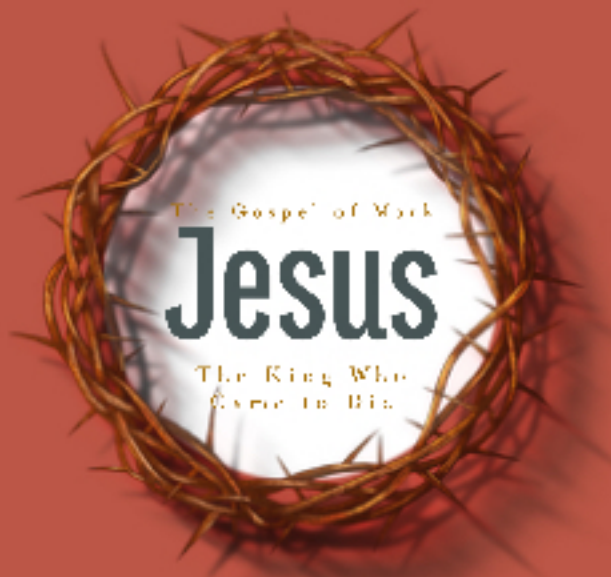
Jeremiah 3:22



Forgiveness of Sin and the New Covenant

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

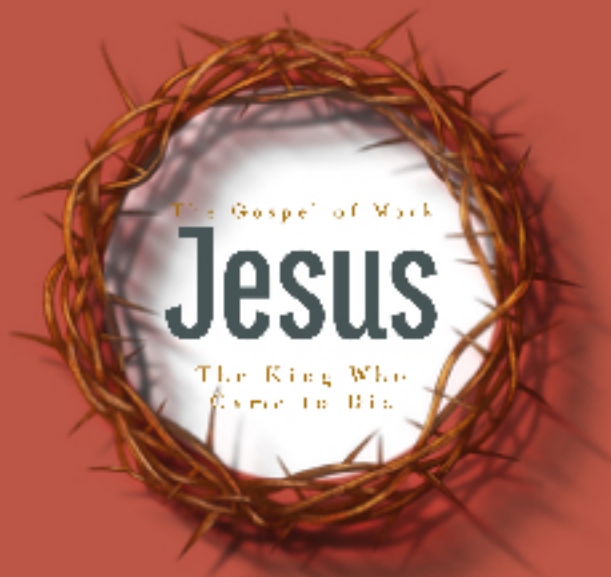
Ezekiel 36:25–26



Our Struggle Today!

We are no longer scandalized by Jesus' announcement of forgiveness, which we take for granted; it is the hint that our sin brings physical consequences that causes us to stumble.

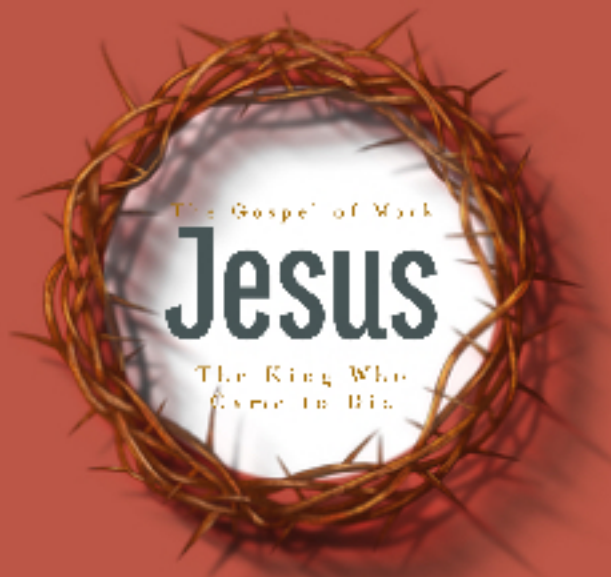
David Garland



The Reaction of the Teachers of the Law

Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, ⁷ “Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

Mark 2:6–7



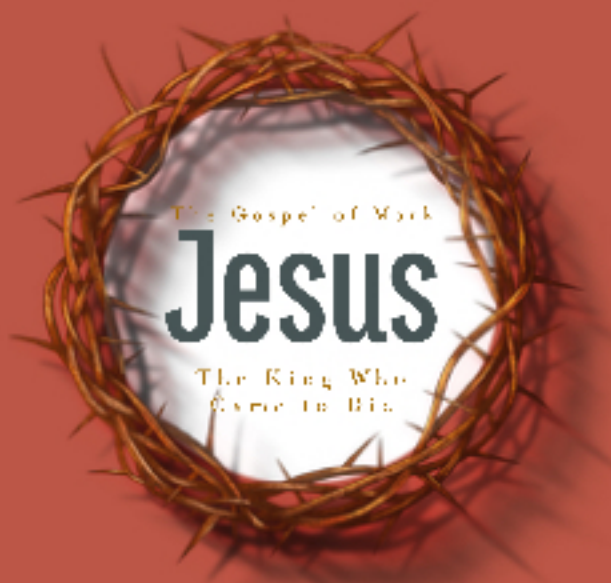
A crown of thorns is positioned around the text, with its sharp, golden-brown thorns extending outwards. The background is a soft-focus image of a crowd of people, with a bright light source at the top center, creating a hazy, ethereal atmosphere. The text is centered and reads:

**The Resolution:
The Authority
of the Son of Man**

Jesus' Penetrating Question

Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things? ⁹ Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’?”

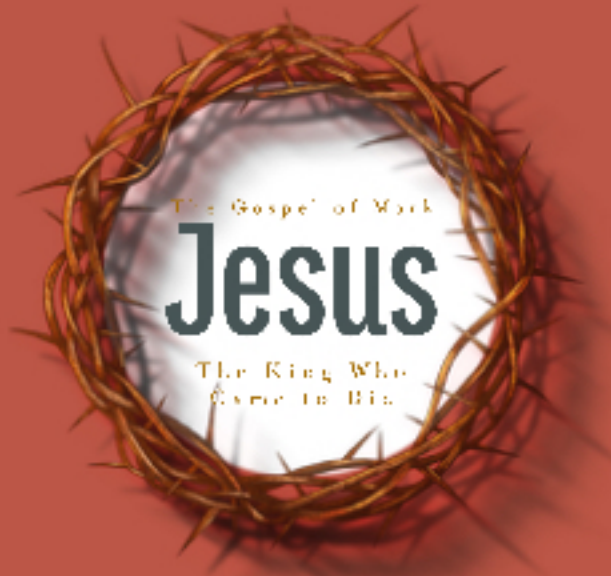
Mark 2:8–9



Jesus' Astounding Claim

But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins. . . .” He said to the paralytic, ¹¹ “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” ¹² He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

Mark 2:10–12





The Gospel of Mark

Applying

The Word

The Table of
Forgiveness and Healing



Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven,
whose sins are covered.

Blessed is the man
whose sin the LORD does not count against him
and in whose spirit is no deceit.

When I kept silent,
my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.
For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.
Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and did not cover up my iniquity.
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD”
— and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you
while you may be found;
surely when the mighty waters rise,
they will not reach him.

You are my hiding place;
you will protect me from trouble
and surround me with songs of deliverance.

The Table of
Forgiveness and Healing

