

# The Sunday School Lesson

A Ministry of the Burnt Swamp Baptist Association

by Charles Locklear, Pastor  
New Bethel Baptist Church  
Route 1, Clinton, NC

## TWO MIRACLES FOR A PARALYTIC

Mark 2:1-12

As we continue to study the miracles of Jesus, we find in the lesson today a placing of priorities and an establishing of his identity take place. If one is in tune with the more popular "Evangelist" of our day, they may become confused as to what the greatest need is in the lives of people. There seems to be a special emphasis placed upon healing, prosperity, positive thinking, etc. The disturbing consequence is that the message of sin and salvation has become secondary. In the top ten, but not on top. Is this the example Jesus has given us. We would do well to give

attention to the account of Jesus as he relates to a paralytic.

Verses 1-5. After having cleansed a leper, it became necessary for Jesus to leave the city of Capernaum. Some days later, the news got out that he was back in town. He was at a particular house, probably Peter's house (Chapter 1:29). Immediately a crowd gathered. The house was full and they were standing in the door. Inside the miracle worker was preaching. There came four men, bringing a man sick of the palsy (paralytic). It was their obvious hope that they might approach Jesus with their sick friend. Having reached the

house, they discovered that the house was full. There appeared to be a dead end. But then, people of faith are not easily discouraged. Particularly in the midst of our trouble, we must tell Jesus. We cannot and will not rest until we are assured that Jesus has heard our plea. Their faith caused them to look up, as all true faith does. Their minds were drawn to the roof of the house, which probably was flat. It was reached by an outside stair case. Having reached the roof, they began to tear it open over the room where Jesus was preaching. When the hole was big enough, they let the bed, with the sick man on it, into the presence of Jesus. Once again, Jesus is interrupted as he stirs the hearts of his listeners. This is a much different situation with different consequences. Last week a man possessed with a demon confronted Jesus and was quickly disposed of. This week a man possessed of faith comes and Jesus gladly receives him. His opening remark was Son, thy sins be forgiven thee. He says nothing about his para-

lysis. Jesus brings to the spotlight the man's sin. I'm sure this was not entirely a disappointment for the Jews took sin very seriously. To be forgiven, even without healing was desirable. We must remember that Jesus knows what we need, even before we ask.

Verses 6-10. To experience forgiveness surely must have brought great joy to the paralytic. A joy that can and should be shared with those who witness it. But not so. There was a group of scribes (teachers of the law) who were present. This is the same group that Jesus would later rebuke as hypocrites, fools, serpents, vipers, etc. They had come for reasons not mentioned, but obviously not with open hearts and minds to hear the word of God. These scribes, having heard Jesus forgive sins, asked in their hearts why is this man speaking blasphemy. Only God can forgive sin. It is obvious they refused to recognize Jesus as God's son, therefore, having the ability and right to forgive man of his sin. Jesus could sense the anger these scribes were

feeling and he asked, "Why reason ye these things in your hearts? Why are you upset at me? Is it easier for me to forgive this man's sin or heal his body? Either one would have taken the power of God. Only God can forgive sin and only God can heal. Both are impossible, except by God." Jesus knew who he was. He was God in flesh, having the authority and power to act as God's representative on earth. This is a basic truth to Christianity. We must believe that Jesus is God's son before we can know him as savior.

To forgive this man's sin was an action that no one could see. It happened within the heart of the paralytic. Jesus for the benefit of those who had doubts, turns again to the man and says, "Arise, take up your bed and go home." And he did. This act of healing was further proof that Jesus was everything he professed to be. Only God could do what just happened. If he could heal, he could forgive sins as well. The result was those present were amazed and glorified God, giving Jesus credit for doing things they had never seen

before.

### CONCLUSION

The world is full of people who are suffering. Both spiritually and physically. Many desire to be helped but perhaps don't know where to find Jesus or are not able to get into his presence. The responsibility is laid upon God's Church to find those people and bring them to a knowledge of Him. The gospel message may seem foolish just as the trip to the roof of the house but then the soul of man is more precious than the words of the scoffer is bitter. We must go and bring them to Jesus. If they need forgiveness, and all sinners do, he is willing and able to meet that need. If they're sick and suffering he has power to either heal us or make us able to bear it. Either way it's a miracle that only God can give.

### NOTES--

#### --COMMENTS

Advertising makes any good business larger.

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## News from Ten Mile Center Church

by Mrs. Nora Lee Hardin  
Mrs. Bessie Henderson was a visitor Sunday of Mrs. Nora Lee Hardin.

Bobby Allen Locklear celebrated his tenth birthday on March 7.

Mrs. Annie Mae Hall was a visitor of Mrs. Nora Lee Hardin on Sunday.

Bobby Dean Chavis was also a visitor of Mrs. Nora Lee Hardin on Sunday.

Mrs. Ethel Chavis was a visitor of Mrs. Nora Lee Hardin on Monday.

We sure had a wonderful service at Ten Mile Center Church Sunday.

There were two people who joined the church.

Ms. Quinnie Hunt was a visitor of Mrs. Nora Lee Hardin on Sunday.

Mrs. Glinnis Faye Devine of Baltimore, Md. visited in the home of her aunt, Mrs. Addie Mae Brewington of Lumberton.

Mrs. Glinnis Faye Devine and Mrs. Addie Mae Brew-

ington visited Mrs. Regina Hunt of St. Pauls, NC. They all went and visited Mrs. Myrtle Scott of Pembroke.

Mrs. Myrtle Scott, Mrs. Addie Mae Brewington, Mrs. Glinnis Faye Devine and Mrs. Regina Hunt visited Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Bullard of Clinton, NC. Then they came by Fayetteville to visit Mrs. Myrtle Scott's husband, John Scott, who is a patient at Cape Fear Valley Hospital. He is some better.

Mrs. Addie Mae Brewington was sick Sunday and was not able to go to church.

Mrs. Judy Locklear of Red Springs spent the week end with Mrs. Addie Mae Brewington.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Bullard visited in the home of Mrs. Addie Mae Brewington last Sunday.

Mr. Johnnie Ree Bullard of Shannon, Mrs. Dorothy Lee Hammond of St. Pauls visited in the home of Mrs. Addie Mae Brewington on Saturday night.

## Photo Show Planned

Shutterbugs are artists who use film instead of canvas. The Community Art Guild and Robeson Technical College are jointly sponsoring a photo show to encourage the art of photography among the many amateur photographers in our community. The show, the first of its kind to be held in Lumberton in many years, will be on exhibit at the Osterneck Auditorium of the Robeson County Public Library March 22-26.

Amateur photographers are invited to enter three pieces of work which have been mounted for hanging. The entry fee is \$3.00 and the work will be judged with certificates of merit awarded in various categories. Work will be received at the Library on Wednesday March 17 between 3:30-6:00 p.m. For further information call Betty McKeithan at 739-6504 or Frank Pierce at 738-3436.

## KITE FLYING CONTEST TO BE HELD

The Robeson County Recreation and Parks Commission will hold its Second Annual Kite Flying Contest on Saturday, March 27, at 2 p.m. on the Jaycees Fairgrounds in Lumberton, NC.

Kites will be judged in the following categories: Best Homemade, Smallest, Most Original, Best Newspaper (made from newspaper, Best Cardon Character, Largest, etc....

Registration is at 1:30 p.m. Kites must be able to fly. Awards will be given to first, second and third place winners. Ages are 6 to 13 years of age. Kids get those kits ready for the big event...

### PLATE SALE PLANNED

Pleasant Grove United Methodist Women's Club welcomes everyone to a chicken and barbecue plate sale March 13, 1982 from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. Pleasant Grove Church is located two miles from Union Elementary School on Hopewell Road. Price is \$3.00 per plate, \$1.25 for sandwiches and \$.35 for soft drinks.

## Health New . . .

### "Tell Me, Doctor - What Is A 'Pinched' Nerve?"

BY DR. ROGER R. ROFF

Doctor of Chiropractic

On varying occasions I'll read of "neurothlipsia"—it's a common topic of conversation among Doctors in general and Chiropractors in particular.

However, the average person doesn't know the condition by its "formal" name; you'd probably recognize its "nickname:" the pinched nerve.

It's unfortunate that so few know of the neurothlipsia syndrome and are aware of the condition. The 'pinched nerve' gets bantered around in on-the-job or cocktail conversation, but very few people actually relate themselves to it.

What are the symptoms? The list is almost too long to enumerate. That's not to say an individual must have them all or at the same time. I don't think I've ever met anyone that sick. But if a person is affected by one of the major 'pinched nerve' symptoms he (or she) should consider it a glaring danger sign that signals the need for prompt and effective treatment.

Usually a pinched nerve or neurothlipsia—manifests itself through nervousness and irritability. Frequently headaches are involved. There is often dizziness or an inability to think clearly or to concentrate.

As for the pain, it can be literally, in the neck, or in the shoulders, arms, back or legs. Sometimes there is a tightness in the



Dr. Roger R. Roff

chest or pain between the shoulders when you take a deep breath. A nervous stomach can be the warning signal.

There are other signs and symptoms, but those mentioned are the most common.

If you suffer from the symptoms seek immediate treatment; let the symptoms be your inspiration to seek effective correction of the problem.

DR. ROGER R. ROFF  
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<b>NEW FREE CAR!</b> Piggly Wiggly Stores are Giving Away <b>10 Chevettes</b> YOU COULD BE A WINNER!!! Register thru Sat. April 17, 1982 All participating stores will draw 10 names on April 17. One car will be awarded to a local winner and distributed to the 10 winners. Winner names will be published April 28, 1982. AM-FM RADIO, FOUR DOOR, AIR CONDITIONING, STANDARD TRANSMISSION. Register thru Sat. April 17, 1982 All participating stores will draw 10 names on April 17. One car will be awarded to a local winner and distributed to the 10 winners. Winner names will be published April 28, 1982.		<b>PRICES EFFECTIVE MAR. 8-13</b> We reserve the right to limit quantities. Some items subject to availability. We gladly accept U.S. & Foreign Stamps. <b>59c</b> <b>1.99</b>	
<b>BRAWNY TOWELS</b> JUMBO ROLLS <b>2/1.00</b>	<b>PIGGLY WIGGLY ORANGE JUICE</b> <b>98c</b> 1/2 GAL. CTN.	<b>FOLGER'S COFFEE</b> <b>1.78</b> 13 OZ. FLAKED	<b>PIGGLY WIGGLY Shortening</b> 3 LB. CAN <b>1.28</b>
<b>LIPTON TEA BAGS</b> 100 COUNT <b>1.88</b>	<b>FRYERS</b> <b>45c</b> LB. LIMIT 4 PLEASE 35-LB. BOX <b>\$16.95</b> 40-LB. FRYER LEGS <b>\$19.95</b>	<b>TIDE</b> <b>6.39</b> FAMILY SIZE	<b>AUNT JEMIMA'S Pancake Mix</b> 2 1/2 LB. <b>1.15</b> 1/2 LB. FREE!
<b>GOLD POWER</b> <b>2.89</b> 84 OZ.	<b>LUZIANNE TEA BAGS</b> <b>1.39</b> 24 CT. <b>2.09</b> 100 CT.	<b>BAKING HENS</b> <b>59c</b> LB.	<b>NUCORA MARGARINE</b> <b>79c</b> LB.
<b>KRAFT MACARONI &amp; CHEESE DINNERS</b> <b>3/1.00</b> 7/4 OZ.	<b>TISSUE</b> 6 ROLL PACK <b>1.09</b>	<b>PIGGLY WIGGLY MARGARINE</b> 1 LB. SIZES <b>3/1.00</b>	<b>DOVE DISHWASHING LIQUID</b> 22 OZ. <b>89c</b>
<b>ZEST BATH SIZE SOAP</b> 4 Bars <b>1.67</b>	<b>PET RITZ PIE SHELLS</b> 12 PK. 9" <b>69c</b> 12 PK. 6" <b>99c</b>	<b>U.S.D.A. CHOICE BEEF!</b> T-BONE <b>STEAKS 2.69</b> LB. WHOLE Beef Loins <b>1.99</b> 10-14 LB. AVERAGE SIRLOIN STEAKS <b>2.29</b> LB. TIP ROAST <b>2.49</b> TIP STEAK <b>2.79</b>	<b>JENO'S PIZZA</b> 12 OZ. <b>88c</b>
<b>MRS. SMITH'S APPLE PIE</b> 26 OZ. <b>1.99</b>	<b>CRACKER BARREL SHARP OR EXTRA SHARP CHEESE</b> 10 OZ. <b>1.99</b>	<b>Smoked Picnics</b> Spare Ribs <b>89c</b> SLICED LB. WHOLE . . . . . <b>1.79</b>	<b>PIGGLY WIGGLY TURKEY BREASTS</b> 4-7 LB. AVG. LB. <b>1.19</b>
<b>PIGGLY WIGGLY BROWN &amp; SERVE ROLLS</b> 2 PKGS. FOR <b>2.99c</b>	<b>PRODUCE</b> FARM FRESH FLORIDA ORANGES 5 LB. BAG <b>1.39</b> CELERY . . . . . <b>49c</b> PEARS . . . . . <b>49c</b> SNAP BEANS . . . . . <b>59c</b> LARGE BELL PEPPERS . . . . . <b>79c</b>	<b>Health &amp; Beauty Aids</b> COLGATE TOOTH PASTE . . . . . <b>99c</b> COLGATE TOOTH PASTE GEL . . . . . <b>99c</b> LIQUID CONTRAX . . . . . <b>2.69</b>	<b>PIGGLY WIGGLY</b>

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