WHO IS THIS MAN?

BLASPHEMER OR REDEEMER?

Mark 2:1-12 Jeff Schreve

"Why does this man speak that way? He is blaspheming; who can forgive sins but God alone?" Mark 2:7

Moreover, the one who blasphemes the name of the Lord shall surely be put to death. Leviticus 24:16

Is Jesus a blasphemer ... or is He God?

- 1. Jesus came for man's deepest need: forgiveness.
 - A. Physical infirmity is secondary to spiritual infirmity.
 - 1. Physical infirmity either <u>embitters</u> or <u>softens</u> the heart.
 - 2. Physical infirmity drives people to <u>extreme measures</u>. *Yes, all that a man has he will give for his life. Job 2:4*
 - B. Physical infirmity is a picture of spiritual infirmity.

2. Jesus claimed to have authority to forgive sins.

- A. Sins are <u>committed against God</u>.

 Against You, You only, I have sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight. Psalm 51:4
- B. Sins can only be forgiven by God.
- C. Jesus is either the vilest of blasphemers or Holy God.
- 3. Jesus proved He has authority to forgive sins.
 - A. Forgiving sins is <u>easier to say</u> but <u>impossible to verify</u>.
 - B. Forgiving sins is proven by healing the paralytic.

- C. Forgiving sins is the greatest of miracles.
 - 1. It meets the greatest <u>need</u>.
 - 2. It costs the greatest price.
 - 3. It brings the greatest <u>blessing</u>.

The BIG question: Has He forgiven your sins?