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AN OUTREACH OF RICHARD HUGHES MINISTRIES, INC.

THE PEN OF A READY WRITER

...I SPEAK OF THE THINGS WHICH I HAVE MADE TOUCHING THE KING:
MY TONGUE IS THE PEN OF A READY WRITER (PSALM 45:1).

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Only GOD Can Forgive SINS!

Our Lord is in the house of Simon Peter, where Jesus had healed Peter's mother-in-law of a fever (Matthew 8:14-15). Those seeking to hear him packed the house so, that the four who brought one taken with a palsy could not find any way to bring him into the house and unto the Lord. Consequently, they went upon the housetop and let him down, through the tiling, with his couch, into the midst, before Jesus (Luke 5:19).

Since this was Peter's home, Peter had to be one of the four carrying the man taken with a palsy. If so, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, would have been willing to help him, along with Peter's brother, Andrew. Again, if these are the four, Zebedee may have been the man stricken. To have Zebedee at full strength would be vital, seeing the four who helped him fish commercially were now following the Lord Jesus (Matthew 10:2).

Whoever the four men were, they were men of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus himself testifies to this truth. The Bible says, "Jesus, seeing their faith, said unto the sick of the palsy; 'Son, be of good cheer: thy sins be forgiven thee' (Matthew 9:2)."

The skeptical scribes, who only came to find fault with Jesus, said within themselves, "This man blasphemeth" (Matthew 9:3). They reasoned in their hearts, "Who can forgive sins but God only?" (Mark 2:6-7).

Immediately, when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, "Why reason ye these things in your hearts? Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, 'Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up the bed, and go thy way into thine house" (Mark 2:8-11).

Without hesitation, the sick of the palsy arose, took up the bed and went forth before them all, to their amazement! And, they glorified God, saying, "We never saw it on this fashion" (Mark 2:12b).

Only God can forgive sins; and, Jesus Christ is God, in the flesh (John 1:1-17). He is the Christ, the Son of the living God (Matthew 16:16). Only the Father can reveal that truth (Matthew 16:17). And he chooses to do so through hearing the word of God: "So then faith cometh by hearing" (Romans 10:17). Are you listening to the gospel?



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Priceless Moments

This has happened many times over the years. A child or a grand-child has lost something of value to them, like a toy. It may not seem significant to some, but what matters to them is what matters to me. And what matters to us, as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, matters to our heavenly Father.

In this case, Emmet had lost an astronaut. One of those that stretch. I had given it to him that morning as a reward. He had just graduated kindergarten, and we were all so excited. He had spent the day with me, and we were just picking up his things to take him home when he told me he could not find the astronaut. So, we searched, to no avail. Then, we paused, and I told him how God answers prayer and that we needed to take everything that concerned us to the Lord in prayer. So, we prayed.

Sure enough, in a place that we had searched before and found nothing; on a second try, we located his astronaut.

Turning every day, common place things into an opportunity to teach our children that God does hear and that he does answer prayer is priceless. I love my grand-children, and I want them all to come to know my Saviour as their Saviour. He cares about our little things as much as he does about the major things in life. *Be careful for nothing; but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God* (Philippians 4:6).

ABBA, FATHER!

The night of Christ's arrest, he was in the garden of Gethsemane, praying. His soul was exceeding sorrowful unto death, and; he prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

Jesus said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless, not what I will, but what thou wilt."

Christ is reflected in every sinner who comes to the Lord Jesus Christ by faith. That sinner, now saved, is sealed by the Holy Spirit upon belief of the truth (Ephesians 1:13) and indwelt by the Spirit through the New Man, which is born of God's Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 1 John 3:9; 2 Corinthians 5:17). Now are we the sons of God (1 John 3:2).

How is Christ reflected in the soul he has saved? We possess the Spirit of adoption (Romans 8:15) and echo our Lord by crying out to God, "Abba, Father" (Galatians 4:6).

Having received the Spirit of adoption (the Spirit of Christ), we become predestined to the Adoption: the redemption of the body (Romans 8:23).

June 18th is Father's Day!

The Lord has a way of changing our schedules, and always for the best. Surgery has been four weeks ago (as I write this – May 25th).

I had three appointments with doctors on Monday and Tuesday, May 22nd & 23rd. One said I could drive for short distances, under 30 minutes.

I tried that, and quickly learned that it was not worth the strain it can place on the sternum for now.

Twelve weeks is the time they all stated for healing. Though I am doing great, my body doesn't mend faster than normal.

Thank you for your prayers and your patient understanding.

It is wonderful to know that our Lord and Savior never leaves us, nor forsakes us. Through it all, Christ's Spirit dwells within!