

Who is Jesus? – Authority Over Sin

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Sadducees

Zealots

Essenes

Pharisees

Oral Law

Legalistic

Hypocritical

And the Lord's power to heal was in Him.

"Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

Blasphemy:

1. To attribute the unworthy to God.
2. To deny the worthy to God.
3. To claim for oneself any attribute, power, authority, etc., which belongs exclusively to God.

Which is easier:

to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or

to say, 'Get up and walk'?

Our response, considering the "players":

Pharisees – critical spirits?

Are we close-minded?

Have we come to God for forgiveness of OUR sins?

Jesus – always available/accessible

Do we approach Him confidently? Expectantly?

Paralytic – responded in obedience

Do we demonstrate to others that God is active in our lives?

Do others see change in our lives?

Four Friends – acting on behalf of others

Whom have we "introduced" to Jesus lately?

Whom do we pray for regularly?

Do we "carry the stretcher" for those who need Jesus?

"Lord, if you are willing, you can..."