

- Matt. 9:1 – 7
- 1) The connection between sin and sickness
- 2) What was sin?
- 3) Christ with the power to forgive sins
- 4) Yeshua can know people's minds
- Roman Christianity based on Greek thinking requires either/or doctrines
- We cannot know when illness is caused by sin or not





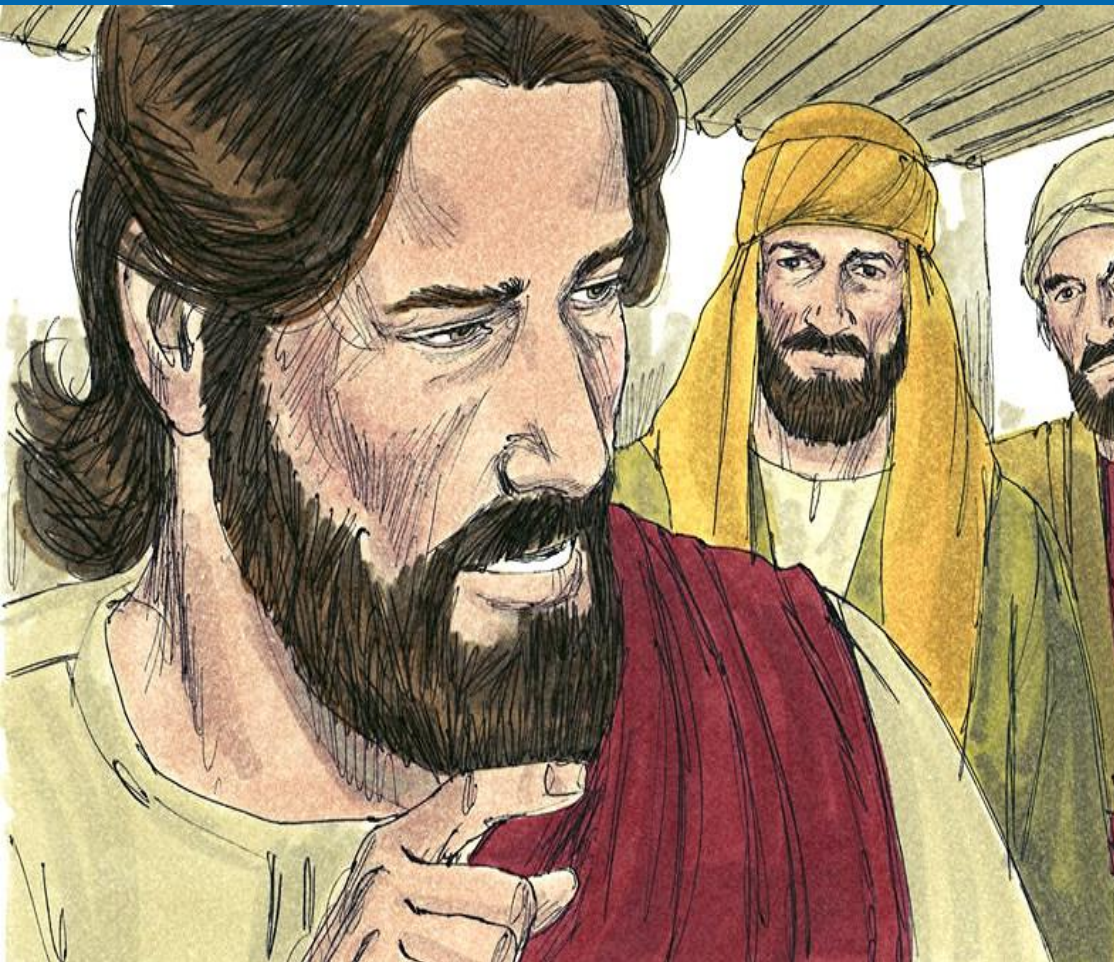
SIN WAS ORIGINALLY  
SEEN AS A  
CONTAGIOUS  
INFECTION



- Through Adam all humans have inherited a propensity for mental, physical and spiritual defects
- In the simplistic sense, sin is offending God
- For ancient Jews, sin was also seen as pollution.... Infection
- Sin and ritual uncleanness were tied together
- 5 categories of sacrifices
- The *Hatta'at* (purification offering) was to remedy the condition of the worshipper that was a result of the sin



# YESHUA KNEW THEIR MINDS



- Torah Teachers upset at Yeshua's forgiveness of sins
- What was the problem? It wasn't with the healing, because Christ wasn't the first *Tzadik* healer
- Scribe = *grammateus*
- "Heart" meant "mind"
- Which is easier? To heal or to forgive sins?
- Answer: it's equal



# THE COMING OF THE SON OF MAN

- Why did Christ say “Son of Man” instead of “I”?
- Most of what Christ said was in the eschatological (Latter Days) sense; but there are 2 Latter Days!
- ***Ben adam*** (son of man) meant “human being” in everyday use
- Daniel 7:13 - 14
- Did the Jews listening to Yeshua in Capernaum think He was identifying Himself as Daniel’s Son of Man prophecy?
- No. They more thought he was saying that he was a regular man whom God had given authority to forgive sins



# YESHUA GUARDED ABOUT HIS IDENTITY

- Luke 22:63 – 68
- As we read Matthew we need to give the Jews a break for not understanding who He is
- Yeshua told the man to pick up his mattress and go home because he was healed by being forgiven
- Matthew focuses on Christ's primary purpose of forgiving sins Matt.1:21





# MATTHEW LEVI



- This new disciple is not the same as the writer of the Gospel of Matthew
- Capernaum on the Via Maris trade route, troops there to guard the route, tax collectors to collect tolls
- Tax collectors hated by Jews, seen as Roman collaborators..... Traitors
- Christ eats with other tax collectors and “sinners”
- *Resa'im* = the wicked, a derogatory term
- Term reserved for the most wretched of Jewish society



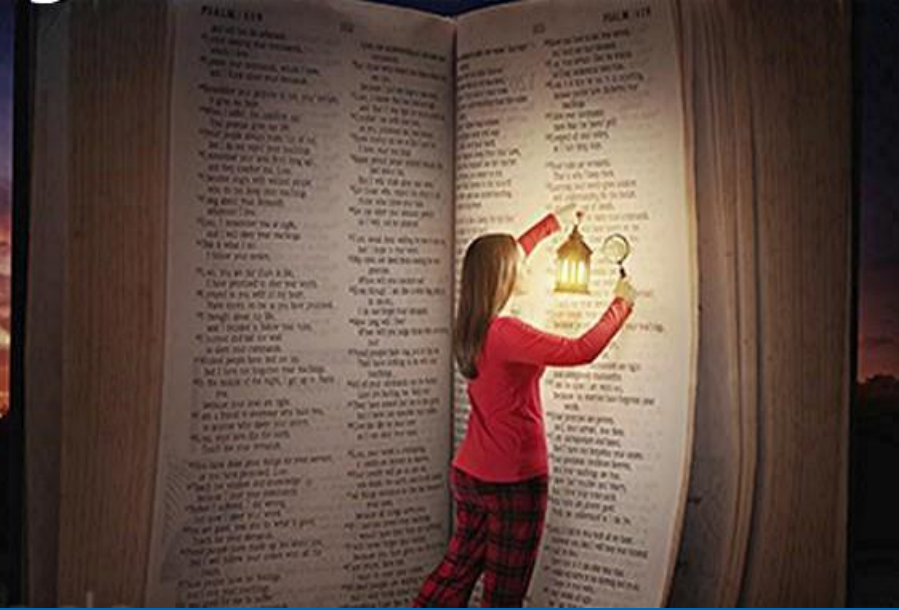


- Pharisees shocked at Jesus eating with sinners
- Wanting to know why Christ would do such a thing, He answered ***“The ones who need a doctor aren’t the healthy, but the sick”***
- The Pharisees understood His meaning and knew that He and not they were “the doctor”
- The lowest in society don’t wonder if they are righteous; they know they aren’t and so don’t think they are worthy of God’s love



"For what I desire is mercy, not sacrifices, knowledge of God more than burnt offerings...."

**Hosea 6:6**

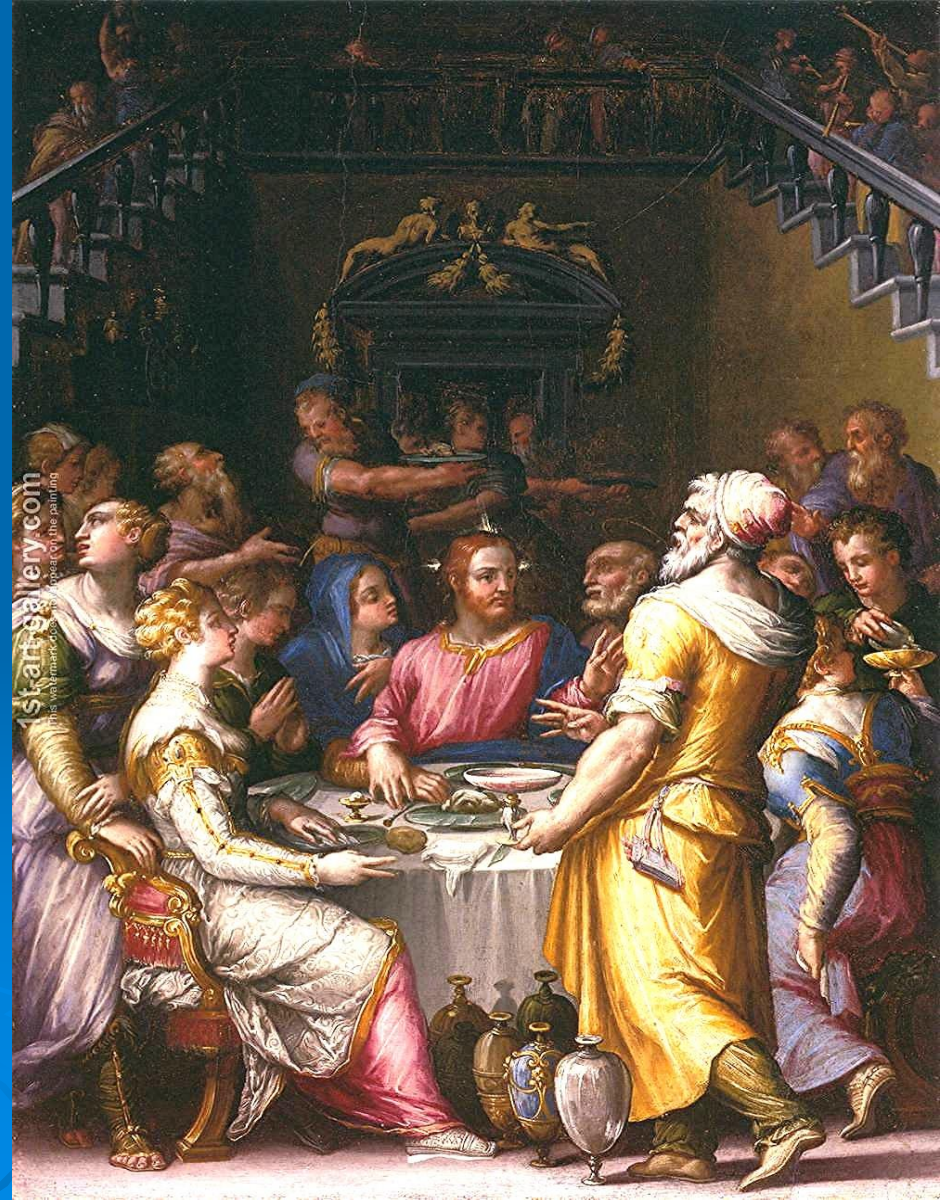


- Yeshua understood His reputation would take a hit for eating with the wrong people
- Luke 7:34
- Matthew paraphrases Hosea 6:6
- Western Christianity often says this is Jesus doing away with the Law in favor of grace..... Not so!
- Hosea 6:1 – 7
- Mercy is the result of obeying “love your neighbor”, and knowledge of God is the result of “love God with all your mind, soul, and strength”



# PHARISEES SUSPICIOUS OF YESHUA'S POPULARITY

- The Pharisees began peppering Yeshua with objections
- Matthew 9:14 – 17
- Several of John the Baptist's disciples there
- *“Can wedding guests mourn while the bridegroom is still with them?”*
- “Bridegroom” is an illustration; not meant to be an exact match





# TIME FOR JOY, NOT MOURNING



- Fasting represented repentance and mourning
- Yom Kippur, where repentance is the point, is a God-commanded day of fasting
- Weddings, however, are pure joy!
- Joy and feasting are connected
- Yeshua is NOT calling Himself the “Bridegroom”
- He is only using a well known occasion to illustrate His point