

Matthew - "Why Jesus?"

"Scandalous Mercy"

Matthew - "Why Jesus?"

Matthew 9:1-8 – Who Can Forgive Sins?

Deductive Reasoning....

- He Sounds like God
 - He Acts like God
 - **THIS GUY MUST BE GOD....**
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Matthew 9:1-8 – Who Can Forgive Sins?

Forgiveness here literally means to “send away”

Psalms 103:12 (NRSV)

[12] as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.

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GUILT is debilitating.. **IN FACT, IT'S CRIPPLING**

The enemy wants exactly that for us...

Revelation 12:10

...for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down,
who accuses them day and night before our God.

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Matthew – “Why Jesus?”

Matthew 9:1-8 – Who Can Forgive Sins?

Jesus declares us INNOCENT

Jude 24

Now to him who is able to keep you from falling, and to make you stand in the presence of his glory **BLAMELESS**, with great joy

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Jesus HAS the AUTHORITY

- Jesus has **AUTHORITY** over disease – the Leper and Centurion’s servant
 - Jesus has **AUTHORITY** over chaos – he can calm a raging storm...
 - Jesus has **AUTHORITY** over evil: spiritual forces - demons – the demoniac where he sent the demons into the pigs
 - And Yes.... Jesus has Authority → **Even over your sins**
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Jesus declares us INNOCENT

Ephesians 1:4

... Just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him....

Matthew - "Why Jesus?"

Matthew 9:9-13 – Matthew Called

Speaking of Guilt.....

- Matthew is called
 - Time for a Party???
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Matthew - "Why Jesus?"

Matthew 9:14-17 More Criticism

That was then.... This is NOW....

- NOT like the OLD WAY
 - NOT easy to change
 - NOT Taken Lightly → Transition is Fragile
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Matthew - "Why Jesus?"

Matthew 9:14-17 More Criticism

That was then.... This is NOW....

Romans 8:1-2

[8:1] There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. [2] For **the law of the Spirit of life** in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

Matthew - "Why Jesus?"

Matthew 9:14-17 More Criticism

That was then.... This is NOW....

John 16:7

Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.
