

Where's Your Chair?

Mark 2: 1-12



And so I said, 'Lord be merciful to me; heal me,
for I have sinned against you.'
Psalm 41:4

Praising:

Manifest in making whole, palsied
limbs and fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight, quelling
all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will, ever
bringing good from ill;
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

Reading:

Mark 2:1-12
Jesus heals a paralytic man

Why does God not always do for us what we want him to? It's a question which arises quite often in the spiritual life. The answer mostly tends to lie in the area of what we want and why we want it. The paralysed man presented one need but Jesus saw through to a much deeper one. Although we may not see it at the time, the experience of most believers is

that the Lord does for us exactly what we need him to do, exactly when we need him to do it. It may take quite a while for us to see the value of God's action or apparent inaction. It helps, in the meantime, to learn to see ourselves as God's children, to trust that he will only ever want what is best for us.

Listening:

Praying:

Lord when it comes to bringing you our needs we pray for

- wisdom to ask only for what we need rather than for what we think we want
- patience to trust that your grace is sufficient for all our needs
- courage to acknowledge your sovereignty and speak freely of your provision

Father: I bring you so many different requests and sometimes so urgently. Forgive me for the ignorance, the selfishness and the folly of so much of my asking.
Amen

Doing: