

Luke Lesson 23 Handout

Luke 5:15–16(NASB95)

¹⁵But the news about Him was spreading even farther, and large crowds were gathering to hear Him and to be healed of their sicknesses.

¹⁶But Jesus Himself would often slip away to the wilderness and pray.

1 Samuel 14:6 (NASB95)

⁶Then Jonathan said to the young man who was carrying his armor, "Come and let us cross over to the garrison of these uncircumcised; perhaps the LORD will work for us, for the LORD is not restrained to save by many or by few."

1 Samuel 17:26 (NASB95)

²⁶Then David spoke to the men who were standing by him, saying, "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should taunt the armies of the living God?"

1 Samuel 17:33–36 (NASB95)

³³Then Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are but a youth while he has been a warrior from his youth."

³⁴But David said to Saul, "Your servant was tending his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and took a lamb from the flock,

³⁵I went out after him and attacked him, and rescued it from his mouth; and when he rose up against me, I seized him by his beard and struck him and killed him.

³⁶“Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, since he has taunted the armies of the living God.”

1 Samuel 17:45–46 (NASB95)

⁴⁵Then David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted.

⁴⁶“This day the LORD will deliver you up into my hands, and I will strike you down and remove your head from you. And I will give the dead bodies of the army of the Philistines this day to the birds of the sky and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel,

Luke 5:17 One day He was teaching; and there were some Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem; and the power of the Lord was present for Him to perform healing.

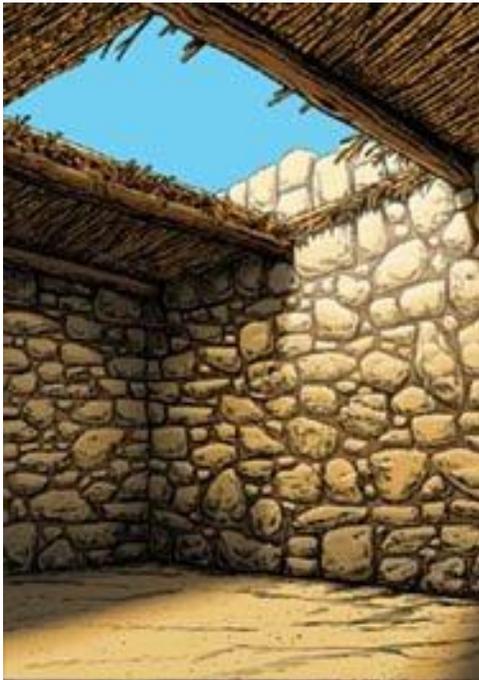
¹⁸And some men were carrying on a bed a man who was paralyzed; and they were trying to bring him in and to set him down in front of Him.

¹⁹But not finding any way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down through the tiles with his stretcher, into the middle of the crowd, in front of Jesus.

Dr Leen Ritmeyer.

I've been doing a little research of late into the construction process of housing in Bible times. It's advantageous for Bible artists to have some idea of this process as we often have to design buildings in our Bible pictures. When you have an idea of this process, it's possible to design your buildings with a level of authenticity. This research came in handy recently when illustrating the story of the 'Paralyzed man' in Mark chapter 2.

Additional text (in green) is by Dr Leen Ritmeyer.



Room sizes

The picture shows the section of roof that has been removed in order that the paralyzed man might be lowered down before Jesus. The rooms in houses at this time were not very high, about 6 1/2 - 8 ft. The walls were spanned by timber beams, usually cypress or sycamore wood. These beams were spaced about the width of a man or

more depending on how wealthy the home owner was and the availability of local timber. The width of the rooms was also governed by the length of roofing timbers available, usually about 9-10 ft.

Roof construction

I've illustrated the hole near the edge of the roof, (see above). The reason for this is that I imagined that the four friends of the paralyzed man would have wanted to do as little damage to the roof as possible. So, by digging the hole near the edge of the roof, it would be easy for them to see where the roof timbers were, as the timbers protruded through the stone walls at the end of the building. This would make it easy for them to dig between the roof timbers. Incidentally, where the roof timbers protruded, they were painted with hot tar to prevent decay.

Reeds, sometimes bound together with natural fiber, were then laid across the timbers. A layer of mud plaster was then applied over the reeds followed by a dry mixture of chalk, earth and ash, (which provided insulation). This layer was applied while the mud plaster was still damp. Finally a mixture of mud rich in lime, (to keep out water), was added. A stone roller was used to compact each layer, very similar to the concrete rollers that gardeners use to roll lawns. The compressed layers would have been around 3 inches thick and would have required a determined effort to dig up when hard! Roofs were weeded and re-rolled on an annual basis.

Most houses in Biblical times had flat roofs, which were used for storage and drying fruit and people also slept there in summertime.

http://dqhall59.com/paralytic_healed.htm

Israel photos



The unhewn logs were used as rafters with branches and saplings as cross support. The top was overlain with tightly packed clay. Terracotta roof tiles were not known in rural Galilean villages during the first century AD, but were known in the region during Byzantine times.

Luke reported the man was lowered through the tiled roof. It has been suggested the Greek for clay tile might have also meant packed clay. Many roofs of the Galilean villages were overlain with packed clay. As late as the early 20th century some of the roofs in Tiberias were of packed clay. Reports of clay leaking during heavy rains were commonplace. Sometimes grass sprouted from peoples rooftops. Luke or a later copyist might have been from a village with clay tile roofs and recorded the roof as clay tile out of a bias of thinking roofs were made of tile.

Luke 5:20 Seeing their faith, He said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven you."

²¹The scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, "Who is this man who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?"

²²But Jesus, aware of their reasonings, answered and said to them, "Why are you reasoning in your hearts?"

23“Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins have been forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk’?”

24“But, so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,”—He said to the paralytic—“I say to you, get up, and pick up your stretcher and go home.”

25Immediately he got up before them, and picked up what he had been lying on, and went home glorifying God.

26They were all struck with astonishment and began glorifying God; and they were filled with fear, saying, “We have seen remarkable things today.”



Romans 5:12 (NASB95)

12Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—

Ephesians 1:7–8 (NASB95)

⁷In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

⁸which He lavished on us...

Romans 7:18–20 (NASB95)

¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the willing is present in me, but the doing of the good is not.

¹⁹For the good that I want, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want.

²⁰But if I am doing the very thing I do not want, I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.

Romans 6:8-10

⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,

⁹knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, is never to die again; death no longer is master over Him.

¹⁰For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God.

Romans 8:29 (NASB95)

²⁹For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

1 Peter 2:21 (NASB95)

²¹For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,

1 John 2:6 (NASB95)

⁶the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

Romans 6:12¹²Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,

¹³and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

Philippians 3:13 (NASB95)

¹³Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,