

## HEALING IN GOD'S WORLD

### Jesus came to heal.

I was going to title this...Healing in the Bible, but that would convey the concept that far too many Christians have. They believe that God healed in Bible times and during the ministry of Jesus and his apostles, but then it diminished to only special times when God in his sovereignty chose to heal or bring a miracle. But a careful look at history will show us that **healing is not limited to Bible times.** It is limited by those who hold faulty beliefs or the will to obey the clear teachings of Jesus. **Healing may not take place in your church but healing does take place in God's kingdom!**

St. Augustine taught that the days of miracles and healing ceased after the last apostles of Jesus died, but changed his mind in his latter years after he witnessed and documented many wonderful miracles in N. Africa. Unfortunately, many today who accepted his earlier cessation beliefs do not know or willfully ignore his later belief in continuing miracles in the church of Jesus Christ. Those who do not believe in miracles today live out their self-fulfilling prophecy. They expect nothing and see nothing.

On **You Tube**: Randy Clark School Session #1 is a good Intro overview of miracle activity.

There was a tremendous healing revival in America from 1947- 1958 where all sorts of amazing miracles took place but man's greed and glory stopped it. Competition arose by some of the evangelists about who could have the biggest tent and pride took over. Some began spending way too much time taking up offerings while some others were living very carnal lives. (We will cover the topic of spiritual fruit and gifts in other writings in the section: Life In the Spirit.)

It is good to **avoid those preachers who mix money and miracles together or cause people to look to them as 'The Healer'**. The Bible focus is on **team ministry** and Jesus, not one man shows. Jesus sent his disciples out two by two. John Wimber of the Vineyard movement, modeled a humble approach and was a great equipper of ordinary believers to do the stuff (the things Jesus did like casting out demons and healing the sick) The Baptist church I worked with in London was influenced by their ministry. In our Sunday night services the pastor would have us pray for one another in our seats. I also attended a large conference in London where Wimber brought 70 associates from the USA who ministered to the people. It was about the body of Jesus doing the work he called us to do. The Lord led me to start a weekly healing service once a week at our church in London.

**God designed mankind to walk in health and wholeness in spirit, soul and body.**

1 Thessalonians 5:23. The word **salvation** in the Bible is the word **sozo** which means **to save or make whole.**

After the fall of man in Eden, death entered the human race along with disease. However, God designed the human body so that it still has a nature to heal

itself. If you cut your finger.....it will immediately begin to heal. If you break a bone, the bodies natural healing process will begin to knit the bones back together (although its best to have it set back in place first). For chronic diseases, removal of toxins and addition of proper nutrients will allow the body to heal itself. For crisis situations, God has provided doctors to assist in the healing process through surgery and medicines. God has placed in mankind a desire to be healthy and to seek healing when sick.

Dr. Luke accompanied the apostle Paul on his missionary journeys.

One of God's Names is ... **I AM the LORD who HEALS YOU.** **It is God's nature to heal.** Exodus 15:26.

Jesus said that he had come to do the Father's will - John 6:38. His kingdom ministry was teaching, preaching and **healing**. - Matthew 4:23-24. Jesus demonstrated the kingdom of God to the world. He loved people but saw anything contrary to the nature of God and his kingdom as something to be opposed. **Jesus treated sickness as an enemy.....for it does not reflect the nature of God which is LIFE.**

What about Paul's thorn in the flesh? I believe it was the harassment that kept coming his way from Satan inspired enemies of his ministry. The devil always goes after those who are advancing God's kingdom in a great way. Thorns in the side were a metaphor for enemies that Israel faced in Numbers 33:55.

There are many good lists of healing scriptures on the Internet. Here are some scriptures that have rooted me in the belief that God is able and willing to heal and has passed this mandate on to believers in Jesus.

**Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.**

Since God created this vast universe with his Word, certainly he is able to create new body parts in humans or simply bring healing to any part of our being. Randy Clark, who equips others in the healing ministry, has documented over 5000 people who have had metal plates in their bodies turn instantly to bone. (I witnessed 2 such instances in Jan. 2015 at a healing conference in Redding, California). Those are called **creative miracles**. **If we can believe Genesis 1:1, anything else is small stuff.** A headache or a brain tumor are no different to God. It is our perception that makes the difference.

**Forget not all his benefits. He forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases - Psalm 103:2-3**

**Surely He has borne our griefs (sicknesses, weaknesses and distresses) and carried our sorrows and pains [of punishment], yet we [ignorantly] considered Him stricken, smitten, and afflicted by God [as if by leprosy]. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised ; our guilt and iniquities; the chastisement [needful to obtain] peace and well-being for us was upon Him, and with His stripes [that wounded] Him we healed and whole. - Isaiah 53:4-5 AMPC**

**Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows...**

**Isaiah 53:4a NIV**

**Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. - Matthew 4:23**

**When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: 'He took up our infirmities and carried out diseases. - Matthew 8:16-17**

**Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own, rather it is the Father living in me who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. If you love me, you will obey what I command. John 14:10-12a, v.15**

An **apprentice** in a certain job, eg. a plumber, carpenter or electrician, will learn by observing their trainer. In a similar way, we are to learn from Jesus. As you read the gospels, do not just read them as history, but as part of your training. Follow every aspect of Jesus' ministry....his attitudes, movements, actions and ways of doing ministry to people. Also, take note of his ministry time in prayer with Father in heaven. That is a key part of his effective ministry unto the world. God desires that we walk just as Jesus did - 1 John 2:6.

**If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish and it will be given to you. John 15:7**

To abide in Jesus is to walk in love, walk in the light and to be saturated so much in God's Word that we think His thoughts in every situation, for we have the mind of Christ. **Sins like unforgiveness will block God's healing power. - Mark 11:24-26**

**SidRoth.org.** TV archives search by name: Thurman Scrivner (March 2, 2015)

**Matthew 28:16-20** The key phrase that caught my attention about making disciples is:

**'...teach them to obey everything I commanded you....'**

What Jesus taught his disciples also applies to us. **He gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to cure every kind of sickness and disease. - Matthew 10:1**

To say that the healing ministry ended when the last apostle died is not only inaccurate but also disobedient to the commands of Jesus. It is also to ignore the clear evidence

in church history that God has always had servants of his who practiced the ministry of healing.

**Jesus calls us to obey him and leave the results with him.** We do not know why everyone is not healed, but we need to keep pressing forward and be open to God's wisdom and power at work in us and through us. We are too quick to blame God or give up. We need to ask God if there is some root sin or demonic spirit preventing the healing. A little faith is powerful if we cast off all doubt and unbelief. - Mark 9:24

**It is not great faith in God that counts, but faith in a great God -**  
- Corrie ten Boom

**God is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think according to His power that is at work in us. - Ephesians 3:20**

Jesus said that he was in the Father and that the Father was in Him doing the work. People in his home town questioned where he got his **wisdom and miraculous powers** - Matthew 13:54. Jesus had great success as a healer because he walked in the anointing of the Holy Spirit, who provided him with **keen discernment and power.** Isaiah 11:1-3, Acts 10:38. That is how we can do the things that Jesus did.

We can say that **we are in Jesus** and **Jesus is in us** to do His work by the Holy Spirit. We need to meditate on the fact that we have **resurrection power** (Ephesians 1:18-19) inside us that needs to be fully received and released to the world. We need to get our eyes off of ourselves and what people think and look unto Jesus, who is the author and perfecter of our faith. - Hebrews 11:2

There are gifts of healings in the Bible where God anoints people to especially heal certain diseases. I know a friend who has a special anointing for healing backs and joints. I know one preacher who has a special anointing for healing deafness. As we practice the healing ministry we will learn how God has gifted us. The gifts of the Spirit in operation will improve our success as we learn to let the Holy Spirit guide us and work through us. The church as a whole has made healing the exception rather than the rule, but it should be just the opposite.

***God wants to raise our experience to the level of His Word, not reduce His Word to the level of our experience. - Colin Urquhart***

We should remember that **spiritual health is even more important than physical health.** Sometimes God allows suffering to get our attention on the condition of our soul or to bring chastisement for some reason - Hebrews 12:5-11. What good is a healthy body if our soul ends up in hell.? - Job 33:12-30

As Bible believing Christians, we wonder how people can doubt the fact that God is **able to heal** all manner of sickness and disease.

On the other hand, perhaps God wonders why we often doubt that He is **willing to heal.**

## Which is worse?

- To doubt that God can heal or
- To believe he has the power to heal but **question his willingness** to do so
- The first is to question his ability while the other is to question His compassion

Doctors practice medicine. Lawyers practice law. Baseball players practice hitting. Golfers practice driving, chipping and putting. **We are to practice walking in love and healing people.** Sometimes we can simply pray to God on others behalf, but other times we speak direct commands against the disease and declare God's power over it. Of course, we do it in the Name of Jesus, not in our name.

God is not asking us to hit home runs all the time, but to just step out in faith and watch Him work through us. We will be tempted to quit if we have no success at first, but we must persevere. Through faith and patience we inherit his promises. The world needs us and healing is God's grace gift to the world for all generations. Let us be his agents of healing.

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