

Healing

My wife and I were discussing a family member's medical situation and the difference between men and women became very pronounced. My wife wanted to send a card of encouragement and I wanted to figure out a way to solve the problem. A few years ago I felt led by the Holy Spirit to write a small booklet using the Bible verses I felt were most important in raising children. Now I am going to use the same format to write a booklet about walking in divine health and receiving healing from God. I am putting down these thoughts as much for me, to build my own faith, as for you.

I did not get compliments on the first booklet because I set a high standard that I don't reach and I don't do things perfectly. I shoot for 100% and I don't make it all the way. But, if I shot for 75% I would not make that either, so I might as well go for 100%. A good idea would be to look at the subject of the mercy of God.

Was I faced with the critical illness this family member was faced with, I would spend nearly every waking minute either listening to tapes on healing or reading and saying aloud every Bible reference I could come up with. This would build faith in my spirit and would make it easier to receive the healing God has for me. The preachers that preach on divine health and healing are some-times hard to listen to unless you have heard them a lot. I am going to go through the Bible and discuss some Bible passages and how they relate to divine health. We should read the references stated over and over and over.....again. We look up healing in our concordance and study every reference. Every time we read or hear the Word of God faith will come alive in our spirit.

Judaism and Christianity are different from all the other world religions in that it is God reaching to man, not man reaching to God. What we would like for our children is what God wants for us.

There is no real good place to start a study on healing since it is all through the Bible. But I guess the beginning, before the fall, is maybe the place to start.

Genesis 2:19 And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

God planted the garden and even brought the animals to Adam to name them. Before the fall God did the work and He did it because of His love.

Exodus 15:26 And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

One of God's names is "I am the God that heals you" (Jehovah-rophe--Jehovah Heals). When we start the "Lord's Prayer" Jesus tells us to begin with saying and reminding God that His name is holy. We can begin our prayers by reminding God that His name is "healing" also. A study of the names of God helps us to understand the nature of God and builds our faith.

In **II Kings Chapter 5** we see that healing is easy for us. In fact, God has done everything He has to do to get us healed, we must receive the healing God provided and Jesus paid for on the cross.

Isaiah 52

9 Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the LORD hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem.

10 The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

14 As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:

Jesus paid a high price for our healing and redemption. The movie *The Passion of the Christ* might not be violent enough. Jesus' whole bodily functions broke down. He sweat blood and bled water. He took all our sin and guilt to the cross. As his body broke down he died very quickly.

Isaiah 52: 4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

Matthew in quoting Isaiah 53:4 uses "infirmities and sicknesses" instead of "griefs and sorrows".
Matthew 8:17 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

Isaiah 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Isaiah 53:5 says that Jesus received stripes on His back so that we could be healed of our infirmities and diseases.

1 Peter 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Peter uses the past tense by saying we were healed. We do not have to bear our sicknesses and diseases because Jesus took them to the cross and paid for them there. Healing, like salvation, is a free gift and all we need to do is receive them; and like salvation it can be received by faith.

Psalm 91

1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

3 Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

6 Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

God's promise for those who love Him is to be satisfied with long life (verse 16). The only requirements of this Psalm are loving God, physically being where God wants us to be, and saying "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." As we go through the Bible the words "say" and "words" and "speech" come up a lot. Psalm 91 is a great passage to meditate on to develop freedom from fear.

Mark 10

46 And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging.

47 And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me.

48 And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou son of David, have mercy on me.

49 And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee.

50 And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus.

51 And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight.

52 And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

Jesus told blind Bartimaeus that Bartimaeus' faith healed him. It was Jesus' power but Bartimaeus' faith that got the job done. When Jesus called him he threw his cloak aside. I am told Rome gave the disabled a cloak as a license to beg. Bartimaeus was not going to need his beggar's cloak any longer. Bartimaeus' faith was controlling Jesus' ministry. Our faith and prayers control God's work on Earth.

Romans 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

We develop faith by reading (or hearing) the Word. Our goal is to develop our faith in such a way that sickness cannot attach itself to us, and that we are so full of the Word of God that our words always bring divine life wherever we go.

We are now going to see all the different ways we can use God's Word and receive His healing.

Healing by the anointing and the prayer of faith.

James 5

14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

One of the sacraments is the anointing with oil. The Bible says that a person will be raised up and his sins forgiven. It appears to me that the Church is doing a good job in the sin area, but not so well in the raising up area.

This way of receiving healing is set up for the person who is so sick he is having trouble receiving anything from God and needs outside help. Sickness will wear down a person spiritually. Some years back as I was driving home feeling very tired from work I began thinking about something my wife had done to me. (I cannot remember what it was and it was not that big of a deal anyway.) In the time it took to drive less than two miles on the freeway I went from thinking that it was not nice of her - to - thinking about what divorce lawyer to use. At that point I came to my senses and thought "What in the world is going on?" That night I came down with the flu and realized that my tiredness and illness somehow made me open to an attack from a demonic spirit.

The person could also be weighed down with the guilt of some unconfessed sin. The key to this scripture is to call elders who know how to pray "the prayer of faith". I would think most pastors do a good job in using their faith for the "sin" part but they do not believe God would heal a person just because they prayed. In underdeveloped countries God is able to do miracle after miracle every day because the people just believe what God says and don't try to reason it away. The good news of Jesus is foolishness to the rational mind. **(1 Corinthians 1:23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;)** If God said something that was not true or He did not mean, it would be a lie. God is incapable of lying. It is not that He chooses not to but everything He says happens. (Yes, the world was created in six days less than ten thousand years ago and it is easy to prove scientifically.)

Healing by the laying on of hands by the believer.

Mark 16

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

God expects believers to lay hands on sick people and see them recover. Believers are not only to receive healing from God, they are also to lay their hands on sick people and see them get well.

Healing by using our faith.

Mark 5: 21-43

34 And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

This is like the blind Bartimaeus passage. The faith of the woman and the synagogue ruler is what God responded to. It was Jesus' power but the woman's faith and words that made the healing happen. The ruler kept his mouth shut after he asked Jesus to heal his daughter. The woman and the ruler were in control of Jesus' ministry. Jesus and God were responding to faith.

The reason Jesus did not show Himself to the public after He was raised from the dead was because He did not want people to be startled into believing. He wanted people to believe and have faith because of His word not the signs He did. Signs do not build faith, the word does.

Mark 11

12 And on the morrow, when they were come from Bethany, he was hungry:

13 And seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came, if haply he might find any thing thereon: and when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves; for the time of figs was not yet.

14 And Jesus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And his disciples heard it.

20 And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots.

21 And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away.

22 And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.

23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

26 But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

This is the big one. A sixteen-year-old boy lay in bed. The doctor told him he had an incurable blood disease and a deformed heart, either one would kill him. His family had money and called the Mayo Institute. They told the family that the doctor they had in Texas had worked at the institute and there was no point in coming to see the doctors at the institute. The doctor told the sixteen-year-old he did not have a one in a million chance of getting well. The boy found this passage in the Bible and begin

saying, "I will live and not die." This man lived into his 80s. It took him about four months of studying and speaking the word before he was able to get out of bed. He had been bedfast for about a year and a half.

We ask, believe we have received it, and we shall have it. We must throw out the phrase "Seeing is believing." because "Believing is seeing." If you think that's strange, how about Jesus saying, "You can have what you say." In the positive it sounds strange but we do it in the negative all the time. We use the word death all the time. "tickled me to death", "dying to go", "it just kills me", etc. The Bible says "A merry heart is like a medicine." so really we are tickled to life.

Proverbs 17:22 A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

The world is in a negative flow. If you said "tickled me to life" people would be taken aback. Mary understood that Jesus always spoke in line with the Word. She told the servants at the feast of Cana to do whatever Jesus said. This passage can work for us or against us, but it is working, we decide what we say.

Proverbs 18

20 A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled.

21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

God says you were healed. Satan says you are sick. You are the person that decides who you will agree with.

Numbers Chapters 13 and 14 This is about the spies Moses sent to scout out the promised land. What they said was true; But, verse 13:32 called a negative report, evil. Ask God to stop you and show you every time you say something that is negative.

Healing as a gift of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 12

9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

Verses 9 and 28 list gifts of healing as a gift of the Holy Spirit. This is as the Spirit wills and is not controlled by any man. The only thing a person must do is put himself at a physical place to receive the healing. There are healing services coming through town all the time and it may more than one of them before you and the Holy Spirit makes contact. The more we listen to anointed preaching and teaching the more our faith is built up.

Healing comes from helping the poor

Psalm 41:1 Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.

2 The LORD will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies.

3 The LORD will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness.

"Considers" is an attitude. It can mean to understand, to cause to prosper, to teach, to look or have insight, or to have success. This is a lifestyle, not just giving a bum a dollar or voting for a politician who gives lip service to helping the poor.

I had never looked up the word “considers” in a Hebrew dictionary; I just thought it meant to think about. I have a new promise to stand on. I have in the past said that since I thought about and helped the poor, God should heal any sickness I was feeling. But it is better than that. I once taught tithing and giving at the local rescue mission and hired people that lived there. And I have hired prisoners or just-released prisoners. Therefore, I can expect the following: deliverance in time of trouble, to be preserved and kept alive, to be blessed on the earth, deliverance from my enemies, to be strengthened in sickness and restored from my bed of illness. It makes me want to go find a poor person and teach them to tithe.

Isaiah 58:5-14

8 Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy reward.

10 And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noon day:

One time when I was younger, God had me go through Isaiah 58 almost daily. These two verses need to read in context. Our attitude towards the poor affects our health. I love verse 10. It says the darkest time in my life will be like full sunlight.

The best way to go is walking in divine health. Here is a list of verses and ways to walk in divine health.

Psalms 42:11 Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me?

Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God

Psalms 43:5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

God will make us look better. The word “praise” here means to praise with hands or hand movement.

Proverbs 3

7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil.

8 It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

Don't be wise in your own eyes (pride), fear the Lord, depart from evil and you will walk in divine health.

Proverbs 4

20 My son, pay attention to what I say;

turn your ear to my words.

21 Do not let them out of your sight,

keep them within your heart;

22 for they are life to those who find them

and health to one's whole body. NKJV

Early in my life I decided the more Word I got in me the better my life would be. I don't think I have ever heard this but this seems to say that just the act of paying attention to the Bible will be health to your whole body. Just the reading of Proverbs makes you smarter. (Proverbs 1:1-7)

Also there is a blessing in reading Revelation.

Revelation 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

Psalms 107:20 He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.

I do not want to make a big deal about this and if someone disagrees, I am not going to argue the point, but I believe that just the act of studying God's Word will make you healthier. Of course, if you not only study but do what God says to do, your life will be better.

Proverbs 12:18 There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.

Proverbs 13:17 A wicked messenger falleth into mischief: but a faithful ambassador is health.

I want my words to bring health to people.

Proverbs 16:24 Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

I once saw on PBS's Nova a program in which a test was done on plants. They had two sets of plants grown under identical circumstances except they talked pleasant, positive words to one set. They may have talked ugly to the other set but I can't remember for sure. One group grew a lot larger than the other. Talking positive to the plants made them bigger and healthier. It works for plants and God says it works for people. Pleasant words not only make people healthier, but also make them feel good.

Isaiah 58:8 Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy reward.

I would like to reemphasize Isaiah 58. Here the word "health" means healing. I want to encourage people to meditate on Isaiah 58.

Jeremiah 30:17 For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord; because they called thee an Outcast, saying, This is Zion, whom no man seeketh after.

Jeremiah 33:6 Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth.

God promises health to Israel and the church.

3 John 1:2 Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

It is God's will for us to walk in divine health.

John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

If it steals, kills or destroys it from Satan. Jesus gives abundant life.

You have heard people say when I got sick I turned to God. This may have happened but someone put God's Word into that person so they would know where to turn. Let's give praise to the Word not sickness.

God will use sickness to teach, but that person was not made sick by God. Think about a parent. He will tell his child, "don't touch the light bulb; it will burn you." When the child touches the bulb anyway and gets burned, the parent will use that as a teaching time. The parent did not put the child's hand on the light bulb.

God does not cause sickness. People will say, "Well He didn't cause it, but he allowed it." Nope, the sick person allowed it. Let's look at Job.

Job 1:5 And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually.

Job continually offered burnt offerings for his children just in case they sinned and didn't know it. This is fear not faith.

Job 3:25 For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me.

We can talk about whether God allowed it or Job allowed it, but at the end Job got twice as much as he had. What about Paul's "thorn in the flesh"?

Revelation 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

This fear stuff is important to God. Fear is the opposite of love.

2 Corinthians 12:7 And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

2 Corinthians 11

24 Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one.

25 Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;

26 In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;

27 In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.

28 Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

Paul compares "the care of all the churches" to all the other bad things and he says it is a daily problem. Paul is not to carry the care of the churches, that's Jesus' job. The "care of all the churches" is fear and is an attack by Satan.

Mark 4 says that the cares of the world choke the Word and 1 Peter 5:7 says to cast your cares on Him.

This is an outline and books have been written about things I only said a few words about. All the major ministries have teachings on these subjects and they will do a lot better than me in teaching healing and divine health.