

20221023 Christ's Healing Power Pt1

Introduction

Divine healing can be a difficult topic to discuss. Why are some people healed and others are not? Perhaps you have prayed for yourself-not healed. You may have prayed for a loved one/they died. In- church- many perspectives- everything from-

>God does not heal today to

>we should be walking in divine health

Cannot pray- Lord if it be your will heal so and so.

That type of prayer ...

>requires no faith

>puts everything back on God, and

>eliminates any personal responsibility

To pray in faith for healing I needed to know what I believed the Bible says about healing.

Not everyone is going to agree with me- but there is much more the church should be walking in.

I do not have- final answer on healing but I want to give us reasons to believe- God heals today

Begin by establishing four guidelines ...

1. avoid being overly dogmatic

-goal- help hurting, not cause division

-yes I can have strong convictions

2. use scripture to define what you believe

-never your experiences or feelings

3. God is sovereign but that does not mean- everything- happens is ordained by God.

4. a discussion of healing does not exclude

God using doctors -no condemnation

To stimulate our thinking- handout in your bulletin.

HC- most used response- It's complicated.

All healing does not need to be miraculous.

God created the body to heal itself- doctors can aid healing- but the process is miraculous.

Salvation

Interpret salvation narrowly- regards to-sin/savior. Salvation speaks of the whole person- spiritual, emotional, mental, and physical.

The Jews saw man as a whole man.

For them- salvation included not only man's spirit, but also the physical life- healing/health.

Jesus came for the salvation of the whole man ...

1 Thes 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Physical healing is a practical application of the salvation provided for us through Christ/cross.

There are parts of our salvation we will only experience in heaven- however ...

Mat 4:17 ... "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

There is much of KofG we can experience NOW including- abundant life, healing, health, joy.

What's In A Name?

Character/nature of God-seen in His many names

>Jehovah Shalom- God is peace

>Jehovah Jireh- God provides

One such name ...

Ex 15:26- for I, the Lord, am your healer."

Jehovah-Rapha- I am the one who heals you.

God revealed Himself- Israel as- God that heals.

God also revealed Himself to Moses as the I AM- the God who always IS- the God of the NOW.

Whatever God is- He always is!

Jehovah-Rapha of the OT- still our healer today.

A Brief Overview of Jesus Healing Ministry

Everything about Jesus life/ministry- miraculous.

His healing ministry- also miraculous- when He ...

>met someone sick- He healed them

>met someone oppressed by the devil- He set them free

>met someone struggling- He introduced them to the God of peace and hope.

>met those who died before their time- he raised them from the dead

Look at some verses- make an observation ...

Matthew 15:30 And large crowds came to Him, bringing with them those who were lame, crippled, blind, mute, and many others, and they laid them down at His feet; and He healed them.

Observation: Jesus used healing to draw crowds.

Hebrews 2:3-4 (NASB95)

3 ... After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard,

4 God also testifying with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.

Observation: Jesus' message was authenticated by God w/signs/wonders/miracles/gifts of HS.

Mark 2:10-11 (NASB95)

10“But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—He said to the paralytic,

11 “I say to you, get up, pick up your pallet and go home.”

Observation: Jesus used healing to prove He could forgive sin. (forgiveness/healing)

Mark 16:20 And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed.

Observation: Just like Jesus, His disciples also moved in signs, wonders, miracles.

Matthew 14:14 When He went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and felt compassion for them and healed their sick.

Observation: Jesus' healing ministry was motivated by compassion for the sick.

Q: If Jesus was motivated by love to heal people then, does He love us any less today?

The Jesus- walked the earth 2000 years ago ...

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

What happened to God's healing power?

For 3 centuries many/most new believers were added to- church after seeing a divine healing.

In- 4th century w/rapid growth of- church and the world embracing materialism and scientific rationalism- divine healing fell into disfavor.

Many came to believe- divine healing-ended with-
>1st century church

>death of the last of the 12 apostles

>canonization of scripture

However- what do the scriptures say ...

Mat 10:1 Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and gave them authority over

unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

This authority was never taken away from- church

Matthew 10:7–8 (NASB95)

7“And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’

8“Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give.

We are his disciples today and I believe we should be walking in the same authority.

Mark 16:17–18 (NASB95)

17 “These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues;

18 they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

These signs will accompany who- believers!

Jn 14:12 “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father.

We are either believers in Jesus and His Word- or we are unbelieving believers- we must decide?

Is Healing found in Christ’s Atonement?

(Christ redemptive work on the cross)

We know that Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection provides atonement (forgiveness) for our sins.

Q: does Jesus life, death, resurrection, also provide for our physical healing?

Isaiah 53:4–5 (NASB95)

4 Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed.

Some-relegate this-spiritual healing- not physical. But, how does NT interpret these verses?

Matthew 8:16–17 (NASB95)

16When evening came, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed; and He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were ill.

17This was to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet: “He Himself took our infirmities and carried away our diseases.”

Divine healing is a benefit of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ on the cross.

Mankind has a twofold nature- physical/spiritual.

Both natures were equally affected by the Fall.

Christ redemption provides for the restoring of our physical life as well as our spiritual life.

Ro8:11But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead

will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Jesus, through the cross, paid for our sin and all its affects, which includes sickness/disease.

Looking again at ...

Mark 2:10–11 (NASB95)

10“But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—He said to the paralytic,

11“I say to you, get up, pick up your pallet and go home.”

Implicit in these verses is a link between Jesus' ministry of forgiveness and physical healing. Jesus heals both sin sickness/physical sickness. You see the same concept in the OT ...

Psalms 103:2–3 (NASB95)

2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget none of His benefits;

3 Who pardons all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases;

Sin/sickness are two fruits from the same tree.

1 Peter 2:24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

Again, healing is connected to the redemptive work of Christ on the cross.

You might say- from God's perspective you have been healed therefore you **are** healed.

Other factors involved in healing- talk about later.

The Nature of Sickness

OT- clearly defines sickness as a curse.

Deut 11:26–28 (NASB95)

26“See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse:

27the blessing, if you listen to the commandments of the Lord ...

28and the curse, if you do not listen to the commandments of the Lord ...

Moses goes on to explain the curse ...

Deut 28:58–59 (Ex 15.26)

58 “If you are not careful to observe all the words of this law ...

59 then the Lord will bring extraordinary plagues on you and your descendants, even severe and lasting plagues, and miserable and chronic sicknesses.

Sickness is considered a curse under the Law.

Now, fortunately for us as believers ...

Galatians 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us ...

Jesus paid for our sin debt/provided for healing.

Q: If sickness is considered a curse in- OT- would

God turn around in- NT- use it as a blessing ...

>to build our character/faith

>to teach us a lesson

Not consistent with the testimony of scripture.

I am not saying we will not suffer as Christians.

We have all faced difficulties/physical illnesses.

Acts 10:38 “You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing

all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

It is the devil afflicts people with sickness/disease.

Lk 13:11 And there was a woman who for eighteen years had had a sickness caused by a spirit; and she was bent double, and could not straighten up ...

I am not saying every sickness is demonic- but Satan afflicts people with sickness/disease.

Remember ...

Jn 10:10 “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

God’s will is for everyone to have abundant life.

1 Jn 3:8 ... The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil.

Devil oppresses while Jesus came- to set free.

There are several OT references where God appears to have struck people w/sickness ...

>Miriam/King Uzziah- struck with leprosy

>God released a plague- killed 285K people

>angel of the Lord killed- first born of Egypt

In- OT- sickness was always considered a curse.

When it comes to God afflicting people ...

Lam 3:33 For He does not afflict willingly Or grieve the sons of men.

It is not God’s heart/desire to afflict men and He does not do it without significant provocation.

The Power of the Holy Spirit and Healing

How do we walk in the power of the HS in the area of divine healing ...

>receive the Bible as your final authority

- >reject every thought that does not agree with what the Bible says
- >acknowledge that you are anointed by God to do the works of God
- >recognize that you have been sent as Jesus was sent
- >do the same works Jesus did

Christ's Healing Power

To help understand what we believe about healing, answer the following questions:

Does God still heal today?

Yes No Not sure It's complicated

Is healing part of the redemptive work of Christ on the cross, similar to the forgiveness of sin?

Yes No Not sure It's complicated

Does God put sickness/disease on His people to develop their character or increase their faith?

Yes No Not sure It's complicated

Does God put sickness/disease on His people to punish them because of sin in their lives?

Yes No Not sure It's complicated

Is it God's will for every believer to be healed?

Yes No Not sure It's complicated

Has God given us, the believer, authority over sickness and disease?

Yes No Not sure It's complicated

Did Jesus tell His disciples to go out and "heal the sick" as opposed to "pray for the sick"?

Yes No Not sure It's complicated

Key Verses

Isaiah 53:4–5 (NASB95)

4 Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed.

How does the New Testament interpret these verses?

Matthew 8:16–17 (NASB95)

16When evening came, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed; and He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were ill.

17This was to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet: “He Himself took our infirmities and carried away our diseases.”

Divine healing is a benefit of the redemptive work of Jesus Christ on the cross.

Mark 16:17–18 (NASB95)

17“These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues;

18they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”