

GOD'S PLAN FOR HEALING



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INTRODUCTION

Most churches either do not understand what the bible says about supernatural healing or do not believe in it at all; but it is so God and so needed in our world today. This information briefly explains what the bible says about healing; it is God's desire for everyone to walk in health.

Healing can come in these three ways:

1. Naturally - our bodies are made to fight off sickness and disease.
2. Medical Doctors & Remedies - doctors & medicine are many times an excellent way to bring about cures for diseases or other medical procedures. God does work through medical doctors and medical technology, but they are limited.
3. Supernaturally - most Christian denominations either don't believe in such or are not taught properly about Divine healing:
 - a. Laying hands on the sick - Mark 16:18
 - b. Our faith confession - Mark 11:22-24
 - c. Gifts of Healings - 1 Corinthians 12:8-10

This writing concentrates on number three; supernatural healing and walking in Divine health. We all know that God can heal, but it's a matter of knowing that He already has healed us of all our diseases.

1 Peter 2:24 ...by whose stripes you were healed.

SALVATION

Our sins were done away with and our healing was provided for on the cross 2000 years ago. We simply have to receive such. For salvation, we get born again by believing, confessing and accepting Jesus as our Lord and Savior. The Life of God then comes into our dead spirits and we are born again; our spirits come alive with the presence of God!

Romans 10:1..9-10 Brethren, my hearts desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved....that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness and with the mouth confess is made unto salvation.

John 3:3 Jesus answered and said to him, Most assuredly I say to you unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

Ephesians 2:1 And you He made alive who were dead in trespasses and sins.

Without salvation or being saved, our faith confession - believing God for our healing - will not work. First make sure you are born again; having the life of God inside of you.

Water Baptism & the Baptism in the Holy Ghost

The first commandment Jesus gave for new believers was for them to be water baptized. Water baptism does not save you, but you are making a public declaration that you are now a Christian and fully committed to living for the Lord.

There is an additional gift that is available to all believers that have committed their lives to live for Jesus called the baptism in the Holy Spirit; it is where a believer receives the Helper or Holy Spirit. Again, many Christian denominations either don't believe in such or are not taught properly concerning the baptism in the Holy Spirit. But it is the one key element in a believer's life that provides revelation into the things of God and understanding the supernatural power of God.

What I have found over the past thirty years of ministry is that being baptized in the Holy Spirit and understanding God's healing plan go hand in hand; thus why I am mentioning it here. I have a book online called Understanding the Baptism in the Holy Spirit that thoroughly explains the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Obtain a copy of such online at www.overtonministries.com.

Walking in Divine Health

At the cross, Jesus provided for the salvation of our souls and making us completely whole.

Luke 19:10 For the Son of man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.

The Greek word for "save" is sozo; it means to save, deliver, protect, heal, preserve, or to make whole. It means more than the receiving salvation; the redemption of our souls. It also means to make whole. The Greek word for "salvation" is soteria which has the same basic meaning.

As a Christian, we have a right to walk in Divine health; it's God's best for our lives.

3 John 2 Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.

Exodus 23:25 So you shall serve the Lord your God, and He will bless your bread and your water. And I will take sickness away from the midst of you.

We can believe God in faith to walk in Divine health and never need to be healed of any sickness or disease. I will discuss living a life of repentance later in this writing, but I am determined to live my life well pleasing to the Father and use my faith to keep myself in perfect health. No, I am not perfect, but obedience, repentance, forgiveness and other Godly principles are how I try to live my life. Watching my diet is another area. All in all, it works. In the past 30 years, I can connect the few times I have experienced sickness with not being obedient to God or doing something I knew was wrong.

When you receive the gift of salvation, you receive the Spirit of the Living God inside your spirit man; it does not automatically cure your physical body. In most situations, people that have sickness in their body before salvation, have the same sickness after salvation unless that sickness is caused by the presences of demonic activity. I will have a book titled The Accuser of the Brethren soon that will address this in more detail. But you now have the Spirit of the Living God residing in your spirits and are able to believe God in faith to heal you mortal bodies.

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Repentance

The topic of why sickness occurs is extensive and would take more than this writing to explain in detail. As just mentioned, the book The Accuser of the Brethren will deal with this topic more. We do not always know exactly why sickness or disease occurs, but we do know that God is NOT the author of any sickness; the devil is. John 10:10 says that it is the devil that comes to steal, kill and destroy your life; but God has come to give you life and that life more abundantly. Any sickness or disease is not abundant life. God does not send sickness; there's no sickness or disease in heaven for Him to send.

Psalms 125:3 For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous lest the righteous reach out their hands to iniquity.

The bible does talk about many things that can cause sickness; unforgiveness, bitterness, envy; disobedience; speaking evil of other Christians, etc. With any of these things in our lives or other sins not listed herein, you could be allowing the devil to bring sickness on your body. That is why the bible says to not let the sun go down on your wrath; unrepented sin makes it harder for God to move and your faith confession to work.

Psalms 139:23-24 Search me, O God and know my heart. Try me and know my anxieties and see if there is any wicked way in me.

There is a book written by Dodie Osteen entitled Healed of Cancer. She was diagnosed with metastatic cancer of the liver and was given two weeks to live back in 1981. She did everything possible right away to make sure she was walking in total forgiveness with every body. She was healed without any medical treatment for the cancer and she is still alive today.

IT IS GOD'S WILL TO HEAL EVERYONE

One of the biggest lies the devil has told the church is that it may be God's will for you to be sick or have a disease or be disabled, etc., and you are suppose live in that condition or even die with that sickness! I often hear, *"This is my cross to bear"* or *"This sickness is the thorn in my side and I have to live with it forever."* Both statements are absolutely false.

No body enjoys sickness or disease; or at least no one I have ever met. The very first thing every body wants when they are get sick is to be made well! We take aspirin, other over the counter medicines, we go to the doctor, etc. Those with chronic diseases seek relief; most seek medical attention wherever they can until they come to the conclusion there is no medical cure. If it was God's will for you to be sick or stay in that condition, then we ought to just sit back and enjoy our sickness; being in the perfect will of God is the most awesome place to be, right?

Back in the early 1990's after I first came to the Lord, a co-workers son had leukemia and was fighting for his life. My co-worker asked if I would be willing to donate some white blood cells to help his son with the leukemia treatments; chemo treatments tend to deplete the bodies white blood cell counts. I enthusiastically volunteered. It took two hours for them to: first, withdraw blood from one arm; second, remove the white blood cells in a machine in back of me; then third, re-inject the remaining blood back into my body in the other arm.

A few days after the procedure, I had a discussion with my co-worker regarding his son's health. My co-worker said, "Well he's only going to be healed if it's the will of God." I thought, "Why did I waste the time and effort donating white blood cells? With that perspective of God, Divine healing will not work!" Shortly thereafter, his son died.

There are several types of prayer: asking the Father for something or petitions for your needs; praying in the spirit; the prayer of consecration or doing the will of God; and the prayer of faith, just to name a few. The prayer of consecration is for direction or doing the will of God; it is not to be confused with the prayer of faith that will save the sick.

When Jesus was in the garden praying to the Father to take away the cup of his soon to be death, He says, "not my will but Your will be done." This was a prayer of consecration or direction.

1 Corinthians 4:19 But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord wills, and I will know not the word of those who are puffed up, but the power.

Paul mentions the same thing in this scripture, saying that he would come visit the saints that were in Corinth if it was the will of God. You never read any scriptures referencing healing or health that say, "If it be God's will" to provide such. On the contrary, there are numerous scriptures that talk about how God has provided healing for the saints of God. It is the prayer of faith that will heal the sick.

Just like it's God desire for all people to be saved, it is His desire for all people to walk in perfect health. Do all people get saved? Unfortunately not; many people refuse to accept the free gift of salvation. And the same is true with healing; many people never accept the healing Jesus has provided for us or fight to obtain such.

Everything with God is a matter of FAITH. We get saved by faith; it's saving faith.

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves but it is the gift of God.

Hebrews 11:6 says it's impossible to please God without faith.

Of the three ways to get healed, natural healing and through medical doctors does not take much or any faith. God built everyone's bodies with built in mechanism to fight off foreign objects, namely those that cause sickness. Worldly people can get healed via medical doctors almost as easily as Christians. I have nothing against the medical profession and many times, your particular pathway to healing or being cured of a sickness or disease will be through medical doctors and medical technology. But we all know that the medical field is sometimes limited with their ability to cure many diseases. And yes, you can put your faith in medical doctors and leave it at that. But there is more and it involves the supernatural power of God.

Just as it takes faith to be saved, it takes faith to be healed. Faith is a fully believing in and adhering to and trusting in and relying on the message you heard.

SUPERNATURAL HEALING

Laying Hands on the Sick

Mark 16:18 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.

The ministry of "laying on of hands" is used through out the bible. For healing, the scripture says that believers will lay hands on the sick and they will recover. For myself, I normally teach about healing then offer to lay hands on the sick and believe in faith that they will recover. All believers can do the same; the scripture says exactly that. The sick person and the believer who lays hands on a person and prays normally have to believe, in faith that the sick person will recover.

Our Faith Confession

Faith is a fully believing in and adhering to and trusting in and relying on the message you heard. Faith speaks what God says. If we WERE healed by His stripes 2000 years ago, faith says that we are already healed today, right now. Not tomorrow, not saying that God is going to heal me, but rather proclaiming that we are healed right now.

Matthew 8 and 9 provides some powerful stories about people who were healed by their own faith confession. During His ministry, Jesus announced and taught that He was anointed to heal those that were sick. Those that heard His word and believed it, received by faith what they needed:

- **The Leper Cleansed.** In Matthew 8:1-4, the leper came to Jesus and said, "If You are willing, You can make me clean." And Jesus answered, "I am willing, be cleansed." Until that time, no one had been healed of leprosy in Jesus' ministry. The leper heard that Jesus was anointed to heal; he just wasn't sure if leprosy was included in his healing plan. Thank God Jesus said yes.
- **The Centurion Servant Healed.** Matthew 8:5-13 describes the faith confession of the centurion. He told Jesus all You have to do is speak a word and my servant will be healed. Jesus said that He had not found such great faith in all of Israel. He also said to the centurion, "go your way; and as you have believed, so let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that same hour.
- **The Paralytic Man is Healed.** Matthew 9:1-8 describes how the men carried the paralytic man to where Jesus was. The gospel of Mark's account of the same story says they uncovered the roof because of the crowds. When Jesus saw their faith, he announced that the paralytic man's sins were forgiven and for the man to take up his bed and go to his house. And he did; but it was by the faith that Jesus saw that the man was healed.
- **Woman With a Flow of Blood Healed.** Matthew 9:20-22 tells how a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years said, "if I can only touch His garment, I shall be made well." She did so and Jesus said, "Be of good cheer, daughter, your faith has made you well."
- **Two Blind Men Healed.** Matthew 9:27-31 describes the faith confession of 2 blind men. They cried out, "Son of David, have mercy on us!" Their cry stopped Him and Jesus asked, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" Their answer was yes Lord and Jesus said, "According to your faith, let it be to you" and their eyes were open.

In all of these situations, faith on behalf of the person needing healing was spoken or demonstrated. They believed what Jesus taught; that He was anointed to heal them then they spoke or demonstrated their faith. Faith speaks and / or acts out what we believe; the same is true today just like it was back in bible days.

Mark 6:5-6 Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He marveled because of their unbelief.

Jesus could do NO mighty works in His home town of Nazareth because of their unbelief; He marveled at their unbelief. And the same is true today; supernatural healing will not come in the form of our faith confession if you do not understand faith or believe that it is the will of God for you to be sick.

Hebrews 13:8 says that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever; if Jesus healed in bible days, the very same is true today. The Holy Spirit was sent to be here on the earth as an exact representation of Jesus' earthly ministry; the Holy Spirit strengthens our faith to bring about the same results we read about in the bible.

2 Corinthians 4:13 And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak.

Romans 4:17, 21 God, Who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did....and being fully convinced that what He had promised, He was also able to perform.

Mark 11:22-24 Have faith in God. For assuredly I say to you whoever says to this mountain be removed and be cast into the sea and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. Therefore I say to you whatever things you ask for when you pray, believe that you receive them and you will have them.

Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the rhema word of God. You build your faith by hearing and hearing and hearing and hearing God's word. The more you hear it, the more you are going to believe it. The more you hear it, the more the Holy Spirit can quicken that word and it can become alive in your spirit, e.g. a rhema or revelation to you.

Christianity does not deny that the sickness exists; we just simply say what God says about our situation that we are healed; past tense, in faith it's already happened - we're just waiting for the manifestation to come about. To walk in Divine health, I live a life the best I can well pleasing to the Father and I speak faith that no sickness has the right to be on my body, any time or any day. The same faith declaration is made for those in my household. Believing in the word of God and speaking it over your body works the same way when you need to be healed.

The following scriptures are a powerful story of a man who used his faith to be healed.

Acts 14:8-10 And in Lystra a certain man without strength in his feet was sitting, a cripple from his mother's womb, who had never walked. This man heard Paul speaking. Paul, observing him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, said with a loud voice, "Stand up straight on your feet!" And he leaped and walked.

He had been crippled his entire life, from his mother's womb the bible says. The crippled man heard Paul teaching; the story does not say what Paul was teaching on but I'm sure he had something to do with the

supernatural power of God and healing. The crippled man: first, heard Paul teach; second, had faith to be healed; then third, he leaped and walked after hearing Paul's command to stand up straight on your feet. It was the word of God that he heard that created the faith in him to rise and be healed.

And the same is needed for healing today:

1. We need to hear the word of God on healing
2. Believe the word we hear in faith
3. Then act upon that word until we receive a full manifestation of what we are believing God for.

Gifts of Healing

God also moves through the 9 gifts of the Spirit including working of miracles and gifts of healing described in 1 Corinthians 12. These all operate as the Spirit wills; not as man wills. For gifts of healings, they normally are instantaneous and do not require faith on behalf of the person receiving the healing. This is one of the reasons I always try to lay hands on a sick person; the Holy Spirit may move for instantaneous healing.

John 5:1:15 describes an occurrence where the gift of healing was manifested. Numerous people sat around the Pool of Bethesda waiting for the waters to be moved. Jesus, through the gift of healing, told the man who had been sick for thirty-eight years to rise, take up his bed and walk. And immediately, the man was made well. It did not take any faith on behalf of the man healed except to obey; it was a manifestation of the gift of healing.

Many others were there that did not get healed that day; but it DOES NOT say God does not heal everyone - they all could have used their faith to be made well. We can not dictate how the Holy Spirit moves with His gifts of healings, but we can always use our own faith to declare our healing.

The Hebrew Boys Example

Daniel 3:14-27 is the story of the three Hebrew boys - Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego. It was their faith confession that delivered them from the fiery furnace. Unfortunately, many people interpret this scripture incorrectly.

In verses 14-15, King Nebuchadnezzar was telling them if they bowed down at the sound of the music, then good. If they did not bow down at the sound of the music, then they would be cast into the midst of the furnace.

In verse 17, the Hebrew boys addressed the King wanting to throw them into the fire; "If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace and HE WILL deliver us from your hand, O king."

Then in verse 18, they say, "But if not..." The "if not" is addressing whether the king is going to throw them into the furnace. If for some reason the king decides not to throw them in the furnace, they will still not worship the gold image. The "if not" is not addressing whether God would deliver them as so many interpret this passage; they had already settled the matter of God delivering them in verse 17.

The three Hebrew boys did not bow down when they heard the music, the king threw them into the fiery furnace and God delivered them out without even a smell of smoke on their bodies, just as their faith confession declared.

So regarding healing, have the same faith determination that God has healed you, period.

HOW TO PRAY OR RATHER HOW TO CONFESS YOUR HEALING

You pray the word of God in faith, without any doubt in your heart or spirit. Your head or your thoughts may doubt but just keep speaking what God says in His word to overcome those doubts.

- You speak faith and declare you are healed in Jesus name according to any number of scriptures on healing. How long do you keep confessing and believing? Until you see victory! Here are a few scriptures that you can confess:
 - *Matthew 8:17 He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses*
 - *1 Peter 2:24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness--by whose stripes you were healed.*
 - *Psalms 103:1-3 Bless the Lord, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases,*
 - *Psalms 107:20 He sent His word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions.*
 - *Psalms 118:17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.*
 - *3 John 2 Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.*
 - *Exodus 15:26 "If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the Lord who heals you."*
 - *Exodus 23:25 So you shall serve the Lord your God, and He will bless your bread and your water. And I will take sickness away from the midst of you.*
- Like Jesus did in Mark 11 to the fig tree, you can curse the disease in Jesus name and ask that it to dry up and wither away. You are speaking faith here.
- You can cry out to God for revelation into what may be causing the disease and/or your pathway to healing. Luke 18:1-8 talks about the day and night cry of faith.
- The prayer of faith in James 5:14 declares that "I am healed."
- Fight all areas of doubt and unbelief. Doubt may come, but don't give into it. 1 Timothy 6:12 says "fight the good fight of faith."
- DO NOT pray for the Lord to heal you! In God's eye's, healing has already occurred. Asking God to heal you is not faith and it does not work! Christians try to do through prayer things that only the word of God can accomplish; faith in the word of God.

Hebrews 11:6 Without faith it is impossible to please God.
- DO thank & praise God for your healing. Continue to daily praise & thank God for healing you; you are just waiting for the manifestation of such.

I pray this information has helped you to understand more about the supernatural power of God available to heal you. If you are currently fighting any sickness or disease, please feel free to contact our ministry office.

If you any questions or need additional information including a copy of Dodie Osteen's book Healed of Cancer, we are here to assist you any way we can. Contact us at:



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