



Healing # 11

Hello everyone. Welcome to “Notes from the Presence.” I have been writing on the subject healing in order to discover the keys to release healing on some friends of mine who are quite sick. In this article we continue with two more thoughts on Jesus and how He healed the sick.

The first thought is that the gift of discernment and knowledge was always present with Jesus as He healed - He knew what kind of sickness He was dealing with, what caused it, and what to do in order to unlock the miracle.

Jesus was a master at discerning, especially in the area of healing. What I find interesting are the strange things He would do in order to release the faith necessary for healing. Here is a partial list of the odd things He did:

He spit on the ground and then made clay to put on someone's eyes. Then He told them to go and wash it off in a certain pool.

He touched someone's tongue with His own saliva.

He put His fingers in someone's ears

He told ten lepers to go and show themselves to the priest. As they went, they received their healing.

He often touched people's eyes when they were blind, releasing healing.

He spoke words to people, telling them first that their sins were forgiven, then healing them. He seemed to know when sin was a factor in causing sickness. One time He told someone not to sin so that something worse wouldn't come on them. One time the

disciples asked Jesus if "this man or his parents" had sinned in order to cause blindness. Jesus responded that nobody had sinned. Then, He simply healed the blindness.

He often asked people if they believed that He could do the miracle. It didn't matter what level of faith they were at - from very little, to plenty - Jesus always spoke and did things to release that faith so that the person could receive their healing. He would often get people to do something in advance of their healing such as "stretch out your arm," or "take up your bed." Then, as they began to do the action, they would be healed.

When dealing with sickness, it is imperative to know what we are dealing with. There are many types and causes of sickness, making the gifts of knowledge and discernment essential companions to the gift of healing. Sometimes when I am praying about a certain illness, either in myself or in someone else, the Holy Spirit will give me specific clues as to how to pray or what to do. This can happen either before hand, or on the spot. I pray that God will increase my sensitivity in this area.

Here is the next though about Jesus and how He healed. Jesus healed in two ways. There was sickness that He healed through the laying on of hands or the release of glory anointing in some way. Then, there was also sickness that He healed by casting out evil spirits, or commanding a demon to leave a person. Often, these types of sickness were more in the realm of mental illness. There are cases of epilepsy and other types of seizures that Jesus healed in this way.

I am often amazed when I talk to people about the realm of the demonic. It seems to me that people are quite afraid of the subject. However, in the life of Jesus and the church of Acts, it was an every day occurrence, par for the course. I have, on occasion, talked with christian leaders and pastors who have been in ministry for years and have never cast out a demon. I wonder how this is even possible. Jesus made a statement that amazes me:

Matthew 10:1, 5, 8 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. These twelve Jesus sent out after instructing them: "And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give."

Notice the things Jesus said here in one breath - "heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons." We tend to place difficulty levels on certain things but Jesus mentioned four types of healings in the same sentence.

First there are sick people who might have a cold, flu, or a condition of some kind. These things might be curable or non curable but they are not immediately life threatening.

Next, He mentions raising the dead - not a problem at all. According to Jesus, this should be a normal part of the life of His disciples.

Then, He talks about cleansing lepers. I have often wondered about the type of healing referred to here - cleansing. One thing is for sure, leprosy was a disease as deadly and life altering in that day as HIV is today. It was an incurable disease resulting in suffering, dismemberment, isolation, and eventual death. However, Jesus doesn't break a sweat when talking about it. Think of the most deadly disease that exists today - ALS, Ebola, HIV, cancer, you name it. Jesus is not impressed with the "difficulty level" of any sickness and we shouldn't be either. No sickness, no matter how severe, is any match for the name of Jesus and the anointing power of the glory of God.

Then, Jesus also mentioned casting out demons in His single breath sentence. Once again, this is normal christian fare.

Some sicknesses Jesus dealt with were caused by direct demonic influence. Jesus would cast out these demons and then heal the sick person in the process. Often, these types of sickness were in the realm of disorders such as epilepsy or other mental illness conditions. I venture to say that this is not a very politically correct thing to say in today's culture but I am just quoting the bible here. Once again, discernment is the key to knowing how to deal with any type of sickness.

Let me end with a highly emotional scripture verse today:

Matthew 9:35-36 Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness. Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd.

Jesus, make me more sensitive to your Spirit when it comes to knowing and understanding. Let me know Your heart and compassion for people who are sick. Show me how to heal them I pray. Amen.

Thanks for reading. Jesus is real and He is willing - be made whole in His name.