



## Healing # 4

Hello everyone. Welcome to “Notes from the Presence.” In this series, we are talking about healing, a subject that has been a passion of mine for years now. I believe that God is a healer and that His hand of healing is always extended in conjunction with our salvation. In fact, the word used for salvation in the New Testament, "sozo," means much more than just being saved from our sins. In Strongs concordance is it word #4982 and it literally means, "I save, heal, preserve, and rescue." What an awesome God we have as a heavenly Father.

I would like to begin with another healing story today. This one is from the other side - someone I prayed for who didn't get healed. A few years ago, I had a friend on my worship team who shattered his left leg in a sports accident. It was broken in two or three places and being that he was very athletic, he was majorly upset. The doctors were telling him that it might not heal properly, that there were complications, and that they might have to put pins in among other nasty things. At any rate, he was looking at years of process and therapy to get back to normal. I, of course, offered to go and pray for his leg.

When I arrived at his house, he was laying on the couch in a huge cast unable to move. His wife was crying, and his entire extended family was there including his mom. They were all talking about why the accident had happened. The theories were heated and they flew back and forth passionately until mom's wisdom spoke up. She said, "You have been working too hard and you wouldn't listen to God with His little stick, so God finally had to speak with His big stick!" At this point in time I was thinking, "So according to mom, God just broke his leg, and now I am here to pray for God to heal it again." I eventually made a feeble attempt to tell the family that God was good, and that He wanted to heal the leg but there was no changing their minds. When I prayed, it felt like my prayers went to the ceiling and fell back on my head again - there was absolutely no anointing and absolutely nothing happened. When I left, they were still

arguing about the potential reasons why God broke his leg. It was an incredible lesson for me, a window into the mindset that people carry through a lack of understanding of the nature of our Father God. In reality, God didn't break my friend's leg. In fact, the devil caused the accident - he is the father of all evil in our world and the last time I checked, a shattered leg qualifies as evil. God wanted to heal it, but He was being blamed for the accident. When will we ever learn that God is GOOD?!

I have noticed that for the most part, people are unsure of the origin of sickness and bodily malfunction. If you are unsure of who caused the sickness, then you will also be unsure of who might be able to heal the sickness. However, right from the beginning of creation, our bodies were given an ability to heal themselves. Sometimes this ability is overwhelmed, but under normal circumstances, as soon as something happens, our natural healing process kicks in to right what was made wrong. This ability was given to us by God. It was part of His healing heart for us. We also have a knee-jerk reaction to try and augment this natural ability with extra help in the form of a visit to the doctor or some type of medicine. God has put substances in our environment that are powerful natural healing agents. Once again, this was part of His healing heart for us. I have often wondered, if we are unsure whether it is God's will for us to be healed, why do we try to get healed by going to a doctor? Wouldn't we then be working against God if He had caused the sickness in order to teach us some kind of a lesson? Many mindsets that we carry when it comes to healing make no logical sense whatsoever.

There is an interesting verse hidden in the chronicles of the Kings of Israel. It reads like this:

*2 Chronicles 16:12 In the thirty-ninth year of his reign, Asa (one of Israel's kings) became diseased in his feet. His disease was severe, yet even in his disease he did not seek the Lord, but the physicians.*

Here we have an account of a person who went to a doctor before talking to God about his illness. This verse is written with a derogatory tone, implying that God was not pleased that he went to the doctors first.

There is another account in Isaiah chapter thirty eight of a King named Hezekiah who became mortally sick with a disease, except, he went to talk to God about it. In the end, God extended his life by another fifteen years.

On this side of the cross, there can be no oscillation on a couple of key points. First, who causes sickness, harm, and infirmity? According to Acts 10:38, a scripture we discussed a couple of weeks ago, it is an oppression of the devil. Second, is it God's will to heal?

The answer is YES! Jesus, revealing the heart of the Father illustrated this point in an encounter with a leper:

*Luke 5:12-13 While He was in one of the cities, behold, there was a man covered with leprosy; and when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and implored Him, saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." And He stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." And immediately the leprosy left him.*

Once the issues of where sickness comes from, and if it is God's will to heal are settled, we are well on our way to laying a solid foundation for the healing power of God to work in and through us. I for one, am asking God for His glory to be strong in me for this purpose. I hate the devil and what he has done to afflict me, as well as my brothers and sisters on this planet. In the heart of the words of Jesus - if I can release the healing power of Jesus in someone, the kingdom of God has been enforced on this earth as it is in heaven.

Thanks for reading. Jesus is real and His presence is a healing balm.