

Healing #7

Hello everyone. Welcome to "Notes from the Presence." For the past several weeks I have been articling about the subject of healing. I believe that Jesus paid the price for our bodies to be whole. At present, healing is the exception in many christian circles but I long for the day when it will be the norm.

I would like to start today with another healing testimony. A few years ago I came home from work not feeling very well. I have learned that stopping fear is the key to stopping sickness so I immediately went for my bible. Since faith is the opposite of fear, I started reading through the many healing scriptures I have highlighted throughout my NASB version. I usually let the Holy Spirit lead me in this process until I come across something that speaks to me. Then I just let the word of God soak down into my spirit, soul, and body like medicine.

I went to bed but the sickness turned aggressively worse. Within a couple of hours, I was quite sick with chills and fever but I kept reciting the word of God and refused to let fear come into my heart. I also kept telling the sickness that it had no business on my body the body of a redeemed person. I rebuked it numerous times in Jesus name and refused it access to the temple of the Holy Spirit in which I dwell.

At this point, my stomach started to get really upset and I felt sure I was going to throw up (sorry for the graphic details - a few more to come before the story is over). I eventually ran for the bathroom, all the while telling the sickness it was not allowed on me and taking authority over it. OK, more graphic content - so there I was, head over the toilet, and I screamed, "NO! IN JESUS NAME YOU WILL NOT DO THIS TO ME!! YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO AFFLICT MY BODY! LEAVE NOW IN JESUS NAME!"

Immediately, I felt a strange sensation in my stomach. It was as if the pressure reversed and went back down - in fact, I felt it release through my entire intestinal tract. The nausea left in an instant. All of the symptoms calmed down. What had turned into a nasty headache left, and all of the fever and chills subsided. Then a voice said to me, "Go and get something to eat and go to bed. You will be fine in the morning." I did as the voice said, and in the morning there was absolutely no sign of any kind of sickness or flu. Thank you Jesus!

Speaking of Jesus, today we are going to begin talking about how remarkable He was at healing the sick and broken people around Him. There is so much to blog about here that I am almost overwhelmed but thank God we have no time limit here. We have as many weeks as we need to discuss this subject.

There are numerous things about Jesus that fascinate me when it comes to healing. I am going to list them today and then begin opening up each one in the weeks to come:

First, there is no record anywhere of Jesus sending a sick person away without their miracle. This verity goes for those He sought out, and also those who came and sought Him out.

Second, He healed in public meetings and also in private settings. In His public meetings, often it says that "He healed them all." In private, He also had a perfect record.

Third, often after a public healing service, He would go away and pray, sometimes all night. One time, after John the Baptist was martyred, Jesus went away to pray and then came upon a multitude, healing their sick.

Fourth, He most often told the people He healed not to tell anyone about their miracle. Jesus was serious about not trying to attract attention with His gift.

Fifth, 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.

Sixth, 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.

Seventh, Jesus delighted in releasing others to heal the sick. He taught His disciples how to heal, gave them authority, and then sent them out to "heal the sick, raise the dead, and cast out evil spirits." One time when a group of seventy came back, Jesus was full of joy at their reports of success. I will boldly say here: we are not disciples of Jesus if we do not do the same works that He did. Healing is an essential part of being like Jesus. It was a huge part of His life and it needs to be a huge part of ours as well.

Eighth, Jesus said just before He left this earth - "Peace be with you; as the Father has sent me, so I send you." Then Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." Jesus did the works of the Father (including healing the sick) through the Holy Spirit who was both "in Him," and also "upon Him." We need the same encounter with the Holy Spirit in order to do what Jesus sent us to do, to follow in His footsteps, do what He did, and be imitators of Christ.

In articles to come, we are going to look into each one of the above topics. There are numerous scriptures to look at and explore. I am doing so in hopes that we will begin to step out in faith and do exactly what Jesus did when it came to sick people - release healing for them. I am excited to see what may happen. I have a challenge for you this week. Find someone who needs a healing touch. Then, go to them and listen for the voice of the Spirit to tell you how to pray and unlock their miracle. Then pray for them in faith and heal them. The Holy Spirit is in you and upon you for such a time as this!

Thanks for reading. Jesus is real and by His stripes we were healed (1 Peter 2:24).