



Healing # 8

Hello everyone. Welcome to “Notes from the Presence.” For the past several weeks I have been writing about the subject of healing. In our last post, we started talking about Jesus and how He healed the sick. We listed eight different points of interests when it came to the way that He dealt with people in need of a healing touch.

Today I would like to start with another healing testimony. Actually, it is more of an ongoing exercise that I do in order to stay well. I have been quite sick at certain points in my life. At one time, I was in bed for almost two years, so sick that I barely had enough strength to live. It was like a fog that lasted for months on end. I now know that during this season it was bitterness that kept me from being well. Thank God for the wondrous work He has done in my heart in this regard.

I have a list of healing scriptures that I have printed out. There are probably around 40 or so scriptures on this list and I use them as medicine.

Proverbs 4:20-23 My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your sight; keep them in the midst of your heart. For they are life to those who find them and health to all their body. Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life.

If there is one thing I have learned, it is that my heart is the wellspring of life. I endeavour to keep my spirit fed with the healing waters of life at all times. I find that if I keep the reservoir topped up, I have the strength to fight off many different illnesses. If I let the reserve go down, I find myself in a situation where there is nothing with which to fight. When sickness comes, I then fall. I have also learned that the time to fill the reservoir is when I am perfectly healthy. When sickness comes knocking, it is most often too late.

Another thing I have become aware of is that healing is not a formula. It is a person. Jesus is Jehovah Rapha, our healer. I always endeavour to stay in His presence and let the presence guide my healing journey. If I am in a situation where I am scanning my healing scripture list to find healing strength, I will read until I feel the presence of Jesus on a certain passage. Then, I will let the presence of God feed me with the strength I need to get through my situation. I have fought off hundreds of colds, flu's, and other illness in this way. I am not 100%, but I am learning to know Jesus as my healer. I accept Him as my healer just as I have accepted Him as the one who forgives my sins and I refuse to give up.

Today we are going to continue on looking into Jesus' healing ministry. I made a couple of statements in my last article:

First, there is no record anywhere of Jesus sending a sick person away without their miracle.

This 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.

I am amazed at this particular aspect of Jesus. Everywhere He went, He ran into those in need of healing and His record was 100%. He would seek out certain people, He would randomly run into others, and then, sometimes people would also seek Him out for a touch. In every one of these cases, the person left with their miracle.

I have often wondered why we are not capable of the same record - 100% healing. One thing I am certain of. Jesus always wants to release healing on people. We, however, often sent people away empty. They come to us looking for Jesus, and they leave getting just us. In the end, we have developed a theology that mirrors this experience. It might sound something like this:

We are not God, Jesus was God and this is the reason why He was 100% effective. We can never measure up to this standard. We are at best, hit and miss. The healing ministry of Jesus will never be duplicated on this earth.

I would like to say that I do not buy into this theology. Jesus said, "Greater things will you do because I go to the Father," and "as the Father sent me, so I send you."

In the end, I often wonder if it might be because of character more than anything. I have a scenario for you. What would happen if you were given the anointing to heal every single person that came across your path with cancer? Eventually, word would get out of your consistency and people would start seeking you out. It would be slow at first, but eventually, people would be lined up at your doorstep just like they were with Jesus. The rich and powerful of the earth would begin to hear of you and they would start offering you money to pray for their loved ones. In the end, how would you handle the fame, the money, the bribes, and the attention? How long would it take for you to completely lose all sense of the presence of God and the integrity needed to navigate such a dangerous road? In my experience, there are few on the earth who could handle this kind of pressure.

Jesus had the integrity to handle this type of situation and actually thrive. He shunned attention and tried to stay out of the limelight. One time, His fame was at such a peak that the people were planning to take Him by force and make Him king. In the end, He preached a sermon so offensive that thousands walked away from following Him. His twelve disciples were also disgusted with the sermon - a cannibalistic discourse on eating His flesh and drinking His blood - but they stuck around because they had nowhere else to go.

I often pray, "Lord, don't let me get away with things that cloud my character and integrity." I also pray daily for the Holy Spirit to fill me, baptize me, and cover me with His presence. When Jesus came out of the water when He was baptized the scripture says, " the Holy Spirit descended upon Him as a dove and REMAINED." This "remaining" is the key to consistency when it comes to healing the sick. I heard it said one time that most of us scare the dove off before we have finished breakfast in the morning. The Holy Spirit resting "upon" us is the key to releasing the anointing in a sufficient measure to destroy the works of darkness. There is no sickness, demon, or residue of the curse that can stand in the way of the power of the Holy Spirit in full measure.

I will leave you with one of my favourite scripture-prayers today. Take it and meditate on it. Pray it over your life. I am doing the same every day:

Ephesians 3:14-21 14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which

surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

Thanks for reading. Jesus is real and in His presence is found the fullness of God.