

IF YOU ARE NOT HEALED...

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Praise God for the renewed interest witnessed today in the ministry of HEALING. Our God is a Healer! One of His names is *Jehovah-Rapha!* (Ex 15:26). He has never changed. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever (Heb 13:8).

There is no sickness in Heaven because that is the only place where God's will is perfectly done. To become well from any sickness and live long is a God-given instinct in man. But sickness and disease is only on the increase both among the godly and the ungodly.

Thank God for all the advancement in medical science which helps relieve men and women from physical pain and distress. And God has granted "gifts" to the Church to demonstrate His power and presence to the sick (1 Cor 12:28). All through the history of the Church, and more in these days, God is using several men in this glorious ministry of divine healing. Larger crowds attend healing campaigns than the other meetings. *But the fact remains that there are more people who are not healed than those who are healed.* They go from meeting to meeting, preacher to preacher, but get no better and become desperate. My heart goes to them—who are the majority in comparison—and I write this message for them.

IF YOU ARE NOT HEALED ...

1. Don't get discouraged!

God is still on the Throne! Your Father in Heaven knows your physical needs even before you tell Him. Jesus said, "Do not worry about your life... nor about your body... For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things" (Mt 6:25-32). His promise to you is: "I will never leave you nor forsake you" (Heb 13:5). Jesus Christ is IN you (Col 1:27). He is the Father's first Comforter to you. The Holy Spirit is IN you (Jn 14:16,17). He is the Father's second Comforter to you. With both these Comforters dwelling with you and in you, what more do you need and what have you to fear?

Jesus perfectly understands your feeling of despair and depression. He wept with the bereaved ones of Lazarus. You are in His hands. The enemy cannot pluck you out of His hand. "He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world" (1 Jn 4:4). God's angels are around you though you may not see them (2 Ki 6:17). They are serving you though you may not feel them (Heb 1:14). Your prayers seem unanswered. Your cry seems unheard. God's promises seem unfulfilled. But remember, delay does not mean denial. Your prayers are in His book and your tears in His bottle (Psa 56:8).

2. Don't condemn yourself !

When you see another person healed through prayer and you are not, don't immediately conclude it's because you don't have sufficient faith. Though faith is necessary for

healing, God heals people primarily because of His love and compassion. We read in the Bible, “Jesus was moved with *compassion* for them, and healed their sick” (Mt 14:14). Blind Bartimaeus cried, “Son of David, have *mercy* on me!” (Mk 10:48). Apostle Paul wrote about Epaphroditus, “Indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had *mercy* on him” (Phil 2:27).

If you are too weak to believe, simply tell God, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief !” (Mk 9:24). Several ministers in the frontline healing ministry have not been healed by a miracle but have gone through even major surgeries. Kathryn Khulman, an outstanding woman in the healing ministry, died of cancer. Prophet Elisha, who had the double portion of the Spirit, who performed so many miracles, died of a disease (2 Ki 13:14). Does this mean these people didn’t have faith?

Paul had a thorn in his flesh. Several preachers have argued it was not a disease. Various explanations are offered. But one thing is certain: the thorn was not a problem in his spirit or soul but his body— “the flesh” (2 Cor 12:7). You may call it by whatever name you want! Paul was a man of great faith and prayer. But he was not relieved of this physiological problem. People were healed by touching even his handkerchiefs (Acts 19:12). But Timothy who worked so closely with Paul was not healed of his stomach ailment (1 Tim 5:23).

Another preacher may tell you that you are not healed because of your negative confession! Please read all the so-called negative confessions of Job and see what God finally

testified about his words in sum total. The Lord said, “My servant Job has spoken of Me what is right” (Job 42:7). And God healed him! When you have pain in your arm, don’t confess, “I have no pain.” It’s a lie! That’s what a “negative” confession is. Tell God the exact truth and that’s what a father would like his child to do!

3. Ask God to cleanse you!

We cannot say every sickness is a direct result of sin in our lives. God is not the author of any sickness but He permits physical suffering into our lives to get our attention.

When Jesus healed the man who was sick for thirty-eight years, He said to him, “See, you have been made well. *Sin* no more, lest a worse thing comes upon you” (Jn 5:14). The healing promise in Exodus 15:26 was given on the condition of obedience to God’s commandments. Paul wrote about several believers who became sick or who even died because of improper participation in the Lord’s Supper (1 Cor 11:29,30). James the Apostle writes that the prayer of faith by the elders would heal the sick, and if he had committed *sins*, he would be forgiven (Js 5:15).

Open up yourself to let God search your heart, and confess to Him whatever is revealed. The Blood of Christ cleanses you instantly from all sin (1 Jn 1:7). There is no sin that is too dark and no act too bad to be forgiven (Isa 1:18). Find out if there is someone you have wronged. Get right with that person and keep your conscience clear.

There may not be a gross sin in your life but you may be deviating from His perfect path. The Psalmist said, “O Lord,

before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word... It is good for me that I have been afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes” (Psa 119:67,71). The Bible teaches, “Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but grievous; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it” (Heb 12:11).

Insufficient rest, improper food and violation of certain laws of nature are also factors causing sickness. Take remedial measures.

4. Relax into God’s hand!

Just because you are not healed yet, you don’t need to stop praying for healing or expecting a miracle. It is never too late for God to perform a miracle. God gave Abraham a baby when he was too old to have one (Gen 21:2). Jesus healed the paralytic man after 38 years of suffering (Jn 5:5,8,9). But we must learn to rest in the Lord and wait on Him patiently. He is Sovereign and He can do anything.

Apostle Paul pleaded for the removal of his physical problem but God simply promised him, “My strength will uphold you in your weakness; My grace is sufficient for you!” God knew Paul was better with the thorn than without it (2 Cor 12:7-10). Timothy had to manage his stomach problem with a regular medical treatment (1 Tim 5:23). Jesus desired the cup of suffering to be removed from Him but left it to His Father’s will (Mt 26:39).

Let us learn to thank God in “everything,” for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for us (1 Thess 5:18). For, “ALL

things (seemingly good or bad) work together for good to those who love God and who are called according to God’s purpose” (Rom 8:28) Learn to most gladly boast in your weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon you (2 Cor 12:9).

Another reason why we are let to pass through the valley of distress is that we may get a heart of compassion for the fellow sufferers and learn to comfort them. The Apostles said, “Blessed be the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God” (2 Cor 1:3,4).

Whether sick or healthy, we are jewels in the hands of God. Let’s be shining for Him through continuous worship and consistent witnessing. History is filled with examples of those who burnt and shone for God in spite of their afflictions. Missionary David Brainerd was so ill at times that you could tell where he had been riding by the blood he had spit up on the snow. The saintly Robert Murray McCheyne had a severe heart problem. Charles Spurgeon, the Prince of Preachers, had afflictions. Amy Carmichael spent nearly 38 years bedridden. David Watson, that saintly author, continued writing glorious messages even after he was diagnosed of a terminal disease. We conclude, CHRIST WILL BE MAGNIFIED IN OUR BODY, WHETHER BY LIFE OR BY DEATH! (Phil 1:20).

There’s no one in the world without sickness. Each one has some disease or weakness. Hear what Apostle Paul says

about this: “We know that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down, we will have a house in Heaven, an eternal body made for us by God Himself and not by human hands. We grow weary in our present bodies, and we long to put on our heavenly bodies like new clothing” (2 Cor 5:1,2).

Now God’s Spirit indwells us to *quicken* our mortal bodies (Rom 8:11). But when Jesus comes again, He will *transform* our bodies (Phil 3:20,21), and usher us into the Glory Land where there is no sickness, no sorrow and no tears (Rev 21:4). Until then, the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God the Father and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit will surely be with us! □

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