

THE LORD FOR THE BODY

God never goes backward. He gave this covenant of healing to His people.

Has the belief in the miracles of healing been universally abandoned by the prominent but ungrounded idea that it ceased to be at the end of the apostolic age? By no means, for we find healing in the ordinances in:

Exodus 15:25-26:

25 And he cried unto the LORD; and the LORD shewed him a Tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there He made for them a Statute and an Ordinance, and there He proved them,

26 And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the Voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in His Sight, and wilt give ear to His Commandments, and keep all His Statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD Who healeth thee.



The experience came immediately after the miraculous deliverance through the Red Sea. Due to the fact that this event foreshadows our Salvation and the wilderness journey of our pilgrimage here on earth, we conclude that:

1 Corinthians 10:11: Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

God meets His people who are redeemed at the very threshold of their pilgrimage with a covenant of healing.

This is to be provided for those who walk in holiness, purity, and obedience to the Divine Will of God.

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will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD Who healeth thee.

If they follow His commandments and statutes, He will keep them from all the sicknesses which are a type of bondage which they experienced in Egypt under the atrocious slave-masters.

We have a two-fold nature (material and spiritual) which has been affected by The Fall of Man.

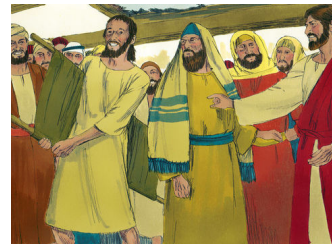
We are subject to devastating physical diseases in our body, and with a cancerous leprosy called sin in our spirit-soul.

How wonderful it is to realize that God has provided — in the death of our Jesus Christ — adequate provision for physical and spiritual restoration. This constitutes our complete redemption.

1 Peter 2:24: Who His Own Self bare our sins in His Own Body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by Whose stripes ye were healed.

Christ offers Himself to be our Saviour, and then to revive our sickly bodies by His healing virtue. ***He is waiting for our faith to claim these benefits of Calvary.***

The Lord Jesus began His ministry by healing all that came to Him for healing. *Our Lord assures us that healing is for us today*, and we find these words in His Great Commission:



Mark 16:15-18:

15 “And He [Jesus] said unto them, “Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; in My Name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly poison it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover.”

Paul informed the Galatians Church that the covenant with Abraham had not been nullified or tendered invalidated by the subsequent Law of Moses. So, the Gospel of Healing has not passed away with the consummation of the Mosaic institution under the Law. The statutes and ordinances were perpetual in their

essence and are to be observed unless the New Testament gives some authorization to revoke it. (This is not to be found).

The teachings of Christ and the Apostles give us a more comprehensive and extensive expression of the provisions found in the ancient Law of Healing. Thus, we have a distinct ordinance in:

James 5:14-16:

14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the Name of the Lord:

15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

There is nothing that has such a chastening, humbling, heart searching and sanctifying influence over our spiritual life as to live a life of dependence upon Christ for our bodily strength from day to day.

Divine healing is the impartation of new life.

Life which God supplies is far more valuable than natural strength. We find many instances of this divine life provided for in the Old Testament characters, as well as those of the New Testament.

In the Old Testament:

Here we find the healing of Abimelech, King of Gerar, which took place when Abraham prayed for him.

Genesis 20:17: So Abraham prayed unto God: and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants; and they bare children.

The record of Job's suffering gives us an idea of the cause of sickness (satan).

Job 1:9-12:

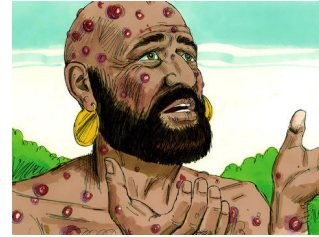
9 Then satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought?

10 Hast not Thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

11 But put forth Thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will

curse Thee to Thy face.

¹² And the LORD said unto satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So satan went forth from the Presence of the LORD.



Job 2:7: So went satan forth from the Presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.

Job had touched the plane whereon we could declare that he was a good man, a godly man, but God permitted the affliction that He might bring him into a deeper experience of humility, and to the place where God could use him even more effectively.

We can note other Scriptural references for healing in:

Psalms 6:2-3:

² Have mercy upon me, O LORD; for I am weak: O LORD, heal me; for my bones are vexed.

³ My soul is also sore vexed: but Thou, O LORD, how long?

Psalms 30:1-12:

¹ I will extol Thee, O LORD; for Thou hast lifted me up, and hast not made my foes to rejoice over me.

² O LORD my God, I cried unto Thee, and Thou hast healed me

³ O LORD, Thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: Thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit.

⁴ Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of His, and give thanks at the remembrance of His Holiness.

⁵ For His anger endureth but a moment; in His favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

⁶ And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved.

⁷ LORD, by Thy favour Thou hast made my mountain to stand strong: Thou didst hide Thy Face, and I was troubled.

⁸ I cried to Thee, O LORD; and unto the LORD I made supplication.

⁹ What profit is there in my blood, when I go down to the pit? Shall the dust praise Thee? shall it declare Thy Truth?

¹⁰ Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me: LORD, be Thou my helper.

¹¹ Thou hast turned for me my mourning into dancing: Thou hast put

off my sackcloth, and girded me with gladness;

***12 To the end that my glory may sing praise to Thee, and not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto Thee for ever.***

Psalms 23:1-6:

1 The LORD is my Shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.



3 He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His Name's sake.



4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy Rod and Thy Staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the House of the LORD for ever.

Psalms 11:1-7

1 In the LORD put I my trust: how say ye to my soul, Flee as a bird to your mountain?

2 For, lo, the wicked bend their bow, they make ready their arrow upon the string, that they may privily shoot at the upright in heart.

3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?

4 The LORD is in His Holy Temple, the LORD's Throne is in Heaven: His Eyes behold, His Eyelids try, the children of men.

5 The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence His soul hateth.

6 Upon the wicked He shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup.

7 For the righteous LORD loveth righteousness; His Countenance doth behold the upright.

Psalms 56:13: For Thou hast delivered my soul from death: wilt not Thou deliver my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the

light of the living?

Psalms 91:1-16:

1 He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say of the LORD, He is my Refuge and my Fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.

3 Surely He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

4 He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust: His Truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

5 Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

6 Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

8 Only with Thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

9 Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my Refuge, even the Most High, thy habitation;

10 There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

11 For He shall give His Angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

12 They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.

13 Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.

14 Because he hath set his love upon Me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known My Name.

15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him My Salvation.



Psalms 103:1-22:

1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name.

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits:

3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; Who healeth all thy diseases;

4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; Who crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies;

5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

6 The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.

7 He made known His ways unto Moses, His acts unto the Children of Israel

8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.

9 He will not always chide: neither will He keep His anger for ever.

10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

11 For as the Heaven is high above the earth, so great is His Mercy toward them that fear Him.

12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us.

13 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear Him.

14 For He knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are dust.

15 As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

16 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.

17 But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear Him, and His righteousness unto children's children;

18 To such as keep His Covenant, and to those that remember His Commandments to do them.

19 The LORD hath prepared His Throne in the heavens; and His Kingdom ruleth over all.

20 Bless the LORD, ye His angels, that excel in strength, that do His Commandments, hearkening unto the voice of His Word.

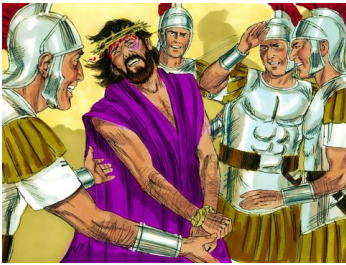


21 Bless ye the LORD, all ye His hosts; ye ministers of His, that do His pleasure.

22 Bless the LORD, all His works in all places of His dominion: bless the LORD, O my soul.

Isaiah 53:4-5:

4 Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.



5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed.

Isaiah 57:18-19:

18 I have seen his ways, and will heal him: I will lead him also, and restore comforts unto him

and to his mourners.

19 I create the fruit of the lips; Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near, saith the LORD; and I will heal him.

Malachi 4:2: But unto you that fear My Name shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in His wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

Matthew 4:2: And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He was afterward an hungred.

Matthew 8:16: When the even was come, they brought unto Him many that were possessed with devils: and He cast out the spirits with His Word, and healed all that were sick:

Mark 16:15-18:

15 And He said unto them, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In My Name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it



shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Romans 8:11: But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He Who raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you.

1 Corinthians 12:9: To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

2 Corinthians 4:10-11:

¹⁰ Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

¹¹ For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.

Hebrew 13:8: Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

James 5:14-15:

¹⁴ Is any sick among you? let him call for the Elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the Name of the Lord:

¹⁵ And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

3 John 1:2: Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

PRINCIPLES OF DIVINE HEALING

In the Word of God, we find certain prerequisites pertaining to the instructions for healing. There are causes and conditional cures which would be well to consider.

- ▶ **The causes of the diseases and suffering are distinctly traced to The Fall of Man, as the present state of man reveals.** Since sickness is a part of the curse of sin, we cannot wholly meet it by natural means. Therefore, it must have its remedy in God's Plan of Redemption.

Psalms 107:17: Fools, because of their transgression and because of their iniquities, are afflicted.

So death is passed upon all men, for the greater includes the lesser.

In **Deuteronomy**, we find that God visits sickness upon the people for their perpetual sinfulness. Job's sufferings were brought about by satanic powers. God uses this means of physical discomfort to discipline and chasten us. Since we have noted that sin is a result of The Fall, we would naturally expect adequate provision for its cure in God's Word of instruction. Throughout the Old Testament, we find this principle embracing both the temporal and physical needs, as found in the ordinances of Moses, e.g. Abimelech, Miriam, and the Leper.

God uses this means of physical discomfort to discipline and chasten us.

Abimelech

Genesis 20:3-7:

³ But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, Behold, thou art but a dead man, for the woman which thou hast taken; for she is a man's wife.

⁴ But Abimelech had not come near her: and he said, Lord, wilt Thou slay also a righteous nation?

⁵ Said he not unto me, She is my sister? and she, even she herself said, He is my brother: in the integrity of my heart and innocency of my hands have I done this.

⁶ And God said unto him in a dream, Yea, I know that thou didst this in the integrity of thy heart; for I also withheld thee from sinning against Me: therefore suffered I thee not to touch her.

⁷ Now therefore restore the man his wife; for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore her not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that are thine.

Miriam



Numbers 12:10-14:

¹⁰ And the cloud departed from off the Tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous.

¹¹ And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein

we have done foolishly, and wherein we have sinned.

¹² Let her not be as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he cometh out of his mother's womb.

¹³ And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee.

¹⁴ And the LORD said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again.

Deuteronomy 24:9: Remember what the LORD thy God did unto Miriam by the way, after that ye were come forth out of Egypt.

The Leper

2 Kings 5:25-27:

²⁵ But he went in, and stood before his master. And Elisha said unto him, Whence comest thou, Gehazi? And he said, Thy servant went no whither.

²⁶ And he said unto him, Went not mine heart with thee, when the man turned again from his chariot to meet thee? Is it a time to receive money, and to receive garments, and oliveyards, and vineyards, and sheep, and oxen, and menservants, and maidservants?

²⁷ The leprosy therefore of Naaman shall cleave unto thee, and unto thy seed for ever. And he went out from his presence a leper as white as snow.

- ▶ **The most progressive stage of development in healing is found in the atoning work of Christ and in His earthly ministry.** We read that He went about healing all manner of sickness and diseases.

Christ destroyed the root of physical infirmity, for on the Cross He destroyed sin.

1 Peter 2:24: Who His Own Self bare our sins in His Own Body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by Whose stripes ye were healed.

- ▶ **To maintain physical health as well as spiritual health, we must be in constant contact with the Source of our supply.** This means a daily refilling and strengthening which causes us to be ever dependent upon Him.

Romans 8:11: But if the Spirit of Him who raised up Jesus Christ from the dead, dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead

shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you.

- ▶ **This Divine provision is conditioned on faith and not on works or respect of persons, but is within the reach of all who implicitly trust in Him.** In **Genesis 17**, God told Abraham that *“Thou shalt be a father of many nations”*. Abraham was obliged to believe in God even though everything in the natural would indicate an impossibility. He did not flinch nor waver, but was *“fully persuaded that He who had promised was abundantly able to perform.”* The more impossible the natural circumstances seemed, the more he looked to God, and the stronger his faith became.
- ▶ **There are certain fixed principles regulating the authorization of the Divine Healing of disease.** The only way one can be healed is by meeting God’s first requirement which is salvation. God cannot heal the physical until the spirit has been quickened and made alive for the reanimating power of the Spirit in Conversion.

There are cases where healing is gradual, as is represented in the blade, then the ear, and finally the full ear of corn. Healing can also be proportioned to our spiritual growth. There are some cases where God works rapidly; but in all cases, He knows the best order and process which is best suited to that particular individual.

- ▶ **We must note that there are limitations to these principles.** God has promised us fullness of life and health up to the end of our natural life, and to go beyond God’s provision is basing our faith on mere presumption, and not on the Word of God. As long as our natural life shall last, He has promised to protect and strengthen us while we abide in Him.

Since man cannot — in the present constitution of his mind — accept religion as divine unless it is accompanied with miracles, God has let each generation know that we have a Living Christ. Thus, our humble testimonies of miraculous answers to prayer can still close the mouths of persistent agnostics. This demand of the mind for miracles as a testimony of the Divine Presence and power is intuitive with all men.

Those very individuals who have doubted the existence of God or the necessity for miracles — should they examine their own convictions on this subject — would see that by an absolute necessity miracles must be performed to attest to the integrity of the claims of any worthy religion.

Men can produce doubt of a given revelation, but in no way can he accomplish this until he has destroyed the evidence of its miracles; nor can faith be produced in the divine origin of a religion until the evidence of miracles is supplied.

Psalms 34:19: Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of them all;

Hebrews 13:8: Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever.

God has provided the world with medical technicians, for there are many who do not have the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ in their hearts, and there are those whose faith has not been sufficiently fed on the Word of God to claim healing. If this provision had not been considered in God's foreknowledge, we would not have the many fundamental forms of plant life used in medicines as well as in mineral products. So let us not think that God does not prescribe medicine, but that He has a far better way to deliver us from physical infirmity, and that is thru the Atonement of our Saviour.



All the provisions of Grace are ours by faith, but not by our own works, as some believe. God desires that we have the kind of faith in which will humbly, but firmly claim healing which is part of His covenant pledge to us as our inheritance and redemption right. Surely, there is nothing too hard or difficult for our Lord. The kind of faith that takes Christ's promises of Healing solemnly, definitely, and irrevocably is not an experiment, but a reality and a trust!

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