

A Deeper Look at Healing (Fall 2023)

Week 9 – Walking in Health

Spiritual (Doctrinal & Belief) Aspects

We have seen from scripture that divine healing is God's promise for the believer, but if we dig in deeper, we see that Scripture also teaches that God does not intend for His children to be sick at all.

There was no sickness before the fall of man. Adam and Eve experienced divine health in the Garden of Eden before their fall. Sickness came in as a result of sin. Our redemption is not only from sin, but also from sickness – part of the curse that followed sin.

There is no sickness in heaven. Jesus taught us to pray, “Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.” Did He really mean this? Is this an unanswerable prayer?

During the time between the fall of man to our entrance into heaven, we are to enforce the will of God. How can we do this if we don't know His will or believe in it?

Gordon Lindsay from his book, *The Bible Secret to Divine Health*:

Having more than thirty years of experience in divine healing ministry, I have observed one circumstance which I believe is the main hindrance to receiving permanent deliverance from sickness. Christians, even those who believe in divine healing, tend to accept occasional sickness and getting healed as normal—as God's order for life. But it has been made clear in the Word of God that it is not divine healing but divine health which is God's intended plan for His children.

A careful study of both the Old and New Testaments reveals that divine healing is more or less an emergency measure provided by the Lord for believers when they, through neglect of health laws or for some other reason, become ill. In this case, deliverance may be obtained from the Great Physician. But repeated illnesses should NOT be the norm for the New Testament believer. Divine health is God's plan; healing is God's second best for His people.

As long as we think sickness is inevitable, it will continue to harass us unless we take dominion and refuse to tolerate it. We must recognize sickness as a curse, the work of Satan, and something to be banished from our lives, or we will succumb to it.

Kenneth Hagin – Spoken to him in a vision.

It is the Lord's will that His people are never sick nor have accidents. But very few people ever live in this best. Below are some reasons why in the order of occurrence.

1. Most of them don't know what belongs to them.
2. Many are weak in faith even if they do know what belongs to them.
3. Some of them are in disobedience.

Gloria Copeland

If you do what's right in the natural, and you do what is right in the supernatural, you can live in divine health.

Cal Pierce (Healing Rooms, Spokane)

He is another voice confirming what the Lord is saying to the Body – that He not only wants us healed; He wants us to walk in health. The price He paid covers it all.

The healing movement must begin to address God's purpose to heal His body. We receive our healing so that we are no longer sick. We don't receive our healing so that we can just get sick again. This creates a revolving door that we get caught up in. We get healed then get sick only to get healed again.

Barry Bennet (Charis Bible College, Andrew Wommack's' School)

Healing is an ongoing decision to walk in health and enforce Christ's victory. It is just like walking free from sin. Just because you go without sin for one day doesn't mean you won't be tempted tomorrow. Just because you got healed at some point doesn't mean you won't have to deal with symptoms ever again. Walking in health can require persistence and a firm stand on the Word of God and His promises. We must establish who is in charge of our bodies, the Word or the symptoms?

Greg Fritz – Healing Belongs to You

If the devil can get you to believe you ought to be sick, then he has already won the battle. If there is any idea or notion in your mind that this is the way it is, that everyone needs to be sick from time to time, that sickness is part of growing older, that you have to be sick to die, these thoughts will allow sickness and disease to have a place in your life.

You have to resist sickness and disease to walk in the healing and health God has purchased at great price. Healing belongs to you. Jesus paid the price that you might be whole. You have to know this in order to resist effectively. But knowing is just the beginning. You will have to resist the devil and his sickness; don't co-exist with it. Declare war on sickness and disease. It is never going to go away if we don't resist it. Don't put up with or tolerate sickness or disease.

People tolerate sickness because they have believed the lie that everyone has to get sick from time to time. Why do we accept this? This may be reality in the world, but it isn't a scriptural reality, and it shouldn't be the reality in the church. God wants to turn this trend around.

Covenant of Health

The first thing God did after redeeming Israel was give them the covenant of health. It was a promise that none of the diseases which had come upon the Egyptians would come upon the Israelites if they were obedient to the Lord.

Exodus 15:26 – Saying, if you will **diligently hearken** to the voice of the Lord your God and will do what is right in His sight and will listen to and obey His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases upon you which I brought upon the Egyptians, for I am the Lord Who heals you (Jehovah Rapha).

Rapha – Heal, physician, cure, repaired, mend by stitching, make thoroughly whole.

Vines – Restoring to normal, an act which God typically performs.

Exodus 23:24-26 – You shall not bow down to their gods or serve them or do after their works; but you shall **utterly overthrow them** and break down their pillars and images. You shall serve

the Lord your God; He shall bless your bread and water, and **I will take sickness from your midst**. None shall lose her young by miscarriage or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days.

The Lord here pictures His people settled in the land, serving Him with His blessing upon their bread and upon their water, free from the curse of sickness and disease that they had known in Egypt.

The Lord repeats this promise for the third time in Deuteronomy.

Deuteronomy 7:14-15 – You shall be blessed above all peoples; there will be no male or female barren among you or among your cattle. The Lord will **remove from you ALL sickness**; and He will not put on you ANY of the harmful diseases of Egypt which you have known, but He will lay them on all who hate you.

The Healing Covenant is Conditional

Though healing is part of our redemption in Christ, it is conditional. In the Old Testament, it is connected to obedience to the law, but in the New Testament it is connected to what Jesus did, our faith, and our prosperity of soul (renewed mind).

With every divine promise, there are conditions. The covenant of healing given in Exodus 15 is conditional.

- Listen carefully to the voice of the Lord.
- Do what is right in His eyes.
- Pay attention to His commandments
- Keep all His decrees

Unfortunately, many seek healing on their own terms rather than God's. This is a great mistake!

Deuteronomy 28:1-2, 15 – If you will listen diligently to the voice of the Lord your God, being watchful to do all His commandments which I command you this day, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you if you heed the voice of the Lord your God. ...But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord your God, being watchful to do all His commandments and His statutes which I command you this day, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you:

In Deuteronomy 28, God lists various diseases that will come upon the Israelites if they do not obey the voice of the Lord.

- Blindness (vs. 28)
- Boils (vs. 27)
- Consumption (vs. 22)
- Tumors (vs. 27)
- Severe burning fever (vs. 22)
- Fever (vs. 22)
- Inflammation (vs. 22)
- Itch (vs. 27)
- Madness (vs. 28)
- Scab (vs. 27)
- Plague (vs. 24)
- Confusion of heart (vs. 28)

V. 60-61 – Moreover, He will bring back on you all the diseases of Egypt, of which you were afraid, and they shall cling to you. Also, every sickness and every plague, which is not written in the book of this law, will the Lord bring upon you until you are destroyed.

Sickness is not always an indication of disobedience on the part of the believer. In some cases, heredity can be the cause of a predisposition to a certain disease. Failure to properly care for the body may indicate a violation of the physical, rather than of the moral law.

In the New Testament, we see we are redeemed from the curse and are to live in the blessing not by works or perfect obedience but by faith. (Galatians 3:13-14). But we will have to FIGHT the fight of faith in order to lay hold and keep hold of what He has provided. (1 Timothy 6:12).

If we look at the ministry of Jesus, we see that in most cases people received **healing** from God regardless of lifestyle or whatever else was going on in their lives. He doesn't mention any hindrance other than lack of faith, unbelief or tradition.

He gave no limits in His commission to the church on who to lay hands on and heal. He said, 'lay hands on the sick and they will recover' with no other instructions on anyone to exclude.

Healing is for all. Health is for all. We can all be healed, but in order to consistently walk in **health**, there are things we may have to be adjusted not only in our belief systems but in our lifestyle. We will cover these in the weeks to come.

Divine health is clearly God's plan. It is not His will for people to deteriorate mentally or become physically incapacitated as they grow older. It is not God's will for His people to be sick, weak, or infirm in any way. Jesus Himself bore our sickness, disease, and infirmities.

Most Christians suffer physical and mental impairment later in life. But it is certainly God's will that we retain our faculties throughout life. Although we may lose some of the resilience and appearance of youth, it is not God's plan that we decline physically and mentally and withdraw from life just at the point when our wisdom has matured, and we have so much to offer the world around us.

Activations

1. Spend time with the Lord in prayer and fellowship. Go through and meditate on these verses showing that Divine Health is part of God's plan for you.
2. See yourself healthy and strong and doing the things you desire to do. Don't see yourself sick and infirm, limited and a victim of sickness.
3. Stop thinking that being sick is normal and that there is nothing you can do about it.
4. Take little steps daily in acting healthy and whole.
5. Speak to yourself, declare the Word of God concerning health over yourself.

If you go over these things and do the activations every week, your life will begin to be transformed. If you continue even after this class, you can grow to the place where health is more normal to you than sickness, weakness, and disease.