

Foundations of Healing

Lesson 1: God's Will for Health

A. How can we know and be sure of the will of God with regards to sickness?

1. What God says about sickness

i. Not part of His design

Romans 5:12 NKJV "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned—"

Romans 5:17 NKJV "For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ."

ii. Oppression by the devil

Acts 10:38 NKJV "how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."

1 John 3:8 NKJV "...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."

Hebrews 2:14 NKJV "Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,"

John 10:10 NKJV "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

Life with devil = stealing, killing, destruction vs. Life with Jesus = abundant life (exceeding abundantly above, more abundantly, very highly, beyond measure)

ii. Bondage

Luke 13:10-16

Luke 13:16 NKJV "So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound—think of it—for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?"

iii. A Curse

Deuteronomy 28:15 NKJV “However, if you do not obey the LORD your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come on you and overtake you:”

Deuteronomy 28:58-61 NKJV “If you do not carefully observe all the words of this law that are written in this book, that you may fear this glorious and awesome name, THE LORD YOUR GOD, then the Lord will bring upon you and your descendants extraordinary plagues—great and prolonged plagues—and serious and prolonged sicknesses. 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 this Book of the Law, will the Lord bring upon you until you are destroyed.”

Galatians 3:13 NKJV “ Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”)”

Sickness is always listed as a curse, not a blessing. That has not changed under our New Covenant of grace.

iv. Compares it to evil and killing

Mark 3:1-4 NKJV “And He entered the synagogue again, and a man was there who had a withered hand. So they watched Him closely, whether He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse Him. And He said to the man who had the withered hand, “Step forward.” Then He said to them, “Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?” But they kept silent.”

2. Jesus’ actions and attitude towards sickness

i. The perfect representation of the will of God

Hebrews 1:1-3 NKJV “God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,”

John 14:7-9 NKJV “If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.” Philip said to Him,

“Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

Colossians 1:15 NKJV “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.”

Mark 1:40-42 NKJV “Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, “If You are willing, You can make me clean.” Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, “I am willing; be cleansed.” As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed.”

ii. Wherever He went, healing followed

*Luke 5:17 NKJV “Now it happened on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was **present** to heal them.”*

Luke 5:17 YLT “And it came to pass, on one of the days, that he was teaching, and there were sitting by Pharisees and teachers of the Law, who were come out of every village of Galilee, and Judea, and Jerusalem, and the power of the Lord was -- to heal them.”

The power of the Lord wasn't just present this one time in this one moment to heal. The power of the Lord was... to heal them! The purpose of the power of the Lord is the same today as it was then, to bring healing.

B. God didn't just desire for our spirits to be changed, but our whole person.

1. We are a 3 part being: Spirit, Soul and Body

1 Thessalonians 5:23 NKJV “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

God's desire is to meet the needs of every part of us and for our WHOLE PERSON to be in health.

2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

Romans 12:2 NKJV “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

2. The condition of our health is influenced by the prosperity in our soul

3 John 2 NKJV “Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.”

Proverbs 17:22 NKJV “A merry heart does good, like medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones.”

Proverbs 14:30 NIV “A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones.”

3. Our health directly correlates to our being in God’s word

*Proverbs 4:20-22 NIV “My son, pay attention to what I say; turn your ear to my words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; for they are life to those who find them and **health** to one’s whole body.”*

health = marpe in Hebrew, which is the verb from the noun rapha meaning cure, cause to heal, physician, repair, thoroughly, make whole

Psalm 107:20 NKJV “He sent His word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions.”

Psalm 34:18 NIV “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”

Exodus 23:25 NKJV “So you shall serve the Lord your God, and He will bless your bread and your water. And I will take sickness away from the midst of you.”