

Dear fellow-believer,

You don't need to be a superstar Christian to heal the sick!

It is the right and privilege of every believer. If we are to disciple nations, then we need the whole body to be doing their job.

This Divine Healing Workbook is not for entertainment purposes, but for you to get equipped to bring Gods healing power to the sick, hurting and dying on the streets, in your home and workplace.

This workbook is primarily based on material from "Administering the children's bread" written by Cornel Marais & Simon Wilson, teachings from Curry Blake on Divine healing and insights the Lord has shown me from His Word.

The issue of physical/emotional healing in the church today is one of the most hotly debated and misunderstood things in the Christian life.

Above all things, especially when reading the Bible and dealing with people who are in opposition to the issue, we always bring it back to Jesus. He is the expressed perfect will of God and perfectly modelled God's character, His nature, His will, and His desires towards mankind on earth (Heb. 1:1-3, Col. 1:15).

In handling any subject and question we must agree and stand on the fact that 1) The Bible is the ultimate rule for faith and action and that 2) Jesus is perfect theology.

Grace and peace,

Bas Rijksen

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1. The Word of God is our final authority

It doesn't matter what denominational background you have or what you have been taught in the past because the Word of God is our ultimate guide and rule for faith and action (technically the Word is Jesus, not just the Bible). If it isn't in the Word, it is God's opinion and you are in His Kingdom, He is not in yours. You don't get to vote on how things operate in His Kingdom, but you do get a choice of whether you want to submit to Him and His Kingdom or not. You might not like the price of petrol, but try putting water in your tank and see how that works out for you. This workbook is going to help you draw the connections in the Word to teach you divine healing. What we are going to show you is taken directly from the Bible. That is where we start, that is where we finish. The Bible doesn't have a book called 2nd opinions. We are only interested in God's opinion, not man's.

Ps. 119:89 *FOREVER, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven.*

- God's Word is settled forever. It is NOT going to change. If something changes, it's us.
- The Word of God is unchanging, unmoving. What it says today, it will say 100 years from now. It worked 2000 years ago, it works today. It never fails.
- You are not going to get God to change His mind to agree with you. You must change your mind to agree with Him. If you don't, it's not really His fault if something goes wrong (Matt. 15:6). "Settled" means: if it's not in the Bible, you should not do it or say it.
- If you jump off a building, gravity will kill you because you chose to go against a principle of how the natural realm operates. It's not God's fault you died. You jumped. If you were submitted to His ways, you would have realized jumping off a building is a dumb idea.
- God's Word is settled forever in heaven. It is our job to settle it on earth. He has empowered us to do exactly that. The first step to settling His Word on earth is to agree with it no matter what. Sickness is defeated. We have victory over sickness in Christ. As a soldier we enforce the victory Jesus has already won.
- The Word is our final authority. Our experiences must be judged by Scripture not Scripture judged by experiences.
- You have to decide what is true, the Word of God, or your experience, feelings, perspective, opinion or emotions (whose report will you believe?). Will you esteem His Word higher than your experience and opinion? If not, don't expect supernatural results.

2 Peter 1:17-19 *For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. 18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount. 19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy (KJV).*

- Peter, John and James heard God speak audibly twice (baptism, mount of transfiguration).
- Peter still says that the written word is more sure than a voice speaking from heaven!
- Many people have heard voices (Gal. 1:8) and will in the future hear them too.
- Any voice you hear or any leading you receive has to line up with Scripture. Therefore Scripture is a higher authority than any audible voice (or vision or any mystical experience)

John 17:17 *Your word is truth.*

Psalms 119:160 *The entirety of Your word is truth.*

- Anything violating the Word is false.
- If it's not in the Bible, you should not do it. It won't bear fruit.

- God says what He means, and means what He says. E.g. *Believers lay hands on the sick and they SHALL (not maybe) recover* (Mark 16:18). *And the prayer of faith WILL (not maybe) heal the sick* (James 5:15).
- The Bible contains an absolute standard of truth that is always right. *Absolute* refers to an ultimate standard, one that is perfect and complete. Absolutes are unbending, inflexible. Many Christians dislike the absolutes of the Bible (wanting it their way, not Gods way). For example when it says, “whoever, whatever, anything, all, every, nothing, always.”

Psalm 138:2 *I will worship toward Your holy temple, And praise Your name For Your loving kindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.*

- God has forever connected His keeping His Word with His Name.
- Once we accept the Word of God as our final authority, we must begin to retrain our mind to think in line with God’s will.
- A “Will” reveals the nature and intentions of the person who wrote it. The Bible is the revealed will of God. Everything that we need to know about how to live the way God wants us to is revealed through Jesus. Knowing your rights (what Jesus died to give you) as a son of God and finding your identity in Him, is what will result in you living a life of faith and power.
- God cannot require you to do what you cannot do.
- God cannot hold you responsible for what you cannot know.
- The sovereignty of God is not the fickleness of God. The sovereignty of God cannot mean that He has the right to pick and choose whom He will keep His word to. If that were true, we could never pray the prayer of faith as commanded in James 5:14-16. You cannot have faith any further than your knowledge of what the will of God is.

Romans 12:1-2 *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 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.*

- Transformation is linked with mind renewal. Your life is transformed to the degree that your mind is renewed. Think differently (that is also the real definition of repentance).
- Why? To PROVE Gods will, not merely talk about it. Note that you cannot prove Gods will until your mind is renewed by the Word of God.
- You have to renew your own mind by the Word of God. God gives revelation but you have to use it. You renew your mind by changing the way you think about things, until every thought agrees with what the Bible says about it. You’ll think like Christ, talk like Christ, act like Christ. His will doesn’t happen automatically. God put you here to do it for Him.
- When we are born into the Kingdom of God, we are born into the royal family, all rights of royalty are already there. Yet still we do not exercise our rights to dominion in every possible area because of our limited understanding of those rights. As we learn of our rights and responsibilities as children of God, (by having our minds renewed to line up with the Word of God) we begin to look more and more like our elder brother Jesus.
- This “renewing” is what allows what is inside us to come out. To fully allow the “real” you to come forth, you must know what the Word of God has to say about every subject AND you must begin to ACT on every scripture that you learn.
- What really counts is not how much of God's Word you go through but how much of God's Word goes through you. When you change, people around you change.

2. Old Covenant versus New Covenant

2 Tim. 2:15 *Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

- The whole Bible was written *for* you, but not written *to* you.
- You have to rightly divide the Word of truth (The Scriptures) to find out which are applicable to you and which are not.
- The most important aspect to divide between, is the Old Covenant and the New Covenant. Law versus Grace. This is not to be confused with the Old Testament and New Testament which are merely a collection of books written before and after a significant point in time.
- Covenant governs relationship. The covenant you are under determines how God relates to you and how you relate to God. An understanding of the two Covenants is very important!

Heb. 8:6-13 *But now He has obtained a **more excellent ministry**, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a **better covenant**, which was established on **better promises**...⁸ He says: “Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a **new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah...¹² For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and **their sins and their lawless deed I will remember no more.**” ¹³ In that He says, “**A new covenant,**” **He has made the first obsolete.***

- Covenant determines how God relates to people.
- The Old (Law) Covenant: God had to deal with man based upon how a just and holy God had to deal with fallen man whose sins were not deal with. Man was allowed a connection with God by having his sins atoned (covered). But God could not deal with sinful man the way He wanted to because man’s sins separated him from God.
- The New (Grace) Covenant: God relates to people through Jesus, reconciling them to Himself and no longer relating to them through the Law since Jesus fulfilled the requirements of the law on behalf of the people.
- Example: a policeman will arrest a criminal and treat him like a criminal, but once the person is cleared of accusation or if they serve their time, the policeman must treat the person like any other citizen. God had to treat men like the sinner they were, but when Jesus came, He could treat them like they were innocent because Jesus was there to bear the penalty for their sins.

Heb. 7:18-19 *The former regulation is set aside because it was **weak and useless** ¹⁹ (for the law made nothing perfect), and a **better hope** is introduced, by which we draw near to God. (NIV)*

- The Law Covenant was weak and useless in providing people with right-standing before God because nobody could ever keep it perfectly (Gal. 3:10, James 2:10, James 4:17).
- The better hope by which we draw near to God is not our own righteousness or holiness, but through Jesus Christ’s free gift of righteousness (Eph. 2:8-9, Rom. 3:20-26).
- Because of this Jesus qualifies you to do the same works and greater because you have the same right-standing before God as Jesus has (John 14:12).

Gal. 3:11-14 *But that **no one is justified by the law** in the sight of God is evident, for “the just shall live by faith.” ¹² Yet **the law is not of faith**, but “the man who does them shall live by them.” ¹³ Christ has redeemed us from the **curse of the law**, having become a curse for us.*

- NO ONE is justified by the law. No one can please God by keeping the law and living holy.
- Righteousness (right standing before God) is attained by faith in Christ only.

- The Law is not of faith which makes relating to God through it not pleasing to Him.
- Jesus became a curse for us, removing the right of the curse of the Law to come on us (this doesn't mean the curse doesn't exist).
- Living under the Law, trying to be justified by your own efforts to live holy and pleasing to God is a curse! No good will come from it.

2 Cor. 3:4-9 *Such confidence we have through Christ before God. 5 Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but **our competence comes from God**. 6 He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant - not of the letter but of the Spirit; for **the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life**. 7 Now if the **ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone**, came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory, transitory though it was, 8 will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious? 9 If **the ministry that brought condemnation** was glorious, how much more glorious **is the ministry that brings righteousness!** (NIV)*

- Law Covenant: Ministry of DEATH and CONDEMNATION
- Engraved on stone: 10 commandments
- Grace Covenant: Ministry of LIFE and the SPIRIT
- Engraved on our hearts

Rom. 8:1 *There is therefore now **no condemnation** to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.*

- The underlined part does actually not appear in the original Greek text. It was added by the translators, trying to place a conditional on “no condemnation.”
- You will feel condemned whenever you try to live under the law. That is the purpose of ministry of death and condemnation.
- Walking in the flesh refers to your own self-efforts (self-righteousness) to please God (law)
- Walking in the Spirit means trusting in Christ for your sufficiency (Grace through faith).

Matt. 9:16-17 *No one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; for the patch pulls away from the garment, and the tear is made worse. 17 Nor do they put new wine into old wineskins, or else the wineskins break, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But they put new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.*

- We are not to mix the Old and New Covenants. Mixing them will never work. You have to decide which one is better, which one you want, and live according to it.
- **Jesus + anything = nothing. Jesus + nothing = everything.**
- Under the Old Covenant, God dealt with people as a righteous just God **had to**. Under the New Covenant, He treats them like He **wants to**: with love, kindness, favour, joy, etc.
- Under the Old Covenant, your right-standing before God was determined by your ability to live righteously. Under the New, your right-standing before God is Jesus.

Why do I need to know this?

- Otherwise you will believe God is the problem, causing or allowing sickness as judgment and punishment.
- You'll always wonder about God's will and never truly be able to be in faith as long as you are not sure, you will always be on a rollercoaster of faith and unbelief.
- You will be problem-focused instead of solution-focused.
- You will judge people instead of ministering to them. You will minister condemnation and guilt (cause confusion) which leads nowhere good.
- You will become purely works-based, prescribing things the person needs to live up to before God will move on their behalf.

The evidence of an Old Covenant Mindset

- Trying to be loved, accepted, righteous, holy, clean, Christlike, perfect, spiritual, worthy.
- Looking for God to speak to them through another person.
- Believes God is removed from us. Always trying to “get closer” to Him.
- Believes that God is out there somewhere - we have to “seek Him.”
- Believes that God is an angry God ready to punish us the moment we mess up.
- Believes that God is ready to withdraw His help (“lifts His grace”) - He stands off from us.
- Afraid to do anything without an express leading to do so. Want to be told what to do, when to do it and how to do it (you want God to speak to you directly many times and in different ways before you will be moved to do His will).
- Makes up excuses why the sick aren’t healed, why Gods Word doesn’t work (which are accusations against God), therefore making God out to be a lair! Hides behind a wall of excuses, saying things like: not Gods will, not Gods timing, God is teaching something, healing has passed away, unconfessed sin, to little faith, unforgiveness, Paul’s thorn, Jobs suffering, Timothy’s stomach, Trophimus left sick, Jesus couldn’t heal in place of unbelief, man born blind for Gods glory, don’t have the gift of healing...
- Believes there are hindrances or barriers to heal the sick. Searching for “roots,” digs up the past. Therefore, act as judges instead of deliverers!
- Believes there are pre-conditions that need to be met before you can heal or receive healing. E.g. clean up the soul (confession, forgiveness), go through certain steps, soaking prayer, creating atmosphere, contending for “breakthrough” through prayer and fasting, “breaking ground” to have anointing or healing power fall from above.
- Doesn’t take Jesus as their only example, but Job, Esther, David, Moses, Paul, the disciples.
- Is always emphasising what you can’t do, what you don’t have and what you need.
- Lack mentality: we don’t have enough, and we can only get it when we are ready.
- Trying to get something from God; asking God to give what He’s already provided (anointing, favor, approval, forgiveness, faith, patience, love, humility, power, wisdom, healing, victory, obedience, protection, deliverance, prosperity, revival, open heaven).
- Trying to earn or deserve Gods blessings rather than believe that everything is already provided for by grace.
- Trying to motivate God to move; asking God to do what He told you to do (preach, heal, cleanse, deliver, cast out, raise the dead).
- Believes is not qualified and/or ready to heal and deliver people (need more seminars, sermons, books, healing, faith, before you actually do what Jesus commanded you to do).
- Waits for a “license of healing” to be granted, downloaded, or passed on from others.
- Confesses, “Without Jesus I can’t do anything.”
- Prays “If it be Your will.”
- Talks to God about their mountain (problem).
- Talks about being hungry and thirsty.
- Looks for a the secret key (or any key for that matter) for a healing ministry/more power.
- Talks about formula’s and methods as the way to gain spirituality, authority and power.
- Talks about “special” anointing, mantles, glory and power that goes around Christ.
- Chasing impartations from the “anointed” man of woman of God.

Please note: the Old Covenant Mindset will emphatically state that everything is by grace but their actions will prove that they believe everything is by works. Often what you hear from the pulpit sounds right, but actually smells like “flesh” (self-righteousness). It offers you the a carrot on a stick, and leaves you thinking “I don’t have enough, I am not qualified enough, I need to get more of this and that, I need to change more, I need to be a better Christian.” These are all lies, sponsored by Satan, the Lair, who keeps telling you “try harder, do more.”

3. Divine healing and the will of God

→ **Healing is always Gods will, 100%, all the time because God used to heal the sick and He is an unchangeable God**

Exodus 15:26 “If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For **I am the Lord who heals you.**”

Exodus 23:25 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.**

Ps. 103:3 Who forgives all your iniquities, **Who heals all your diseases.**

Ps. 107:20 He sent His word and **healed them**, and delivered them from their destructions.

- God continually reveals Himself in the Old Testament as Jehovah Rapha - the Healer and encourages the people to expect healing (Dt. 7:15, Ps 30:20, Ps 91:9-10, Ps 107:19-20, Prov 4:20-23, 2 Chr 30:20, Isa 53:4-5, Isa 58:6-11, Jer 17:1,4 Jer 30:17,Ez 34:4, Mal 4:2-3).
- In the New Testament times, God was man’s Healer through the Lord Jesus Christ, God in the flesh. Christ preached and healed publicly (Mat. 9:35). Then God gave power to His disciples to heal the sick. They, like Jesus, also held preaching and healing campaigns.
- God NEVER changes (Mal. 3:6, Heb. 13:8, Js. 1:17) therefore God not only *used to be* the Lord who heals you, but He IS still Jehovah Rapha - the Lord our Healer.

→ **Healing is always Gods will, 100%, all the time because Christ died to atone for our sicknesses as well as for our sins**

Is. 53:4-5 Surely He [Christ] has **borne our griefs** [kholee, sickness] **and carried our sorrows** [makob, pains]; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and **by His stripes** [bruise] **we are healed.**

- This is a prophecy about Jesus’ crucifixion and what is going to take place there.
- *Kholee* (sickness) is from *chalah*, to be weak, sick, or afflicted. *Makob* is translated “pain.”
- Then Isaiah 53:4 should read, “Surely Christ has borne our sickness, and carried our pains.
- “Borne” (*nasa*) and “carried” (*sabal*). The Hebrew verb *nasa* means to bear in the sense of “suffering punishment for something.” Is. 53:12, “*And He was numbered with the transgressors; and He bare [nasa] the sin of many.*” How did Christ bear our sins? As our Substitute. Therefore, Christ bore our sickness in the very same way that He bore our sins!
- The Hebrew verb *sabal* (carried) also means “to bear something as a penalty or chastisement.” Is. 53:11, “*He shall see of the travail of His sould and shall be satisfied...for He shall bear [sabal] their iniquities.*” How did Christ bear our iniquities? As our Substitute. Then He bore or carried our pains in the very same way.
- Jesus paid the price for both sin and healing (of sickness, infirmity, affliction, pain, sorrow).

Matt. 8:16-17 When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And **He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, 17 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: “He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses.”**

- Matthew gives a commentary on Isaiah’s prophecy and uses the proper meaning of the words by saying, “He took our infirmities and bore our sickness.” Indeed, study reveals they were always speaking of physical healing. If Jesus bore our sickness, we don’t have to.

- Jesus healed physical people of physical sicknesses and cast out actual demons in order to fulfill this prophesy. But the actual fulfilment is not only in the healing and the casting out, it's in the receiving the stripes which happened later.

1 Peter 2:24 *Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness - by whose stripes [bruise] you were healed.*

- “Healed” is *iaomai*, a verb that always speaks of physical healing the New Testament (used 28 times in the NT, and always in connection with physical healing, not spiritual healing).
- Both Isaiah and Peter use the singular word “bruise” or “stripe” (*molopi*) and not “bruises” or “stripes.” Why? The use of dative singular here, *molopi*, tells us that Jesus’ back had been so terribly scourged that not one blow could possibly be distinguished from the other. Every spot on His back was so bruised and lacerated that it was just like one great bruise.
- By His stripes (bruise) you WERE healed. This has changed from present tense (you are healed) to past tense (you were healed) signifying that the provision has been made. There is nothing left to do to provide for healing. Jesus did it all perfectly. It is FINISHED!
- Jesus redeemed both our bodies and spirits by His blood. The price has been paid.

There are two parts to the atonement:

1. The beating at the whipping post was the first part where Jesus physical body was broken for us, providing us with *physical healing* (1 Pet. 2:24). Bread of Communion.
2. The death on the cross was the second part which provided for the *salvation of our spirits* and establishments of the New Covenant (Rom. 5:8). Wine of Communion.

Gal. 3:13 *Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us.*

- Paul teaches this same great truth, that Christ died for our sicknesses as well as for our sins.
- “Redeem” (*exagorazo*): “to purchase or redeem out from or away from.” “Curse” (*katara*).
- Under the Old Covenant you see examples of people dying from sickness sent by God because God related to mankind through the law which had curses for disobedience. In Deut. 28: 15-47 you find that every kind of sickness and disease is included in the curse of the law. Since sickness was one of the curse (*katara*) of the law, and Christ died to redeem us from the curse (*katara*) of the law, by becoming a curse (*katara*) for us; therefore, according to Paul’s teaching, bodily healing is in the Atonement.
- Under the New Covenant, sickness never originates from God and He never causes or allows sickness for any reason or season.

Ex. 12:7-13 *And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. 8 Then they shall eat the flesh on that night; roasted in fire, with unleavened bread and with bitter herbs they shall eat it. 13 Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.*

Ps. 105:37 *He also brought them out with silver and gold, and there was none feeble among His tribes.*

- The blood, then, was to be sprinkled on the door posts to save them from the wrath of God (forgiveness of sins). But the flesh of that first Passover lamb was to be eaten for their physical benefits (healing).
- “For even Christ our Passover is scarified for us”(1 Cor. 5:7). The Passover lamb was a type of the crucified Christ, the Lamb of God. Since Christ is our Passover Lamb, we must conclude: 1) That His blood - like the blood of the Passover lamb - was shed to save us

- from Gods wrath; and 2) that His flesh - like the flesh of the first Passover lamb - was broken for our physical benefits, or as Peter puts it, *by the bruise of whom you were healed*.
- They got saved out of Egypt the day after the took Passover. It's a shadow pointing towards Jesus' atonement. He set them free, made them prosperous and healed them.

Mark 2:5-12 *When Jesus saw their faith (four men), He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you" ...9 Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'? 10 But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" - He said to the paralytic, 11 "I say to you, **arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.**"12 Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God.*

- Jesus treated sin and sickness the same way: He removed them! Healing and forgiveness are the same thing to Jesus because they were provided in the same atonement.
- Healing is to serve as a sign that God forgives.
- If Gods will for healing and salvation were different, healing couldn't be used as a sign.
- Therefore, God's will for salvation = Gods will for healing.
- Please note that this doesn't mean if you are not healed that you are not forgiven. The devil will try to make you believe that. Don't entertain those thoughts. Healing proves Gods will for salvation, not salvation itself.

Conclusion

Jesus purchased man's health and healing just as He purchased salvation from sin. We can conclude that Gods will for healing is the same as His will for salvation. Just as He wants everybody saved, He wants everybody healed. Your answers about healing should be the same as for salvation. If not, go back over the Scriptures above and see healing is a done deal.

Salvation (spiritual health)	Healing (physical health)
What is Gods will for salvation? (1 Tim 2:4)	What is Gods will for healing?
Does He want every person saved?	Does He want every person healed?
Can a person be saved anytime anywhere?	Can a person be healed anytime anywhere?
Does a person have to do anything to earn salvation?	Does a person have to do anything to earn healing?
Can/does God save people irrespectable of the magnitude and type of sin they are in?	Can/does God heal people irrespectable of the magnitude and type of sin they are in?
What is the only requirement for salvation?	What is the only requirement for healing?

→ *Healing is always Gods will, 100%, all the time because all sickness is the result of Satan's work, when he introduced sin into this world, and Christ came to destroy Satan's work.*

Rom. 5:12 *Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.*

- Sin was the original cause of death. Sickness and disease are just immature forms of death. Adam was the original who sinned (Gen. 2:17), but sin had its origin with Satan. ***Satan is the originator of sin, sickness, and death.*** Sin, sickness, and death was never Gods plan.
- The Word of God deals with sickness and disease as being an evil and a curse upon humanity (Deut. 28). God continually talks of His desire to deliver men from the pains of sickness enabling them to live under His Divine blessing and health.

- What does the Bible teach about Satan’s part in sickness & disease:
 - Satan has people BOUND with sickness (Luke 13:16).
 - Satan’s strategy is to STEAL, KILL & DESTROY (John 10:10).
 - Sickness is an OPPRESSION of Satanic power (Acts 10:38).
 - Sickness is a work of Satan (1 John 3:8).
 - Satan desires to destroy men through sickness and disease (Job 2:6).

Acts 10:38 *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.*

- Jesus healed all who were oppressed by the devil, not by God! Sickness is not from God.
- All the diseases Jesus cured while on earth had been caused by the devil.
- Jesus treated sickness as evil and sought to destroy it’s power everywhere He went.
- You need to understand and believe that healing is from God and sickness is from Satan.
- The devil steals, kills and destroys. God, through Jesus, gives life, restores & makes whole.

Enemy			God		
<u>John 10:10a</u> <i>The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.</i>			<u>John 10:10b</u> <i>I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.</i>		
<u>Steal</u>	<u>Kill</u>	<u>Destroy</u>	<u>Restore</u>	<u>Give Life</u>	<u>Make Whole</u>

Heb. 2:14 *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.***

- Christ died to destroy the devil’s power over death.
- Sickness is one method by which the devil causes death. Therefore Christ died to destroy (annul the power of) sickness.

1 John 3:8 *He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that **He might destroy the works of the devil.***

- Jesus came, died on the cross, and rose again that He might destroy the works of the devil.
- Is sickness the work of the devil’s work? Yes! Then Christ died and rose again to destroy (annul the power of) sickness. We ought to hate sickness as much as we hate sin.
- As long as you tolerate sickness and sin it will dominate you. What you tolerate will dominate. God wants you to resist sickness just as much as He wants you to resist sin.

→ ***Healing is always Gods will, 100%, all the time because the very same Holy Spirit who did all of Christ’s miracles and raised Him from the dead dwells in every believer and has all His old-time, life-giving power.***

Acts 1:8 *But you shall receive **power** [dunamis] when the Holy Spirit has come upon you.*

- “He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever”(Jn 14:16).
- The same Holy Spirit’s power, called *dunamis*, is for each of His saints today.

2 Tim. 1:7 *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of **power** [dunamis, Holy Spirit power] and of love and of a sound mind.*

- The Holy Spirit, who is now abiding in us, is the Holy Spirit with power (*dunamis*) who

controlled Christ's life while on earth (Luke 4:14) and worked all His miracles (Acts 10:38), and the very same Holy Spirit who worked all of Paul's miracles.

Rom. 15:18-19 *For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me... in **mighty signs and wonders**, by the **power** [dunamis] of the Spirit of God.*

- Since the same Holy Spirit who did all of Christ's miracles and all of Pauls' miracles is dwelling in you today with all His old-time power (dunamis), you can have full confidence for Him to heal the sick through you, today.

Rom. 8:26 *Likewise the Spirit also **helps** in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.*

- "Helps" means "to take hold, together with, against." We are told that the Holy Spirit takes hold against our sickness together with someone. With whom? You. "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you" (Js. 4:7). With His help, you resist sickness.

Rom. 8:11 *But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also **give life to your mortal bodies** [bodies subject to sickness and death, but not dead] through His Spirit who dwells in you.*

- It is the work of the Spirit to give life (health) to our mortal bodies, while on earth. The Spirit takes hold together with us against sicknesses, releasing health into our bodies, but He cannot do this unless we, Gods saints, do our part and take hold together with Him.

Eph. 3:20 *Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the **power** [dunamis, Holy Spirit power] that works **in us**.*

→ **Healing is always Gods will, 100%, all the time because of Christ's last Great Commission, and Gods direct command in Mark 16:18 and James 5:14.**

Matt. 10:7-8 *And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' 8 **Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give***

Matt. 28:19-20 *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations...20 **teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always...***

- Jesus gave a command to heal the sick. Then, in His last Great Commission He said to observe all things that He had commanded, which includes healing the sick. You are a commissioned healing practitioner! We don't say, "send me," because you *are* send. GO.
- Jesus also commanded "the seventy" to preach and heal in public (Luke 10:1-12). Peter and John healed (Acts 3:6-11) and Paul preached and healed in public (Rom. 15:18-19).
- Throughout history we see the same miracle-working power where people obeyed God.

Mark 16: 17-18 *And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; **they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.**"*

- Here is a direct command from Christ that His followers would pray for the sick and expect Him to heal them.

James 5:14-15 *Is anyone among you sick? 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 will save [heal] the sick, and the Lord will raise him up.***

- Notice, prayer doesn't heal the sick, faith does.
- What is the significance of the anointing with oil? "And the prayer of faith will save the sick [not the anointing with oil], and the Lord will raise him up." "The anointing with oil," then, plays no part whatsoever in curing the sick; only the prayer of faith does this.
- When we today anoint a sick saint with oil by touching the surface of the skin, as Aaron's sons were anointed in Exodus 40:15, we recognize the blessed fact that this person has been born again and belongs to the Church, the household of Christ, our great High Priest, and therefore has a perfect right to claim all the benefits of Christ's redeeming love (Bodily Healing and the atonement, Dr. T.J. McCrossan, page 71).

→ ***Healing is always Gods will, 100%, all the time because Jesus is the express image of God and He healed every person who came to Him, never putting sickness on someone.***

Heb. 1:1-3 *God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 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; 3 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.*

- Who did God speak to through the prophets? The Fathers (the patriarchs). Who did God speak to through His Son in the last days? Us. How do we know that God is still speaking to us through His Son? Because it's still the last days.
- The Greek word for "express image" is the word "character" and means Jesus is the perfection reflection of Gods character. Jesus is the EXACT likeness of God. Literally, "the mirror image" of God. Jesus is the language or final communication of who God is. When we see Jesus, we see God. Jesus is the nature of God in action. Jesus is how the Father behaves towards us.
- Jesus only spoke what He heard His Father say, and He only did what He saw His Father do. Not one single time did Jesus ever make anyone sick. Not once did He ever refuse to heal someone (there are instances where people refuse to receive healing from Him, but it wasn't because Jesus didn't want to minister it to them). His actions are proof enough that it is always God's will to heal. If God is the author of sickness, as some teach today, then Jesus failed to follow His Father's example. He never put sickness on someone, and He never failed to heal a single person who came to Him. God is not the author of sickness, He is the author of healing. Jesus healed all who had need, and He hasn't changed (Heb. 13:8).

There are seventeen times in the Gospels where Jesus healed all of the sick who were present (Mt. 4:23-24, 8:16-17, 9:35, 12:15, 14:14, 34-36, 15:30-31, 19:2, 21:14; Mk. 1:32-34, 39, 6:56; Luke 4:40, 6:17-19, 7:21, 9:11; and 17:12-17).

There are forty-seven other times where He healed one or two people at a time (Mt. 8:1-4, 5-13, 14-15, 28-34, 9:1-8, 20-33, 12:10-13, 22-23, 15:21-28, 17:14-18, 20:30-34; Mk. 1:21-31, 40-45, 2:1-12, 3:1-5, 5:1-20, 25-43, 7:24-37, 8:22-26, 9:14-29, 10:46-52; Luke 4:33-39, 5:12-15, 17-26, 6:6-10, 7:1-17, 8:27-39, 43-56, 9:37-42, 11:14, 13:11-17, 14:1-5, 18:35-43, 22:51; John 4:46-54, 5:2-15, 9:6-7, and 11:43-44).

Jesus, God in the flesh, says, "I am willing!"

Matt 8:2-3 And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." 3. Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

- No one really questions whether or not God CAN heal (even atheists will admit that if there was a God, of course He would be able to heal or He wouldn't be much of a God.) Some Atheists are actually "one up" on some Christians in this respect. The doubt comes in when God's WILLINGNESS to heal is brought up. Any time the topic of God's willingness to heal came up, Jesus always said the same thing, "I will".
- "I will" (*thelō*) means "to be resolved or determined, to purpose, to desire, to love, to like to do a thing, be fond of doing, to take delight in, have pleasure." In short He's saying, "I am always willing." It shows the determination rather than just saying, "whatever happens, happens."
- "Willing" is in Greek continuous tense and basically means, "I can't help but heal you because it is My nature to do so. It is my intense desire and longing to act on My nature which is to deliver. By not healing you I would be contradicting My will, My Word and My nature." He is still willing, because He is the same yesterday, today and forever!

Conclusion

What's the bottom line on God's will for our healing? His Word reveals that to us in 3 John 2, "Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well." The Lord wants us healthy just as much as He wants us to prosper emotionally and mentally. It's never God's will for us to be sick; He wants every person healed every time. That's nearly-too-good-to-be-true news, but that's the Gospel. Most Christians don't know or believe that. They think the Lord makes them sick, or at the very least, He allows Satan to make them sick to either punish or correct them. That kind of thinking will get you killed; it's not what the Bible teaches.

There are three main reasons why people get sick.

1. Personal sin. Jesus linked sickness with sin. "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you" (John 5:14). It isn't the only reason, but it is one reason. God doesn't "get us" when we sin, but we reap what we sow. An alcoholic gets liver disease, not because God is punishing him, but because he did it to himself. Drug abusers get brain damage. Sexually promiscuous people get sexually transmitted diseases. These things are not from God, not directly from the devil, but they're reaping the results of their sin (Rom. 6:21-23).
2. A direct attack from the devil. We're in a spiritual battle with godly angels carrying out God's will and demonic spirits carrying out Satan's will. Sickness isn't necessarily from individual sins, but sometimes the enemy just fights us with all types of problems. Satan is going about seeking whom he may devour (1 Pe. 5:8).
3. Natural things. We live in a fallen world and some things just happen naturally. You could hurt yourself, catch a cold, get an infection, have swelling - all kinds of things - for purely natural reasons. Yet, it's not sin or the devil that caused it. You could trip, fall, break your leg, neck or collarbone. Germs, bacteria and viruses fight against our human bodies. It is just the result of the corruption that entered the world through sin.

The good news is that no matter what caused the sickness – sin, the devil, or something natural – there's always something we can do about it. Since the Lord has redeemed us from sickness and disease, we can take our authority, exercise our faith, and effect the cure.

4. God's sovereignty and men's responsibility

Most people believe that everything that happens on earth had to be willed by God. They see God as the being that is in supreme control of everything and is behind everything that happens and that nothing can happen but what He wills or allows. It's usually presented in one of two ways: One, God originates everything, or two, Satan originates the evil things but has to get God's approval before he can do His "dirty work." That's not true. Yes, He is sovereign. Yes, He has all power. But to say God wills everything that happens is to say God wills your cancer, your rape, your molestation, your divorce, your poverty, and your death. Why do you want to serve a God that wills you to be raped, sick, poor and dead?

Jer. 29:11 *For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.*

- The Word says God thinks good things towards you. Sickness is not good, therefore it is not in the thoughts of God when He thinks of you. He wants you well, not sick!

1 Tim. 2:3-4 *For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who **desires all men to be saved** and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

- God's will is for ALL men to be saved.
- Are all men saved? No (narrow and broad way, Matt. 7:13-14).
- God's wants to save all, but not all accept Him as Savior. People choose life or death.
- That means God's will doesn't automatically just happen, even though He is sovereign.

2 Pet. 3:9 *The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, **not willing that any should perish** but that all should come to repentance.*

- Again, God doesn't want any to perish, yet some do. God's will is sovereign, but He doesn't always get what He wants. God's will does not always happen. God is not "in control" of everything that happens.
- The belief that God controls everything that happens to us is one of the devil's biggest inroads into our lives. If this belief is true, then our actions are irrelevant, and our efforts are meaningless. Why do we preach? Why do we teach? Why do anything if God is just going to do His will anyway? What will be will be.
- If we believe that God wills everything, good or bad, to happen to us, it gives us some temporary relief from confusion and condemnation, but in the long-term, it slanders God, hinders our trust in God, and leads to passiveness.

Matt. 12:25 *Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand.*

- If God heals but also makes sick, His Kingdom is divided. Therefore He doesn't cause sickness.
- If God gives life but also kills, His Kingdom is divided. Therefore He doesn't kill.
- If God blesses but also curses, His Kingdom is divided. Therefore He doesn't curse.
- God is a GOOD God, whose intentions and thoughts are only good, pure and loving.
- God NEVER uses sickness to teach and train (discipline) us. He has the Word (2 Tim. 3:16) and the Holy Spirit (John 16:13, 1 John 2:17) to do that.
- If you say God uses sickness to teach, you might as well call the Holy Spirit a disease.

- If God were to use sickness as a lesson, then you should pray for the symptoms to worsen so you can really learn your lesson. If you believe God teaches through sickness, then you are in conscious rebellion against His will if you go to the doctor to seek help. If sickness were from God to draw you to Him, pray that every family member becomes sick with cancer so they can all draw near to God. You wouldn't wish that on them, why do you think God would?
- If sickness were from God, then going to God for healing would mean you are going to the very being that is causing your destruction to be set free from your destruction. That is pretty dumb. That is like going to the school bully and asking him for help to protect you from himself.
- Look at it this way. We are trying to win people over to His Kingdom. You don't do that by going out telling people, "Live for God. It's a great life. But if you mess up He's going to smash you in the head, give you some awful disease or kill your kids to get you back in line
- A basic truth you must know and understand about healing is that it's never God's will for us to be sick; He wants every person healed every time. That's nearly-too-good-to-be-true news, but that's the Gospel. Most Christians don't know or believe that. They think the Lord makes them sick, or at the very least, He allows Satan to make them sick to either punish or correct them. That kind of thinking will get you killed; it's not what the Bible teaches. One of the most elementary principles in God's Word is given in James 4:7.

James 4:7 *Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.*

- Some things are of God, and some things are of the devil. Notice it doesn't present a third category: from God through the devil. No! Sickness has nothing to do with God! Submit to the things of God, and resist the things of the devil. It's that simple.
- To believe that God allows or approves of Satan's actions defies the logic of James 4:7. It eliminates our responsibility to resist and places ultimate responsibility for everything back on God. This type of thinking kills faith and the power of God's Word.
- The widely-accepted doctrine that God controls everything is a deception. If Satan can confuse and deceive you on that issue, he's got you! Why? Because you'll stop resisting. No one wants to resist God's will, and if you think that God is behind your sickness, you'll submit to it. That violates the instruction of James 4:7, it won't get you healed, and it lets Satan have his way in your life. If it's good, it's God. If it's bad, it's the devil.

John 3:16-17 *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For **God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world**, but that the world through Him might be saved.*

- Jesus didn't come to kill you with cancer. He didn't come to teach you with hardships. Yes we suffer hardships (for the Gospel's sake, meaning persecution) but God is not the author of hardship and suffering. Our heavenly Father has never done me any harm and never will!
- No army has ever brought glory to its king by showing how much it can suffer at the hands of an enemy army. They bring glory by conquering enemy armies. Our job is to conquer, not to show God how much we can suffer sickness or disease and put up with it. Your hardship, your suffering is not sickness and disease. Your hardship and suffering are the things that you choose to go through for the propagation of the Gospel.
- To cause evil only to let good come out of it, is counterproductive. Yes, if we, take hold together with the Holy Spirit, and resist the bad (sickness, poverty, death), THEN God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, but He doesn't author the bad just to make it work together for good. That is stupid and manipulative.

- If I were to poison the town's water supply everyone would get sick. If I then come forth with the antidote as well, I could be seen as the good guy who saved the people. But if it is discovered that I caused the poisoning, I would be locked up as a criminal. Now why would we think that God is a criminal who causes evil only to get glory for making it to work together for good?
- God is not fickle. In Him there is no shadow of turning. He is not double minded. He is faithful. You can't have faith in Him if He is not always the same.
- Police officers are agents given charge to enforce the country's sovereign laws. God is sovereign, and has appointed His sons to be the agents that enforce His will.
- Jesus prayed: "Your will be done" and then went to about doing it. He didn't pray, "If it be Your will, Your will be done." Gods will happens when people enforce it by faith.
- This brings us to the believers responsibility. Our sole responsibility is to have faith in God and then act accordingly. If your faith is misplaced, your action will be inconsistent.

Spiritual dominion

In the area of Spiritual Dominion, we need only see a few things clearly to change our lives and the lives of all we meet forever. You are meant to walk upon this earth like Jesus, doing good to all, and healing all who are oppressed of the devil.

- Truth # 1 - God intended MAN to have and walk in dominion ON THE EARTH.
- Truth # 2 - Man forfeited that position of dominion by acting on Satan's word instead of God's word.
- Truth # 3 - When man forfeited his position of dominion, he also forfeited his position of fellowship and communion. (Fellowship, Communion, and Dominion are not different positions, they are all one in the same.)
- Truth # 4 - God wanted man in a position of fellowship/dominion so much that He was willing to sacrifice Jesus to return man to his original position.
- Truth # 5 - Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil. By His life He showed us how to live on earth as a man walking in dominion. He was the second Adam. He became sin for us, so we could become the righteousness of God in Christ.
- Truth # 6 - Jesus did His part. By believing in Him we are saved – restored back into our original position before God. His authority, is your authority. His power, is your power.
- Truth # 7 – We, being the body of Christ, are to walk as Jesus upon the earth, being for others what Jesus was and is for us. We are to be deliverers of those who are bound by Satan, as Jesus did. Jesus showed us how. By freely giving what we have freely received.

Matt. 10:7-8 As you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' 8 ***Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.***

- The Scriptures don't tell us to pray for the sick, in the sense that we are powerless to minister healing to them and ask God to heal them. It's just the opposite: Jesus told US to HEAL the sick (not to pray for the sick).
- There's a BIG difference between asking the Lord to heal people and healing them. It has to do with taking our authority and commanding Gods power.
- Praying for the sick is easy, if after the prayer the person is healed, we say "Praise God." If not healed, we say "Praise God, its not His will." We do not feel we have failed because God is sovereign, he can say "Yes" or "No" to our prayer. Our job is to ask; it is Gods responsibility to heal. Rather, the Bible says that we are responsible to heal the sick!
- One of the biggest reasons why more people don't see the miraculous results they pray for is because they pray for the sick, instead of healing them in His Name. They're passively asking God to do what He told them to do. We're constantly told that it's not us but God who is the Healer, and that is totally true. But God has placed also His healing power under

our authority, and it is up to us to release it. If we don't take our authority and become commanders instead of beggars, God's power will not be released. You don't have to motivate God to heal by your begging, hoping and groping. He has healed all sicknesses.

Luke 9:1-6 *Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them **power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases.** 2 He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick...6 So they departed and went through the towns, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.*

- Jesus commanded the disciples to preach and heal. They did it EVERYWHERE.

Luke 10:8-9 *Whatever city you enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you. 9 And **heal the sick there**, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'*

- Preach then heal, heal then preach. Which ever way you want to do it is fine. Just do it. Some people will listen to what you say but won't believe until they see. Others won't listen to a word you have to say, but heal them and they will want to listen.
- God has already healed everyone who will ever be healed. He did it two thousand years ago when He bore our stripes on His back. Then He deposited His resurrection power inside every believer (Eph. 1:19-20). He's done His part, and now it is up to us to do ours.

Mark 16:17-18 *And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; **they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.**"*

- These signs (healing, deliverance) WILL follow believers. That means you can initiate it and the Spirit will follow and confirm with power. The Holy Spirit follows you, not v.v.
- The qualification to heal the sick, is to believe. That means, YOU (if you're a believer).
- But that is how Jesus was sent and how He sent the disciples. Is it applicable only to them?

John 14:12 *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, **the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do**, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.*

- The qualification to do the SAME works as Jesus did is to believe in Him. If you believe, you are qualified. Jesus said: "As the Father has sent Me, I also send you" (John 20:21).
- "Whatever" means whatever. "Anything" means anything. Get it? God is that good!
- We are sent in the same way Jesus was sent by the Father. How can God expect us to be sent just like Jesus without giving us access to everything Jesus had access to? How are we to do the same and greater works if we aren't given the same power and authority?
- Our job is simple. It is to walk through life and anything you come across that doesn't look the way it is in heaven you fix it to have it look like heaven.

1 John 4:17 *Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because **as He is, so are we in this world.***

- As He (Jesus) is, so ARE we in THIS WORLD.
- You are identical to Jesus; based on who you are in the spirit (your true identity).
- Everything that is true about Jesus is true about you in your standing before the Father.

1 Cor. 6:17 *But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.*

- Your spirit became one spirit with the Holy Spirit when you got born again.
- You didn't evolve into a son of God. You were created to be one.
- You didn't receive a part of the Holy Spirit. You've received the fullness of God.

Conclusion

2 Cor. 1:19-20 *For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us - by me, Silvanus, and Timothy - was not Yes and No, but in Him was Yes. 20 For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.*

- All the promises are yes and let it be in Christ. It is part of your inheritance. If your parents die and leave you a million euro's, will you claim it or not? And if somebody comes and tells you, yes they said it, but they didn't mean it, would you say, 'Oh yea, they must have been talking about somebody else' or would you say, 'Sorry, you're a liar. I have it in black and white that they mean me. This is my money and I will have it.'
- In the same way, you have it in black and white, signed with the blood of the Lamb that the promises are yours. Don't entertain lies, they will only steal your inheritance.
- Get your experience to line up with God's Word. "Well, you know, God answers prayer, and sometimes it's "Yes," and sometimes it's "No" and sometimes it's "Wait." That is not Bible. The Bible says that in Christ all promises of God are "Yes" and in Him "Amen." Anything included in the atonement you do not have to talk to God about. You obey.

Authority and power; the exercising of dominion

John 5:36 *But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish - **the very works that I do - bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me.***

- Jesus said that the miracles He did authenticated who He was and confirmed what He said.
- If Jesus needed the witness of the miracles He performed to validate His authority, then how can we do possibly less? It is the height of arrogance to think that we can use words only to persuade people when Jesus had to have signs and miracles to confirm His Word.

Authority (exousia) – the right to do something. To be granted permission or to be given authority. It refers not to power but to position. Spiritual authority is the legal right (pre-permission) to command to enforce the laws of the Kingdom.

Power (dunamis) - energetic or demonstrative power and ability to do something. The same power that raised Christ from the dead lives inside of you (Eph. 1:19). The Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead (Rom. 8:11).

Acts 1:8 *But you shall receive **power** (dunamis) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

1 Cor. 2:4-5 *And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of **power** (dunamis),⁵ that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the **power** (dunamis) of God.*

A police officer's badge represent the authority (exousia) in which he operates. His gun is the power (dunamis) given to him to enforce that authority. So not only does he represent authority, he has permission to enforce it. Criminals rebel against authority with their ability. But because of their lack of authority (permission), they have no leg to stand on. Sometimes just the authority is enough to stop the criminals but often they will not listen to authority alone. That is when power to enforce authority comes into play.

Luke 9:1 Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them **power and authority** (*exousia*) over all demons, and to cure diseases.

Mark 6:7 And He called the twelve to Himself, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them **power** (*exousia*) over unclean spirits.

Matt 10:1 And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them **power** (*exousia*) over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.

- You need to understand that God already has established natural laws and spiritual laws of how things in created order function. A law is binding and God will not violate His laws (Ps. 89:34). A law is an activity that happens in a consistent way with the same results.
- Analogy: A policeman stops a car by the authority of the government, not his physical power. Like the policeman, we must put our hand up and invoke Jesus' Name with confidence that the government backs us up. All authority is in enforcing laws. A policeman doesn't make laws, but enforces laws that have been written.
- If a policeman doesn't know it's illegal to drive through red, he would not exercise his authority. It's the same with believers: sickness or depression is illegal in our lives. God paid for all sickness, all emotional problems, and poverty. God already solved every problem 2000 years ago. We need to enforce what God has commanded: you resist, heal, deliver, triumph. It is always His will for you to be well, to be the head and not the tail.

Matt. 28:18-19 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "**All authority** (*exousia*) has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- If Jesus has ALL authority, then that means everybody else has none. That includes the devil and you. (You in regards to delegated authority).
- Since you are in Christ and a joint-heir (Rom. 8:16-17) His full authority resides in you. He has ALL authority, and we have ALL of Him. You are His body with His Spirit (1 Cor. 6:17) therefore you have His authority and His power.
- Because of that, we go and do in His Name (by His authority) what He told us to do.
- The whole point of using "in Jesus Name" is to invoke His authority. He will never leave us. You don't have to ask Him to come. If you are there, He is there because you are one.

Luke 10:19 Behold, I give you the **authority** (*exousia*) to trample on serpents and scorpions, and **over all the power** (*dunamis*) **of the enemy**, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

- The disciples received delegated authority because at this time they were not yet saved.
- We operate through inherited authority, not delegated authority, as heirs of God.
- The enemy has no authority, but this is not be confused with ability.
- He has ability to operate through human beings to the degree people believe his lies. Bank robbers do not have authority, but do have the ability to get the money. We have power and authority over the ability of the enemy.
- Authority is pre-permission. If somebody gives you authority they give you pre-permission to do what they told you to do. Police officer are given pre-mission to do what falls within their parameters. Heavenly Headquarters has given you pre-permission to heal, cast out, raise the dead and anything pertaining the Gospel the day you got born again. The minute Heaven accepted you, it also authorized you to present it. You re-present Heaven on earth.

2 Cor. 5:20 *Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.*

- An ambassador is a person from one country living in another country as a representative of their country. Since we are not from this world (Jn. 15:19) we represent heaven on earth.
- An ambassador has immunity against the laws of the country he is in. In the same way we have immunity against the laws of the world we are in (death, sickness).
- In an embassy (where the ambassador lives) the laws of his country are in effect.
- An ambassador has to operate in line with the words and orders of his country's ruler or else he is no longer a true representative.
- Ambassadors serve to establish between countries, therefore we are here to establish relationships with people and connect them with heaven.
- What you say is your decision, but as a representative of Jesus Christ you can only say what He's said. The minute you say something He's not said, two things happen: 1) You cease being His representative and then, 2) He ceases to have to back up what you say. If you don't say what He said then don't think you get healing like He said you would get. Because He is only obliged to confirm His Word. "They went out preaching, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs"(Mk. 16:20).

2 Cor. 5:18 *Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.*

- God's will is reconciliation. It is His will that the world be reconciled to Him in Christ - that to be saved, healed, delivered and prosper.
- We have been given the ministry of reconciliation. To reconcile a person's spirit to God is salvation. Reconciling their soul is deliverance and reconciling their body is healing. This gives you the perfect will of God in all situations as a minister of the New Covenant.
- If a person is not saved, it is God's will to save them. If a person is in bondage or under oppression, it is God's will that they be delivered from those demons. If they are sick it is God's will that they be healed. You can never be outside of the will of God when you are getting sinners saved, setting captives free, or healing the sick.
- You don't need a special prompting or leading from the Spirit to do this since any leading is going to line up with the Word anyway, so you can't go wrong doing the Word in the first place. A special leading is also only going to tell you how to do something, not what you were supposed to do in the first place. It might be to spit on the ground and put it on the blind man's eyes, it might be to touch them by the hand the next time. In both cases healing was the goal, but different methods were employed.
- As sons of God, we are to serve mankind by reconciling them to God. When you find the sick, heal them. When you come across the oppressed, free them. When you see the naked, cloth them. When you find the poor, help them. Do unto others as you would have others do to you (Mat. 7:12). If you were sick would you want somebody to heal you? If you were oppressed would you want somebody to deliver you? If you said yes to any of these, then you know the will of God regarding sickness and deliverance, and are to do that unto those that come your way, without having to run to God for permission.
- We need to accept responsibility. It's our failure, not God's, that sends people to hell and causes us to be sick. Believers must relieve people from suffering under sickness and dying. Responsibility can make you feel guilty, but live spirit minded: there's no condemnation!

Mark 11:23-24 For assuredly, I say to you, **whoever says to this mountain**, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. 24 Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

- Our instructions are to speak to the mountains (problem), not to God about our mountains.
- If your boss tells you to do something and you then 5 minutes later run to him and ask him to do it for you what is he going to say? Why did I ask you to do it if I have to now do it?
- Don't ask God to do something He told you told do.
- Don't ask Him to do something He already did.
- Don't ask Him to give you something He already gave you in Christ (Eph. 1:3).
- Acknowledge what you have (which is everything) and make your faith effective.
- So, speak to the problem. Don't talk to God about your problem, talk to your problem and command it to do what you want it to do. A police officer doesn't phone the chief of police (permission headquarters) when he sees a burglar, he goes over and arrests him. If he phoned in every time to ask permission, he would soon lose his job.

Heb. 10:12-13 But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time **waiting till His enemies are made His footstool**.

Rom. 16:20 And the God of peace will **crush Satan under your feet** shortly.

- Jesus is waiting till His enemies are made His footstool - put under His feet. Jesus is the Head in Heaven, we are the Body on earth. Believers are Jesus' hands and FEET on earth, therefore, the enemies (sickness, oppression etc.) will only be made Jesus' footstool, if WE crush (destroy) the works of Satan. The Head gives the instructions, the body moves and crushes. The body (us) do not ask the Head (God) to move. He already moved & sat down.
- God does the crushing, it is always His ability operating in power but He uses YOUR FEET (and hands etc) as the contact point. When you step, He can step on. If you don't step, He doesn't either. God will crush when you step. He won't when you don't.
- "What is man that You are mindful of him...You have set him over the works of Your hands. You have put all things in subjection under his feet" (Heb. 2:6-8).
- To see the miraculous power of God manifest on a consistent basis is understanding the fact that healing is under the authority of the believer. God has already provided His healing power and placed it on the inside of every born-again believer. It isn't up to God to determine and decide who gets healed; it's up to us! It's our failure to understand and use the authority we have that is keeping God's healing power from flowing.
- It's like electricity. The power company generates the power and delivers it to your house. It's not your power, but it's under your command. You simply flip the switch on the wall and command the power to work. This doesn't mean you are the power source, but you are the one in control of what that power does. You don't call the company to turn the light on.
- William Booth said, "I am not waiting for a move of God, I am a move of God." That sounds arrogant in the ears of religious people, but it conveys an important truth. In Christ we have the authority and power to bring revival and the move of God everywhere we go. God is asking us to go out and heal the sick and raise the dead etc., not to pray for revival to happen. When we step out in faith, we create revival around us. God has already rended the heavens and come down in the form of Jesus Christ and He lives in us through His Spirit. So we don't need to pray that God will rend the heavens. Rather, we need to recognize that He already has done so and that we can be revival to this dying world. Don't pray for revival. You are revived. Don't wait for revival. You are revival! All that revival is is whenever Christians start to obey the Scriptures again and the Spirit is able to move freely through them. The Holy Spirit only acts on the Word of God. And if you're not doing the

Word of God He can't work through you. So a revival is nothing more than when Christians begin to obey the scriptures. "A revival is nothing else than a new beginning of obedience to God" - Charles Finney.

Mark 16:20 *And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs.*

- God will work with you, confirming His Word. He will do it EVERYWHERE.
- You have to GO for the Holy Spirit to follow with signs. You don't have to pray for God to move. He is not stuck. You might be, but He isn't.

1 Cor. 4:20 *For the kingdom of God is not in word but in power.*

- The disciples preached and demonstrated the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God = the reign and dominion and supremacy of God over EVERYTHING. A kingdom is anywhere a king has rule or the area over which a king has authority. Two words joined, "king" and "domain," hence the term "king-dom." It means anywhere a King's will is carried out.
- The kingdom of God is not in the talking about it, it is in the demonstration of it, Mt. 12:28.
- Don't settle for "church," rather bring heaven on earth - manifest His Kingdom on earth.
- "For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power" (1 Thess 1:5). Without the power you only heard of the kingdom, you didn't partake of it.

Rom. 15:18-19 *For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient - 19 in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God, so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.*

- To fully preach the Gospel, there has to be signs and wonders.

1 Cor. 2:4-5 *And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.*

- We don't need to have persuasive words, the ability to speak well or anything like that. We have all we need, the Spirit of God. Great if you can speak well, but don't let not being able to speak well stop you. Moses couldn't speak well and look what he accomplished.

Matt. 12:28 *But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.*

- The Kingdom breaks in through a display of power: destruction of the works of the enemy.

Acts 10:38 *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.*

- Jesus brought the Kingdom in power by eradicating sickness and casting out demons.

John 10:37-38 *If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; 38 but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him."*

- Jesus Himself said: "If I don't back this up with power, don't believe Me."

Luke 17:20-21 *When He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, “The kingdom of God does not come with observation; 21 nor will they say, ‘See here!’ or ‘See there!’ For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you.”*

- Where is the Kingdom? Inside us or inside the church walls?
- As we renew our minds, we are transformed, enabled to release the Kingdom into the lives of those that need it, when they need it, in any and all situations.
- You bring the Kingdom by casting out demons, healing the sick and getting people saved.
- The Kingdom of God is within you and can't be “seen,” but when the Kingdom of God is manifested in power then the Kingdom of Heaven is “at hand” (Mt. 10:7).
- The Kingdom operates by laws and God will not violate what He told us to do (laws); “you resist, heal, deliver, prosper, triumph. It's not a case-by-case decision with God who gets healed and who doesn't. God isn't healing people today on His own; he heals through His people doing the Word. God is predictable and His power is mechanical. He's settled it how the Kingdom operates. As soon as you co-operate with Gods laws power begins to flow.

Conclusion

Gods Kingdom has always been in supremacy over sickness, disease, the devil etc. Jesus has given us access to His reign. Jesus is our passport to living in the Kingdom. To preach the Kingdom is to proclaim Gods reign and rule over everything.

If healing is in the atonement, which it is, and God gave believers the command, the authority and the power to heal, then,

- Gods attitude towards sickness is the same as towards sin - He hates it and dealt with it.
- Sickness is from the devil who only comes to steal, kill and destroy (John 10:10). Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8)
- It is always Gods will that everybody be healed (just as He wants all to be saved).
- It is always God's timing to heal (just as He wants all to receive forgiveness of sin).
- The “Yes, God can heal...BUT...”- phrase is to be trashed (realizing you believe a lie).
- You never ask God about anyone's healing. You heal, in His Name (Matt. 10:8).
- You'll find no reference to Jesus (or disciples) ever talking to God about someone's healing
- God does not allow or cause sickness on people as a form of punishment or judgment.
- God does not put sickness or disease on people for some mysterious purpose (teach a lesson, humble them, reveal His glory, etc.)
- The responsible to heal the sick is on the believer. You've been given authority to heal.
- It is not a matter of getting God to okay a healing or grant a healing or flip a switch in heaven, or send a healing or give you more power or anointing.
- It's not up to God to decide who gets healed, it's up to Holy Spirit-empowered believers! God is not a respecter of persons. He already has healed everybody who'll ever get sick.
- God has never failed anybody - ever. Rather, believers may have failed to minister healing.
- You don't have to prove yourself worthy to manipulate God to move on your behalf.
- It is a fact to be believed and acted upon not a matter of “faith” (do I have enough faith?).
- You can pray with confidence (zero doubt) and people will get healed. By faith we heal.
- There is no hindrance to healing, except when you believe the fact there are hindrances.
- God is a GOOD God. Always in a good mood. Only giving good gifts.
- The reason why not everybody is healed is primarily because of ignorance and false teaching (false belief), which leads to people walking by sight rather than walking by faith. Right believing leads to right living - and supernatural signs and wonders.

5. Sacred cows

A Sacred cow = a firmly held mainstream belief that is considered to be true without it being founded on Christ and His finished work on the cross. In others words, it's an outright lie.

Usual excuses people give to explain why the sick are not healed

There are four favourite reasons we give to explain why the sick are not healed:

1. It's not Gods will to heal the sick person.
2. It might not be Gods time to heal the person.
3. The sick person has sin which keeps God from healing him.
4. The sick person lacks faith.

With 1 and 2 we are essentially "blaming" God. With 3 and 4 we are essentially "blaming" the sick person, when nothing happens after we minister healing. Due to human nature, we almost never blame ourselves. Like Adam and Eve explaining their failure before God, we always look for someone else to blame.

Jesus only gave two reasons for failure (to heal or to receive healing): 1) Unbelief, and 2) Traditions of man. Mark 7:13 says "tradition of man make the Word of God of none effect." Since unbelief is a result of traditions of man, according to Jesus, there's basically only *one reason* for failing to heal the sick, namely: traditions of man (manmade doctrines)!

One of the reasons Christians don't believe that it's always God's will to heal is that it is convenient to believe that way. Instead of making their experiences match God's Word, many seek to make God's Word match their experiences. As said in the beginning, the Word of God is our final authority, not our experiences. It is obvious that not everyone gets healed, not even all those who desire healing receive it. To deal with this dilemma, the doctrine that it's not always God's will or His time to heal has arisen. That's convenient. That makes it God's fault and not ours if things don't go right. In chapter 3 and 4 we've already dealt with this issue. Or we blame the sick person if we don't see them healed. Men love to build a theology that allows them to be comfortable with their experience so legitimising powerlessness. We have theology based on failure and disappointment due to lack of walking in power and so traditions of man are invented.

The idea that God can't or won't heal you because of sin, lack of faith, bitterness, unforgiveness, etc., is a tradition of man. Whenever you tell somebody that "God can't heal you until you do this", then you are preaching the law. You are putting those people under works, trying to make them earn the freedom Jesus died to give them. You are establishing conditionals for reconciliation that God never did. If you do that, you are of the wrong spirit and wrong ministry (2 Cor. 3:4-9). Stop it!

2 Cor. 5: 19 *That God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. (NIV)*

- God is NOT COUNTING men's sins against them. That means He is NOT COUNTING your sins against you because He counted them against Christ! If you are saying a certain sin is stopping God's power, you are saying Jesus was a failure because He apparently didn't die for that sin, and that God is still counting that sin against you.
- "Your sin is stopping God's love (or healing power)." What a load of bull! God loved you while you were yet sinners (Rom. 5:8)! His power is there to free you from sin. The Gospel is the power of God onto salvation. Jesus died to set you free. If the power is there to free

you, why do need to get free before you can gain access to the power so you can be set free? That is like telling a person in jail that they need to make their own key to unlock the prison door so they can and go out and get the warden's key to open the same door. Why do you need 2 keys? Easy, you DON'T. Whenever you are telling people their sin is stopping God, you are counting their sins against them and then you operating in the ministry of death and condemnation (2 Cor. 3:4-9). You have lost your saltiness because you are judging and condemning the very people you have been called to preserve.

- God did not send Jesus to condemn the world, but to save it. Jesus is not condemning you!

John 8:10-11 When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" 11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "**Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.**"

- If you are pointing out people's faults, you are in the same group as these Pharisees who pointed the woman's faults out to Jesus. You are ministering condemnation and death.
- But what does Jesus do? He says, "I can't help you until you repent and seek forgiveness for this wilful sin of adultery you are in, so sorry, I guess you are getting stoned today." No, he chased them away and told the woman "I do not condemn you!" Even if she went and sinned again, Jesus is still not going to condemn her. He is not counting her sins against her or yours against you because He is counting them against Himself. He was made sin for you! Stop counting other people's sins against them!
- Why the 'go and sin no more' part? Because the devil is waiting for you to sin so he can bring condemnation on you, wanting you to believe God is now again displeased with you. Then you are going to go try and work for His approval again so you can get free again. Like a yo-yo on a string you have allowed the devil to be your puppet master. Sin, bring a sacrifice. Sin, bring a sacrifice. Sin, seek forgiveness. Sin, seek forgiveness. Like a hamster in wheel you will get nowhere doing that. You will be in and out of guilt and condemnation and it will always be based on your ability to seek forgiveness. It has NEVER been about our ability to seek forgiveness. It has ALWAYS been about Jesus' ability to provide forgiveness. All you need to do is believe it and accept it!

Results like Jesus because there is no hindrance to heal the sick

If you don't have the results Jesus had, or the results He has promised, it is a tradition of man that you have accepted. The only hindrance to healing is the fact that you believe there are hindrances to healing. If it's not in the Bible, you either change your mind to agree with God or you stay unfruitful, ineffective and powerless.

Believing tradition of man (sacred cows) is like riding a car with the emergency break on. The car doesn't function as well as suppose to it's original design. It can't function as strong and powerful as it could. Likewise, believers with "stinking thinking" don't function as well as they're suppose to, but they're still able to heal people in Jesus' Name. They could, however, have a much stronger walk with God, operating in much more power to set people free.

There is no hindrance to healing, except when you believe the fact there are hindrances. There is no hindrance to healing in the sense that there isn't any "roadblock," on the highway of life you're driving on, that you first have to remove before you can minister healing. You can, however, have the emergency break on by believing lies, like "there can be hindrances to healing." It takes the effort of mind renewal by the Word, and acting upon the Word to see healing manifest on a consistent basis. I am not saying don't deal with unrenewed issues in your life, but from Gods perspective there aren't any hindrances to minister healing.

God made useless you into useful you. Jesus set us right with God and made us perfectly fit for use. "Condemnation" means "to find that something is not fit for use." A house in poor condition may be condemned as unfit for habitation. In Christ there is no condemnation, therefore you are not unfit for use, rather you are qualified and fit for use, all the time. There's no hindrance for God's indwelling power to flow through you to heal the sick! Never!

Because God is a perfect being, His Kingdom functions based on perfection. Only perfect vessels are fit for use. While we were of no use to Him, God showed His love by offering a perfect, spotless Lamb. Through Jesus you are made perfect to God (Heb. 10:14). That means you are a perfect vessel through which a perfect God can do His perfect work. You were at your worst, now you're at your best. You can't become a better Christian because you already are perfect and complete in Christ. You are qualified to demonstrate the Kingdom!

Sometimes, when we don't see healing manifest, we can conclude that something is wrong with us. We tell ourselves, "Nothing's wrong with God, nothing's wrong with the Word, so something must be wrong with me!" If you think that miracles and healing depends on you, then you are on shaky ground. In the new covenant, man has no part to play except to believe and receive. This is unlike the Old Covenant, where "it's all up to me" to do the right thing, in the right way, in the right time. You are now the righteousness of God in Christ. (2 Cor. 5:21) By His one perfect sacrifice, He has perfected you forever. (Hebr. 10:14) There is no spot in you! The devil has no right to tell you that you cannot be healed or minister healing because there is something wrong with you. So as you minister healing say, "Nothing's wrong with God, nothing's wrong with the Word and nothing's wrong with me! I am going to believe and heal the sick in Jesus Name!"

There are only two minds, the mind of Christ and the mind of Satan. You'll either think with the mind of Christ or you think with the mind of the world, which is the mind of the Satan. There can never be neutral. Jesus said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men" (Mt. 16:23). He didn't say, you are not mindful of the things of Satan, but you are mindful of the things of men. To be mindful of the things of men means that what you're thinking does originate from Satan (lies) and when spoken out, you're speaking on behalf of Satan. The opposite is also true. To be mindful of the things of God means that what you're thinking originates from God (truth) and when spoken out, your speaking on behalf of God. James says there are two wisdoms, an earthly wisdom which is demonic and a divine wisdom that comes from above which is godly (James 3:15). You either practice demonic wisdom or divine wisdom. There is no neutral. You either think like God or you think like the devil. You have the mind of Christ (in your spirit) and to the degree your mind is renewed you think like God. To the degree your mind is not renewed you think like the devil. That is where your struggle is. The strongholds we have to pull down are not nests of devils above our cities. There are nests of devils in your head that come through wrong teaching, wrong doctrine and traditions of man.

Usual excuses for not having the power of God in YOUR life

The first major excuse for the lack of God's power in a person's life is sin. Sin doesn't stop the power of God - it stops you. If sin stops the power of God, you couldn't get saved. You were not only full of sin, you were - as you identity - sin. And if you were sin and sin stops the power of God then nobody could get saved because our sin would stop the power of God from saving us. If it can't stop the power of God from saving us what makes us think it can stop the power of God from healing us or anybody else through us?

God sent Jesus to die for you (heal your sin) while you were a sinner. If He would do the greater (forgive your sin), why would He not do the lesser (heal your sickness)? God will still heal you and use you to heal others, even if you have sin in your life. God will use you to heal others (with sin in your life) because He heals those who are sick independent of your good or bad behaviour. Sin stops you, because you know you do not deserve to be healed. Your conscience will condemn you, so you will not “pray in faith, nothing wavering” (James 1:6). You do not believe that God will heal you while you have sin in your life, so you have no faith in God that He will do it. Do not misunderstand what I am saying - a Christian should not live in sin.

A second major excuse is unbelief or lack of faith. Unbelief is not being saved. Unbelievers, therefore, are full of unbelief. You are a believer, not an unbeliever. You believe. If you don't believe or lack faith, you are not saved. There is not a faith problem, there is a rest problem. Many Christians do not know how to rest in the finished work of the cross.

You only find faith mentioned for healing before Jesus crucifixion. You'll not find mention of faith for healing in the epistles. You are never told to have faith for healing because in Christ you have *the* measure of faith (not *a* measure of faith, Rom. 12:3). You have the same quantity and quality of faith Jesus has (2 Peter 1:1, Gal. 2:20, 1 Tim. 1:14). You don't have a faith problem, but a knowledge problem (Philemon 1:6). Know what you have and use it.

The minute you believed you became the righteousness of God in Jesus Christ. You became instantly 100% righteous. You didn't grow into righteousness. Likewise, the minute you believed you became a believer in Jesus Christ. You became instantly 100 % full of faith. You didn't grow into believing. All you have to do to see Gods supernatural faith manifest is to believe the Bible and act upon it. Faith is like a muscle. We all have the same amount of muscles, but it must be developed by exercise. Someone who does the works of Jesus on a regular basis develops strong faith and will see much fruit. Whereas another believer who doesn't reach out to people remains weak in faith, even though he or she has been given the same quality and quantity of faith. Romans 4:19-21 reveals believers can be weak or strong in faith. But it is not Biblical to talk about “little faith” and “big faith” because every one of us has been given the measure - one measure - of faith, namely the faith of the Son of God.

Another excuse is unforgiveness. Unforgiveness is not a blockage to healing. Just because you've been taught something doesn't mean it's right. To forgive is still the right thing to do regardless if healing is connected to it. Forgive if you need to forgive; it sets you free! But we need to differentiate the soul and the spirit. Healing is present in the spirit. Unforgiveness is not in the spirit realm, but an issue in the soul. Regardless if unforgiveness, or any other issue for that matter, is present in the soul you still get healed or can minister healing. If you believe, you receive it. The problem is that people have connected healing (in spirit) to unforgiveness (in soul) and start calling it “a hindrance,” while God answers faith (in spirit) without being a respecter of soul-issues!

The Word works. God is not a respecter of persons, but He is a respecter of faith. Where faith is present His healing power flows. You have received the supernatural faith of God in your spirit. Gods type of faith is permanently present in you and it doesn't fluctuate. It's constant. Since you never lack faith, you can heal any sick person anywhere, anytime without needing to work up faith but rather settle down in the Faithful One. The moment you operate in faith based on His Word healing power flows. Without faith it's impossible to please God (Heb.

11:6), but since you are not without faith, it's impossible not to be pleasing to God. In fact, you are His pleasure. The Father is as pleased with you as He is with His Son Jesus.

All God wants is somebody He can work through. Somebody that won't say, "Yes, BUT...I am not ready. I am not good enough. I haven't fasted enough." You disqualified yourself. Jesus has qualified you. Don't disqualify yourself. Those aren't rules Jesus set. Don't you set them. "I don't know if I have the faith." How dare you say that! Are you telling me you can't trust God? God is not worthy of your trust, that is what you are saying. If you say you don't have enough faith you are saying that God is not trustworthy. This is not about your faith. This is about God who is faithful even if you are faithless. We have made faith into a currency. Like, "do I have enough faith to buy healing." God is the object of Faith. You don't need faith in your faith. That is humanism. You already have the faith of God; rest in Him.

The Church always puts the emphasis on the readiness of the worker, Jesus always puts the emphasis on the readiness of the harvest (John 4:35), because He knew the worker He could equip. "I am not ready, I am not prepared. I am not equipped." The Spirit is your equipping. He knows what to do. He will accomplish through you what needs to be done. John 6: 28-29, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God? Your only work is: to believe in Jesus." Once you believe on Him you do no works any more. The last work you did was to believe on Him, from now on everything you do is letting God do His work through you. He is doing the works through you so its not you doing it, it's Him doing it. If it's Him doing it why are you worried about how equipped you are? Get your mind of you unto Christ.

Identify with Jesus

People have come up with the idea, "Well, if you have enough faith then..." They still will try to have you act like the woman with the issue of blood, or others who exhibited faith. You must stop relating to all the other people in the Gospels. As a believer in Christ, you can only identify with Jesus because He is the person you're exactly like in the spirit (1 John 4:17). You are a Holy Spirit-filled, anointed, righteous believer. The only person in the Gospels that comes close to who you are is Jesus. As Jesus is so are you in this world. As a new creation you have the same right standing with the Father as Jesus; you have the same quality and quantity of faith as Jesus. Yes, the same amount of unwavering faith. Some walk in it more because they know what they have and act upon the Word (Philemon 1:6).

When you read the Gospels, stop putting yourself in the shoes of the sick, the sinner, the sceptical, the one begging for help. Begin to put yourself in the shoes of, and relate to, Christ. Because you are like Christ in the spirit. What He did, you can do also. You identify with Jesus, not John the Baptist, Moses, David, Peter, Mary etc. You are to model your life after only Jesus, not any other character in the Bible. I am not saying you cannot learn from these other characters. Every character in the Bible has strengths that are reflected in the life of Christ but you've gone too far when you start thinking, "Oh, I'm suppose to be like Deborah, or David, or Joseph, or Esther." No! You are just like Christ. There's plenty to learn from all these figures in the Bible, but our identity isn't rooted in any other than Christ.

Why are not all healed?

- Many believers are not healed because of false teaching. They have been taught that sickness and pain are sent by God Himself to chasten them, beautify their character and make them submissive to His will. These people cannot receive their healing by faith, because they believe it's Gods will that they should be sick.

- Other believers are not healed because they always ask with the reservation of “If it be Your will.” Many people believe God can heal them, if it is His will, but they lack that expectant faith which says, “I am already healed by His stripes” They lack this expectant faith simply because they are uncertain as to what His will is concerning them.
- To pray “If it be Your will” is a fatalistic, faithless prayer. You are placing all the responsibility of that healing on God and assuming absolutely none yourself. Yet, God has placed the responsibility for answered prayer on us and not upon Himself.
- Was Christ in any doubt concerning Gods will when He said in the garden, “nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done”? No! He knew that He had come to this world as Gods sinless Lamb to die for mans sin. When, however, He faced the awful agony of the physical suffering of the crucifixion, His human nature revolted, and seeing this, Satan urged Him not to carry out His Father’s will. By the power of the Holy Spirit, He conquered Satan and cried out, “No My will, but Yours be done.” He never had a doubt regarding Gods will.
- It’s God’s will to heal every single person every single time. The reason this doesn’t happen isn’t because God fails to do it. It’s because His representatives aren’t operating in the fullness of what He’s provided for us.
- If healing is already provided for and accomplished, why are we not all just healed? Well, if salvation is provided for and accomplished, why are we not all just saved? It takes faith. Gods will is for all mankind to be saved and healed, but His will doesn’t automatically come to pass. It has to be taken by faith.

Matt. 21:22 *And whatever things you ask in prayer, **believing**, you will receive.”*

Mark 11:22-24 *So Jesus answered and said to them, “Have faith in God. 23 For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ **and does not doubt in his heart**, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. 24 Therefore I say to you, **whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive [have received] them, and you will have them.**”*

- “When you pray, believe that you receive them [have received them], and you will have them.” He puts all responsibility for answered prayer on us. God has never failed you.
- You cannot have faith any further then what your knowledge of what the will of God is. If you don’t believe healing is always Gods will, 100%, all the time, you will NOT see His healing power operate on a consistent basis, because uncertainty (doubt) is a faith killer. “Let not that man [who has not expectant faith] think that he will receive anything from the Lord” (Js 1:7). You need to get to the point where you are 100% sure about the Gods will.
- Faith is not saying, “God can heal me” or “God will heal me” That is called hope or wishful thinking. Nothing or not much will happen. Bible-faith says, “God has healed me.” Faith is seeing yourself as God sees you and then acting according to that truth. Faith is also seeing people as God sees them and then treating them as God would treat them.
- Not understanding the will of God the root of doubt. Hope doesn’t heal people, faith does. If you are not sure if God wants to heal, you are in doubt. Hope says, “I will pray for you, lets hope God will do something.” Faith says, “You were healed by His stripes. What you have is not right and need to be set straight now.”
- Everything you believe about salvation is exactly true for healing too. Both are Gods will at all times because both were provided for in the same atoning sacrifice. Do you ever doubt God wants to save somebody? Then why do you doubt that He wants to heal them?

Some people are weak, sick or die prematurely because they don't discern the Lord's body.

1 Cor. 11:23-30 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; **this is My body which is broken for you**; do this in remembrance of Me." 25 In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "**This cup is the new covenant in My blood**. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. 27 Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. 28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29 For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, **not discerning the Lord's body**. 30 **For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.**

- "Discerning" means "making a distinction between." What distinction? See verse 30, "For this reason [because you do not discern between the significance of the bread and the wine when partaking of the Sacrament] many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep [are prematurely dead]. For what reason? Not discerning the Lords body. Not the blood, but the body. Not realizing and acknowledging what happened at the whipping post or not believing in it is the reason Paul says people are physically sick and even die prematurely.
- The bread represents Jesus' body broken for us. Why was it beaten and broken? 1 Pe. 2:24.
- If, when partaking of the Lords Supper, we fail to discern the true significance of the bread (that healing already is provided) because of ignorance or wrong teaching we bring judgment [*krima*] upon ourselves alone in that we must continue sick or die prematurely, but it does not affect, in any way, our right standing with God. "There is therefore now no condemnation [*katakrima*, sentence standing against] to them who are in Christ Jesus."
- Paul is not saying, "If you do communion wrong, God will damn you to hell. He'll smite you with sickness and death or that you're not worthy to partake of it." Nor is he promoting an introspective-navel-staring-game to see how much you've fallen short. Any practice that arouses condemnation and sin-consciousness Paul calls for what it is: witchcraft (Gal 3:1).
- When you partake of the Holy Communion, it is not just a ritual or symbolic act, no, you must believe that He is the true bread from heaven who took your cancer, diabetes and heart disease, so that you can have His supernatural health. And when you eat of His broken body with this revelation, you will have life in abundance and the health of the Lord!

There are many instances where Jesus healed crowds of thousands of people. None of them were saved, all of them had sin, unforgiveness, generation curses, unbelief etc. None of those things every stopped Jesus or hindered Him healing people. But what about Nazareth?

Mark 6:1-6 Then He went out from there and came to His own country, and His disciples followed Him. 2 And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue. And many hearing Him were astonished, saying, "Where did this Man get these things? And what wisdom is this which is given to Him, that such mighty works are performed by His hands! 3 Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" So they were offended at Him. 4 But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house." 5 Now He could do no mighty work there, except that **He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them**. 6 And He marveled because of their **unbelief**. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.

- The people were astonished because Jesus performed mighty works. Two verses later it says He couldn't do many mighty works. What is going on? Firstly, it isn't saying Jesus couldn't get people healed. It says He only did a few (countable) healings.
- Those who came to Jesus were healed. Those who didn't come weren't. Those who didn't come stayed away because of their unbelief. Unbelief doesn't stop God, but it stops you from reaching out for help. Unbelief is believing Jesus is not the Savior. If you don't think He is the Savior, why would you go to Him? Jesus couldn't do any mighty work was not because He didn't possess the power, but because He chose not to use that power against a person's will. Gods healing will not flow when people choose not to cooperate with Him.
- They didn't want Jesus as Saviour, but that didn't stop Him from healing a few sick. I believe Jesus healed every person that came to Him in Nazareth who needed healing.
- Even an atmosphere of unbelief didn't stop Jesus to heal the sick. He didn't go into worship for hours to change the atmosphere either. The truth is, you are the atmosphere. You have an open heaven. You don't change the atmosphere to change people. You change the people to change the atmosphere. Regardless if unbelief is present, we can heal the sick.

If healing is a sign for unbelievers (Mk.16) then unbelief can't stop healing, because unbelievers, by definition, have unbelief. Man invented the idea, "the reason we don't see healing is because there is too much unbelief here." It should be the opposite, we should see greater healings because healing is meant to be a sign for people who are full of unbelief. The unbelief of the father of the demoniac son ("I do believe, help my unbelief"), whatever amount there was, didn't stop the boy from getting delivered (Mk. 9:24).

Unbelievers are sinners. They live in sin. This destroys the idea that the sick needs to have faith or that you need "an atmosphere of faith" or that you need to get all the sin out before the sick can be healed. Nowhere in the New Testament is that taught. It's a doctrine of devils.

Philemon 1:6 *That the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.*

- Faith is made effective by acknowledging every good thing which you have in Christ, not denying them. They are not just Christ's, they are yours too! Joint-HEIRS.
- You can't have faith in God beyond your knowledge of Him (Hoseas 4:6). If you didn't know Jesus saves, why would you believe in Him? If you didn't know God heals, why would you trust Him for healing?

Questions to ask when you read about Jesus or the disciples healing sick people:

- How did Jesus do it?
- Did He pray for the sick?
- Did He ever ask God for healing?
- Did He create an atmosphere through worship before healing?
- Did He fast?
- Did He ask people what sin they were in before He healed them?
- Did He get people to confess their sins before He healed them?
- Did He ever say, "Sorry, I can't heal you now, it is not God's time?" "Sorry, this is a generational curse, go dig into your past first?" or "Sorry, this sickness is here to teach you something. once you've learned your lesson, come see Me again?" or "Sorry, the anointing lifted, can't help you until it returns?" or "Sorry, the Spirit is in Me not on Me right now, let me fast a little?" or "Sorry, you need more faith?" NO, He never said such baloney. Neither should we as His representatives.

Matt. 4:23-24 *Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and **healing EVERY disease and sickness among the people.** News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him **ALL** who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed, and **he healed them.***

- Everywhere Jesus preached (about the Kingdom) He had the same results. The sick, the demon possessed, the hurting were healed, set free, and comforted. What we would normally call the “results” of His preaching was actually just the demonstration of what He had just preached. He preached the “superiority of God” and then demonstrated it by setting any and all captives free. He preached the Gospel of the Kingdom, then, He demonstrated what life in the Kingdom was like.
- If He was healing EVERY disease and sickness, that must mean that He viewed sicknesses and diseases as a work of the devil. And we also know that it was for this reason that He came - to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8).
- Isn't it interesting there is NOWHERE that Jesus said: “This is your thorn in the flesh, This sickness has been sent to make you more humble and to make you trust God more, This cancer is a gift from God to teach you a lesson, God is getting greater glory by you worshiping Him through your sickness, It's just not My timing yet, I am sovereign and I have a purpose for this sickness to remain, It's just not My will, You just don't have enough faith to receive your healing, Once you get your life right and the sin out, then I will heal you.
- If you hear someone using these excuses for things not happening, you are listening to a doctrine of devils. Jesus healed them and set them free from their oppressions. He never made excuses for sickness and disease to be there. He always recognized them as enemies to be conquered.

Luke 8:43-48 *Now a woman, having a flow of blood for twelve years, who had spent all her livelihood on physicians and could not be healed by any, 44 came from behind and touched the border of His garment. And immediately her flow of blood stopped. 45 And Jesus said, “Who touched Me?” When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, “Master, the multitudes throng and press You, and You say, ‘Who touched Me?’” 46 But Jesus said, “Somebody touched Me, for I perceived power going out from Me.” 47 Now when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before Him, she declared to Him in the presence of all the people the reason she had touched Him and how she was healed immediately. 48 And He said to her, “Daughter, be of good cheer; your faith has made you well. Go in peace.”*

- Doctors couldn't help and she spent ALL her livelihood on them. God doesn't charge! Never get prayer from somebody who charges for it. They might fool you by calling it a tithe or thanksgiving offering. Buying is buying and God is not in the prostitution business. You can't buy His favour and love, you believe it.
- She came and touched Jesus' clothes. No praying, no rebuking, just touch.
- Jesus didn't know who touched Him. So much for Gods timing and plan for your healing. (Pool of Bethesda. The angel stirred the water and whoever got in got healed).
- The power of God is continuous and perpetual. He said, “Light be!” and light still is. He said, By His stripes you were healed.” Faith connects you to that promise. It is always there. The electricity company generates the power and supplies it to your house. You have to switch the lights on for electricity to work for you.
- The lady was in threat of being stoned to death just for being there. She committed several sins and she was still healed. Sin doesn't stop de power of God.

Acts 3:1-16 Now Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, the ninth hour. 2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms from those who entered the temple; 3 who, seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple, asked for alms. 4 And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, "Look at us." 5 So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. 6 Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." 7 And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. 8 So he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them - walking, leaping, and praising God. 9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God. 10 Then they knew that it was he who sat begging alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. 11 Now as the lame man who was healed held on to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch which is called Solomon's, greatly amazed. 12 So when Peter saw it, he responded to the people: "Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? 13 The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go. 14 But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, 15 and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses. 16 And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

- The man was healed before they went to pray. You don't need to get "prayed up" first.
- There is nothing in the Bible about praying before a meeting. Mark 16 says, believers lay hands on sick. It doesn't say "pray." The unbeliever doesn't need prayer for healing they just need to be touched. To give your right hand is to lay hands.
- Peter said, "Look at us." Poor Peter, he didn't had Bible seminary, except 3 years with Jesus. Peter should have know better and said, "Look at Jesus." Silly Peter.
- Why does a person need a representative? Because they are not there. Jesus made us representatives because He isn't here in bodily form. You are, according to the Bible, Christ with skin. It is no longer you that lives, but Christ living in you (Gal. 2:20).
- The lame man had never walked and was over 40 years old. Our senses might say, "that's a hard case." The enemy tries to bluff you: "this is big and bad." We walk by faith, not by sight. Wigglesworth: I am not moved by what I see or hear. I am moved by what I believe.
- Peter said, "What I have, I give you." Notice, Peter didn't pray for this man. He didn't ask God to heal him. He didn't say, "O God, we can do nothing without You. Please heal this man if it is Your will." It is always Gods will to heal. Peter acknowledged he had raising from the dead power in him and that it was under his authority to release.
- "He took him by the right hand (laying hands) and lifted him up (working of miracles)." Faith + action. Faith acted upon brings supernatural results.
- You want to be bold, like Peter? You don't pray for more boldness. To be bold, get convinced of what you know to be true. When you get convinced of what you know and believe, you'll be bold. Not by begging and pleading God, asking Him to give you boldness
- The man praised God after he got healed. You don't have to created an atmosphere through singing before God will heal. Praise is giving thanks, not begging. Any worship that is geared towards getting God to do something, or to get God to give you something is worship in vain, because it's manipulation, inspired by doctrines of man (Mark 7:7). The reason why corporate worship works is because you believe it works. There is nothing in the Bible about worship to be necessary for healing to take place. We do see worship

connected to healing, but this usually happens after the healing takes place, not before!

- “They were filled with wonder” Signs as wonders. Healing is a sign that makes you wonder
- Peter first said, “look at us, what I have I give you” but in verse 12 he asks the people, “Why do you look at us as through by our own power or godliness we made this man walk.” What heals people? Not my own power, not my anointing or my holiness. Not because I have prayed or fasted enough or done enough good deeds. Know two things, 1) You can’t do anything to deserve healing. Jesus already has done what needed to be done and gave you all you will ever need, and 2) You can’t do anything to make you worthy or deserving to be used by God to heal.
- What healed the man? It was, “through His Name and faith in His Name.” What saved you? His Name and faith in His Name. If you can exercise His Name and faith in His Name for something selfish to get you saved surely you can exercise the Name and faith in the Name to do something unselfish and heal a lame man.
- What heals you? His name and faith in His Name. The faith that comes through Him. Don’t have faith in your faith. Jesus has supplied you with His kind of faith.
- What did the man ask for? Money. He didn’t want healing. He didn’t ask to be healed. Do you need permission from sick person or family member to pray? No. For it to be right for anybody it has to be right for everybody. If it is true that you need to have permission to heal the sick then that means nobody can get healed any other way - for it would be a law. If you have to get permission one time, then you need to get permission all the time. You can’t get permission from certain people, like a dead person, person in coma, mentally handicapped. The very fact that you don’t have to have permission proves that you don’t need anybody’s permission to help them (otherwise you eliminate segments of society).
- Do what you want done to you (Matt. 7:12). You’re sick and a believer can heal you, do you want to be healed? If your answer is “yes” you’ve just commissioned yourself into a healing ministry. What if the other want their sickness or the devil? The Bible doesn’t say, ask and do what they want. It does say, “if you are sick, do you want to be made well?” If your answer is “yes” then you can heal and deliver people without their permission.
- I am Gods son, mans servant, the devils master. I serve man and lord over Satan from the place of sonship. I rule (not lord) over men by serving him. The way we lord over Satan and rule over man is by setting them free. We’re responsible to protect and deliver men from devils’ bondage whether you’ve permission or not. Do what you want done to you.
- Exalt God. Exhort men. Exhaust the devil.

There is no formula for healing, there is only faith. Having soaking services and trying to change the atmosphere to try and facilitate your own faith for healing could work to a degree. Digging into the past or first dealing with a wound in the soul, before healing takes place has proven helpful in certain cases. Even through confession of sins healings have taken place. Though some of the theology behind those methods might be a little whack, miracles still seem to happen. This is because Gods healing power operates on a system of faith. The method you believe in is the method that will work for you.

You don’t have to first dig in the past, soak, or confess sin to be healed. But if you believe by doing these things you’ll get healed, you will. Just because you get healed that way, doesn’t mean that it’s the process God ordained for healing. It is a self-made prerequisite for healing that is not Scriptural, but a man made doctrine. You’re doing something that doesn’t guarantee results. Jesus didn’t say, “if you spend time in My presence and confess your sins, then I’ll heal you.”

For it to be right for anybody it has to be right for everybody. If it is true that you first need to get rid of unforgiveness, break curses, get “sin” out of the way, create an atmosphere, have permission, etc. to heal the sick then that means nobody can get healed any other way. For it to be right for one, it has to be right all the time - it would be a spiritual law of God. And if you don’t have to do it every time then you don’t have to do it any time!

Most principles applied to get rid of bitterness, unforgiveness, receive emotional healing and repenting from faulty thinking is good. And sometimes as a result people are set free or get healed (e.g. by confessing a lie), but is not the process God ordained for healing This is called discipleship, not healing or deliverance (Mt. 10:8). If you want to get healed there are only two ways to do it, you believe for yourself or you go to someone who can believe for you.

John 5: 1-9 *After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 2 Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. 3 In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. 4 For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. 5 Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, “Do you want to be made well?” 7 The sick man answered Him, “Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me.” 8 Jesus said to him, “Rise, take up your bed and walk.” 9 And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath.*

- The power of God is so “mechanical” that whoever got into the pool got healed.
- This man had been sick for 38 years. Many that have a sickness for that length of time probably will think “If God really wanted to heal me, he would have done it by now.”
- Many think that because of this story Jesus only healed that one man. Probably He healed more than one man, only this man’s story made it in to the book (John 21:25). When you read John 5:16 it says the Pharisees persecuted Jesus for “these things” He did on that Sabbath, implying He did more than one miracle that day.
- Healing is not a reward. Jesus never said, “What did you do to deserve this?” All He said was, “What do you want Me to do for you?” If it’s not a reward then a person is not healed based on if he or she has faith or not or has sinned or not, whether they are good or not. And Jesus never told a person what they had to do to get them healed and delivered.
- Anything you put your faith in, outside of Jesus, is going to let you down.

Do you get it? Anything you believe that is contrary to Jesus is a tradition of man that nullifies the Word of God in your life. Stop it! It nullifies it because you will not go to God if you believe those conditions. You have set up vain empty imaginations that try to exalt themselves against the knowledge of Christ.

Matt. 15:6-9 *Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition. 7 Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: 8 ‘These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. 9 And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’*

- You make the commandment of God of NO EFFECT through traditions. And we wonder why His word is seemingly not working. That is because what we believe to be true has in many cases been so far removed from Scripture through our useless traditions.

Mark 7:6-13 He answered and said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: ‘This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. 7 And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ 8 For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men - the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do.” 9 He said to them, “**All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition13 making the word of God of no effect through your tradition which you have handed down. And many such things you do.**”

- We have many such traditions when it comes to God and His power. Most formed through experiential theology. “It worked when we did this, therefore we always have to do this or else it is not God.” “It didn’t work, therefore the sick person or God is to blame.

Tradition of man emphasizes what you can’t do, what you don’t have and what you need. It keeps you running on the treadmill of religion without impacting people with healing power.

- Christians everywhere are looking for that one book that can give them what they need to get started in healing ministry.
- They are looking for that one key that will instantly change everything.
- They think (and are often taught) that if they hear enough “Word” preaching, they will gradually get filled up with faith and then they will explode upon the world scene as the next world renowned healing evangelist.
- They think that if they just get that new book out by the man with that great healing ministry, they will “get it”.
- They think that if they get in an “impartation line”, then they will get what “the man of God” has. (The truth is, you ALREADY have what the man of God has, it’s called the Holy Spirit.)
- People keep trying to “get” an anointing (usually someone else’s), when what they need is to realize they already have the anointing. (1 John 2:20 & 2:27)
- That is their problem. They are trying to get “it” instead of realizing, they already got “Him.” Christ is our everythingness. Christ + something = nothing. Christ + nothing = everything. Christ + searching for and removing obstacles, confessing sin, obtaining faith, fasting, crying out for healing anointing or Spirit's outpouring = nothing. It’s self-reliance, instead of Christ’s reliance.

Conclusion

Jesus is perfect theology. If what you believe on how to minister is not reflected by Jesus or the way He ministered, you are most likely building a traditional conviction (remember the questions to ask when you read about Jesus or the disciples healing sick people?).

6. Being led and being anointed

Most people are waiting for a phone call from God when He has already sent them a letter! Many people seem to be waiting on God to tell them specifically what to do and when to do it, rather than realizing that God has already told us what to do and given us examples of how to do it. Any specifics we may need will be given AS WE GO, and not UNTIL we go.

Rom. 8:14 *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are sons of God.*

James 1:22 *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*

- Based upon the current teaching prevalent in the church, many would say that these two verses are contradictory. The way Romans 8:14 is usually used is to promote the idea that a Christian is not supposed to do anything that they are not “led by the Spirit” to do. There are those that try to say that Christians should only do something when they receive a “rhema” word from God.
- The context, however, shows that being led by the Spirit has nothing to do with a Christian “doing” anything other than putting to death the deeds of the flesh (led by grace, not law).
- The Greek word for “led” implies to be led without regard for beginning or end of action (continuously led). Meaning, “walk continuously after the Spirit, in sonship, not the flesh.
- Sons of God are led. Are you a son? Then you are led. In contrast, a servant has to be told what to do, when to do, and how to do it.
- Only one time the disciples were commanded to wait (Acts 1). Once we’ve received what they received, we’re told to GO! If you want to wait, then you need to go to Jerusalem.
- Romans 8:14 does NOT say that a Christian should not exercise any of the benefits of the Atonement, or that they should not obey any and every Scripture that can apply to them. If it did, we would have to add, “if the Spirit leads you to” before every command in the New Testament. This would also make James 1:22 not only misleading, but it would make God guilty of making you sin. Because, how are you supposed to know when to act on a Scripture and when not to act on a Scripture?
- The Holy Spirit leads you into all truth (John 16:13). Once you know truth, you can act on it. To know the will of God, read the Word. To be led by the Spirit, do the Word (Sumrall).
- The written word of God is more sure than a voice speaking from heaven (2 Peter 1:16-21).
- Jesus said, “My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work.” (John 4:34) The milk is knowing the Word, hearing the Word, preaching the Word. The meat is doing the Word. That's the difference between milk and meat. You can hear about it all your life, and as long as you sit and be a hearer only, and not a doer, you deceive yourself.
- If you only hear, you deceive yourself. Don’t make the devil’s work easier for him!

Matt. 7:24-27 *“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: 25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. 26 “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: 27 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”*

- Wise men hear and do. Fools hear and don’t do.
- That is why we said in chapter 1: Gods Word is our ultimate rule for faith and ACTION.
- You don’t need a special leading, you have the Word. Healing is in the atonement, so you can never be outside the will of God ministering healing. It is always a “yes and amen.”

- The Spirit cannot lead you to do something that is contrary to the Word. If He does lead you specifically, which He also does, it will line up with the Word. So doing the Word will line up with any leading anyway.
- The Great Commission is a command. A command has in itself a leading otherwise it would be a suggestion. What else is a leading but an instruction/permission to do something? If you treat commandments as suggestions, you might wonder why the command is of no effect in our life.
- The employee of least value to a company is the one that has to be told everything to do (don't want to make mistakes, don't do more than they have to). The most valuable employee is the one that finds what needs to be done and does it without being told.
- We should learn to be led by God's nature and His Word and not by some arbitrary voice or feeling (usually this means you're following your soul). E.g. "I don't feel like witnessing today. I stay home and pray from here." If the Bible says you to do something and you say the Spirit is leading you to not do it, you're led by another spirit because the Spirit and the Word are one and agree. I'm not saying, don't pray. But don't let praying be an excuse for not doing the Bible. Do the Bible. And when you do the Bible you're being led, because you won't do the Bible without the Spirit of God leading you. God never gives you the assignment to do something without giving you the ability to do it.

Acts 16: 4-10 *And as they went through the cities, they delivered to them the decrees to keep, which were determined by the apostles and elders at Jerusalem. 5 So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and increased in number daily. 6 Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. 7 After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them. 8 So passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. 9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.*

- Paul and his buddies went through the cities just doing the Great Commission. While they were doing the general, the Holy Spirit gave a specific instruction.
- The Holy Spirit forbid them to go to Asia. That doesn't mean it was not His will for Asia to be saved because Philippi and Thessalonica were in Asia. When you do the general, you can receive a specific leading. Through Macedonia, whole of Asia opened up for the gospel
- You can get special of specific leadings, but if you don't, it doesn't mean you don't have to act. Doing the Father's will means knowing it and doing it irrespective of whether you received special instruction or not.
- If you get a special leading, obey it. But until you get a special leading, do the Word.

Luke 17:5-10 is the parable of the unprofitable servant who needs to be told what to do. If an unprofitable servant is a person who does all they're commanded, what would be a profitable servant? Somebody that does what they're not told to do. Somebody that does what needs to be done, and not what they're commanded to do. For some reason we think that the height of spirituality is to be told everything to do, when to do it, how to do it. The older you get the less supervision you should have to have. What's that called? Maturity. Why do we think it's the opposite? We think the older we get in Christ the more supervision we have to have, the more detailed we have to get, the more detailed instruction we have to get.

Mark 9:38-40 Now John answered Him, saying, “Teacher, we saw someone who does not follow us casting out demons in Your name, and we forbade him because he does not follow us.” 39 But Jesus said, “Do not forbid him, for no one who works a miracle in My name can soon afterward speak evil of Me. 40 For he who is not against us is on our side.

- The disciples complained because other people were doing the works Jesus specially told them to do, yet Jesus told the disciples not to stop them. They were doing the will of God.
- Here, an unsaved person was going around casting out demons in the Name of Jesus. Jesus did not know it and did not condemn this activity. The Name of Jesus has so much power that even people whom He never knew, WILL (not might or maybe) perform miracles, cast out devils, and prophesy using His name (Matt. 7:22).
- If a person who’s not empowered by the Holy Spirit can perform miracles, casts out demons and prophecy using the Name of Jesus, how much easier should it be for a Holy Spirit’s empowered believer to perform supernatural signs or wonders!

Luke 7:12-16 And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. 13 **When the Lord saw her**, He had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.” 14 Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.” 15 So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother. 16 Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has risen up among us”; and, “God has visited His people.”

- Jesus wasn’t led to raise the dead. He SAW the need and met it.
- Jesus wasn’t led to raise the dead, He IS the resurrection.
- He had compassion. When you see sickness and feel compassion (not pity), you are in exactly the same position Jesus was to raise the dead. Act on it.
- When you see sickness and don’t feel compassion, you can still act like Jesus. Don’t put God in a feelings box.
- Luke 13:12, “When Jesus saw her, He called her... and said to her, “Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity.” When you see sickness, you can act like Jesus. See the need, meet it.
- Phil. 2:13, “for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.” Your desire to do good is Him leading you. You are too selfish to think that of yourself.

1 Sam. 10:6-7 Then the Spirit of the Lord will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. 7 And let it be, when these signs come to you, that **you do as the occasion demands**; for God is with you.

- Have you been saved and turned into a new man? Do you have the Spirit of Jesus living in you? Then do as the occasion demands for God is with you (Heb. 13:5, Matt. 28:20).
- If the occasion demands healing, heal. If prophecy, prophecy. If deliverance, deliver.
- “But I don’t know how?” Start with what you do know then learn more through experience as you go.

1 John 2:20 You have an **anointing** [chrisma] from the Holy One, and you know all things.

- “An” was added for grammatical reasons. The Greek word for “charisma” means THE special endowment of the Holy Spirit. The endowment IS the Holy Spirit. If you have Him, you are anointed. The “an” makes it sound like there are more anointings, but that is not true. You won’t find any scripture to support that whatsoever.

Luke 4:18-19 *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.*

- The Spirit was on Jesus because He was anointed. The anointing brings the Spirit, the Spirit doesn't bring the anointing. Anointed means to be appointed to do something.
- 1 Sam. 9:15-16: God tells Samuel He's chosen Saul to be king and tells him to anoint him.
- 1 Sam. 10:1: “Is it not because the Lord has anointed you.” Samuel poured out oil over Saul to symbolize that God had already anointed Him.
- 1 Sam. 10:6: After the anointing the Spirit came upon Saul and he was turned into another man (shadow of the New Creation). The anointing (position of sonship) is when you got born again. Because you are sons, He sent His Spirit upon you (baptism of the Spirit).

Gal. 3:26-27 *For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*

- If you are a son, you are baptized into Christ (the Anointed One) and have put on Christ (the Anointed One). You have Christ's anointing! How else does God expect you to do the same and greater works if He gave you a different or lesser anointing? That's just dumb.
- The new birth gives you anointing to become sons of God (position of authority: the right to do something). The baptism of the Spirit gives you the ability (power) to act like one.
- 2 Peter 1:3, “His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness.” All things means All things! pertaining to life and godliness. You don't lack anointing, you don't lack power, holiness, righteousness, authority, faith, love, healing, victory, etc.

1 John 2:27 *But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.*

- “You have received anointing.” is past tense which means you already received it.
- The anointing abides. It doesn't come and go. It never leaves, lifts, comes, increases or loses it's potent power. If it came and went you would be unborn-again every time it left.
- Since the anointing lives in us, and the anointing is the Holy Spirit, we don't have to wait for Him to “show up.” If you are there, He is there. When you show up, He shows up.
- Signs follow you. That means the Holy Spirit will follow you and confirms His words.

Eph 1:3 *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ.*

- Would you say the anointing is a “spiritual blessing?” If yes, and the Word says you have every spiritual blessing, which anointing do you think you don't have?
- If the devil can get you to believe you don't have something, he will stop you from using that against him. If he can get you to believe only specially anointed people can heal, you won't lay hands and set captives free. Stop believing the garbage people teach about different kinds of anointing.
- Only kings, prophets and priests got anointed in the Bible. In Christ you are all three. You are not an anointed psalmist, anointed leader, or anointed healer. You don't have special mantels that enable you to do supernatural things, you have the Holy Spirit. He is the anointing, He is the Power. Stop dishonouring by denying His influence and help.
- You are always anointed in the exact same way Jesus was anointed (1 John 4:17): to heal, free, raise and proclaim the Kingdom of God (Mat. 10:7-8).

7. Exercising dominion by healing the sick

How do you exercise dominion?

- First you need to acknowledge or realize you actually have authority to exercise, and the power to back it up. Then you need to stop asking God to do things He told you to do. Begging somebody to do your job is not exercising dominion.
- How do you command a naughty dog to get off the couch? You do not talk to the Lord and tell Him how helpless you are and that you need His help in making the dog sit. You do not speak in unknown tongues. You do not say, “Thank you Jesus,” You do not close your eyes. You do not pause to praise and worship God. If you do perform those actions, your dog will likely be confused and not understand what you are saying to him. He will not sit. So, you simply fix your eyes on your dog and with no hint of wavering or uncertainty utter a sharp command: “GET OUT.” And he obeys you. If you know how to command your dog to sit, you will be able to heal the sick in the Name of Jesus Christ.
- When you tell a naughty dog to get off the couch, you don’t go: Father, please remove this dog from my couch in Jesus Name. Father if it is Your will Father, remove Father this dog Father from my couch Father in Jesus Name Father (yes, just listen how many times Christians say Father during prayer). Dog, I rebuke you in Jesus Name (saying “I rebuke you” is not rebuking. You have to command the devil to do something). Dog, please get off the couch. How do you address a naughty dog? GET OUT!

Mark 11:22-24 *“Have faith in God. 23 For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. 24 Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.*

- Speak to the mountain. Speak to your problem. Don’t talk to God about your problem, talk to your problem about God. Command it do what you want it to do.
- A police officer doesn’t phone the chief of police when he sees a burglar, he goes over and arrests him. If he phoned every time to ask permission, he would soon lose his job.

Mark 1:25 *But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be quiet, and come out of him!”*

- Notice the explanation mark. Also in Mark 9:25, when Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: *“Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!”* And, John 11:43, now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, *“Lazarus, come forth!”*
- “Rebuke” means “to admonish or charge sharply.” It is to tell somebody what to do. Jesus didn’t say, “wind and sea I rebuke you.” He rebuked it and *said*, “peace be still.” To tell the devil “I rebuke you” is not telling him what to do and we wonder why nothing happens. So to rebuke is to tell him what you want it to do. “Devil, GO, in Jesus’ Name.”
- Jesus commanded healing. For instance, “Be cleansed” (Mt. 8:3). No long prayers, no fasting, no asking her permission, no asking God what His will is. Command with authority
- The commands Jesus spoke usually ended with “!”, or there is a loudness indicated by the command grammatical remarks. 16 times out of 33 “!” is used after a command, that is close to 50%! Sometimes it helps to get loud. Being loud does not mean more power.
- But, especially when you start ministering healing, when you get loud, the dog gets off the couch. When you speak nicely it doesn’t. Get loud, get angry, command the sickness/devil to leave. This is not a formula, but it is effective none the less. Start there, learn to exercise authority. As you exercise it often and consistently, the demons start to recognize you.

John 11:33-35 *Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled. 34 And He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." 35 Jesus wept.*

- The word for groaned in the Greek means to snort with anger and to have indignation. Like a horse getting read before charging into battle.
- Jesus also wept. He was emotionally charged. Emotions aren't wrong. Draw from them, but don't be led by them. Do what you need to do whether you feel emotional or not. You don't have to feel anointed to act anointed.
- We must have the kind of attitude towards disease and demons when we speak to them "like a mother bear robbed of her cubs."
- Imagine if a home invader breaks down your front door and threatens your wife and children. You would take violent action to protect your loved ones. That is how we speak to diseases and demons. It's the only language they understand. We must force them out with the authority given to us by the Lord. That often involves rebuking and commanding with holy anger and indignation. You have to blast it, convince it; it's not used to be bossed around. Your rank is highest, but it will argue so you back down. Put your foot down and you'll get a reputation in hell. They want you to be respectable in public, fearing loss of reputation, so you don't do anything you have to, to set others free.
- If dog refuses to sit, do you cry out to God for help? Do you panic and allow fear to overwhelm you? Do you speak in tongues? No. you feel indignation rise within yourself. You repeat the command to the dog a second time with greater force. You mean business. You will make sure that he obeys your command; you will make sure that he understands "who's boss." Authority: whatever is under your authority must submit to you.
- Children are also under our authority. If little five-year-old Bobby was striking his little sister, what would we do? Not get down on our knees, pray to God asking Him to stop our little bobby from beating his sister and then wait on Him for His help. No, we would immediately give a forceful and decisive command to Bobby to "stop!" If need, we can physically restrain him. He stops hitting his sister. Our spoken command must be obeyed.

Acts 19:15 *And the evil spirit answered and said, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?"*

- Imagine the first day you started a new job. You had certain responsibilities and the authority to execute those responsibilities. The first day was a mess. You didn't know what you could really do, not do, etc. After a few days, you got settled into your job and knew how to do it.
- If you were put in charge of some people, they might have tested your authority initially. If they learned early on they could walk over you, your authority doesn't mean much to them. But if you let them know their place and where they stand with you, what you allow and what you don't allow, they will recognize your authority. If they still don't, you fire them.
- It is time to stop being politically correct with the devil and start treating him the way Jesus did. He always learns the hard way.
- Some people ask, "How do I pray?" You don't. It's not how you pray, but who prays and with which intent. The power of God follows your intention. What you intent to happen when you pray is what will take place. In times past you've probably been looking for a formula. What you say is not nearly as important as who says it. Devils don't listen to you because you've got the right words. Devils listen because your names are written in Heaven. They listen because of who you are and Who you are connected to, not because you say it right. We've all tried the formula stuff, and we know it doesn't work.

Generating Power?

Some might say you have the authority but you need to live more holy, pray & fast, create an atmosphere and all sorts of mumbo jumbo Harry Pottering to get the power. Even through it can yield results it is the Old Covenant way of doing it.

2 Cor. 3:4-9 *And we have such trust through Christ toward God.⁵ Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God,⁶ who also made us **sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit**; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. ⁷ But if the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, **which glory was passing away,**⁸ how will **the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious?** ⁹ **For if the ministry of condemnation had glory, the ministry of righteousness exceeds much more in glory.***

- Praying and fasting, creating atmosphere with worship and living holy are all good things but when they are used to generate power, it falls under the Old Covenant which has glory that is always passing away.
- In other words as soon as you stop praying, singing, fasting, the power is gone. Under the New Covenant the glory is not fading but we are constantly in the Glory (Christ).
- You also don't have to soak for 3 hours when you just discovered your little child floating facedown in a pool. You don't have to fast for 40 days when your friend has a heart attack in the restaurant. People die while the Church comes up with excuses for not manifesting power. Some diseases attack in an instant. If you can't react in an instant, you lose people.
- The New Covenant doesn't have a fading glory. If you are on a high on Sunday, but Monday it has worn off, the glory you experienced was fading which means what you were doing was pretty much Old Covenant.
- You don't need to create atmosphere; you are the atmosphere. You carry GOD (Heaven) in you! You always have an open heaven, because you are an open heaven. So you don't change the atmosphere to change people. You change people to change the atmosphere.

2 Tim. 1:6 *Therefore I remind you to **stir up the gift of God** which is in you through the laying on of my hands.*

- Stirring up the gift (which is the Holy Spirit) in you is done in the same way you work yourself up when you get angry or upset. To stir up the gift in you is usually for emergencies and crisis situations.
- Peter stirred himself up in prayer and raised Dorcas from the dead (Acts 9:36-42). Paul prayed to stir himself up, laid his hands on Publius and healed him (Acts 28:8-9).

Jude 1:20 *But you, beloved, **building yourselves up** on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit.*

- You can stir and build yourself up by praying in tongues. The way you train is the way you fight. Pray loud, hard, long and often.
- People are hurting and dying, and so we cannot effort a day off. We must stay build up by staying full of God (praying in the spirit and being mindful of spiritual things).

Exercising authority and dominion is more about knowing who you are when you speak, then the actual words you say. It is not a formula, it is not an incantation or anything like that. The words you speak are spirit and life (John 6:63). It is giving instructions to the sickness/demons/problem to do what you want it to do: to GO! When a son of God speaks, heaven hears and agrees, hell hears and obeys (C. Blake)

How to minister healing

1. **Check.** Check what's the problem: what is the name of the sickness, what are the symptoms or what can't the person do. They should not give you a medical history, only the problem. (In meeting setting: ask them to hold their hands out, palms facing down. You hold your hands out, palms facing up, underneath theirs, not touching them yet - only after the command)

2. **Command.** Command sickness/symptoms/spirit of infirmity to leave in Jesus Name.

- "Sickness/symptom/spirit of _____, you have no right to be in (persons name). I break your power, your work is destroyed and I command you to leave NOW (lay hands here and let go after a second or so) in Jesus Name. (Body/organ/system), be healed and restored now and function properly as God intended."

3. **Check.** Check for progress. Ask the person to check for changes. Ask person to do something they could not do before.

- Ask them to tell you on a scale from 1 to 10 (where 10 is 100% better) where they are at now. If it is 100%, give thanks to God – get a doctors report. See step 4: Care.
- If nothing happened, thank God that Jesus bore all sickness and disease and that by His stripes we were healed. Go to step 2: Command.
- If there is 10% healing, thank God for the 10% and go back to step 2: Command. Focus on what God IS doing, not what He's not.
- If significant change, thank God and go back to step 2: Command.

4. **Care.** Care for the person. Lead them to Christ if they are not saved.

- No or little result: encourage them that God is good and in a good mood. Encourage them to give thanks for what did happen. Never lay the responsibility on them.
- Prophecy hope and destiny over them.
- Get the person plugged into a group of believers who meet regularly, baptise them with the Holy Spirit and in water.

Remember:

- All sickness and disease are illegal (have no right) and are in rebellion against the finished work of the cross. Just because they are illegal, doesn't mean they don't exist. It is our job to let righteousness and justice be on earth as it is in Heaven.
- To bring Gods Kingdom into our world, we have to change the illegal to legal (Matt. 12:28). We set the wrong things right: sickness to health, death to life, curse to blessing.
- Treat all sickness the same whether it is caused naturally or physically. Destruction is the work of the devil. All it takes for evil to reign is for a few good men to do nothing. Even doctors know sickness is bad and that is why they devoted their entire lives to eradicating it. Medicine is not divine, it is merely a natural way of producing healing but it has its flaws (cost, side-effects, misdiagnosis, fallibility). We are not against doctors or medicine, we are just for God. This is about divine healing, not natural remedies or diets.
- To know the will of God, read the Word. To be led by the Spirit, do the Word. Your mission, as a Christian, is to manifest the Lord Jesus Christ in each and every situation that you are involved in. You are anointed by God (1 John 2:20,27). You are commissioned to do the works that Jesus did and greater works than He did BECAUSE He went to the Father - He did His part by going, now it's our turn and our job is to do the greater works (John 14:12-14). You are sent as He was sent (John 20:21) You are to do the same thing He did, which was to destroy the works of the devil (1 John 3:8) How did Jesus destroy the works of the devil? Going around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil for God was with Him (Acts 10:38). AND THAT'S HOW YOU WILL DO IT TOO!

Appendix

- A. Summary: 3 simple aspects to divine healing
- B. Kingdom laws: God is predictable and His power is mechanical
- C. Gifts of the Spirit
- D. What is God's will?
- E. Practical pointers to heal anyone, anywhere, anytime
- F. Speaking the Word
- G. Questions and answers
- H. History is waiting

A. Summary: 3 simple aspects to Divine Healing

1) *Is it always God's will to heal and why?*

Yes, because healing was *included* in salvation/atonement.

*But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and **by his wounds we are healed.*** (Isaiah 53:5)

*Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits - who forgives all your sins and **heals all your diseases.*** (Psalm 103:3)

*[Jesus] healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: 'He Himself took our infirmities and **bore our sicknesses.**'* (Matt. 8:16-17)

*Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness - **by whose stripes you were healed.*** (1 Peter 2:24)

- HEALING: it's His Name, it's His Nature, it's His will.
- If you don't know His will, you can't pray in faith. And only by faith people get healed.
- Jesus is the expressed perfect image of God's will (Heb. 1:3) and the image of the invisible God (Col. 1:15) and He never, not once, 'allowed' someone to stay sick. He is willing that none perish, He healed them all, He never changes, and He told the disciples to do the same

2) *Who Can Heal?*

All Christians.

These signs will follow those who believe:** In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; **they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover. (Mk 16:17-18)

*[Jesus]: **He who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son*** (John 14:12-14).

*Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were **unlearned and ignorant men**, they marveled: and they took knowledge of them that they had been with Jesus* (Acts 4:13).

- The first secret key of a healing ministry is to know that there is no secret key! (Acts 4:13)
- The only hindrance to healing is the fact that you believe there are hindrances to healing.
- Jesus healed everybody (Acts 10:38)! We get to partner with Him and re-present His nature and will. When the disciples couldn't get a boy set free, Jesus put the onus on THEM and their natural unbelief (Matthew 17:19-20) - not by saying "Oh, God was 'allowing' that one. He is sovereign. It's all about His timing. It must be their thorn in the flesh."
- God does not 'allow' sickness. Christians do. He passed the ball to us and told us to heal the sick (Matthew 10:8, Luke 10:8-9, Mark 16:15-18).
- A believer heals the sick by the indwelling Christ, not by having "the right doctrine" or a spelled-out formula. In Christ are no steps, keys, levels or gifts to attain. You already have everything in Him. You are complete in Christ (Col. 2:9-10). Relax, just let Him come out.

3) *How To Heal?*

- Do what Jesus did. Don't ask God to heal the person, do not beg or try to persuade God to heal. He has already paid for everyone's healing and then He told you to do it!
- In His sovereignty He said believers will lay hands on the sick, not Him. God already gave you authority and power to heal, you just need to do it.
- Understand your authority, and act like it. Command the sickness or pain to leave. You tell it to happen. You are a king. You decree ("Child, arise," "Peace! Be still" "Be opened!").

B. Kingdom laws: God is predictable and His power is mechanical

God created this world and laws - both natural and spiritual - that govern it and He doesn't violate them. A law is consistent and universal. It's always the same, and never fluctuates, anywhere you go. E.g. the law of gravity. It's always constant. It always works, everywhere. Because the Kingdom of God operates by law, God cannot just do whatever He wants.

Faith is governed by law (Rom. 3:7). When a person has need of healing, it's not a matter of just petitioning God, and then if He wants them healed they'll be healed. God does not have to stamp "approve" or "disapprove" on your prayer. It's not up to God to approve healing; He has already approved all our healing (1 Pt. 2:24). God isn't holding back healing. There are spiritual laws that govern how faith works and how the power of God flows. He isn't looking at you and sizing you up to decide whether you're serious enough or not or whether you're holy enough; it's our ignorance of the laws that keeps us from receiving healing.

If we are ignorant of these laws, we won't cooperate with God by faith and as a result don't walk in His healing power. There are godly people who desired to be healed, earnestly prayed, and died because they didn't cooperate with the spiritual laws of the Kingdom. It's not God who rejected them. If you violate those laws, they will kill you. Ignorance is deadly.

Some spiritual laws are:

- Faith comes by hearing (Rom. 10:17). Every word you hear either produces faith or unbelief. You need to protect yourself from what you are listening to - people, television, songs. The problem of the lack of power has been that the knowledge of Gods Word has not been abiding in us, or the carnal knowledge of the world has choked the Word of God that was there. Get into the Word: it feeds us information that is contrary to nearly all of the information that you'll get in the natural world. "A double minded man is unstable in all his ways and he cannot receive anything from the Lord" (Js. 1:7-8). If the word of God isn't living on the inside of you, then you're violating one of the most foundational laws. That's like having a cord that isn't plugged in to any electrical outlet, yet wondering why your appliance isn't working.
- Speak your faith (Prov. 18:20-21). There is power in your words. Not only positive power, but also negative power. The physical world, even your physical body responds to words. What you say affects what you believe. It will affect your body, the devil, and even God. Words of unbelief will negate your faith. When you speak your faith, spiritual power is released. Who says in faith "be removed to the mountain," it will be done according to what he speaks (Mark 11:23). Speak to your mountain (disease). We need to take our authority and command the power of God to flow (Is. 45:11), command the situation to change. We can speak to anything that is illegal in our sphere of influence. If it has a name, curse it, command it to leave or die or wither. You will have what you say. When you speak faith, Gods power flows. You are hung by the tongue, your words are giving life or are destroying you.
- Faith without actions is dead (James 2:20). If you think sick, talk sick, act sick, you won't see the manifestation of your healing. You need to act upon your faith. Faith acted upon brings supernatural results. When it says, "Resist the devil," you actively fight his schemes (Js. 4:7). When it says, "By His stripes you were healed," you need to start acting healed to see it come to pass (1 Pet 2:24). The point is, do what you can do. Believe and act on the truth that the Lord has already healed all sickness.
- Single-minded/wholehearted (Jer. 29:12-13). As long as you can live without being healed, you will. When you get focused and serious enough that you'll do whatever it takes to act on what you believe; when you get that kind of attitude, the power of God will begin to flow. It takes focus and commitment to receive healing. To be spiritually minded is life and peace (Rom. 8:6). Be single in your focus.

C. Gifts of the Spirit

- 1 Cor. 12:1-11 is where the doctrines of “gifts” of the Spirit take form. However, it is interesting to note that the word “gifts” is used only once here. Paul doesn’t seem to place any emphasis on gifts (“charisma”) at all! Rather, four times Paul makes it clear that all the various things they see, as diverse and different as they are from one another, are nonetheless all by the same God and the same Spirit. That is why he states in verse 1 “Don't be ignorant of the spiritual,” which is realizing the truth about “the same Spirit.” The real gift is not in the diversity of operations and manifestations but the Spirit Himself. One gift is not greater than another. The greatest gift is the Spirit and each situation determines the greatest manifestation of that gift. Desire the greatest gift, the one most applicable to serve the person in their particular situation and watch the Spirit manifest through you in diverse manners. Emphasize that each gift is a manifestation of the Spirit, rather than focus on gifts.
- These nine gifts is not an exhaustive list of gifts or abilities for the Spirit is not limited. Peter's shadow, Paul's apron healed the sick. Jesus turned water into wine. Peter and Paul raised people from the dead Philip was translated. None of these “gifts” are mentioned here. Paul is not listing out nine unique and exclusive dispensations of “gifts”, but instead describes what he understands to be taking place in their meetings. Much like radio commentary of a sporting event, Paul highlights the various things that are taking place during the meeting. One is doing this, another speaks that, and yet another does such, and so on. But at the end he brings them back to his point: *“But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing [actively and constantly] to each one individually as He wills”*
- Every gift in 1 Cor. 12 is a spiritual blessing and you have them all because you have all of the Spirit. You are one spirit with Him. You are complete, you lack nothing. As Jesus is, so are you too. All Christians have all the gifts and can operate in all. One person might seem to be naturally more adapt to healing than the prophetic but that does not mean they don’t have to prophesy. It is like the sportsman learning to play an instrument. It might not come naturally at first, but through training he will master the instrument to the point where it does seemingly come naturally.
- We’re called to walk in the image and example of Jesus. He walked in the fullness of the Spirit, not in “gifts.” And we have the fullness of the Spirit (Col. 2:9-10). The gifts are stepping stones to reach reliance on the Holy Spirit only. In my growing up I might have to rely on a gift, but once I am a grown up son of God, I won’t have to rely on the gifts because I have now learned to rely on THE GIFT, the Holy Spirit. I do not claim to have any gift except the Spirit Himself. You are one spirit with Him. There is no distinction where His Spirit ends and yours begins.
- Gifts are given to give what you don’t have when you need to meet a persons need. Gifts are not given because of you. God wants to meet the need of the other person so He gives a manifestation of the Spirit in the form of a gift to help that person. The gift is to you, to go through you, but it’s not for you. It’s always for somebody else. You are the giver, the Spirit the supplier, man the receiver. Over time, gifts will start to wane and you wont rely on bursts of a gift, but on the fullness of the Spirit to work through you. It’s called maturity - growing up in all things into Christ (Eph. 4:15).
- The Corinthian people were carnal people (babes in Christ) and not mature. Yet they operated in the gifts of the Spirit. Gifts don’t determine maturity. You can operate in all the gifts yet be ignorant and immature. Ignorance of the spiritual (of who you are and Whom you’re one with) keeps you immature, not ignorance of the gifts (1 Cor. 3:1-3, 1:4-7, 12:1).

D. What is God's Will?

John 10:10 *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*

- God's will must be that everyone might have life and have it more abundantly.

1 John 3:8 *He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.*

- God's will must be that the works of the devil be destroyed.

Acts 10:38 *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.*

- God's will must be that if God is with someone, that they should be anointed with the Holy Ghost and with power and that they go about doing good and healing all that are oppressed of the devil.

3 John 1:2 *Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.*

- God's will must be that we prosper and be in health as our soul prospers.

Matt. 6:9-10 *In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

- God's will must be that His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

James 1:22 *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*

- God's will must be that we be doers of the Word of God and not just hearers.

Matt. 7:12 *Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.*

- If you were sick and someone had the power of God in their life to heal you, would you want them to come to you and minister healing? Anyone who will answer honestly would have to say they would. (In your answer is the commission to the healing ministry!)

Divine Job descriptions

God _____

Jesus _____

Holy Spirit _____

Christian _____

Satan _____

Man _____

Ascribe the right job description to the party involved in healing the sick:
Oppressor/universal criminal // Power executor // Provider of authority // Sick/recoverer // Judge – executor of judgment for all the oppressed // Enforcer/co-laborer with Deity.

E. Practical pointers to heal anyone, anywhere, anytime

If I see someone with a visible need (a limp, cane, crutch, cast), I genuinely ask “*Hey what happened?*” or for younger folks, “*Hey dude, what happened?*”

They’ll proceed to tell me, and usually I’ll ask, “*Well does it hurt right now?*” If they say “yes,” then I’ll usually say: “*Here, let me show you something*” or “*Here, check this out*” or “*Here, let me see your hand real quick*” or “*Let’s take care of that right now.*”

As I say that, I hold out my hand to shake theirs, and 95% of the time, they give me their hand. I either do that, or I’ll just put my hand on their shoulder and then start commanding the sickness/problem to go.

And then I’ll usually ask: “*How’s it feeling?*” “*Check it out!*” “*Bend your (body part)*” “*Do something you couldn’t do before*” They will test themselves out and then report back. When they have been healed, it’s an open door for me to preach Jesus. Also, when they’re healed, it builds rapport if they are with friends or family who are sceptical.

Remember, these are just basic principles. It usually doesn’t happen precisely like this because it varies on the person, their age, who they’re with, and other factors like that.

Side note: When I’m on the streets, I try to avoid asking “would you like prayer?” or “Can I pray for you” because I don’t know what preconceived idea they have of “prayer” or if they have been previously offended or hurt by the religious community.

Some other phrases I’ve used are: “*Do you want to get better?*” “*Do you want healing?*” “*I can heal you*” But if for some reason I do ask if they want prayer, then this is what I say “*Hey do you need prayer for anything? or... “Hey is your back bugging you? Let me pray for you.”*”

If you must ask, try using “let me pray” instead of “can I pray.” The former carries more authority and people will respond more to that. If people still reject me, I will say something like, “Well hey, what’s your name?” *hand shake* “Be well anyway.” *these signs will follow those who believe... they will lay hands on the sick, they will recover*” – Mark 16:17-18. It doesn’t say that they will lay hands and “they will have to pray” before they are made well. It says they will lay hands. A handshake is laying on hands.

Another thing, sometimes people will inevitably ask, “Why?” or “Why do you ask?” and you can dodge the question by saying “Here let me show you something” and go for it, but reading someone’s body language, sometimes that’s not the best way to go and you just have to answer the question. Here’s what I have said in the past:

“A bunch of my friends and I hit the streets a lot and we pray for people all the time and see tons of people get better” “My friends and I heal people all the time” “We’ve prayed and seen tons of people healed of stuff like this all the time” “I can get you better”

From there, most people are receptive and will give it a go, and a small handful will respectfully decline. When people decline, I’ll usually push a few more buttons: *are you sure?* “*it’s totally free*” “*it’ll only take 2 seconds.*” Usually a handful more will bite when you add the “free” and “2 seconds,” but there is still a pocket of people who will still decline. At this point, sometimes I push a little more and say: “*So you want to keep your pain?*” “*so you don’t want to get better?*” (Source used: <http://www.iamaspirit.org>)

F. Speaking the Word

“Father, I believe Your Word. What Your Word says is true. I can do what Your Word says. I am who Your Word says I am.

I am going to do what Your Word says I can do. I am going to activate Your Power in my life and I am going to make my faith effective by acknowledging every good thing that is in me in Christ. It is not I who live but Christ who lives in me. I died with Christ, was buried and resurrected with Him.

I sit in heavenly places in Christ far above all principalities and powers. That means far above all sickness and disease.

I am no longer under the beggarly elements of this world, I am above them. They do not tell me what to do, I tell them what to do.

I tell sickness and disease to get out and they leave. I lay my hands on the sick and they recover. I cast out demons and free the oppressed.

I have power and authority over all the power of the enemy and nothing shall by any means hurt me, touch my family or come near my dwelling. When sickness comes towards me, I run toward it and it flees in seven directions because greater is He that is living in me than he that is living in the world.

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free of the law of sin and death. I do not walk in sin, sickness or death but I walk in righteousness, holiness, health and life abundant.

I have life enough for me and life enough to give away. I have life and healing in my hands and I give it away to whomever I touch. Signs and wonders follow me. I can do the same works Jesus did and greater.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. I am an ambassador for Christ and a co-labourer with God. I am destined to reign in life and glorify my Father.

I am anointed, equipped, empowered and fully able to accomplish everything God wants me to do because I have received the Holy Spirit of Promise. The gifts of the Spirit operate in my life and I use them to advance the Kingdom of my Father.

I might be in this world but I am not from this world. I am from the Kingdom of Heaven. The fullness of God dwells in Jesus and He fully lives in me. I'm so full of God that there is no room left for the devil.

There is no room for sickness or disease in me. I am so full of life that it overflows and touches the people around me. I live in the Presence of God every second of every day. Where the Presence of the Lord is there is fullness of joy and liberty to the oppressed

Where I go, the Presence goes with me to heal, deliver and set the captives free. I have received freely, and I give freely.

I am God's son, man's servant and the devil's master. When I speak the Word of God, heaven hears and agrees, hell hears and obeys.”

Now I GO, and Do the Word!

G. Questions and Answers

Q: Can sin stop the power of God to heal or deliver me?

No. Romans 1:16 tells us the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation. The word ‘salvation’ in the Greek is the word *soteria* which also means to heal, to protect, to deliver, to make whole. Your sin wasn’t able to stop God from saving you, and neither is your sin able to stop Him from healing or delivering you. To say that God will choose not to heal a sick person due to his sin is the same as saying that God will not save a sinner due to his sin. This is because physical healing and forgiveness of sins are both included in the atonement. If sin could stop the power of God, sin would be more powerful than the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Now I am not saying sin is OK, but don’t let it stop you from coming to God. If your sin could have influenced His love for you, then He wouldn’t have sent Jesus to the cross to die for you. We must remember that we bring absolutely nothing to the table for our righteousness in Christ because it is the sacrifice of Christ that saves us from our sin, not how good we have earned it. Thus, the same is true for physical healing. God wills to heal us 100%, all the time, simply because it was an accomplished work of the atonement, not because of how holy we are to earn our healing. Furthermore, since the scriptures tells us that no one is without sin (Rom 3:23, 1 John 1:10), this means that everyone whom Jesus healed had sins; yet *never once* did Jesus withhold their healing (Mat. 8:13, Mk. 5:41-42, Lk. 8:43-44). Therefore, the explanation that sin is a reason why God would not heal is unbiblical, not to mention that it also contradicts Christ’s accomplished work and promise in the atonement. And in John 5:5-14 Jesus healed a man with an infirmity for thirty-eight years. Following this healing, Jesus told the man to “*sin no more*, lest a worse thing come upon you” (vs. 14). Clearly, Jesus did not withhold physical healing from this man even though Jesus knew this man was in sin. Rather, Jesus chose to demonstrate His love first to heal him, and then to instruct him to sin no more.

Q: Does God allow or use sickness to teach (or sanctify, humble) me?

Considering you think God gives sickness to teach a lesson, and you are suppose to be “imitators of God” what should you be doing? According to this logic, you’ll be praying for your loved ones to catch a virus or get hit by a car. Or why not go to the lab and have them inject cancer cells into their body so that they can learn a lesson and experience some growth in Christ? Of course, this is ultimate stupidity. Yet many Christians entertain this flawed thinking, proven by certain things they say, “God must have a purpose for this cancer. He works all things out for the good for those who love Him. His ways are higher.” Or “This sicknesses builds your character.” Do babies have the rational faculties to understand what they’re going through? Building their character through hardships? They’re still babies. Those who God delights in He disciplines (Heb. 12). Do you “discipline” your children with life-depleting illnesses? I’ll be calling child protection services on you if so. God disciplines (trains) us through His Word (2 Tim. 3:16) and the Spirit, not through sickness and disease. In John 14:26, Jesus said that when the Holy Spirit comes (which He has), the Holy Spirit will “teach us all things.” If the Holy Spirit will teach us all things, then everything that we know will be from the Holy Spirit. Thus, to say that a physical sickness is to teach us something is to say that the Holy Spirit is a physical sickness Himself (which clearly cannot be the case because God is an incorruptible God (Rom 1:23), and physical sickness is corruptible).

God knows how to give good gifts. Something that steals health, kills people and destroys families is not my idea of a good and perfect gift from above. Also, if it were God’s will for you to be sick, then you would be in sin and rebellion going to the doctor to get better. Think about it, if you believe God makes you sick, you should pray for the symptoms to become worse so you can really learn your lesson.

God doesn't allow or use sickness to teach you or better you is because sickness is bringing death. And death is His enemy. He is not using His enemy to somehow help you being a better person. You can choose to use every opportunity to learn, like having your fingers between a door. You can learn from it. But God doesn't use your finger-between-the-door experience to tell you something.

To endure suffering and persecution for the faith: yes. To endure physical sickness for the faith: no and never; because this clearly violates scripture (Ps. 103:2-3, Is. 53:4-5, James 5:13-16, 1 Peter 2:24). The statement that God uses physical sickness and suffering to teach his children is a clear violation of New Testament scripture (which is what applies to us today because we are New Covenant believers). Some will suggest that there are various scriptures in the Old Testament where God literally said that He would inflict diseases and sicknesses upon His people if they did not keep His precepts. So they conclude that God is still doing this today to His children to inflict them with diseases in order to "teach" them something. Nevertheless, to make this conclusion would be a great error because we are not Old Covenant believers, but rather, New Covenant believers in Christ. Many things that happened in the Old Covenant between God and man do not apply to us today because we are New Covenant believers. While we should still read the Old Testament because it is still the word of God, we must read the Old Testament through the lens of the New Testament. As Paul tells us clearly in Hebr. 8:13, the Old Covenant has been made "obsolete and will soon disappear."

Q: Are doctors and medicine God's way of healing today?

We have nothing against doctors, but they or medicine aren't God's way of healing in this age. If they were, then why are doctors charging and why does medicine have negative side-effects? Jesus never asked for money and there weren't any side-effects either. Now God can work healing through a doctor, but that is not His best way. His best way is the stripes of Jesus. Personally I agree with Curry Blake who says doctors are closer to the heart of God than most Christians because they have at least dedicated their lives to eradicating sickness and suffering. That is more than what we can say for a vast majority of the church today.

Q: Does taking medicine void my faith?

No. Medicine is not stronger than God's power. If you have faith, you will be healed. If you then take medicine, your body will react differently to the medication. When it does, go to your doctor to check the need to continue taking the medicine. Don't break your glasses after somebody prays for your eyes either. Put the glasses back on and check if you can still see through them. Also never listen to anybody who tells you to take or stop taking medicine unless they are a doctor. It is illegal to give advice or instruction on the intake of medicine if you are not a doctor. Our job is not to diagnose, or to fix blame, but rather to fix the problem. Jesus never pointed out the sick person's problem. He simply set them free.

Q: Does God have a set time for my healing?

Yes. His set time was at the cross. By the stripes of Jesus your WERE healed (1 Pet 2:24). There is no future set time when God is going to do something to cause your healing. He did everything already and he did them perfectly. NOW is the day of salvation. (Salvation = soteria = healing, deliverance, protection, salvation, to make whole).

Q: Do you need to have a position or office to heal the sick?

Yes. The position and office of a believer. If you are a believer, you are a commissioned healing agent. *Believers* lay hands on the sick and they shall recover (Mark 16:15). *Believers* will do the works Jesus did, and greater works he will do (John 14:12).

Q: Do I need to tithe for God to be able to bless me?

No. You need to believe in Jesus and the free gift of His righteousness. God blessed you based on that and that alone. If you are tithing in order to receive a blessing, it is vain worship because you are trying to buy God's blessings. See what Paul told Simon when he tried to buy the free gift in Acts: 8:18-23. So next time you hear somebody 'begging' you for money from the pulpit and they say something along the lines of "If you don't give, God can't help you. You have to plant the seed so God can grow the miracle," just remember that your miracle lies in Christ, and you can't buy Him, you can only believe. I have nothing against giving and I give myself, but I do not expect a blessing from God because of my giving or any other actions because that is called self-righteousness and it falls under the law covenant. I expect God's blessings because I am the righteousness of God through the obedience of the one Man, Jesus Christ (Rom. 5:19). Because I am an heir of God and co-equal heir of Christ by faith (Rom. 8:17). The New Covenant is by grace through faith, not by grace through tithing.

Q: Can anyone minister healing or is it a gift?

According to Mark 16:15-18 both healing and deliverance are signs that follow ANY believer. If you believe in Jesus, then you can lay hands on the sick and they will recover. There is no mention of a healing anointing in the Bible. The gifts of healings do exist and do have a function, but we believe in the priesthood of all believers, saints who are equipped by the 5 fold ministry gifts to enable us to do the work of the ministry. You have the Holy Spirit and He has all the gifts anyway! Gifting is not an excuse.

Q: Do I need to ask God to heal me?

No. Never ask God to do something He has already done. Since healing was provided by the stripes of Jesus and the works of the cross are finished, God has already done everything He needed to do. If you ask Him for something He has already provided, you are technically saying He hasn't provided it yet meaning you are in doubt. Jesus taught us to speak to the mountain and tell it what we want it to do. He didn't say talk to God about it, He said talk to the mountain. "Cancer, GET OUT in Jesus Name" is ministering in faith and authority. "God, please heal me of cancer if it is Your will" is ministering out of doubt and not knowing the will of God. There are no "ifs" in the prayer of faith.

Q: How come some people that have a lot of physical problems only get healed of one thing when they are prayed for?

That's what they were believing for when they were prayed for or it is what the person that prayed for them was believing for. Many times people do not tell the person praying all their problems, but only mention a thing or two. Then they only get cured of one or two things. And some people believe that small things is not serious enough to ask prayer for. "I can live with it" they say. If God will heal the "serious", He will also heal the minor problems.

Q: What about long distance prayer? Can a person be healed even if they are not present?

Yes. There is not distance in the spirit. Jesus healed the Roman Centurion's servant from a distance and He healed the Syrophenician woman's daughter from a distance. So yes, a person can be healed even if they are not present. Sometimes it is actually easier to have faith for a person that is not right in front of you. If they are in front of you, you may find reasons that would make you think they should not be healed. Or they may "talk you out of faith" through a theological discussion or by sharing their medical history.

Q: Can I get a 'mantle of power'?

The teaching about people receiving 'mantles' that in turn empower them to do supernatural works stem from the story of Elisha and Elijah. When Elijah was taken up into heaven by the wind, his mantle fell back towards earth and Elisha took it. The story started where Elijah put his mantle on Elisha as a symbolic gesture that he is to be Elijah's successor. After taking the mantle that fell down, Elisha went back to the Jordan and rolled it up in the same way Elijah had just done moments before to part the waters, hit the water and the river parted again. I believe Elisha did this purely to see if he had taken the place of Elijah because he never used the mantle for any other miracle again. Now just because of this one story, people want to build doctrines about mantles of power. Funny thing though is that mantles are not mentioned once in the entire New Testament. Neither Jesus, Paul, Peter or any of the other writers of the Bible told anybody to get mantles of power. In fact, the only time Jesus said they had to wait for empowerment, was when the disciples had to wait for the outpouring of Holy Spirit at Pentecost. After that, they were empowered, equipped, anointed and fully furnished to do every good work. So if you have Holy Spirit abiding in you, the personified power of Almighty God united with your spirit, why would you even want a mantle? Is Holy Spirit not strong enough? Is He lacking something? Scripture teaches that we can do ALL things through Christ who strengthens us. So if I have Christ I don't need a mantle. Since I have been blessed with EVERY spiritual blessing in heavenly places and my sufficiency comes from Christ, I will only need to use a mantle when it is really cold outside. Jesus said those who believe in Him will do the same and greater works than He did. Not those who believe and receive mantles. Just believe. That is always the only requirement to do anything for God.

Q: Does a sick person have to have their own faith to be healed?

No. It is generally believed and taught that each person needing healing must have their own faith for their own healing, but let's look at what the Bible reveals. The Roman Centurion had faith for his servant; there is no mention of the servant having any faith for healing. The woman of Canaan had faith for her daughter's healing; there is no mention of the daughter having faith for her deliverance (healing). With four men carrying their paralytic friend on a stretcher to Jesus, Jesus saw "their" faith. Scripture proves that the "their" was the four men; they had faith for the paralytic. When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead; whose faith was it that did the raising? Who had faith for Lazarus? It wasn't Lazarus. Jesus had faith for Lazarus. When Peter healed the lame man at the Beautiful Gate there is no mention of the man having faith for healing. Peter gave the key to healing when he said, "It was His Name, through faith in His Name that made this man strong. Who had faith in that Name? It was Peter. Peter had faith for the man's healing.

In all healings instances, both Jesus and the disciples all had faith [of their own for the healing]. Only 3 times (for 4 people) was the faith of the sick/diseased/lame person instrumental in their own healing. Only 4 times did a person come to Jesus asking him to heal someone they came on behalf of. The faith of these 4 people was added to the faith of Jesus and the disciples, and healing took place in the person they came on behalf of.

Jesus commended two people for their "great faith." The Roman Centurion (Mat. 8:5-13) and the woman of Canaan (Mt. 15:21-28). Why was their faith great? Because both of them didn't have a covenant with God. They had no right to ask for healing, because it was not promised to them, but to the Jews. You need great faith to ask for something that is not promised to you. But you have a covenant with God promising you many things. You don't need great faith to ask. You have the measure of faith; it's the faith of Christ!

The sick person does not have to have their own faith to be healed, otherwise the majority of people in the world (unbelievers) could not get healed by believers laying hands on them. If a person has faith, wonderful. If a person doesn't, you have faith for them.

Q: How come some godly, believing saints still died prematurely of sickness?

Why are there so many believers not healed, or died, while they had faith to be healed (and the person who prayed also had faith)? You are assuming they were believing, or using their God-given faith. They were not. God says, the just shall live (be healthy), by faith. If you operate in faith, you will live. Basically God says, if you use your God-given faith, you'll recover. There has not been one Christian who died prematurely of sickness believing. If you believe, you are well. They may have been godly people, even confessing their faith; but just talking faith, isn't believing. Don't talk about a good, saintly person that died believing, since Scripture says, the righteous shall live by their faith. Either we call God a liar or we must change our mind. "I would rather die believing Him, then live doubting Him" - Wigglesworth. God also says, to be carnally minded is death, but spirit minded is life and peace (Rom. 8:6). The carnal minded walks by sight. The spirit minded walks by faith. No spiritual minded person has ever died pre-maturely or of sickness or disease. Any person that dies that way is a carnally minded believer. Carnal or spirit mindedness has nothing to do with age, position or how long you know the Lord, but with having your mind renewed to the Word of God or not. God also says, the prayer of faith shall heal the sick. The person didn't get healed or even died even though others prayed for healing? Based on Gods Word, they lacked appropriating the healing through faith, otherwise the person would be made well! If the person isn't healed then the answer is, none of them sufficiently manifested Gods healing power through faith. Also, faith is governed by laws. If we are ignorant of these laws, we won't cooperate with God by faith and as a result don't walk in His healing power. There are godly people who desired to be healed, earnestly prayed, and died because they didn't cooperate with these spiritual laws. It's not God who rejected them. If you violate those laws, they will kill you. So to answer, "my experience show that even the most faithful Christians sometimes won't get healed" we again bring up the general rule: Scripture dictates our experience, not our experience dictating Scripture. Our beliefs should always rest on the word of God and not on our personal experiences or circumstances. No matter how much the world and people may fail us, God will never fail us, nor leave or forsake us (Jos. 1:9, Heb 13:5). We can trust Him.

Q: Paul the great apostle left Trophimus sick in Miletus. Does Trophimus's illness prove God doesn't heal sometimes?

2 Tim. 4:20, "Erastus stayed in Corinth, but Trophimus I have left in Miletus sick." Paul left somebody sick. Many people believe because of this that he couldn't get all healed so therefore we can't expect to get all healed. Or they say, it must not be Gods will to heal everybody. Jesus is our ultimate example. He healed them *all* and said we are to do the same and greater. Did Jesus ever leave anybody sick? Yes, actually He did, a few times. Ten men who had leprosy asked Jesus to have mercy on them. He tells them to show themselves to the priests and as they went, they were cleansed (Lk. 17:12-19). The ten lepers were healed "as they went." That means the healing didn't manifest instantaneously, but only after they left Jesus. So Jesus left them sick. As they went, they got healed. Only one came back. This pattern still repeats itself today. You pray for a sick person, don't see an instant or quick recovery, but after some time (weeks, months or years) you hear their story about how they woke up the next morning without any pain, not having any symptoms since then. Anyway, Trophimus accompanied Paul on his third missionary journey and Paul let him at the seaport of Miletus, sick. However, Trophimus must not have remained sick very long since he was in Jerusalem at the same time Paul was there, when Paul was falsely accused of having brought Trophimus into the temple (Acts. 21:29). Therefore, we can conclude that even though he was left sick, he did recover soon after Paul left him and got back to business, healthy.

Q: Paul told his successor Timothy to drink wine for frequent stomach problems. Does Timothy's illness prove God doesn't heal everyone every time?

Paul said to Timothy, "no longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your stomach's sake and your frequent infirmities" (1 Tim. 5:23). Whatever sickness Timothy had was a stomach problem, and it was related to the water. What happens when you travel to some third-world country and drink the water? That's right, stomach trouble. When the water somewhere isn't clean and safe to drink, there are times when it's better to drink something besides water. That's painfully obvious. Any doctor will tell you "Prevention is better than cure." Timothy didn't have some chronic problem from which he never received healing. Paul was counselling Timothy to quit drinking the water because that's what was causing his stomach problems, and instead to drink a little wine. If they had sodas back then, he could have said, "Stop drinking the water and have soda instead," but they didn't have sodas back then, just wine. Paul wasn't telling Timothy to take medicine or not believe for divine healing, he was merely saying prevention is better than cure. "Timothy, every time you go on a mission's trip you drink the water and your stomach gets upset. Just stop drinking only the water, and have some wine. Then you won't be sick so often." That's all he is saying.

Q: Should we just walk up to people and heal them since Jesus only healed those who came to Him and asked Him for help?

Jesus didn't only heal those who came to Him or asked Him for help. He also healed people by taking initiative and reaching out to them. In John 5 He went to the pool of Bethesda and "when He found out that that man had been there a long time, He went to him and said "do you want to be healed?" The man immediately started complaining. "I don't have anybody to help me." This man had no faith. But what did Jesus do? He healed the man (so much for the sick person needing to have faith and first needing to have permission before healing the sick). When Jesus was in the synagogue a woman who had spirit of infirmity for 18 years (Lk 13:10-17) When He saw her, He called her to Him. She didn't come to Him. He called her to Himself. And when she got to Him, He said, "Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity." Notice, He didn't say, woman how much faith do you have? If you have enough, today is your lucky day. He didn't say, have you had enough quiet time, prayed enough, given tithes.

Q: Is it legitimate to believe on the basis of signs or miracles?

Yes. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else *believe Me for the sake of the works themselves* (John 14:11). But if I do, though you do not believe Me, *believe the works*, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him" (John 10:38). Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. *The works* that I do in My Father's name, they *bear witness of Me* (John 10:25).

Q: Can I pray for the sick when I am sick myself?

Yes. In fact, one of the quickest ways to get healed yourself is by ministering healing to others. Galatians 6:7 says, "Whatever a man sows he will also reap." If you're sowing healing what will you be reaping? Right. Healing. So when you're sick that is when you need to be ministering healing! To be healed yourself, go heal others. The devil will tell you "Until you walk in fullness of health you can't be healing the sick." That's a lie. Healing is letting the Spirit-life flow through you to cure the sick person. In the process of letting the Spirit-life flowing through you, whatever is wrong in your body, it'll start to recover as well. So despite if you have a cold, you're sneezing, coughing, puking or aching somewhere, pray for one another so *you* may get healed as well.

Q: Can I lose my healing because of disobedience?

No. Jesus healed people and commanded them, “go and don’t tell anybody.” But what did they do? They went and told people anyway. According to traditional teaching they should’ve lost their healing the minute they told somebody because their healing had to do with their obedience or lack thereof. However these stories show that disobedience will not cause you to lose your healing - if you think you can lose your healing when you’re naughty you’ve turned healing into a reward. In Christ we’re not in a reward or achieve-system, but in a receive-system. Furthermore, the Bible definition of disobedience is *not to be saved* (Eph. 2:1-2, 1 Pet. 2:7-8). Once saved, you are always perfectly obedient in the Father’s eyes because of Christ’s obedience that is imputed unto you as a free gift. Therefore, you are always seen as obedient by God because He relates to you independent of your behaviour. Religion, however, says, “live right, do right and God will heal you. Live wrong, do wrong and you’ll lose your healing.” That’s not Gospel. That’s anti-Gospel. (Note: I am not condoning sinful behaviour, but just stating truth. You can still reap sickness if you keep sowing sinful actions).

Q: Doesn’t James limit praying for healing only to elders and not all Christians?

The statement that James would “limited” the application of divine healing only to the “elders” is not only false, but also an overlook of many clear teachings of Christ (Matt. 28:18-20, Mark 16:18, John 12:12-14). Jesus commanded all of His disciples in the following generations to do exactly what He did, which included divine healing. And if every believer are instructed to do what Christ had done (which included divine healing), then the statement that divine healing is only “limited to the elders” would be grievously false (John 14:12-14).

We must be very careful not to create a sense of a “church ladder” for people to climb in order for them to “earn a title” to do the works of Christ. Let us not forget that it was the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who commanded each believer to do the works that He did with His given authority and power (John 14:12-14, Matt. 28:18-20, Mark 16:18-20).

We should also not misunderstand and think that we are relieved of our responsibility to heal the sick simply because we are not “elders” or we don’t have a certain role in church. Healing the sick is a clear commandment for every believer, not a suggestion (Matt. 10:8, Matt. 28:18-20, Mark 16:18). Similarly, it is a clear commandment for every believer to preach the gospel with signs following, also not a suggestion (Matt. 28:18-20, Mark 16:18-20). This also means that it is not a matter of how “spiritual” we are that qualifies us to heal the sick. Rather, it is by faith and by Jesus’ Name that give us the ability to fulfill that commandment (Acts 3:12,16). Our ability to heal comes only from the atonement of Christ, His authority, and His power given to us as believers (Matt. 10:7-8, Matt. 28:18-20, Luke 9:1-6, Mark 16:14-20). This means that no one is exempt from healing the sick for reasons such as “I’m not spiritual enough,” or “I don’t know much about divine healing.” What counts is the atonement of Christ and His Name. It is not about how spiritual we are, or how much we measure up.

Q: Why do we not always see instant healing, while Jesus seems to heal the sick instantly?

You are assuming Jesus always healed the sick instantly. He didn’t. To some people’s surprise, not all the healings that Jesus performed were instantaneous, but a process. Mark 8:22-25 is an account of Jesus ministering to a blind man. After Jesus laid hands on the blind man he could “see men like trees, walking.” In other words, he could see, but not very well. Only when Jesus laid hands on him again did his sight become clear. Although a long period of time was not involved, it does show a healing that was a process - not instantaneous.

John 9:6-7 tells of another healing that didn’t take place instantly. Jesus ministered healing to a man born blind. The man only receives sight after He left Jesus to wash himself in the pool of Siloam. Verse 7 says, “so he went and washed, and came back seeing.” In another instance Jesus told a certain nobleman, whose son was sick to the point of death, to go home because

his son would live (John 4:46-54). “So he (the father) asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, ‘Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him’” (ESV). “When he began to get better,” indicates a process of recovery and not an instant healing. In all these instances the sick got progressively well.

Many people picture healing as a miracle. A miracle is a supernatural intervention of God's power over natural law. Healings, however, occur within the boundaries of natural law while miracles are not limited to natural law. A person with a high fever who receives prayer and then begins to recover is experiencing a healing. The Lord intervened but in natural ways. The virus, infection, or whatever was rebuked left the body (Lk. 4:39) and then the natural healing process that the Lord built into all of us took over. Feeding the five thousand (Mt. 14:19-20), walking on the water (Mt. 14:25), translating a ship and all aboard to the other side of the sea (John 6:21) - all these are miracles. Miracles are usually instantaneous whereas healings are gradual. Healing is a process.

Mark 16:15 says that believers will lay hands on the sick and they will recover. Recovery is a process. Clearly, it does not promise miracles (instantaneous), but healing. Just like “running” means a process of getting from A to B, so “heal-ing” means a process of getting well and healthy. You are promised the process that once you lay hands on a person they will begin to get better and continue to get better until they are well. God made the human body to always heal itself. To minister healing to somebody is restoring a body naturally, but faster. So, the body is naturally getting better by itself, but the process is speeded up through laying hands and the prayer of faith. In this way, the process of healing can be shortened and instead of weeks or months healing should take place, usually, within hours or days. And there should be some progress immediately.

And the prayer of faith will save[heal] the sick, and the Lord will raise him up (James 5:15). It does not say the sick will always be raised up instantly. Just that they will be raised. “They will recover.” All healing is a process that happens through time as you continually improve in health. With God, healing can sometimes be so speeded up that to us it seems almost instant! Many people who have not understood that healing is a process involving time, have given up on getting healed, or to minister healing when they did not have an instant miracle recovery. Don't let the devil steal from you through this wrong thinking; healing is yours, because Jesus paid for it (1 Peter 2:24). But the Bible never says we will all receive healing instantly. Sometimes it can be instant, and we know it is a miracle. Other times it can take awhile, but no matter how long it takes, we have the promise of God that healing is ours, giving us divine assurance that we will be healthy and whole! So never accept that healing is not God's will just because it does not happen instantaneously

Q: Do you need permission from the sick person or family member to heal or deliver people?

No. For example, the lame man at the Gate Beautiful didn't ask for healing, didn't want healing, but was healed nonetheless. The lame man at the pool of Bethesda responded to the question, “do you want to be healed” not with “yes,” but with complaining. With a complaining attitude and without giving permission and without faith on the man's part, Jesus healed him. Rule of thumb: for it to be right for anybody it has to be right for everybody. If it is true that you need to have permission to heal the sick then that means nobody can get healed any other way. For it to be right for one, it has to be right all the time - it would be a spiritual law. And if you don't have to do it every time then you don't have to do it any time! You are not overriding the persons will, but the devils will. You don't know what that persons will is. If they say “no”, how do you know it's the person or a lying spirit? Jesus didn't say, heal the sick IF you have permission. Don't put qualifications where Jesus didn't! You don't have authority over the person, you do have authority over all sickness, disease, devils. You can tell the devil to go, if the person wants it back they can. Like it was the case when an

unclean spirit was cast out of a man, whereby seven other spirits more wicked than himself came back to enter “their house”, and the last state of that man was worse than the first (Luke 11:24-26). This story proves that a devil was cast out of somebody that didn’t want to follow God, but wanted the devil back. “Are you really doing them a service if they are going to get it back again?” You don’t know what they are going to do until you get them healed. A lot of people may be in some really deep sin and you get them healed and they will walk out of it. You say, “Well maybe we shouldn’t do anything unless we know they are going to.” You never know what they are going to do.

Jesus said, “Preach the Gospel.” Salvation has to do with a choice. Salvation requires a change of ownership. Jesus said, “Heal the sick.” It doesn’t say, pray for the sick or talk to the sick about getting healed, but it means you have the right to set them free. It has nothing to do with their choice. If their will needs to be involved (or need to have faith) then don’t ever waste your time praying for a dead person or a person in coma or people with mental handicap; they can never be healed. Why? Because they don’t have the mental capacity to have faith or to give permission to accept the provision of Jesus. Again, you have authority over all sickness, disease, devils, but not over the person. You do not need to ask permission in order to set captives (prisoners) free. It is our duty, our calling, our mandate, our responsibility and our job to set people free. Jesus gave you permission, but not only did He give you permission He commanded you to change the world and set captives free.

Q: Does John 9 reveal that God causes sickness so He can heal and be glorified?

In other words, does the story of the man born blind reveal that sickness can be for a greater good? *As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” 3 “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him (John 9: 1-3, NIV).* The disciples asked whether it was the man’s sin or his parents’ sin that caused his blindness. How do we call this today? Generational curse. Jesus said, “Neither.” This is Jesus’ answer for generational curse. This is the only time Jesus came near to talking about generational curses and His answer was, “Neither.”

“Who sinned, this man or his parents?” Jesus said it was neither and healed the man - setting a beautiful example of never blaming the sick but taking action to help those who are hurting. Unfortunately, rather than blame the victim, some people still use this passage to blame God for the man’s blindness and the way it reads in most translations does make it seem as if God made the man blind so that He could heal him and be glorified thereby.

From this thinking, many doctrinal teachings have arisen about how sickness and other problems in our lives are actually blessings from God intended to bring glory to God and correction to us. This reason, however, is not Biblical.

So why then does this verse seem to say that the man’s blindness was for the purpose of manifesting God’s work? Because it was translated that way from the Greek by modern translators. But, thankfully, it does not have to be translated that way. This traditional rendering stems from a theology dictating that God is in control of everything that happens on earth - whatever happens is His master plan unfolding as He always knew it would. However, the verse should not be interpreted as suggesting that God’s will is behind this man’s blindness. The original text does not say that “he was born blind *so that* God’s works might be revealed.” Rather, “he was born blind, *but* let the works of God be displayed in him.” So the whole passage would read as follows: “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” Jesus answered, “but let the works of God be displayed in him. We must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day...”

Jesus shows us that the question to ask is not, “Who sinned?” but “What can we do to help the situation?” He’s not saying, “This man is born blind caused by God so God can heal him and be glorified.” (How illogical does that sound anyway? A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand, Mt. 12:25. If God heals but also makes sick, His Kingdom is divided. Therefore He doesn’t cause sickness.) Rather, Jesus is revealing His mission and Father God. He’s basically saying, “Guys, lay your desire to point fingers at who is to blame aside, now let Me reveal why I am here, Gods nature and work is going to be displayed in this boys’ healing.” And He healed him. He’s not talking about this boy born this way so Jesus can heal and God be glorified. Jesus modelled what he came to do - to destroy the work of the devil and heal those oppressed by him. He said, “Let the works of God be displayed in him,” showing compassion for the man. Then he turned to his disciples and reminded them that they must work the works of God while it is day. Rather than painting a picture of a fickle God who makes a man blind for the purpose of healing his blindness, this passage reveals a loving God who sent His Son to manifest His works by healing a man oppressed by the devil.

Q: Consider Job: isn't suffering God's will?

No. No. No. The Bible book Job has been the cause of much blame to fall on God. Misunderstanding the story of Job and his friends has caused many Christians to view God as the cause of evil or even allowance of evil in their lives, therefore blaming Him for anything bad that happens to them, thinking: “if He allowed it to happen to Job, He'll allow it to happen to me” Some will even go as far as saying, “Job was tried and tested (assumed by God) to see how steadfast his faith in God would be.” I cringe hearing such accusations against God.

Let’s consider Job. Job wasn’t saved. He wasn’t filled with the Holy Spirit. He had some understanding of God but he was also a fearful and superstitious man filled with self pity and not a little self-righteousness (see Job 32:1). Don’t ever compare yourself to Job! Jesus didn’t die on the cross to give you Job’s life but His life. It is Christ who lives in you, not Job. Job never had the benefit of the New Covenant with God since Jesus had not yet gone to Calvary in his lifetime. Therefore, next time when someone asks us the questions regarding divine healing, “What about Job?” Then we can confidently say, “Yes, what about Job?” Job and I are totally different. Plus, God does not inflict death and sickness on us to teach us stuff. God is more than capable of disciplining (i.e., training) us through His Word (2 Tim 3:16).

But in Job 1:8 God seems to set Job up for suffering, allowing Satan to do his “dirty work.” *Then the Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?”* (NIV).

“Surely God could have stopped Satan. Surely God set Job up by boasting about him.” Actually neither is true. Read the Job account in a literal translation such as Young’s and you will see that Satan came gunning for him: *And Jehovah saith unto the Adversary, “Hast thou set thy heart against My servant Job because there is none like him in the land, a man perfect and upright, fearing God, and turning aside from evil?”* (Job 1:8, YLT). Modern translations read “Have you considered My servant Job,” instead of “have you set your heart against My servant “Job.” Can you see how we can come to the wrong conclusion?! God did not present or offer Job to Satan, as most believe! Satan had set his heart against Job. “So why didn’t God stop the Devil?” Good question. We might also ask, “Why doesn’t God stop earthquakes or famines or wars?” The answer is, not everything that happens is God’s responsibility. He left the planet in Adam’s control and Adam handed it to the Devil. Satan went for Job because he could. When God said, “All that he has is in thy power” (Job 1:12), He wasn’t handing Job over to Satan - God doesn’t do deals with the devil! - He was simply stating a fact. The whole unredeemed “world is under the control of the evil one” (1 Jn. 5:19). Job was without protection from Satan or the effects of sin because he was not in the New Covenant. God doesn’t give Satan ever permission to cause suffering.

Another important aspect is that Satan, not God, is the one who attacked Job's health, causing the suffering (Job 2:7). So for anyone to say that he is trying to hold on to his sickness just like how God had given Job, would be unbiblical.

The three friends, Zophar, Eliphaz and Bildad, claim that if something bad happens to someone, it must be because they did something bad. If something good happens, it must be because they did something good. Using this theology, they try to get Job to admit what he has done wrong. God rebukes all of the religious-sounding “advice” and “comfort” that all of “Job’s friends” had to say and even ends up saying “they have not spoken truth about Me” (Job 38:2, 42:7). Job himself also accused God of quite some awful things. *If I called and He answered me, I would not believe that He was listening to my voice. 17 For He crushes me with a tempest, And multiplies my wounds without cause. 18 He will not allow me to catch my breath, But fills me with bitterness* (Job 9:16-18). *God throws me into a pit with filth, and even my clothes are ashamed of me. If God were human, I could answer him; we could go to court to decide our quarrel. But there is no one to step between us - no one to judge both God and me. Stop punishing me, God! Keep your terrors away!* (Job 9:31-34, GNB). *Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him* (Job 13:15a). Job claimed that God was responsible for bringing disaster and suffering upon him, yet he would still trust God. This sounds an awful lot like those who accuse God for killing their children or loved ones, but say, “I still trust God.” Come on, wake up! If God were responsible for doing such things, why would you even want to have a relationship with Him? How can you trust someone that murders your loved ones? Who would want to hang out with an unreliable, quick-tempered, angry serial killer? God doesn’t kill His children. Elihu, the only person in the whole book of Job who wasn't rebuked as speaking “words without knowledge,” rightly informed Job that “the Almighty...will not afflict” (Job 37:23; 38:1-2; 42:7-10). Job himself later repented for speaking accusations against God which were not right (Job 40:3-5; 42:3; 42:5).

For as long as Job lived in fearful religion, trusting in the sacrifices of his own hands, he was setting himself up for disaster. But when he finally shut up and repented of his stupid theology, he opened the door to the blessings of God. The lesson we take from Job is worth repeating: the Devil is bad but our Father is good and He loves us and desires to bless us.

The entire time period of Job's affliction lasted about 9 months. Then, *the Lord turned the captivity of Job and restored his fortunes, when he prayed for his friends; also the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.* (Job 42:10, Amp). In the end God turned Job's captivity. God considered Job to be in captivity to Satan. This means God was not causing or allowing evil to happen to Job, unless He is a schizophrenic bully - first causing harm, to later cure it. God set him free, gave back all he had lost and then doubled it! You see a bad devil who takes away (robs and steals) and a good God who is a giver of good and perfect things (Js 1:17). If anybody claims they are going through a “Job experience” but they do not come out twice as rich and blessed on the other side, then they’ve not really experienced what Job went through, but instead experienced firsthand what it's like to be robbed by the devil: *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* (John 10:10). These are the only two job descriptions in the Bible - it's up to you to decide who is responsible for which.

Job thought God was behind his loss for he said: *“The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised.”* (Job 1:21) The truth is, God does not give and take away. The only thing He’ll take off you - if you let Him - is your sin, shame, and sickness. He is an extraordinary giver who never takes back his gifts (Js. 1:17). “God’s gifts and God’s call are under full warranty - never cancelled, never rescinded.” (Rom. 11:29, MSG). So if God is doing the giving, who is doing the taking? Again, Jesus provides the answer in John 10:10. One is a giver (God), the other is a taker (devil). If you have been given something good, then give thanks to God. But if you’ve been robbed, don’t blame God. He’s

not behind your loss.

Why is Job's story in the Bible? It is not there so we can look to him as a role model (we have Jesus!) but so that we might learn from his example. Those who don't learn by example tend to learn by experience and experience is a harsh teacher. For those of you who would rather not learn the hard way, here's the lesson: It is always Satan's intention to harm us; it is always God's intention to bless us. When you confuse the latter with the former, your reality will be defined by a lie making it virtually impossible to receive all that God has for you.

Q: Was Paul's thorn in the flesh not a sickness given to him by God to keep him humble?

Many who read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 often hastily conclude that Paul's thorn is a "physical sickness." As such, they conclude that sometimes God's will is not to heal.

- The phrase "thorn in the flesh" or "thorn in something" is the first time found in Numbers 33:55. God told the Israelites that if they do not drive out the inhabitants of Canaan, then the remaining Canaanites will become "thorns in their sides." What does the "thorn" mean? It means "they will give you trouble in the land where you will live." Other times "thorn in something" is found is in Joshua 23:13 and Judges 2:2-3 where God was saying that it is the "people" who will be their "thorns," not physical sicknesses. All three times, the phrase "thorn in flesh" can be seen a figure of speech, not a physical sickness given to them. It simply means that the "people" of Canaan will bring trouble to the Israelites - it is the negative influence ungodly people had on righteous people.
- Does this pattern line up with the context of what Paul was saying in 2 Cor. 12:7-10? We must understand that Paul was writing a letter without chapter divisions. That means that we must find out what Paul was saying from the very beginning of the letter. We find that Paul said much about his persecutions, trials and sufferings for the Gospel, but never once did he mention a physical sickness. In speaking of his troubles and persecutions, he said he was: Burdened beyond measure (1:8) Above his strength (1:8) Despaired even of life (1:9) Given a sentence of death (1:9) Hard pressed on every angle (4:8) Perplexed, persecuted and destroyed (4:9) Always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus (4:10) Delivered to death for Jesus' sake (4:11) In stripes above measure (11:23) In prisons more frequently (11:23) In deaths often (11:23) Striped 39 times from the Jews (11:24) Beaten 3 times with rods (11:25) Stoned once (11:25) Shipwrecked 3 times (11:25) In the deep a day and a night (11:25) In journeys often (11:26) In perils of waters (11:26) In perils of robbers (11:26) In perils of his own countrymen (11:26) In perils of the Gentiles (11:26) In perils in the city (11:26) In perils in the wilderness (11:26) In perils in the sea (11:26) In perils among false brethren (11:26) In weariness and toil (11:26) In sleeplessness often (11:26) In hunger and thirst (11:26) In fastings often (11:26) In cold and nakedness (11:26).
- Notice how Paul described he was persecuted and suffering from every angle possible, yet never once did he mentioned that these persecutions was in any form of a physical sickness. Granted that he was beaten, striped and stoned multiple times, it surely would have caused him much physical injuries. Yet this is not the same as him having a physical sickness that he cannot get rid of. Thus, by looking at the context of many chapters before 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, we know that Paul was not talking about a physical sickness. Rather, Paul was describing the outward persecutions and trials he was enduring for the faith.
- With the context settled, let's consider the actual scripture of Paul's "thorn in the flesh." *And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure.⁸ Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. ⁹ And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs,*

in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong (2 Cor. 7-10).

- First, note that Paul said his thorn in the flesh was given to him by a messenger of Satan, not God (verse 7). So next time when we hear people say things like “Oh brother, I guess that's just a thorn God gave you to teach you something,” then we know exactly what to do: ignore them (it is also a good idea to tell them the truth). By the way, God will not use sicknesses to “teach us something” as New Covenant believers because it violates scripture.
- Notice how Paul said that his thorn in the flesh is: “A messenger of Satan.” So once find out what this “messenger of Satan” is, then we will know exactly what Paul's thorn is. The word “messenger” in Greek is “*agello*” which was translated in the bible 179 times as “angel” and 7 times as “messenger”. *Not once* was it translated as a physical sickness. Thus, to be faithful to the original text, Paul was saying: *my thorn in the flesh = messenger of Satan*. Period. However the false belief that the devil can only do what God allows him to do has led many people to change Paul's clear statement and place the responsibility on God for Paul's thorn in the flesh. That is not the case. God is not the author of our problems. And what was this messenger of Satan sent to do? To “buffet” him (12:7).
- The word “buffet” means “to strike repeatedly” as waves would buffet the shore. Since Paul had received such an abundance of revelation, Satan decided to strike him repeatedly. With what? All the things he described earlier in his listing of sufferings and persecutions.
- The reason Paul suffered from a “thorn in the flesh” (persecution and trials) was because he received an “abundance of revelations.” In fact, Paul wrote 2/3 of the New Testament. So the next time when someone is trying to claim Paul's thorn or tell another person that they need to bear their thorn in sicknesses, then that person in question better have received at least as much revelations as Paul did to make up 2/3 of the New Testament. And if that person does not measure up, then simply stop they should stop hiding behind Paul's thorn (not to mention that Paul's thorn was not even a physical sickness).
- Verse 7 says the thorn in the flesh came lest Paul be exalted above measure. Traditionally, that has been interpreted to say the thorn was to keep Paul humble. Therefore, God had to be the author of it, because only God would want Paul to be humble. (There is only one person who can humble you, and that is you. Nobody else, not even God, can humble you. when we try to humble somebody else, it is called humiliation, not humbleness. Big difference). There is a godly way of being exalted. 1 Peter 5:6 says, “Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.” Those who submit (humble) themselves to God will be exalted in Gods sight. Paul was not speaking of exalting himself above measure through pride, but rather, the thorn came from Satan to keep Paul from being so respected and honoured (exalted) in the sight of the people. Many more people would have received what Paul preached if everything was always “rosy” for him. But there was this messenger of Satan who always buffeted Paul and scared away the faint-hearted from committing themselves to Jesus, whom Paul preached. Joshua was exalted in the sight of his people (Josh. 3:7). People in the new covenant were highly exalted (Acts 5:13). So, we see that the exalting spoken of is not a negative kind but a godly kind. That just further strengthens the fact that the thorn was not God's doing.
- Some will say that Paul took pleasure in his “infirmities” (vs. 9 and 10) and so he is referring to his thorn in the flesh as a physical sickness. The word “infirmity” in the original Greek is “*astheneia*,” which stems from the root word “*asthenes*,” which translates to a “lack of strength” or “weakness.” “Infirmity” can mean sickness and is used that way in 1 Tim. 5:23, though this word *asthenes* or weakness has been used many times in letters written by Paul which indicated trials and persecutions, but not physical sickness. For example, “The Spirit also helps us in our weaknesses [*asthenes*] (Rom. 8:26). Lacking the wisdom or knowledge to

know how or what to pray for is called an infirmity. “For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses [*asthenes*] (Heb. 4:15).

- This word “weakness” is the same word used in 2 Cor. 12:9 when God said, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness [*asthenes*].” Thus, this thorn in the flesh and infirmity (weakness) that Paul was describing was not one of physical sickness, but rather persecutions he was enduring which made him feel weak. But God told him that it was through his weakness that God’s strength was made perfect in him. In 2 Cor. 11:30, Paul uses the exact terminology of “boasting in infirmities” that is used just a few verses later in speaking about this thorn.
- So, in context and by looking at the Old and New Testament, Paul’s thorn was a demonic angel or messenger sent by Satan which continually stirred up persecution against him. Paul asked the Lord three times to remove persecution from him, not sickness, because it is much easier to spread the Gospel without opposition and resistance. The Lord told him His grace was sufficient because God cannot deliver us from persecution since we’re not redeemed from persecution (Christ has redeemed us from things such as sin, sickness, poverty, depression. That is not to say that Christians never sin, get sick or have financial problems. But the Lord’s power is always available to bring us victory over all these things). However concerning persecution and the many problems we encounter, the Lord hasn’t provided deliverance from these, but rather the strength to endure, thereby bringing glory to Himself and conviction to our persecutors. Paul later stated that when he said in 2 Timothy 3:12, “all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.” Most gladly, therefore, he boasted in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions and distresses that the power of Christ might rest upon him (2 Cor. 12:10). He had learned to be weak in himself so that Christ could be strong in him.
- There are two other passages of Scripture that those who believe Paul’s thorn in the flesh was sickness have tried to use to verify that. One is Galatians 4:13-15. Here Paul says that he preached the Gospel to these Galatians through an infirmity of the flesh, and in verse 15, he makes reference to these people being willing to pluck out their own eyes and give them to him. From this, people have preached that Paul’s thorn was a rare, ancient disease which was characterized by runny, puffy eyes. But let us look at whom Paul was speaking to when he said this. He was writing to the people who lived in the region known as Galatia, which had as its major cities, Derbe, Lystra, and Iconium. In Acts 14:19, Paul was stoned and left for dead in Lystra, a city of Galatia. The next day he walked at least twenty miles to Derbe, another city of Galatia, and began preaching unto them. I’m sure he had runny, puffy eyes, along with multiple cuts and bruises, but they were not the result of some disease. They were the result of having just been stoned. He also says in verse 13 that his infirmity was “at the first,” which leaves the impression it was only a temporary thing that he recovered from. Can you imagine what those that stoned him must have thought? They could see Paul’s humanity in the cuts and bruises, but they could also see the supernatural strength of God flowing through him. “For when I am weak, then am I strong” (2 Cor. 12:10). The next scripture used to say Paul’s thorn was bad eyes is also in Galatians, chapter 6, verse 11. It says, “See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand.” People have said Paul’s eyes were so bad that he had to write in large letters, and this is what he was making reference to. That is only a supposition and not a very good one at that. It is a lot more credible to believe that he was simply referring to the long letter he had written to the Galatians.
- The devastating argument that Paul’s thorn was a sickness is one of the reasons why the body of Christ is seeing their members go to the grave, when they could have been healed. The gruesome thing about this misinterpretation is that not only does it tell people that it may not be God’s will to heal them, but it actually makes the person accept, welcome, and be thankful for their sickness instead of actively fight against the devil and the things he brings.

H. History is waiting

“Many crucify their flesh daily.
Few know they died with Him.

Many people strive for holiness.
Few live sanctified.

Many beg God to 'show up' or 'come.'
Few know He never left.

Many cry out for God to send revival.
Few live revived.

Many tell God they are hungry.
Few eat the Bread of Life.

Many can't wait to go Heaven someday.
Few bring Heaven to Earth.

Many pray for healing.
Few command it.

Many hope people will be healed.
Few believe.

Many point out obvious sins.
Few set captives free.

Many try to be 'good Christians'.
Few walk like Christ.

Many want to change the Church.
Few will risk speaking out.

Will you be assimilated into the status quo?
Or, will you usher in a reformation?

History is waiting.”

(by Joel Adifon)