

HOW DO I DEAL WITH IT WHEN I'M NOT HEALED?

2 Corinthians 12:10 . . . *Since I know it is all for Christ's good, I am quite content with my weaknesses.*

We can look forward to having God's power work through us in a special way. When God works through the weak, it is obvious that what occurred had to happen because of him, showing the world his love and power.

LAUGHTER CAN BRING HEALTH AND HEALING, WHILE DISCOURAGEMENT CAN BRING SICKNESS.

Proverbs 17:22 . . . A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a person's strength.

PROMISES FROM GOD:

Psalms 147:3 . . . *He heals the brokenhearted, binding up their wounds.*

God heals the brokenhearted.

Malachi 4:2 . . . *For you who fear my name, the Sun of righteousness will rise with healing in his wings. And you will go free, leaping with joy like calves let out to pasture.*

God will heal us and restore us.

If you have questions regarding Healing or would like prayer, please contact the office and speak with Scott or contact the Pastoral Leadership Team.



HEALING
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BIBLICAL VIEW

1Corinthians 12:9 " *The Spirit gives special faith to another, and to someone else he gives the power to heal the sick.*"

Psalm 6:2 . . . *Heal me, Lord, for my body is in agony.*

James 5:13-16 . . . *Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them.*

God heals through prayer.

Isaiah 38:16 . . . *Lord, your discipline is good, for it leads to life and health.*

God heals through discipline.

Genesis 27:41; 33:4 . . . *Esau hated Jacob . . . Then Esau ran to meet him and embraced him affectionately and kissed him. Both of them were in tears.*

God heals through time.

Isaiah 53:5 . . . *He was wounded and crushed for our sins. He was beaten that we might have peace. He was whipped, and we were healed!*

By death Christ brought us life. Through woundedness he brought us healing. By accepting our punishment, he set us free.

WHY DOESN'T GOD ALWAYS HEAL PEOPLE?

2 Corinthians 12:8-9 . . . *"My power works best in your weakness."*

God's power is magnified through our weaknesses and infirmities, if we allow him to work within us.

part of the ministry of the church, but the context indicates that not all are given such gifts (1 Corinthians 12:30) and that God distributes spiritual gifts for the good of the body. James indicates that a believer who is ill should request the church to pray for his healing (James 5:14-16; compare to Hebrews 12:13). The clear implication is that God is willing and able to minister to his people for healing today.

HOW DOES GOD HEAL?

2 Kings 20:7 . . . *"Make an ointment from figs and spread it over the boil." They did this, and Hezekiah recovered!*

God heals through physicians and medicine.

Psalms 119:93 . . . *I will never forget your commandments, for you have used them to restore my joy and health.*

Mark 3:5 . . . *Then he said to the man, "Reach out your hand." The man reached out his hand, and it became normal again!*

Luke 5:12-13 . . . *"Lord," he said, "if you want to, you can make me well again." Jesus reached out and touched the man. "I want to," he said. "Be healed!"*

God heals through miracles.

Mark 2:1-5 . . . *They couldn't get to Jesus through the crowd, so they dug through the clay roof above his head . . . Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My son, your sins are forgiven."*

God heals through the faith of friends.

The Bible describes God as the healer of his people. He can make us well when we are sick. More importantly, he also heals us from sin. Our sinful nature separates us from God because we choose to disobey him. God heals our relationship with him when we trust Jesus Christ as our Savior. He forgives our sin and gives us eternal life when we die. Jesus gave this same message whenever he healed someone he loved. Healings got people's attention so he could tell them about the way to salvation.

For the sick, the concept of healing is a new lease on life. Sickness is deficiency, something wrong or something missing. The sick in body have limitations that restrict freedom of movement, freedom of capabilities, and even freedom to enjoy life. Oh, to be released from sickness. Healing may also be spiritual, a restoration of the soul. Sin is the ultimate sickness, eating at the core of the soul, but spilling out on our physical, mental, social, and moral well-being. Healing from sin comes from a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

HEALING IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

The Old Testament provides the proper background for a Christian understanding of the concept of healing. In the Old Testament, God is the healer of his people. In Exodus 15:22-26, after God has delivered his people from Egypt, led them through the sea, and sweetened the water at Marah, he speaks of himself as their "healer." This refers primarily to physical sustenance, but it points to a bigger picture as well. We see God sustaining his people in an eternal relationship with himself. In a similar manner, Deuteronomy 32:39 speaks of God as the one who heals. The context in Deuteronomy implies that this healing power derives from the fact that God is God. This concept of God as the healer is echoed throughout the Old Testament by the psalmists (Psalm 6:2; Psalm 41:4; Psalm 103:3) and prophets (Isaiah 19:22; Jeremiah 17:14; Hosea 7:1; Zechariah 11:16).

JESUS THE HEALER: ACCOUNTS IN THE GOSPELS

MARK'S ACCOUNT

The New Testament significantly emphasizes Jesus as the healer. Mark portrays him as a teacher and healer in his opening account of Jesus' ministry in Capernaum with the healing of the demoniac, Peter's mother-in-law, the sick brought to him in the evening, and the leper (Mark 1:21-45). Indeed, healing sickness and casting out demons characterize Jesus' ministry. Mark presents in rapid succession Jesus' healing of the paralytic (Mark 2:1-12), the man with the withered hand (Mark 3:1-6), the multitudes by the sea (Mark 3:7-12), the Gerasene demoniac (Mark 5:1-20), the woman with a hemorrhage, and

HEALING DONE BY THE APOSTLES

The Acts of the Apostles tells how Jesus' ministry continued through the Spirit at work in his disciples. The primary focus in Acts is on proclamation, as Acts 1:8 indicates. However, the healing of the lame beggar in Jerusalem indicates that the disciples were able to exercise the power of healing in the name of Jesus (Acts 3:1-16; Acts 4:8-16). The healing is not just an isolated event or gratuitous display of power. The disciples clearly intended to point to and glorify the person of Jesus and lead the observers to faith in him (Acts 3:12-26). The balanced, twofold ministry of the disciples may be seen in the prayer of Acts 4:29-30: "*O Lord, hear their threats, and give your servants great boldness in their preaching. Send your healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus.*"

The ministry of Philip in Samaria was devoted to proclaiming Christ (Acts 8:5) and healing the sick and those with unclean spirits (Acts 8:7). Peter heals Aeneas and raises Tabitha (Acts 9:34, 40), and many believe in the Lord (Acts 9:35, 42). Paul is also described as preaching the gospel (Acts 17:2-3), healing (Acts 14:8-11; Acts 28:8), casting out spirits (Acts 16:18), and raising a dead man (Acts 20:9-10). In other words, a physical healing was also accompanied by preaching. The healings served their own purpose within a greater context-telling the world about Jesus.

HEALING IN THE CHURCH AGE

The letters of the New Testament say little about healing. First Corinthians speaks of the gifts of healing (1 Corinthians 12:9, 28). The implication is that such gifts are intended to be .

Psalm 103:3-4 . . . He forgives all my sins.

We need to be healed from sin.

Proverbs 17:22 . . . A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a persons strength.

There is a connection between a healthy spirit and a positive attitude.

Some people brought to him a paralyzed man on a mat. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "Take heart, son! Your sins are forgiven." (Matthew 9:2)

PHYSICAL HEALING IS NOT THE MOST IMPORTANT GIFT GOD CAN GIVE.

Among the first words Jesus said to the paralyzed man were "Your sins are forgiven." Then he healed the man. We must be careful not to concentrate on God's power to heal physical sickness more than on his power to forgive spiritual sickness in the form of sin. Jesus saw that even more than physical health, this man needed spiritual health. Spiritual health comes only from Jesus' healing touch.

Both the man's body and his spirit were paralyzed-he could not walk, and he did not know Jesus. But the man's spiritual state was Jesus' first concern. If God does not heal us or someone we love, we need to remember that physical healing is not Christ's only concern. We will all be completely healed in Christ's coming kingdom; but first we have to come to know Jesus.

Jairus's daughter (Mark 5:21-43). Jesus then commissioned the Twelve to proclaim repentance, to cast out demons, and to heal the sick (Mark 6:7-13). He himself continued with healings at Gennesaret (Mark 6:53-56), casting out the unclean spirit from the daughter of the Syrophoenician woman (Mark 7:24-30), healing the deaf and mute man (Mark 7:31-37), the blind man of Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26), the boy possessed with an evil spirit (Mark 9:14-20), and blind Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52).

SO FROM WHAT DO WE SEE PEOPLE HEALED IN THE BIBLE? (I would encourage you to read these passages in full)

Luke 8:42 . . . His only child was dying, a little girl twelve years old.

Mark 1:40 . . . A man with leprosy came and knelt in front of Jesus, begging to be healed.

We long to be healed from sickness and disease.

Isaiah 61:1 . . . He has sent me to comfort the broken-hearted.

Our broken hearts need healing and restoration.

Psalm 30:11 . . . You have turned my mourning into joyful dancing.

We need healing from sorrow.

Psalm 55:20 . . . As for this friend of mine, he betrayed me.

We need to be healed from the pain of betrayal.

Romans 6:23 . . . The wages of sin is death, but the great gift of God is eternal life.