

God Wants You Well

by
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The author has emphasized some words in Scripture quotations in italicized type.

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Introduction

Although I don't know everything there is to know about healing, I have grown a lot in this area, and consider it to be a real strength in my life. In fact, it's now been almost forty years since I've had sickness win in my body. That doesn't mean I've never had a problem. Along the way, I've had things attack me. One time, while I was making radio programs, all of the symptoms of the flu hit me. My sinuses stopped up, my nose ran, and I began to have aches, chills, and fever—all within a very short period of time. It took me about an hour praying over it, but then it was gone.

Probably one of the worst sicknesses that's come against me these past forty years¹ was the time I returned home from England and went right to work on my pond. Although I'd gone thirty-four hours without sleep, something had happened with the drain in the pond I was building on my property, so I had to attend to it immediately. Standing chest deep in cold water and working for about six hours while I was so weak, tired, and depleted was not smart on my part. Soon my nose began to run and my ears plugged up, yet I was able to overcome that runny nose in just about a day's time. Although it took me a couple of days to get my ears unplugged, an outside observer probably wouldn't have been able to tell that anything had occurred.

That's the worst illness that I can remember dealing with in almost forty years. At the very beginning of this period of time,

I was actually diagnosed with an incurable disease. However, within three days that same doctor pronounced me whole because I had received prayer and healing. So I've seen God heal me of a number of things.

Healing is a strength in my life. These truths I share in this book are working for me, and have been for decades. Even though I don't understand everything there is to understand about healing, I know more than I'll be able to talk about in this message. Please refer to the "Recommended Teachings" section for additional resources that will complement and expand on the truths contained here. My purpose in this book isn't to teach healing in an exhaustive manner, but to lay a firm foundation.

How About You?

You need to consider the truths of God's Word contained in this book. Although I've personally walked in divine health for a long time, it's not because nothing has ever happened to me. I've been hurt, had accidents, and been attacked by sickness. I've had problems, but I've overcome them—and I've seen good health manifest in my own physical body for decades.

I've also ministered healing to multitudes of others. I've seen the blind receive sight. This includes both partially blind eyes that improved and totally blind eyes—that couldn't even perceive light—opened. I've seen both totally and partially deaf people hear. I remember praying for people whose eardrums had deteriorated, or had even been surgically removed. God restored their hearing. I've seen individuals who couldn't even talk because

their larynx was gone receive a miracle and start speaking in tongues. I've seen thousands of people healed of arthritis and all kinds of pain. One man had a metal rod in his back that made him stand up straight. It was physically impossible for him to bend over, yet he received healing and bent over just fine. I've seen deformities healed, diseases cured, and people come out of wheelchairs.

I've personally seen three people raised from the dead, including my own son. He'd been dead for almost five hours, and had already turned black. His toe was tagged and he was lying on a slab in the hospital morgue, but the Lord raised him up—glory to His name!

I don't share any of this to promote myself. I'm still learning about healing. There have been—and still are—times when I pray for people and they aren't healed. But I'm getting better results today than ever before. I haven't arrived, but I've left, and I've learned some important truths along the way.

How about you? Are you consistently walking in divine health? Are the people you pray for regularly healed? If not, then you ought to seriously consider the truths I'm sharing.

God's Word Works

Please don't mistake my confidence for arrogance, but this is an area of my life where I've seen results. I've personally ministered to probably hundreds of thousands of people. I've trained others and seen these truths work for them. A lot of ministers have told me how receiving a revelation of these same

truths has enabled them to see many people they have prayed for healed. Some of these ministers have seen nearly every single individual they prayed for healed, including multiple people raised from the dead. God's Word works!

I may not have it all figured out, but I know I'm going in the right direction. I've seen the power of God work again and again. If you're prejudiced against healing and refuse to consider what the Word says, I probably won't be able to help you. But if you genuinely desire to know about the divine healing that is available through the Lord Jesus Christ and faith in what He's done, this book could literally change your life. At the very least, these truths can bring you to a level of success and victory in this area of healing equal to what God has given me. Again, I don't claim to have arrived, but healing is manifesting itself in my life—not only just for me, but also for the people to whom I've been ministering.

As you humble yourself to receive God's Word, I believe these truths will really help you too.

Chapter 1

Miracles Confirm God's Word

Many people criticize me for emphasizing healing. They say, "This isn't important. You don't have to be healed to go to heaven. You shouldn't spend any of your time on radio, television, or in print emphasizing healing. It's a secondary issue. You're making it greater than it is."

One of the radio stations my program is broadcast on forwarded me a letter awhile back from a man who threatened to take legal action against me. Basically, he said, "It's a big sin for you to take people's money, which is hard to come by, and preach something like healing!" This fellow was one of many people who contend that it's a waste of time to talk about healing. I strongly disagree.

Healing is part of Christ's atonement. If Jesus died to provide healing for us, then it's not just incidental. If the Lord suffered and took stripes on His back for our physical healing, then it's not insignificant. If Jesus thought enough of healing to purchase it for us, then we ought to think enough of it to receive.

God the Father caused His Son to bear all of our sins and all of our sicknesses on the cross. Jesus took our diseases just as much as He took our sins. Therefore, it honors Him to promote healing. In fact, Jesus spent more time talking about healing

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than He did several other truths that many people consider to be essential issues today—heaven and hell in particular. Actually, the Lord used healing like a bell to get people’s attention and to prove that He did have power on earth to forgive sins. Many scriptural examples illustrate this.

Healing and Forgiveness

In Mark 2, some friends of a man who suffered from the palsy couldn’t get him into the house Jesus was ministering at because of the great crowd. Undeterred, they took him up to the top of the house, removed some tiles from the ceiling, and literally lowered this man in his stretcher right down in front of Jesus.

When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

Mark 2:5

Notice that He said, “Son, your sins be forgiven you.”

But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, Why doth this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only? And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts? Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk?

Mark 2:6–9

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If Jesus had been only a mere man, it would have been impossible for Him to say either, “Rise up and walk,” or “Your sins are forgiven you.” Only God can forgive sins, and man in his physical ability does not have the power to produce healing. However, Jesus being both fully God and fully Man, could actually say and provide both these things—healing and forgiveness.

It's easier to say, “Your sins be forgiven you,” because you can't see a sin, and you can't see if a sin is forgiven and dealt with or not. If someone challenged you saying, “You can't do that,” you could just answer, “Prove it!”

Verification

Jesus was saying that it's easier to say, “Your sins are forgiven” than “Rise up and walk” because they would immediately be able to tell if Jesus had the power to make this declaration by whether this man rose up and walked. Instantly there would be physical evidence that it did or didn't work.

The reasoning followed that if you can do the greater work, then certainly you can do the lesser. If you can jump fifteen feet, then certainly you can jump two feet.

The people were just standing there in silence not knowing how to respond. Then Jesus continued saying:

But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine

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house. And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.

Mark 2:10–12

Jesus made it very clear that the reason He healed this man was so that people would know that He also had power on earth to forgive sins. The Lord used healing as a verification that He had power to deal with unseen things. If He could deal with physical bodies, and meet the physical and emotional needs of people, then He could also deal with their spiritual needs. Jesus used healing like a bell to draw people to Himself and get their attention, and then He would tell them the truth.

Words Only?

Jesus also said that the miracles He did authenticated who He was and confirmed what He said.

I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me.

John 5:36

Although Jesus pointed to the testimony that John the Baptist bore of Him, He wasn't counting on it. Christ was dependent on the confirmation His Father gave of who He was by the miracles He performed. If Jesus needed the witness of the miracles He performed to validate His authority, then how can we possibly do less? It is the height of arrogance to think

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that we can use words only to persuade people when Jesus had to have signs and miracles to confirm His Word.

The Way It Should Be

Some folks say, “We don’t need miracles today. We have the Word of God.” Yet, that’s not what the Bible teaches. Mark 16 reveals to us some of the very last instructions Jesus gave His disciples before He ascended back to heaven. Notice what He promised after commanding us to go into all the world and preach the Gospel:

These signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.

Mark 16:17–20

In other words, God used miracles to confirm that it was really Him speaking through these people. This scripture also reveals that the Lord confirms the true preaching and teaching of His Word with signs following.

Based on this, we can truthfully say today that if ministers do not have the miraculous power of God flowing through them, then we should be skeptical about whether or not God

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is truly speaking through them. Now, don't misunderstand me. I'm not saying that a person who doesn't have healings manifest in his or her ministry is not of God. Neither am I saying to just automatically trust all the words of anyone who performs a miracle. You must always check what people say against God's Word. However, in God's system, when His Word is truly preached there will be signs and wonders following.

We live in a day and age where the message of salvation has been corrupted and divided into parts. Certain aspects are neglected and misunderstood by most of the body of Christ. Many people are preaching only the forgiveness of sins. God confirms all of His Word that we preach, but if all we preach on is spiritual, eternal values, and the forgiveness of sins, then all we'll see happen is people being born again. But if we preach and teach the whole counsel of God, He will confirm it with signs, wonders, and miracles. This is the way God has established it in the scriptures, and this is the way it should be.

We Do Too!

Not every true man or woman of God sees miracles nowadays because they aren't preaching the whole counsel of God. Some people I respect very much have been faithful with the revelation that they have. They've seen people born again and lives transformed. I definitely wouldn't say that they aren't true ministers. Yet, it's obvious that they aren't preaching the whole counsel of God. God's will is for His whole counsel to be preached, and He will confirm it with signs and wonders following.

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Hebrews 2:3–4 says:

How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

This says that God confirmed the Word that Jesus preached with miracles. When He had ascended to heaven and the disciples took over the ministry on this earth, God also confirmed the Word that they spoke with signs, wonders, and gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His will.

No one today can claim they are operating better than Jesus did. In fact, most Christians aren't even regularly seeing the fullness of the manifestation of God's power the way that the early apostles did. Who do we think that we are to believe that somehow or another we have a superior anointing or ability to minister effectively in God's eyes without needing miracles today? That's the height of arrogance. If both Jesus and the early believers needed miracles, signs, and wonders to confirm the message from God that they preached, then we do too.