Divine Healing



"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." Isaiah. 5.:5

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Introduction

Does God want us to be well, free of sickness and disease? Where does sickness come from? Is healing conditional on what we do or not do? Are disease and sickness always the result of sin and rebellion against God? Is divine healing limited to a specific group of people? Why do some folks get healed and others do not? Can divine healing cease once it happens? What does the Bible teach about divine healing?

I am sure you can offer more questions than what I have mentioned. However, these are a good start in discussing the concept of divine healing.

Divine Healing By Definition

By definition, divine healing is, "Healing attributed to the direct agency of God usually in response to faith." "Healing through divine intervention as in response to prayer or because of faith."

The very definition of divine healing suggests that it is reserved for those who ask and believe. This is for sure a select group of folks. However,

God is still sovereign and can heal when and where He wants. He does not need prayer or faith to heal but He does most often require them.

I believe He operates that way to involve us, those that are suffering, so we can see His mighty hand and miracle working power. It will mean more to us if we have partnered with God than just been given it outright. It's like working to buy something opposed to having it given to you. It has more value in our own eyes. We appreciate Him and His grace far more when we pray for something and see it actually happen. It strengthens our relationship and dependence upon the Lord.

Where Does Sickness & Disease Come From?

A.) From The Devil...Acts 10:38 tells us "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were *oppressed of the devil*; for God was with him." Notice that Jesus healed all who were oppressed. He did not cast demons out of the people. He healed them.

Demonic Oppression...according to Got/Questions.com, is when a demon is temporarily victorious over a Christian, successfully tempting a Christian to sin and hindering his ability to serve God with a strong testimony.

If a Christian continues to allow demonic oppression in his/her life, the



oppression can increase to the point that the demon has a very strong influence over the Christian's thoughts, behavior, and spirituality.

Christians who allow continuing sin open themselves up for greater and greater oppression. Confession and repentance of sin are necessary to restore fellowship with God, who can then break the power of demonic influence. The apostle John gives us great encouragement in this area: "We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin; the one who was born of God keeps him safe, and the evil one cannot harm him" (<u>1 John 5:18</u>).

Symptoms of Demonic Oppression

A recent Charisma magazine article offers seven symptoms of demonic oppression.

Symptom 1: Incapacity for normal living (Mark 5:1-5)

Just as the actions of Legion made the man unsuitable for normal social interaction with friends and family, an unusual desire for solitude, accompanied by a deep loneliness, will often set in. The person will often become very passive with no desire to change.

Symptom 2: Extreme behavior (Mark 5:4)

Violence will often be evident in the victim's life. An explosive temper and extreme, uncontrollable anger are dangerous behaviors that control the individual and the people who love him or her.

Symptom 3: Personality changes (Mark 5:9, 12)

Multiple personalities exist in some of the most serious cases of demonic control. This man had a "legion" of spirits within his life. All cases of multiple personality may not be demonic, but in most cases demon activity is involved. Changes in personality, extreme or mild, may be evidence of demonic activity.

Symptom 4: Restlessness and insomnia (Mark 5:5)

In verse 5, we see this man crying in the tombs "night and day." He could not sleep. Insomnia can be a sign of a physical problem or a sign of a spiritual problem. God has gifted His children with sleep (**Ps. 127:2**). So when you cannot sleep night after night and there is no medical reason for this disturbance, the devil maybe tormenting you. Don't forget: You have the right to rest in Jesus! In **Psalm 3**, we see a picture of warfare. Here David was hounded by his enemies. In verse 3, he cried to the Lord, "You ... are a shield for me." In verses 5 and 6, he cried, "I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the Lord sustained me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around." He also said in Psalm 4:8, "I will both lie down in peace, and sleep; for You alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety." Sleep is God's gift to all who trust in Him.

Symptom 5: A terrible inner anguish (Mark 5:5)

This man was deeply tormented in mind and heart. Various levels of anguish are evident in those who are afflicted by demons. Grief and anguish are normal emotions for us all. Yet persistent, unresolved anguish that will not leave after normal therapies of counseling, encouragement and prayer could well be demonic.

Symptom 6: Self-inflicted injury and suicide (Mark 5:5)

Here we see the demonic man cutting himself. If you read **Mark 9:14-29**, you will see the story of the man whose son was both deaf and mute because of a demon: "Wherever it [the evil spirit] seizes him, it throws him down ... Often he [the demon] has thrown him [the boy] both into the fire and into the water to destroy him" (vv. 18, 22). Jesus cast out the demon: "The spirit cried out, convulsed him [the boy] greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead ... But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose" (vv. 26-27). Demons can cause people to injure themselves. They even incite suicide.

Symptom 7: Unexplained illness with no obvious medical cause



When medical testing produces no physical cause for an illness, then we should look to the mind and spirit for answers. Sometimes illnesses are psychological, and good counseling can result in a cure. Other times the battle is with demons. A scriptural example of this is found in **Luke 13:11-16**, the story of a woman afflicted by a "spirit of infirmity" (v. 11). Jesus called her "a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound" (v. 16). Obviously she was a child of God

and faithful to her synagogue, with a desire to know more about the Lord. Then, "Jesus ... said to her, 'Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity.' And He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God" (vv. 12-13). There are physical illnesses caused by a class of demons known as "spirits of infirmity."

B.) From Our Own Negligence... Galatians 6:7-8 tells us "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

" How man folks have come down with cancer from smoking? How many get drunk, become alcoholics and destroy their liver? How many do not dress properly in cold weather and get sick? We reap what we sow. The list of causes and affects can go on and on. The point is, we do things that hurt us and can even bring sickness and disease. This is not demonic oppression.

C.) Genetic Disorders... Some genetic disorders are caused by mutations in the DNA of genes. Other disorders are caused by changes in the overall structure or number of chromosomes. The results are evident in diseases like Musclar Distrophy and the like.



D.) Sin... Ezekiel 18:20 tells us that

"The soul that sins, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him." Sin causes death and can work inside of us daily bringing us to a point of death. Thus we experience a slow death as sin rules over our body.

E.) God's Judgment... Ever heard of the plagues of Egypt? God's judgment and power was demonstrated to the Pharoah through a series of plagues that one actually turned the river into blood. **II Kings 5:27** says, "The leprosy therefore of Naaman shall cleave unto thee, and unto thy seed for ever. And he went out from his presence a leper [as white] as snow."

I am sure you can find other reasons for sickness and disease. The point I want to make is because there are many causes, not all who get sick or come down with a disease get healed. Some are reaping what they sow. Some are under the judgment of God. Others are negligent in good hygene.

What About The, "Name It & Claim It" Teaching

This has been a big debate in the church for years. Some say it is pure heresy while others live by it and shape their faith around it. I can see it being true in one respect and heresy in another. It's like two sides of the same coin.

The basic idea is that when you speak it out, your words make it happen. Your words are like capsules that carry divine power. Some say this is why it is heresy, because it makes you a god. This is not Biblical.

It is heresy when...you name something and claim it that is not promised by God's word. I can name and claim three wives and 4 expensive cars but that does not obligate God to deliver them.

It is true when...However, if I read in the scriptures that Jesus died for my sins and God wants me to follow Him and thereby find salvation, I can name it can claim it, knowing that it will come true. There are over 2,000 other promises that I can discuss with the Lord and apply at His direction.



It's all based upon the divine will of God as shown to the believer. God's word does not return to Him void. It always accomplishes what He sends it to do. ("So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.") **Isaiah 55:1**

The promises of God are written for us. They are hooks to hang our faith on. They are given so we can walk by faith and not by sight. When we believe them, we demonstrate faith. This is pleasing unto God and His word goes forth on our behalf. We can rest assured that if God said it, it will come to pass. In this sense, we can name it and claim it.

However, most folks stumble because the waiting for it to materialize is unknown and their faith eventually fails. This was not so with Abraham, or the others that we identify as "Heroes of Faith" in Hebrews. They all believed beyond hope in what God said. When God speaks a word into your life, you need to hold on to it with all that is in you and never let it go. It will come to pass in God's timing.

Naming And Claiming Without Understanding

I have had friends in my past that were of the name it and claim it persuasion. They would jump on a scripture and claim it but had no real understanding from God. He has to speak it to you so it settles in your spirit and you know that you know. This can only come from a prayerful relationship with God where He communicates His will to you.

I have found that as I read the scriptures, He speaks to me. My heart and ears are open to His voice and I receive all that He wants me to know. Then I name it and claim it. Abraham did the same thing. He first heard from God.

Believing Beyond Hope Romans 4:17-25 (NKJV)



(as it is written, "I have made you a father of many nations") in the presence of Him whom he believed— God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did; who, contrary to hope, in hope believed, so that he became the father of many nations, according to what was spoken, "So shall your descendants be." And not being weak in faith, he

did not consider his own body, already dead (since he was about a hundred years old), and the deadness of Sarah's womb."

"He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness."

"Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification."

Romans 4:17-25 Talking Points

- 1. God Must Say It First... V-17
- 2. What is said is usually beyond hope, Out of reach, Not Logical, Impossible-V18
- 3. Our consideration has to be on what God Has Said, which is the promise. Nothing else is applicable, especially what we see or feel. Thus a dead womb is not really dead... V 19
- 4. There is always a Promise...a hook to hang your faith on. Abraham hung on to God's word...A Father of Many Nations...V20
- 5. It is imperative to give glory to God before we receive the promise...v..20
- 6. We must be fully persuaded that God gave us the vision/promise and will bring it to pass...v21
- Abraham, "Believed and Became" and so can we If we do not stagger at His Word...V 24

Here's a checklist.

- Hear the Word
- Accept and believe it
- Trust in who gave it, that it will happen
- Focus on the promise, not what others say or think
- Bless God for it along the way
- Do not stagger between it and other things



Question?.... Does God really want you healed? To answer this question, I want to discuss some Assumptive Logic before we look into what the Bible says.

Assumptive Logic

Assumptive Logic is the logic of making a conclusion based upon certain assumptions. Here we go.

- 1. God created man in His image and likeness. Can we assume that this image and likeness was healthy? <u>I believe we can.</u>
- 2. Jesus said in John 10:10 "The thief comes not, but to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." This abundant life, do we assume it to be full of wellness in body, mind and spirit? <u>I think so.</u>
- 3. The Lord kept the Israelites healthy and well for all of the 40-years in the wilderness. "Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years." If He did that for them, wouldn't He also do that for us?" **Deut. 8:4**.... <u>I think so.</u>

You can see how assumptive logic can help us to draw an accurate conclusion. *God does want us well*. Now let's look at the Bible. God's word is what we are to live by and the Bible tells us His word. Here are a few scriptures to consider.

- 1. "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with **his stripes we** are healed" Isaiah 53:5.... Our healing comes to us because Jesus bore the suffering of the cross and took stripes from the Roman Soldier's whip. *There is healing in the blood of Jesus*.
- 2. "who our sins himself did bear in **his** body, upon the tree, that to the sins having died, to the righteousness **we** may live; by whose **stripes** ye were healed" **I Peter 2:24***Peter tells us that we were healed*.
- 3. "Dear friend, I pray that you may prosper in every way and be in good health physically just as you are spiritually." **3 John 1:2**...

The apostle John prayed that we should all be in good health physically and spiritually. This is the apostle that was the beloved of Jesus, who took care of His mother and was the only



disciple at the cross. This tells us that it is God's will that we be in good health.

Hooks For Our Faith And Healing

There are numerous scriptures that tell us that God wants us well. They are hooks that we can hang our faith on and hold fast to in our ongoing belief in what God has said. Herein is the truth of the, "Name It And Claim It" teaching. This is Biblical.

If we know that God wants us well and that our healing is in the blood of Jesus, we can begin to confess it. We can say, "I am healed by the blood of Jesus." Confessing it before the sickness, in the face of the devil and often until it gets into your spirit is a demonstration of your faith that what God believes about you is true and His desire is for you to be healed.

The Biblical premise for this is **Hebrews 11:6** "But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

Diligence plays a key role in obtaining your healing. Saying, "I am healed by the blood of Jesus" once is not enough. God wants to know, more than that, He wants you to know, if you are serious about your faith. We do not have to beg, only claim it as ours because it is ours.

Why Aren't All Healed?

I know what you might be thinking. What about all of those that pray and do not get what they ask for? I prayed for healing but it never came, why? Here are a few possibilities.

- 1. Some give up too soon, thinking that it is silly.
- 2. Others have been shown a pathway to their healing but refused to take it...like loosing weight or to stop smoking.
- 3. Yet others feel unworthy and end up believing they did too much sin to be favored by God. Thus they give up.
- 4. Others are denied because of God's sovereign will that has them on track for another destiny. An example is in **Hebrews 9:27-28** "And

just as it is appointed for people to die once--and after this, judgment--So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation."

"We have to pray with our eyes on God, not on the difficulties." ~ Oswald Chambers We hate to see a loved one die or someone we are actively praying for. However, if they do not get healed, and pass away, there must be a good reason for that. It may be because their appointment with death has come and God is being merciful to them. We may never know this side of eternity and once we cross over to be with Jesus, we

probably won't care.

Our focus is to use the Word of God as a, "HOOK", and hang our faith on it and leave the outcome to God.

Other Hindrances To Divine Healing

Excerpts From Touch of God is a Christian Healing Ministry of Jesus.

#1- Unforgiveness (bitterness, resentment, retaliation....). This I believe is the #1 reason for so many people do not get healed. Read this scripture and you will get an understanding. **Matthew 6:15** "But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

#2 – Not Discerning the Lord's Body –1 Corinthians 11:27-32 says" Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord." For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world." We are to examine ourselves to see if we have any unforgiveness towards any brother. Make peace first before taking communion. Otherwise, Satan has a right to put a disease on your body."

#3 – No Expectation in Healing (does not believe).

#4 – Flagrant Sin (Habitual Sin) Galatians 5:19-21
– will not enter the Kingdom of God. Habitual sin.
What is flagrant sin is habitual sin. It is those who know the truth and choose not to repent and stay in sin for their benefit.



#5 No Intimacy or no relationship with the Father.

#6 Complaining, Murmuring & Grumbling (Israel not allowed into promise land because of murmuring and complaining). You want to loose blessings, start murmuring and complaining.

#7 Chasing after Signs and Wonders and not seeking God.

#8 – Expecting God to Heal on their conditions and not God.

#9 Looking to Man Rather Than God.

#10 Involvement With Occultism, new age medicine and Humanism.

The biggest reason why we are not healed is bitterness either towards another, self or God. The second biggest reason is lack of faith or trust in God. Then the third biggest reason is not having a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ our Lord. The Lord promised in Ps. 103:2-3 that He came to heal ALL diseases.

Different Ways To Receive Divine Healing

There are several ways to receive a healing from God. Just to refresh your memory, as divine healing is a supernatural event where God heals and delivers us from sickness and disease or other maladies. It can be both spiritual and physical.

1. **Through Spiritual Gifts**...we haven't spoken of this one as yet but it is in the Bible. Listed in the gifts of the Spirit are Gifts of Healing and Working of Miracles. **I Corinthians chapter twelve** Notice that, a person can be anointed by the Holy Spirit with the working of miracles and various gifts of healing. Surely they are divine in origin. The healings are multiple. This means another with the same Holy Spirit anointing can heal several different things like deafness, inability to walk, pain in the body, diseases like cancer and so forth. The operation of these gifts can manifest in the laying on of hands as well as during a worship service.

2. Personal Prayer And Faith...most often we can see healing in our own lives through exercising personal faith. Jesus said, "Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you." Matthew 9:29



I have said before that the scriptures hold many promises. These promises are hooks suitable to hold our faith. The famous **Isaiah 53:5**, By His Stripes, verse is a perfect example. We believe in it and declare it as done; calling forth healing that does not yet exist as though it did. This is the essence of **Romans 4:7** where God did just that for Abraham and the play-out of **Hebrews 11:1**.

3. The Elder's, "Prayer of Faith"... "Is any sick among you? 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: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him." James 5:14-15

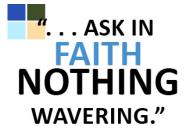
The Prayer of Faith is the faith of the elders in the church. They are reportedly the more mature Christians with a prayer life and dedication to Jesus and the leading of the Holy Spirit. When they pray, things are supposed to happen. However, it is still called, "The Prayer of Faith" because some church elders are not spiritual and do not operate in the gifts of the Spirit. Be sure your elders are men or women of God.

4. Through Doctors.... I add this because many folks have been healed by conventional medicine as a direct result of the wisdom and expertise of a doctor. I believe that all healing comes from God. The doctor is only an instrument just like an elder.

I will caution you to do your homework when looking for a good doctor. Many are in it just for the money and will do surgical procedures when it is not really necessary.

Healing Is Always Subject To Your Knowledge of God's Word

A person can't receive from God beyond his actual knowledge of God's Word. So to develop faith for healing, you must discover what the Word says about it. Then meditate upon those scriptures until your heart is settled on the fact that healing is God's will for you!



It's important that you don't hinder your prayers, saying, "If it be Thy will." God has already made His will known concerning healing, so approach Him on the authority of His Word. **James 1:6** says we are to ". . . ask in faith, nothing wavering . . . ," or we will not receive what we desire from Him.

Continually confess and believe that "by Jesus' stripes, I was healed" nothing wavering—and meditate on Isaiah 53:5, First Peter 2:24, and Matthew 8:17. Then as First John 5:14–15 states, be confident (1) that you've prayed according to God's will; (2) that He has heard you; and (3) that you have the petition you desire of Him! (Kenneth Hagan Ministries)

Logic In Action

Peter 2:24 says "Who his own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we being dead to sin, should live unto righteousness, By whose stripes we were HEALED." Another scripture tells us "Himself took our infirmities and bare our sickness".

Answer me this...if Jesus took our infirmities and bare our sicknesses, why are we still carrying them? We need to visualize them being left at the cross and walk away healed.

Conclusion

Even though deliverance from sin and sickness has already been provided to us through God's great and precious promises, they don't do us any good until we mix them with faith. We need to actively take possession of these promises and make them ours.

The key is to stand in faith for our healing, knowing that God wants us healed and well in body, mind and Spirit. We cannot afford to slide back into doubt or unbelief. The scriptures do not lie. God is for us and has already provided for our healing. Receive it now and hold fast to it until it becomes a part of you.



God Bless You In All That You Do