



CONSISTENTLY IMPACTING OUR COMMUNITY

School of the Bible

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Christ the Healer

The purpose of these notes are to assist in developing a proper understanding of the course presented. They are not a comprehensive evaluation of the material and are intended to supplement instruction given.

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COURSE PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

Purpose

Our purpose in studying this course will be not only to gain clear revelation into the will of God concerning healing, but also to understand how to receive healing. In looking at healings in the ministry of Jesus we will also study how to minister healing to others.

Outline

1. Introduction
 - Paul's thorn in the flesh.
2. Origin of sickness
3. Redeemed from the Curse
4. The importance of faith
5. Healing in the Life of Jesus
 - Ways to receive your healing
 - Roadblocks to healing
 - How to walk in divine healing
 - Ways to minister healing to others
6. Live Long enough to Fulfil your Destiny

Supplementary Reading

1. The passages concerning healings in the ministry of Jesus as per table.

References

1. FF Bosworth Christ the Healer
2. KE Hagin 7 things you should know about Divine Healing
3. KE Hagin Redeemed from Poverty, Sickness
4. G Malkus The Hallelujah Diet
5. <http://www.moorelife.org/mlmindex.php>

Healings in the Ministry of Jesus

	Description	Scripture				Comment
		Math	Mark	Luke	John	
1	Leper	8:1-4	1:40-45	5:12-16	4:46-54	
2	Centurion's Servant	8:5-13		7:1-10		
3	Peter's Mother-in-law	8:14-17	1:29-34	4:38-41		
4	Paralysed Man	9:1-8	2:1-12	5:17-26		
5 & 6	Jairus' Daughter/ Woman with blood issue	9:18-26	5:21-43	8:40-56		
7	2 blind men	9:27-31				
8	Mute Demonic	9:32-34				
9	Man with withered hand	12:9-14	3:1-6	6:6-11		
10	Multitudes	12:15-21	3:7-12	6:17-19		
11	Sick of Gennesaret	14:34-36	6:53-56			
12	Syro-Phoenician	15:21-28	7:24-30			
13	Afflicted	15:29-31	7:31-37			
14	Blind Man	16:5-12	8:14-26			
15	Epileptic	17:14-21	9:14-29	9:37-42		
16	Widow's son			7:11-17		
17	Man born blind			9:1-41		
18	Crippled woman			13:10-17		
19	Man with dropsy			14:1-24		
20	Resurrection of Lazarus				11:1-44	
21	10 Lepers			17:12-19		
22	Blind Bartemaeus			10:46-52	18:35-43	
23	Roman soldier					
24	Nobleman's Son				4:46-54	
25	Demonic Man		1:21-28	4:31-37		

Lesson 1 – Introduction

Outline

1. Statistics.
2. Divine Health – God’s Will.
3. Paul’s Thorn in the Flesh.

1. Statistics.

- 1.1 Just under 1% of men die each year of cancer in the UK, 52% of these are lung related, while 45% are digestive tract related.
- 1.2 Just over 1% of women die each year of cancer in the UK, 26 % of these are breast cancer, 29% of these are lung related, while 21% are digestive tract related, 11% are ovary or cervix.
- 1.3 According to Liberty Life:
 - 1.3.1 1 in 3 men and 1 in 4 women suffer from a stroke or heart attack before the age of 60.
 - 1.3.2 1 in 6 men and 1 in 7 women suffer from cancer; 50% of these patients are still alive five years later.
 - 1.3.3 Approximately 30% of economically active South Africans are HIV positive.

2. Divine Health – God’s Will

- 2.1 The Barrier
 - 2.1.1 The greatest opposition to healing for a believer is the mind! Do we genuinely believe that God wants to heal us?
 - 2.1.2 There is little doubt in the minds of most Christians that God does heal, but the personal issue is debated.
 - 2.1.3 One of the reasons for not believing in divine health for all is to take the responsibility of failure away!
 - 2.1.3.1 When healing does not come, instead of examining one’s own life and taking responsibility, it is easy to blame God and say that it is not His will!
 - 2.1.3.2 If it is His will, then I must take full responsibility for my life and not make excuses for not fulfilling my destiny!
 - 2.1.3.3 One thing that is clear is that sickness will hinder a believer from effectiveness in the kingdom!
 - 2.1.4 This is why we must revert to the Word of God for conclusive proof that it is God’s will.

- 2.1.5 As Bosworth says: "Faith begins where the will of God is known." This becomes crucial in our walk of health.
- 2.1.6 And this belief in divine health MUST be rooted in a revelation from God's Word in the same way that an unbeliever can only receive a revelation from God's Word by the Holy Spirit in order to receive Christ and eternal life!
- 2.1.7 If it is only God's will to save (and obviously heal) a select few, then the responsibility for both preaching and receiving salvation does not rest squarely on my shoulders but I can cop out with the excuse that "It was not God's will!"
- 2.1.8 Bosworth uses a pertinent example: If someone dies, then read the will to determine what has been left to the heirs! If we are heirs then what have we inherited? Let's read the will!!!!

2.2 The Old Testament clearly reveals God's will:

- 2.2.1 The children of Israel left Egypt healed: **Psalm 105:37**
- 2.2.2 The blessing of the Lord: **Deuteronomy 7:13-15**
- 2.2.3 Promises from Psalms: **Psalm 103:3-5 Psalm 107:17-20 Psalm 103:5 Proverbs 4:20-22**

2.3 God's Redemptive Names.

- 2.3.1 God reveals Himself through His names:
 - 2.3.1.1 Jehovah Shammah – The Lord is There.
 - 2.3.1.2 Jehovah Shalom – The Lord my Peace.
 - 2.3.1.3 Jehovah Raah – The Lord is my Shepherd.
 - 2.3.1.4 Jehovah Jireh – The Lord my Provider.
 - 2.3.1.5 Jehovah Nissi – The Lord my Banner (Victory).
 - 2.3.1.6 Jehovah Tsidkenu – The Lord my Righteousness.
 - 2.3.1.7 Jehovah Rapha – The Lord my Healer.

Exodus 15:26 For I am the LORD who heals you.

- 2.3.2 The word Jehovah is the Redemptive name of God – it means "the Self-Existent One who continually reveals Himself".

2.4 The New Testament clearly reveals God's will:

- 2.4.1 Jesus bore sickness **Matthew 8:16-17 Isaiah 53:1-5**

- 2.4.1.1 The stripes of Jesus refer to the 39 lashings received before he was crucified.

2 Corinthians 11:24

- 2.4.1.2 Some try and explain this as “spiritual” healing. This is inconsistent with the rest of Scripture which teaches that man does not get healed spiritually, but rather recreated.
- 2.4.1.3 This is also clearly shown in Matthew to be physical healing – the Bible should interpret itself!
- 2.4.2 Jesus clearly revealed God’s will **Matthew 8:1-4**
 - 2.4.2.1 Most people, like the leper, do not doubt that God is able – the area of doubt is the willingness of God.
 - 2.4.2.2 The willingness of God is clear from this passage.
 - 2.4.2.3 The question we ask is this: Is there anywhere in the Bible where God does not want to heal?
 - 2.4.2.4 If healing is not the will of God then why go to a doctor? If it is God’s will that a person is sick, then seeking medical help is directly opposed to God’s will.
- 2.4.3 John’s writing. **3 John 2**
- 2.4.4 James’ writing. **James 5:14-18**

3. Paul’s Thorn in the Flesh

- 3.1 Those who hold the idea that sickness is part of the will of God or that healing no longer belongs to every believer, use certain Scripture to try and substantiate this belief.
- 3.2 Scripture used includes:
 - 3.2.1 Paul’s thorn – **2 Corinthians 12:7-10**.
 - 3.2.2 Paul’s infirmity – **Galatians 4:13-15**.
 - 3.2.3 Paul’s Handwriting – **Galatians – 6:11**
- 3.3 Paul’s Thorn: **2 Corinthians 12:7-10**
 - 3.3.1 The Bible does not say that the thorn in the flesh is sickness – this is purely an interpretation, which is NOT based on sound rules of interpretation.
 - 3.3.2 One of the rules of Bible Interpretation is that if a symbol is used earlier in the Word then that symbol should have the same meaning UNLESS clearly stated to the contrary.
Numbers 33:55 Samuel 23:6 Psalms 118:12 Ezekiel 28:24 Joshua 23:1-14
 - 3.3.3 Thorns in this passage are clearly groups of people who hinder God’s people from God’s will.
 - 3.3.4 **To try and equate 2 Corinthians 12 to sickness is out of context to say the least.**

3.4 Paul's Physical Infirmary: **Galatians 4:13**

- 3.4.1 These verses have been also been used to "prove" that Paul was a sickly man and that healing was not taken care of in the atonement.
- 3.4.2 Paul's infirmity here is NOT revealed to us.
- 3.4.3 Some say that because the Galatians wanted to "pluck out their eyes" for Paul, he must have had an eye disease.
- 3.4.4 In analysing this passage we can say the following:
 - 3.4.4.1 "At the first" could well be a reference to the first missionary journey where Paul was stoned. **Acts 14:19-20**
 - 3.4.4.2 At Lystra Paul was stoned to either death or the point of death - either way God raised him up.
 - 3.4.4.3 Paul IMMEDIATELY goes into the city and then the next day goes to Derbe before re-tracing his steps through Lystra, Iconium and Antioch. A person's condition after being stoned is generally one of being black and blue - even if God raised him up he could well still have had pretty bad bruising. (Galatians 6:17).
 - 3.4.4.4 We are not talking about sickness but a man induced condition. (This is only an interpretation as opposed to Paul having an eye disease.)
- 3.4.5 The issue really is not whether or not Paul was sick. Paul's experience should have nothing to do with the word, which advocates healing.
- 3.4.6 The Galatians weren't concerned about his physical condition but received him as though it were the Lord Himself.
- 3.4.7 Plucking out of eyes is an expression, which means they would give their lives for him much the same as we would say we would give an arm or a leg and we should not be taken literally.

3.5 Paul's Handwriting: **Galatians 6:11**

- 3.5.1 Paul would only have written the conclusion and so he could have emphasised certain points or underlined them - this is not a reference to "his eye disease".

Lesson 2 – Origin of Sickness

Outline

1. The Fall of Man.
2. The Consequence of Adam's Transgression.
3. Satan's Role.
4. God's Role.

1. The Fall of Man

- 1.2 Man was made in the image and likeness of God. He was placed in a perfect world – The Garden of Eden – where there was no sickness, no sin, no death!
- 1.3 God gave man a free will, in order for him to he chose the way in which he wanted to live.
 - 1.3.1 Adam's choice was simple: God or self! This choice was represented by the two trees.
 - 1.3.2 If Adam chooses the Tree of Life, he chooses God. If he chooses the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, he chooses self. **Genesis 2:16-17**
 - 1.3.3 The consequences of the choices are enormous: If Adam chooses the Tree of Life, he actually chooses God and therefore chooses to partake of the life of God and so will achieve the eternal purpose, becoming conformed to the image of Christ. He will continue to live in the perfect world, free of sin, sickness or death.
 - 1.3.4 If he chooses the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, he chooses to go his own way and therefore will need a saviour – this is the beginning of the plan of salvation.

2. The Consequences of Adam's Transgression – Man's Need for Justification Romans 5:12-21

- 2.1 Satan gained a foothold in the dominion that God had given to man.
 - 2.1.1 Jesus recognized Satan's authority in when He called him "the ruler of this world." **John 14:30**
 - 2.1.2 When Jesus was tempted by Satan, Satan offered Him the kingdoms – if Satan had no right to give Him the kingdoms then this was not a genuine temptation. **Matthew 4:8-9**
 - 2.1.3 Paul calls Satan "the god of this age" **2 Corinthians 4:4**

2.1.3.1 The fact that Jesus Himself and Paul recognized such titles as “ruler” and “god” mean that they themselves recognized Satan’s’ authority.

2.1.4 This is important as if Satan is the “ruler of this world” then he has a measure of control and if he is the oppressor, then he can afflict with sickness!

2.2 Adam and Eve's nature went from life (the nature of God) to death, the sin nature became part of them.

2.2.1 Together with sin, came death and together with death came sickness.

2.3 From now on, every descendent of Adam will be born with a sin nature. (V12) – and therefore subject to sickness, regardless of individual acts of sin.

2.4 Instead of the life of God abiding in them (if they had chosen the Tree of Life), the nature of death took its place in them.

2.5 Death together with sickness, now ruled and reigned instead of God's abundant life. **Romans 5:17**

2.6 All of the consequences were to be reversed through the work of Jesus on the cross.

3. Satan’s Role

3.1 Scripture show clearly the role that Satan plays:

3.1.1 Job: **Job 1:6-12 Job 2:3-7**

3.1.2 Crippled woman: **Luke13:15-16**

3.1.3 Peter’s Sermon. **Acts 10:38**

4. God’s Role

4.1 God’s gives good gifts: **James 1:17**

4.2 Jesus died to give abundant life: **John 10:10**

4.3 Jesus came to destroy Satan’s works: **1 John 3:8**

4.3.1 Serving God brought long life: **Exodus 23:25-26**

4.3.1.1 How then would one die? The best way – choosing to go when finished the race!

Lesson 3 – Redeemed from the Curse of the Law

Outline

1. The Work of Christ.
2. Demonstrating Righteousness.

1. The Work of Christ.

1.1 Christ has Redeemed us from the Curse of the Law.

Galatians 3:10

Deuteronomy 28:1-55

1.2 To curse means: to doom to failure, destruction or eternal damnation.

1.2.1 There is a difference between the curse of the broken law and the curse of the fall!!

Genesis 3:16-19

1.2.2 The curse of the fall was as follows:

- 1.2.2.1 Bringing forth children in pain
- 1.2.2.2 Husbands ruling
- 1.2.2.3 Thorns and thistles in the ground.

1.2.3 The three-fold curse of the broken law is:

- 1.2.3.1 Poverty
- 1.2.3.2 Sickness
- 1.2.3.3 Death

Galatians 3:13

1.2.4 Notice that he became the curse for us! When? When He was hanging on the cross. He became what I was so that I could become what He is!

1.2.5 He exchanged sickness for health (sin for holiness) meaning that He gives us health and righteousness. If He took what we were and nailed it to the cross then it is even more ridiculous for us to strive to be healed or to try and achieve a righteousness of our own!

1.2.6 Notice how he became the curse for us!

1.2.6.1 SIN:- **2 Corinthians 5:21**

1.2.6.2 SICKNESS:- **Matthew 8:17**

1.2.6.3 POVERTY:- **2 Corinthians 8:9**

Galatians 3:14

1.2.7 The blessing of Abraham would have been the “the promise of the Spirit”- IE the indwelling Holy Spirit but also included the blessing for fulfilling the Law.

2 Demonstrating Righteousness.

Romans 3:21-26

2.1 Righteousness demands that sin be dealt with.

2.1.1 God cannot in all righteousness pass over sin indefinitely – Old Testament believers were saved “on credit” as the price had not been paid, Jesus had not gone to the cross yet.

2.1.2 If God does not deal with sin, He becomes unrighteous and so He does deal with it through the blood sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

2.1.3 Romans 3:25-26 talks about God demonstrating His righteousness. This simply means that the price for sin was paid therefore God releases the sinner from his “debt”.

2.1.4 If the price is not paid, God does not release sinner, but seeing the price was paid (it is not important that the sinner did not pay himself, as long as the price is paid) God demonstrates His righteousness by forgiving!

1 John 1:9

2.2 If God does not forgive the sinner, then He is not just or righteous.

2.3 If the price has now been paid for sickness, then healing is “no longer God’s responsibility” but the believers!

2.3.1 It becomes our responsibility to receive as the price has been paid!

Lesson 5 – Healing Examples from the Ministry of Jesus

Outline

1. Lessons to Learn.
2. The Centurion's Servant.
3. Peter's Mother-in-Law.
4. The Paralysed Man.
5. Woman with Blood Issue.
6. Two Blind Men.
7. Man with Withered Hand.
8. Syro-Phoenician Woman.
9. Epileptic.
10. Nobleman's Son.

1. Lessons to Learn

- 1.1 As we look at the ministry of Jesus, we need to see what lessons we can learn from the following perspectives:
 - 1.1.1 What caused the healing in the life of the recipient – how did the person put him/herself in a position to be healed? Was it faith? Was it simply being in the right place at the right time?
 - 1.1.2 Are there lessons we can learn from Jesus in ministering healing? Is it our responsibility to build faith? Should we draw faith out of a person?
- 1.2 Of the healings listed (excluding those raised from the dead) there are 19 recorded in the gospels where Jesus healed an individual – 10 of these (more than half) are a direct result of the INDIVIDUAL'S faith.

2. The Centurion's Servant

Matthew 8:5-13

- 2.1 Jesus refers to the centurion as a man having "great faith".
 - 2.1.1 His great faith:
 - 2.1.1.1 He respected the fact that Jesus was Jewish and that Jews did not usually fellowship with Gentiles (Jesus was the exception to tradition as long as it did not violate the Law)

- 2.1.1.2 Jesus spoke and he believed!
- 2.1.1.3 He understood authority – he knew that when he spoke to a lower ranked person, that person would obey in the same way as he would have obeyed a higher ranking officer. He then translated this concept into the spiritual realm, BELIEVING that sickness was subordinate to Jesus and that it had to obey Him.

3. Peter's Mother-in-law.

Matthew 8:14-15

- 3.1 He touched her hand and the fever left – a quick recovery!
- 3.2 Healing Principle – a believer can pray and believe for someone else.
- 3.3 What is important here is the following:
 - 3.3.1 A pastor has spiritual authority to pray for his flock.
 - 3.3.2 A parent has authority to pray for children.
 - 3.3.3 The authority to minister healing is subject to the will and receiving of the recipient.
- 3.4 Notice how the healing takes place – Jesus rebuked the fever.
 - 3.4.1 Jesus did not rebuke Satan, nor any person – he actually addressed the fever!
 - 3.4.2 This means that there is power in our words to speak to sickness.
 - 3.4.3 In the same way we can speak to tumours, cancer etc.
 - 3.4.4 This however can only be based on the person praying having a revelation of his/her spiritual authority.

4. Paralysed Man

Matthew 9:1-8

Luke 5:17-26

- 4.1 The presence of the Lord was there to heal – all that was required was a sick person with faith!

- 4.2 Notice the perseverance of the 4 friends of the man who was paralysed – there is no room, yet they don't go away (interestingly present in the room were critical Pharisees – sometimes the wrong people are in the room, preventing those who have faith from getting in).
- 4.3 When Jesus "SAW THEIR FAITH" – there was adequate evidence of their faith:
 - 4.3.1 Not quitting when no way in to Jesus.
 - 4.3.2 Imagine the reaction today when someone climbs on a roof and removes tiles!
(probably young men – as we get older we sometimes lose our courage and initiative).
- 4.4 Jesus brings in the issue of "sins forgiven:.. This is important:
 - 4.4.1 It is no good for a person to go to hell after being healed – salvation is crucial when ministering healing to unbelievers.
- 4.5 When the man was healed they glorified God – God is not glorified in sickness – only in healing.

5. Woman with Blood Issue

Luke 8:43-47

- 5.1 Firstly this woman has this sickness for 12 years!
- 5.2 Secondly she had spent ALL her livelihood on doctors – this is a way that we are kept from prosperity! – Sickness is a drain on a person's finance, robs one of God's blessing!
- 5.3 Thirdly she COULD NOT be healed by the doctors, doctors assist in healing – but most of the time don't have solutions!
- 5.4 Our faith must not be in doctors but the Lord!

2 Chronicles 16:12-13

- 5.5 We must be so careful to keep the right balance in our faith. Do we go to doctors or not? Some have gone to doctors and lived – some have gone to doctors and dies! MUST BE LED BY HOLY SPIRIT!
- 5.6 We must never put our faith in anything but the Word of God – diets are important but He is the healer!!!
- 5.7 We need to take responsibility for our own health – when we place this responsibility on others especially the medical profession then we are taking our eyes off God!

- 5.8 She touched the hem of his garment and He asked “Who touched me?” Surely He knew? No! Why not? Because He was operating as a man!!!
- 5.9 The woman is afraid. Why? She shouldn’t have touched Him as she was unclean! However HER FAITH was so great that she knew if she only touched the hem of his garment, she would be healed, NO MAYBE!!!
- 5.10 He sensed power go out of Him! But notice this was without Him praying, without Him laying hands, she simply took or RECEIVED her miracle!
- 5.11 This was not a normal passing touch. This was a purposeful touch of faith!
- 5.12 She knew that there was a way to operate in faith – she knew that when she had an action that accompanied her belief, her faith would be released and she WOULD be healed!

Mark 5:27-28

- 5.13 Notice that her words were future! If I do this then that will happen!
- 5.14 Jesus words: “YOUR FAITH” has ...

6. Two Blind Men

Matthew 9:27

- 6.1 Their faith? What was their faith?
- 6.2 They recognised him as “Son of David” – this is a phrase reserved for the Messiah – so they saw Him as Messiah, the One who had fulfilled Old Testament Scripture.

7. Man with Withered Hand

Matthew 12:9-13

- 7.1 The Pharisees frequently opposed Jesus – here they are looking for fault in Him – more concerned about their interpretation of breaking the Sabbath than to see someone healed,
- 7.1.1 There are some in the church today who would rather see people stay sick than to have to change their doctrine.
- 7.2 Jesus was not intimidated by their opposition, He does not avoid them nor the man’s need – he could have come back at a time when there were no Pharisees,

7.2.1 In fact the contrary Jesus challenges their question “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?” with a question:

7.2.1.1 “What would you do if your sheep fell in a ditch?”

7.2.2 They have no response to the wisdom of God yet still try to destroy Him.

7.3 Notice the reaction to the plot to destroy Him – goes out and continues healing – this time the multitudes!

7.4 We need to be bold, unashamed in preaching and ministering healing!

8. Syro-Phonician Woman

Matthew 15:21-28

8.1 Jesus does 3 things to draw her faith out of her – her perseverance is going to be called “great faith”.

8.1.1 Firstly He ignores her.

8.1.2 Then He tells her He was not sent to Gentiles.

8.1.3 He then again says He is not sent to Gentiles with the phrase “little dogs”.

8.2 Her response is evidence of her faith:

8.2.1 In spite of Him ignoring her AND the disciples wanting her sent away, she perseveres.

8.2.2 Her response to Him saying He was not sent to gentiles is to worship Him.

8.2.3 Her response is again perseverance.

9. Epileptic

Mark 9:14-30

9.1 The father of the child interrupts Jesus, He asks his disciples a question and before they get to answer, this man interrupts.

9.1.1 This is faith – he is so desperate, that he needs to get to Jesus at all costs.

9.2 He perseveres in spite of no success from disciples!

9.3 Jesus then asks him questions. Why? In order to draw faith out of him!

- 9.4 Jesus makes a pertinent statement: “All things are possible to him who BELIEVES. He then responds in pure honesty: “Lord I believe. Help my unbelief”.
- 9.5 At this point of unbelief, Jesus still casts out the demon (which was the cause of the sickness!).
- 9.6 Notice two things:
 - 9.6.1 The demon FIRST convulses him before coming out – opposition to Jesus, a possible attempt to intimidate Him?
 - 9.6.2 Then the result – a seemingly dead child! No reaction from Jesus except to take him by the hand and raise him up.

10. The Nobleman’s Son

John 4:46-53

- 10.1 A nobleman is a wealthy, influential person.
- 10.2 This man makes the journey from Capernaum to Cana, (about 25 miles). He apparently makes the trip on foot or by donkey as the journey home takes him a day. Usually a wealthy man would send for someone to come and heal his son, but he HUMBLY chooses to make the journey himself.
 - 10.2.1 There is a close connection between faith and humility!
- 10.3 Jesus makes an interesting observation: “Unless you *people* see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.” Implying that the nobleman was not saved! Jesus perceives this and God performs the miracle in spite of this, the result is that the nobleman AND his household become believers.
- 10.4 Notice also that as an unbeliever, the nobleman believes the word of Jesus without question and in faith goes on his return journey home.

11. The Man Born Blind

John 4:46-53

- 11.1 There is no record here of this man previously hearing about Jesus. He does not seek after Jesus, but meets him when Jesus walks past!
- 11.2 A Jesus passes this man, His disciples ask Jesus a theological question: the reason for the man’s blindness???

11.2.1 The answer: neither this man's nor his parent's sin was the reason.

Exodus 34:6-7

Jeremiah 34:17-19

11.2.2 A parent's choice both positively and negatively affect the life of the child.

11.2.3 Not everything that God ALLOWS is His will!

11.2.4 In the midst of all this HE IS JUST, FAIR AND RIGHTEOUS.

Lamentations 3:31-33

11.2.5 God is not the author of the man's blindness, however he permitted it.

11.3 There is no reason in the man for his blindness – born in Adam has consequences!

11.4 But now the works of God are going to be manifest. Up to now the work of Satan has been manifest!

11.5 Notice the way it happens, Jesus spits on the ground, makes clay, anoints the man's eyes, sends him to wash in the Pool of Siloam.

11.5.1 The man obeys, and receives his sight!

11.6 The Pharisees question the miracle (Seeing is not believing!)– again trying to find fault.

11.7 After the man is interrogated by the Pharisees, he is cast out of the Temple – excommunicated for having received his sight.

11.8 Now this man has never seen Jesus – he was told to go wash in the pool of Siloam and then only did he receive his sight!

11.9 Jesus then goes and seeks him out – he then believes in Jesus and worships Him.

Lesson 4 – The Importance of Faith

Outline

1. Faith and the Will of God.
2. Mountain Moving Faith.
3. Applying Faith.
4. Faith and the Gifts of the Spirit.
5. Faith and Repentance.

1. Faith and the will of God.

- 1.1 “Appropriating faith cannot go beyond one’s knowledge and the revealed will of God. Before attempting to exercise faith for healing, one needs to know what the Scriptures plainly teach and that it is just as much God’s will to heal the body as it is to heal the soul.”¹
- 1.2 Sometimes believers strive to get healed – all it takes is believing, by faith – it is not up to us to heal, we cannot – it can only be Him.
- 1.3 What is necessary to apply faith to healing?

2. Mountain Moving Faith.

2.1 Defining Faith

Hebrews 11:1

- Now faith is being sure of what we hope for, and certain of what we do not see. NIV
- Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. NKJV
- Now faith is assurance of things hoped for, a conviction of things not seen. ASV
- Faith makes us sure of what we hope for and gives us proof of what we cannot see. CEV
- Now faith is the substantiating of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Darby
- To have faith is to be sure of the things we hope for, to be certain of the things we cannot see. GNB
- Faith assures us of things we expect and convinces us of the existence of things we cannot see. GW God’s Word
- The fundamental fact of existence is that this trust in God, this faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living. It's our handle on what we can't see. MSG

- 2.2 So if faith is the substantiating of things hoped for or faith gives substance to what we expect, then this means that faith is going to give substance to holiness!

¹ FF Bosworth Christ the Healer

2.2 We can therefore summarise as following:

- 2.1.1 Faith is assurance, confidence, trust, believing.
- 2.1.2 Faith must have a foundation – iow faith must have something underpinning it; giving it support, like a foundation supports a building. It cannot be based on nothing or speculation.
- 2.1.3 Faith is what it takes to make real in my experience, what God has promised.
- 2.1.4 Hope in biblical terms is not desire, but rather something that is confidently expected.
 - 2.1.4.1 If we believe the word of an unsaved man, how much more should we believe the Word of the God who cannot lie!
- 2.1.5 Now the difference between hoping (desiring – not biblical hope) and believing is simple:
 - 2.1.5.1 If I am believing then I have an assurance that what it will come to pass – there are no “maybe’s” – I am CONFIDENT that it is going to happen!
 - 2.1.5.2 One of the errors of faith teaching was that faith was never future – Jesus says that what you believe and speak WILL (future) come to pass.
 - 2.1.5.3 The words that I speak can be “I will be better!” or “I will have the money!” or “Things are gonna get better!”
- 2.1.6 Biblical hope is a confident expectation, which links up with faith in that faith expects the result. This is available to ANYONE!

3. Applying Faith

- 3.1 Now do we genuinely believe we can be healed, do have a confidence that we can walk in divine health, do we have an assurance that this is the will of God?
- 3.2 What is this based on? The foundation upon which we build on can only be God’s Word! In the same way that we cannot just expect something random to happen, so we have to have something concrete on which to believe.
- 3.3 Faith should therefore be based on the promise of God.
- 3.4 How can I put into practice what I am hoping for?
- 3.5 I now have to “believe” the promise that “by His stripes I am healed”, so that it becomes real in my experience. So I must:

- 3.5.1 Believe
- 3.5.2 Confidently expect healing
- 3.5.3 See myself as healed
- 3.5.4 Speak in line with solution, not with problem.

Hebrews 11:6 Romans 1:17

3.6 Lessons from Mark 11

Mark 11:12-14 & 20-24

- 3.6.1 Have Faith in God. This is not a choice – we are told to “Have faith in God!”
- 3.6.2 This “faith in God!” consists of not only believing but also speaking! I need to speak to my mountain.
- 3.6.3 When I combine speaking with believing (and not doubting), I will have what I am believing for.
- 3.6.4 So the Christian should speak words that line up with what he is believing, which in line up with his thinking.
- 3.6.5 Now the difference between hoping (desiring – not biblical hope) and believing is simple:
 - If I am believing then I have an assurance that what it will come to pass – there are no “maybe’s” – I am CONFIDENT that it is going to happen!
- 3.6.6 One of the errors of faith teaching was that faith was never future – Jesus says that what you believe and speak WILL (future) come to pass.
 - The words that I speak can be “I will be better!” or “I will have the money!” or “Things are gonna get better!”
- 3.6.7 Biblical hope is a confident expectation, which links up with faith in that faith expects the result.
- 3.6.8 This is available to ANYONE! – “Whoever believes!”

4. Faith and the Gifts of the Spirit - 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

4.1 Every believer has the right to healing by faith – then as God chooses, He heals through the gifts of the Spirit. V11

4.1.1 This will frequently happen when there is another person involved or unbelievers.

4.2 These are different kinds of gifts of The Holy Spirit. V4

4.2.1 These ALL belong to God and not to man. V7

4.2.2 Each believer can operate in the gifts “To each one. . .” – this means that each believer can expect at some time to operate in the gifts! V7

4.2.3 The purpose of the gifts is NOT for one person’s glory but for the “profit of all”. V7

4.2.4 The gifts manifest according to the timing and purpose of the Holy Spirit. V12

4.2.5 There is nothing natural about these gifts – each one is a SUPERNATURAL manifestation of God’s power.

4.3 Defining the gifts:

4.3.1 Faith:- A unique form of faith that goes beyond natural and saving faith. A supernatural trusting without doubt.

4.3.2 Gifts of Healings:- Supernatural healings (plural – different people can have different manifestations) performed by God.

4.3.3 The Working of Miracles (Miraculous Powers):- Supernatural intervention in the ordinary course of nature. Divine enablement that could not ordinarily be done.

4.4 We all are required to live by faith (Romans 1:17), we all have access to the wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:30), we all have access to healing (1 Peter 2:24), yet God sovereignly at times operates in a “different” way, using the Gifts of the Spirit.

5. The Relationship between Repentance and Healing

5.1 Faith is a vital part of healing as it is the vehicle that brings healing to the natural realm. Repentance is key to faith:

1 John 3:20-21

5.2 Calling for elders

James 5:14-18

5.3 Hezekiah

Isaiah 38:1-5

Lesson 6 – Live long enough to fulfil your Destiny

Outline

1. Long Life.
2. Fearfully and Wonderfully Made.
3. Fasting.
4. Healthy Eating.
5. Exercise.
6. Dealing with Stress.
7. Conclusion.

1. Long Life

Philippians 1:21-24; 2 Timothy 4:6-7

1.1 Too many Christians die before they have fulfilled their destinies. Believers have high medical bills and are in no better position than the world in victory over disease.

1.1.1 In fact Christians frequently are more unhealthy than the world, being obese because of food being the only “legal vice” in their lives.

1.2 Can we break natural laws and then believe God for deliverance? **Galatians 6:7**

1.3 Can we eat poison intentionally and expect God to deliver us?

1.2.1.1 Can we eat junk food and expect to walk in divine health?

1.4 How long should a believer live?

Ecclesiastes 7:17; Psalm 102:24; Psalm 90:10; Genesis 6:3; Psalm 91

1.5 Causes of sickness

- 1.5.1 Poor eating habits.
- 1.5.2 Lack of Exercise.
- 1.5.3 Stress.
- 1.5.4 Genetic weaknesses.
- 1.5.5 Unforgiveness.

2. Fearfully & Wonderfully Made - Psalm 139:13-15

2.1 DNA

2.1.1 Our makeup, who we are as people, is recorded in each person’s DNA. This is recorded in each cell of every person (from the time the two-celled embryo starts to divide) and contains enough information to fill a 1,000 volume encyclopaedia.

2.1.2 Written into this DNA is healing!!!

2.2 Immune System

- 2.2.1 The human body has an incredible healing system – the immune system. This system acts to get rid of all toxic and foreign bodies and operates in a similar way to the computer game “puckman”.
- 2.2.2 According to George Malkmus, when a person consistently eats junk food (including sugar) or dead foods the immune system operates at a reduced level, this means it cannot deal with cell mutations (pre cancerous cells), nor with any invasion of bacteria or virus.
- 2.2.3 When people get sick, (usually as a result of an ineffective immune system resulting from poor diet) they go to doctors who give them toxic medicines which actually put more pressure on the immune system, resulting in a snowball effect of sickness eventually over years leading to early death.
- 2.2.4 Instead of joining forces with our immune system, we overpower it with drugs. Instead of recognising a tumour as a symptom, it is treated as sickness and bombarded with radiation and chemotherapy. The immune system should be fuelled by “alive” foods and exercise.

3. Fasting

- 3.1 There is no New Testament commandment to fast. It is frequently a very over rated practice in the church with few people doing it for the right reasons.
- 3.2 There should always be a purpose to fasting – whether spiritual or physical.
 - 3.2.1 A spiritual fast would be to hear from God, whereas a physical fast would be to detoxify the body (a spiritual fast can serve the latter purpose and vice versa).
- 3.3 There are different kinds of fasts:
 - 3.3.1 Daniel fast – eating only raw foods, only fruit and vegetables. **Daniel:1:5-16**
 - 3.3.2 Liquid only fast – drinking only fresh juices – one of the most beneficial ways to detoxify the body.
 - 3.3.3 Water only – body starts to “deep cleanse” after the third day.

4. Wisdom in Eating

- 4.1 One of the biggest errors in this area is to seek only diet and leave out God! It is vitally important to be wise but our divine health is rooted in our faith more than anything else.
 - 4.1.1 He must remain Jehovah Raapha! However we need to look to Him for His wisdom when it comes to healthy eating. Our faith must never be in diet! It must stay rooted in God!

1 Timothy 4:1-5 Proverbs 23:1-3

4.2 What are deceptive foods?

- 4.2.1 Taste doesn't mean nutrition.
- 4.2.2 Colour doesn't mean nutrition.
- 4.2.3 Preservatives/Flavourants.
- 4.2.4 Aluminium Foil.
- 4.2.5 Sugar.
- 4.2.6 Refined carbohydrates.
- 4.2.7 Processed food.
- 4.2.8 Cooked food.

4.3 What was the purpose of the Old Testament Dietary Law?

Leviticus 11:2-22**5. Exercise****1 Timothy 4:8**5.1 Why is exercise so good for you?²

- 5.1.1 Elevates your metabolism so that you burn more calories every day.
- 5.1.2 Increases your aerobic capacity (fitness level).
- 5.1.3 Maintains, tones, and strengthens your muscle. Exercise also increases your muscular endurance.
- 5.1.4 Decreases your blood pressure.
- 5.1.5 Increases the oxidation (breakdown and use) of fat.
- 5.1.6 Increases HDL (good) cholesterol.
- 5.1.7 Makes the heart a more efficient pump by increasing stroke volume.
- 5.1.8 Increases hemoglobin concentration in your blood. Hemoglobin is part of the red blood cell that carries oxygen from the lungs to the rest of the body.
- 5.1.9 Decreases the tendency of the blood to clot in the blood vessels. This is important because small clots traveling in the blood are often the cause of heart attacks and strokes.
- 5.1.10 Increases the strength of bones.
- 5.1.11 Causes the development of new blood vessels in the heart and other muscles.
- 5.1.12 Enlarges the arteries that supply blood to the heart.
- 5.1.13 Decreases blood levels of triglycerides (fat).
- 5.1.14 Improves control of blood sugar.
- 5.1.15 Improves sleeping patterns.
- 5.1.16 Increases the efficiency of the digestive system which may reduce the incidence of colon cancer.
- 5.1.17 Increases the thickness of cartilage in joints, which has a protective effect on the joints.
- 5.1.18 Reduced stress.
- 5.1.19 Effective weight control.
- 5.1.20 Increased balance and coordination which is especially important in older adults.

² <http://www.myfit.ca/archives/viewanarticle.asp?table=fitness&ID=13&subject=Benefits+of+Exercise>

- 5.1.21 Better mental well-being.
- 5.1.22 Increases the amount of blood that flows to the skin making it look healthier and feel better.
- 5.1.23 Reduced risk of heart disease.
- 5.1.24 Decreases total blood cholesterol
- 5.1.25 Reduced risk of diabetes.
- 5.1.26 Reduced risk of osteoporosis.
- 5.1.27 Decreased resting heart rate.
- 5.1.28 Increases lung capacity
- 5.1.29 Increased amount of blood your heart can pump in a single beat.
- 5.1.30 Reduced feelings of depression

6. Dealing with Stress

“Stress affects every single part of your body – from fingernails cracking, to hair falling out, mouth becoming dry, skin problems, muscular aches and pains, fatigue, headaches and dizziness. Long-term exposure to stress include migraines, diarrhea, peptic ulcers, heart-attacks, hypertension, mental illness and stress-induced asthma. Stress has been found to be a factor in cancer, strokes, bowel disorders, diabetes mellitus, allergies, backache and can lead to lowered immune system efficiency (colds, flu and other viruses picked up more easily when under stress).”³

Matthew 6:25-34

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 Diet is vitally important, certain “delicacies are deceptive foods”, leading to sickness.
- 7.2 Exercise is crucial.
- 7.3 Fasting and certain diets (EG Daniel) can assist in healing, but to forbid eating meat permanently would be unbiblical.
- 7.4 Old Testament Law can be used as a guideline, but not as a law as for the New Testament believer, ALL food can be sanctified. However wisdom needs to be applied in diet as breaking the rules in foolishness can result in sickness.

³HealthFirst.co.za