

The Biblical Basis for Healing

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Taken from the Workbook of The School of Healing & Impartation

By Randy Clark

I. The LORD reveals Himself as "The LORD that heals."

Exodus 15:26 If you will give earnest heed to the voice of the LORD your God, and do what is right in His sight, and give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have put on the Egyptians; for **I am the LORD your healer**. (Jehovah-Rapha)

II. Healing was the prophetic sign for recognition of the Messiah

Isaiah 35:3-6 Encourage the exhausted, and strengthen the feeble. (4) Say to those with anxious heart, Take courage, fear not. Behold, your God will come with vengeance; the recompense of God will come, **But He will save you**. (5) **Then the eyes of the blind will be opened and the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. (6) Then the lame will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute will shout for joy**. For waters will break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

Isaiah 61:1-2 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is **upon Me**, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners; (2) To proclaim the favorable year of the LORD

Jesus Fulfilled the Prophecies of Isaiah and many more:

Luke 4:16-19 And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. (17) And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written, The **Spirit** of the LORD is **upon ME**, because he **anointed ME** to preach the gospel to the poor. HE has sent ME to proclaim **release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed**, (19) to proclaim the favorable year of the LORD.

Luke 7:20-23 When the men came to Him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to You, to ask, 'Are You the Expected One, or do we look for someone else?'" (21) At that very time **He cured many people of diseases and afflictions and evil spirits; and He gave sight to**

many who were blind. (22) And He answered and said to them, "Go and report to John what you have seen and heard: the **blind receive sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up**, the poor have the gospel preached to them. (23) Blessed is he who does not take offense at Me.

To prove who HE was, that HE was the "the expected one," JESUS pointed to the healings HE performed and the gospel HE preached. This shows us that healing and the gospel go together. Both come out of HIS heart of compassion for the overall well-being of people.

III. Every Christian Has Been Commissioned to Heal

Matthew 10: 7-9 And as you go, preach, saying, The **Kingdom of Heaven** is at hand. (8) **Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons.** Freely you received, freely give.

- Healing is also the sign of The Kingdom of God being present.

Mark 6: 7 He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits; (12) They went out and preached that men should repent. (13) And they were **casting out many demons** and were **anointing with oil** many sick people **and healing them.**

1 Corinthians 4: 20 For the kingdom of God is not in words but in power.

- This commission is not just for HIS original disciples:

Luke 10: 1-3 Now after this the Lord appointed **seventy others**, and sent them in pairs ahead of Him to every city and place where He Himself was going to come. (2) And He was saying to them, The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest **to send out laborers into His harvest.** (3) Go; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. (9) and **heal** those in it (the city) who are **sick**, and say to them, The **Kingdom of God** has come near to you. (17) The seventy returned with joy, saying, Lord, even the **demons are subject** to us in Your name. (18) And He said to them, I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning. (19) Behold, **I have given you authority** to tread on serpents and scorpions, and **over all the power of the enemy**, and **nothing will injure you.** (20) Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven.

Matthew 28:19-20 Go therefore and **make disciples** of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, (20) teaching **them to observe (to hold on to, keep) all** that I commanded you (which includes healing) and see (be aware, know) I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

IV. The Scope of Healing

Psalms 103:2-5 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget **none of His benefits**; (3) Who **pardons all** your iniquities, Who **heals all** your diseases; (4) Who **redeems your life** from the pit, Who crowns you with **lovingkindness and compassion**; (5) Who satisfies your years with **good things**, so that your **youth is renewed** like the eagle.

V. The Basis for Healing

A. The Covenant

Signs and wonders are part of both the Old and New Covenants

Exodus 34:10 Then God said, "Behold, I am going to make a covenant. Before all your people **I will perform miracles** which have not been produced in all the earth nor among any of the nations; and **all the people among whom you live will see the working of the LORD**, for it is a fearful thing that I am going to perform with you.

Hebrews 2:3-4 how will we escape if we neglect **so great a salvation**? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, (4) God also testifying with them, both **by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit** according to His own will.

Isaiah 53:4-5 Surely **our** griefs (from a root meaning to be rubbed or worn; weak, sick, afflicted) He Himself bore, and **our** sorrows (grief, affliction, pain) He carried; yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. (5) But He was pierced through for **our** transgressions, He was crushed for **our** iniquities; the chastening for **our well-being** fell upon Him, and by His scourging **we are healed**.

- This healing refers to both spiritual and physical healing as seen in the following passages.

Matthew 8:16-17 When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and **healed all the sick**. (17) **This was to fulfill** what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: "He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases."

- Peter refers to Isaiah this way:

1 Peter 2:24 He Himself bore **our** sins in His body on the cross, so that we **might** die to sin and live to righteousness; for **by His wounds you were healed**. (25) For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.

Acts 4:10 let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that **by the name of Jesus Christ** the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead — **by Him this man stands here before you healed**.

B. The Kingdom

Luke 10:9 heal those in it who are sick, and say to them, The **Kingdom of God has come near to you**.

Luke 17:21 nor will people say, Here it is, or There it is, because **The Kingdom of God is within you**.

- The Kingdom of God is where THE KING rules. At this time THE KING's rule is where it is willingly and individually received. Where it is willingly obeyed. The Day is coming, in the future, when HE will be obeyed whether willingly or unwillingly.
- The person who obeys THE KING is under HIS authority and has been given the rights of the Kingdom which include **healing**. Health is a privilege in the Kingdom. The King has defeated satan, sin, sickness and death (Hebrews 2:14).

VI. The Example of How to Respond to Healing

The Example of Peter

Acts 4:9-12 If we are on trial today for a kindness done to a sick man, as to how this man has been made well, (10) **let it be known** to all of you and

to all the people of Israel, **that by the name of Jesus Christ** the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead — by this name **this man stands here before you in good health**. (11) HE is the “Stone which was rejected” by you, “the builders,” but “which became The Chief Corner stone.” (12) And there is **salvation in no one else**; for there is **no other name** under heaven that has been given among men **by which we must be saved**.”

- This verse shows us that healing is included with salvation.

The Example of Jesus

John 5:30 **I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.**

John 14:10-14 The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but **the Father** abiding in Me **does His works**. (11) Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise **believe because of the works** themselves. (12) Truly, truly, 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 the Father. (13) Whatever you **ask in My name, that will I do**, so that **the Father may be glorified** in the Son. (14) If you **ask Me anything** in My name, I will do it.

John 17:4 Father . . . **I glorified You** on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do.

VII. The Mystery of Healing

A. Greater and Lesser Degrees of Anointing for Healing

1. At Times the Anointing is Greater for Healing

Luke 5:17 One day He was teaching; and there were some Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem; and **the power of the Lord was present** for Him to perform healing.

Acts 19:11-12 **God was performing extraordinary miracles** by the hands of Paul, (12) so that handkerchiefs or aprons were even carried from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out.

2. At Times the Anointing is Less for Healing

Mark 6: 1-6 Jesus went out from there and came into His hometown; and His disciples followed Him. (2) When the Sabbath came, He began to teach in the synagogue; and the many listeners were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get these things, and what is this wisdom given to Him, and such **miracles** as these performed by His hands? (3) Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? Are not His sisters here with us?" And **they took offense** at Him. (4) Jesus said to them, A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and among his own relatives and in his own household. (5) And **He could do no miracle there** except that He laid His hands on **a few sick** people and **healed** them. (6) And He wondered at **their unbelief**.

Jesus did some miracles (vs. 2) among them that they saw. However they resisted and rejected Him and what He could do for them.

We cannot pass judgment when someone who wants and desires to be healed and they are not. As said above, there are times when the anointing for healing is lower. In such a case as this, we must press on asking, seeking, knocking for the person's healing.

2 Timothy 4:20 Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus.

Paul "did extraordinary miracles" but left his friend Trophimus sick.

Why? This illustrates the next point:

3. Not everyone is healed when you pray for healing

We must acknowledge this and say **we do not know why** some are healed and others are not.

We must press on without blaming ourselves or the faith of those we minister to.

The Baptism of the HOLY SPIRIT gives you the power to **perform** miracles:

Acts 1:8 You will receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come **upon** you; and **you shall be My witnesses** both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.

The Baptism of the HOLY SPIRIT also gives you the power to **persevere when miracles and healings do not happen**.

4. How do we respond to the “why” question?

Matthew 17:19 Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “**Why** could we not drive it out?”

1 Corinthians 13:8-10 **Love never fails** . . . (9) For we know in part and we prophesy in part . . . (12) For **now** we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; **now I know in part**, but **then I will know fully** just as I also have been fully known. (13) But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but **the greatest of these is love**.

We must be able to humble ourselves and respond to the “Why” question with the answer, “I do not know.”

Humility and the willingness to say “I don’t know” prevent us from letting our “failure” experiences define our beliefs, heading us into the downward spiral of unbelief.

“Love never fails.” The higher way of love is the answer. If we minister in love, even if no healing happens, we will have brought His life to those in need.

We should just simply OBEY the LORD and press on regardless of what we see or do not see.

Jesus said, told us:

Matthew 10:8 **Heal the sick**, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give.

Acts 5:32 And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who **obey Him**.” “Heal the sick”

Luke 6:46 Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?

It is as John Wimber said: *“I just say ‘Come Holy Spirit.’ I know it is not me, so I don’t get proud when they are healed and I don’t blame myself or feel I failed if they do not.”*

5. Some are More Anointed or Gifted Than Others

1 Corinthians 12:14-19 For the body is not one member, but many. (15) If the foot says, “Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body,” it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. (16) And if the ear says, “Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body,” it is not for this

reason any the less a part of the body. (17) If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? (18) But now **God has placed the members**, each one of them, in the body, **just as He desired**.

1 Corinthians 12:28-31 And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues. (29) All are not apostles, are they? All are not prophets, are they? All are not teachers, are they? **All are not workers of miracles**, are they? (30) **All do not have gifts of healings**, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they? (31) But **earnestly desire the greater gifts**.

Peter and Paul Seemed to Have More Anointing than the other Apostles:

Acts 5:12 At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were taking place among the people; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's portico. . . . (13) the people held them in high esteem. . . . (15) to such an extent that they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and pallets, so that **when Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on any one** of them. (16) Also the people from the cities in the vicinity of Jerusalem were coming together, bringing people who were sick or afflicted with unclean spirits, and **they were all being healed**.

Acts 19:11-12 **God was performing extraordinary miracles** by the hands of **Paul**, (12) so that handkerchiefs or aprons were even carried from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out.

Stephen and Philip seemed to have more anointing than the other deacons:

Acts 6:8 And **Stephen**, full of grace and power, was performing **great wonders and signs** among the people.

Acts 8:6 The crowds with one accord were giving attention to what was said by **Philip**, as they **heard and saw the signs** which he was performing. (13) Even Simon himself believed; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip, and as he observed **signs and great miracles** taking place, he was constantly amazed.

Although some may have a greater anointing or gifting in healing, evangelism or teaching, that certainly does not mean the rest of us should not pray for healing, tell others about the love of Jesus or make disciples by teaching others. We are ALL commissioned by the LORD as HIS ministers.

And the LORD will use anyone because it is not about the one ministering but the LORD's love and desire for the person in need.

The "burning bush" that Moses saw in the desert was not more "special" than the rest. It was used because it was where Moses was at that time. Any old bush will do. We must all remember – the LORD can use "little ole me" any time HE desires or wills, because it is not about "me" it is about the person in need where I am.

Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that **few of you were wise** in the world's eyes, **or powerful, or wealthy** when God called you. (27) Instead, God deliberately **chose the foolish** in order to shame those who think they are wise. And **He chose those who are powerless** to shame those who are powerful. (28) God chose those **counted as nothing** (literally: of unknown descent), and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important, (29) so that no one can ever boast in the presence of God. 1 Corinthians 1:27-29

Mark 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. . . . (17) **"These signs will accompany THOSE WHO HAVE BELIEVED:** in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues; (18) they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; **they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.**"

B. The Principle of Faith in Receiving Healing

Matthew 9:22 But Jesus turning and seeing her said, Daughter, take courage; **your faith has made you well.** At once the woman was made well.

Matthew 9:29-30 Then He touched their eyes, saying, **It shall be done to you according to your faith.** (30) And their eyes were opened.

Matthew 13:58 And He did not do many miracles there because of **their unbelief.**

However, it appears that miracles did happen in Korazin and Bethsaida even as they had no faith and no response to what they saw:

Matthew 11:20-24 Then He began to denounce the cities in which **most of His miracles were done, because they did not repent.** (21) Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the **miracles** had occurred in Tyre and Sidon which occurred in you, they would have repented long ago in

sackcloth and ashes. (22) Nevertheless I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the Day of Judgment than for you. (23) And you, Capernaum, will not be exalted to heaven, will you? You will descend to Hades; for if the **miracles** had occurred in Sodom which occurred in you, it would have remained to this day. (24) Nevertheless I say to you that it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the Day of Judgment, than for you.

Matthew 21:20-22 And Jesus answered and said to them, "Truly I say to you, **if you have faith** and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' it will happen. (22) And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.

Hebrews 11:6 And **without faith** it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

The above verses can and often bring feelings of discouragement when we do not see anything happen. We conclude: "God does not use me to heal." Or, "I do not have enough faith" and we feel disqualified and often condemned by the enemy.

We MUST NOT turn the PRINCIPLE of Faith into a LAW that everyone should be healed. Because when everyone is NOT healed, discouragement can hinder or stop us from praying for those in need.

There will be healings that occur regardless of the condition of our own faith.

Faith keeps on even if no results are seen. We should not be like Thomas:

John 20:25 Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.

The LORD loves to use the weak, insignificant, and disqualified (in our eyes) to bring Glory to Himself and help to the needy.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29 For consider your calling, brethren, that there were **not many wise** according to the flesh, **not many mighty, not many noble**; (27) but God has **chosen the foolish** things of the world to shame the wise, and God has **chosen the weak** things of the world to shame the things which are strong, (28) and the **base** things of the world and the

despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are, (29) **so that no man may boast before God.**

C. The Principle of Sin in Their Lives

It is a true principle that sickness **can** be related to sin. But sickness is **NOT** always the result of sin. Other factors can also cause sickness (genetics, bacterial or virus transmission person to person, accidents, etc.).

John 5:14 **Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you."**

It is very clear that sin does open a door for sickness and the attack of the enemy. However, it is important to NEVER say to a person that they were not healed because they did not have enough faith or that sin in their life prevented their healing.

Jesus only spoke to this invalid man about sin AFTER He had healed him. Every person Jesus healed had sin in their life as does our life to one degree or another. Often it is the healing that brings a great love and appreciation for Jesus that leads a person to repentance and commitment (Romans 2:4).

We should NEVER say something like, "You must have sin in your life." The enemy and our own mind bring enough condemnation and guilt.

Should the Holy Spirit clearly tell you what sin is the issue, your might ask the person if they have a problem with it, and if so lead them toward confessing and turning from it once and for all.

We should NEVER question the person with **our guesses** as to what sin may be in their life.

D. The Principle of Compassion

Compassion moved Jesus to action – to teach, to feed, and to heal and raise people from the dead. We need and we must see people the way Jesus sees them – with concern and compassion for them in their suffering. Even if the person is not healed they will experience the love of Jesus if our compassion is true.

Matthew 14:14 When He went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and felt **compassion** for them and healed their sick.

Matthew 15:32 And Jesus called His disciples to Him, and said, "**I feel compassion for the people**, because they have remained with Me now three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way."

Matthew 20:34 **Moved with compassion**, Jesus touched their eyes; and immediately they regained their sight and followed Him.

Mark 1:41 **Moved with compassion**, Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, "I am willing; be cleansed."

Mark 6:34 When Jesus went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and **He felt compassion for them** because they were like sheep without a shepherd; **and He began to teach** them many things.

Luke 7:13-16 When the Lord saw her, **He felt compassion for her**, and said to her, "Do not weep." (14) And He came up and touched the coffin; And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise!" (15) The dead man sat up and began to speak. And Jesus gave him back to his mother.

Colossians 3:12-15 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, **put on a heart of compassion**, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; (13) bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. (14) Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.

Someone has well said: "They will not care how much you know until they know how much you care."

VIII. The Motivation for Healing – The Honor of the Name of Jesus

Acts 19:11-20 God was performing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, (12) so that handkerchiefs or aprons were even carried from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out. (13) But also some of the Jewish exorcists, who went from place to place, attempted to name over those who had the evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, "I adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preaches." (14) Seven sons of one Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this.(15) And the evil spirit

answered and said to them, "I recognize Jesus, and I know about Paul, but who are you?" (16) And the man, in whom was the evil spirit, leaped on them and subdued all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. (17) This became known to all, both Jews and Greeks, who lived in Ephesus; and fear fell upon them all **and the name of the Lord Jesus was being magnified**. (18) Many also of those who had believed kept coming, confessing and disclosing their practices. (19) And many of those who practiced magic brought their books together and began burning them in the sight of everyone; and they counted up the price of them and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver. (20) So the word of the Lord was growing mightily and prevailing.

Our motive MUST **ALWAYS** be to bring **honor and glory** to the **name of Jesus Christ**. And NEVER to ourselves.

And JESUS Himself is, as always, our example. As HE said to His FATHER:

John 17:4 **I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do.**

We should live our life daily by the power of the Holy Spirit so that we also may be able to say, "I have done my best to glorify You and accomplish the work You gave me to do."

Here is our prayer:

Acts 4:29-31 **And now, Lord, . . . grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your word with all confidence, (30) while You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy servant Jesus. (31) And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.**

IX. Four Kinds of Faith for Healing

1. "If You Can" - Very Weak Faith

Mark 9:17-29 **And one of the crowd answered Him, Teacher, I brought You my son, possessed with a spirit which makes him mute; (18) and whenever it seizes him, it slams him to the ground and he foams at the mouth, and grinds his teeth and stiffens out. I told Your disciples to cast it out, and they could not do it. (19) And He answered them and said, O unbelieving**

generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? **Bring him to Me!** (20) They brought the boy to Him. When he saw Him, immediately the spirit threw him into a convulsion, and falling to the ground, he began rolling around and foaming at the mouth. (21) And He asked his father, How long has this been happening to him? And he said, From childhood. (22) It has often thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. **If You can do anything**, take pity (or have compassion) on us and help us! (23) And Jesus said to him, **If you can all things are possible to him who believes.** (24) Immediately the boy's father cried out and said, **I do believe; help my unbelief.** (25) When Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly gathering, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, You deaf and mute spirit, I command you, come out of him and do not enter him again. (26) After crying out and throwing him into terrible convulsions, it came out; and the boy became so much like a corpse that most of them said, He is dead! (27) But Jesus took him by the hand and raised him; and he got up. (28) When He came into the house, His disciples began questioning Him privately, Why could we not drive it out? (29) And He said to them, This kind cannot come out by anything but prayer.

A. Reasons that might have contributed to his weak faith:

- 1) Reasons that might have contributed to his weak faith:
 - a. The serious or very bad condition of his son
 - b. It was a long standing illness.
 - c. The disciples had failed to heal or deliver his son.
- 2) The man was honest, and did NOT pretend what was NOT true:
 - a. He was not sure Jesus COULD or would heal his son.
 - b. He believed enough to bring his son to Jesus
 - c. This belief was probably due to the stories he had heard.
- 3) What supported his "if you can" faith?
 - a. Persistence, he didn't give up when the disciples failed.
 - b. He saw and took the opportunity to appeal to Jesus.
 - c. He had seen and appealed to the compassion of Jesus.

B. Jesus' response to "if you can" faith:

- 1) A strong, clear statement: "Everything is possible" Jesus clearly said NOTHING was beyond His ability, NOTHING was IMPOSSIBLE to those who come in faith.
- 2) Jesus did not rebuke his weak faith, but Encouraged it.
- 3) This is still Jesus' answer to those who are not sure whether God CAN heal them.

2. "If You are Willing" - Some Faith

Mark 1:40-42 And a leper came to Jesus, beseeching Him and falling on his knees before Him, and saying, "**If You are willing, You can** make me clean." (41) Moved with compassion, Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, "**I am willing**; be cleansed." (42) Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cleansed.

Many people are in this category, they believe Jesus CAN heal them but their question is, "**Is HE willing to heal me.**"

A. The leper's, "If You are willing faith."

- 1) He did not doubt that Jesus **could** heal him: "You can make me clean"
- 2) But his question was **if** Jesus was "willing" to heal him.
- 3) His "if You are willing faith" was shown in his:
 - a) Persistence – he saw Jesus, went to Him, was pleading for Jesus to heal him and fell in his knees before Him.
 - b) As the leper approached he must have sensed Jesus' compassion for him and then confirmed by Jesus touching him.

B. Jesus' response to "if You are willing" faith:

- 1) A strong, direct answer: "I am willing."
- 2) Jesus did not admonish his weak faith but strengthened it.
- 3) "**I am willing**" is still Jesus' answer to those who are not sure whether HE will heal them.

3. "If I can . . ." or, Great Faith

Mark 5:24-34 And He went off with him; and a large crowd was following Him and pressing in on Him. (25) A woman who had had a hemorrhage for twelve years, (26) and had endured much at the hands of many physicians, and had spent all that she had and was not helped at all, but rather had grown worse. (27) After hearing about Jesus, she came up in the crowd behind Him and touched His cloak. (28) For **she thought, "If I just touch His garments, I will get well."** (29) Immediately the flow of her blood

was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction. (30) Immediately Jesus, perceiving in Himself that the power proceeding from Him had gone forth, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My garments?" (31) And His disciples said to Him, "You see the crowd pressing in on You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" (32) And He looked around to see the woman who had done this. (33) But the woman fearing and trembling, aware of what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. (34) And He said to her, "Daughter, **your faith has made you well**; go in peace and be healed of your affliction."

A. Her condition:

- 1) It made her a social outcast by religious tradition.
- 2) It was a long standing condition – 12 years (vs.25)
- 3) She had suffered a greatly. (vs.26a)
- 4) She had been to many doctors (vs. 26b)
- 5) She had "spent all she had" (vs.26c)
- 6) Her condition was getting worse (26d)

B. The Nature of her "if I can" faith

- 1) She approached Jesus with knowledge of who He was and what He did (vs.27a)
- 2) She approached Jesus with disregard for her religious tradition that required her to stay away from people.
- 3) She risked all to approach Jesus, including the threat of stoning.
- 4) She approached Jesus with persistent, determined faith – perhaps a "gift of faith."
- 5) She approached Jesus because she had heard the testimony of what Jesus was doing (vs.27)

C. The Result of her "if I can" faith

- 1) She was immediately healed
- 2) She felt in her body that she was healed.
- 3) Jesus was aware of power going from His body
- 4) Faith connected with His anointing
- 5) Jesus' interpretation, ". . . your faith has healed you . . ."

4. "He can . . . " Reckless Faith

Mark 10:46-52 Then they came to Jericho. And as He was leaving Jericho with His disciples and a large crowd, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the road. (47) **When he heard that it was Jesus the Nazarene, he began to cry out** and say, "**Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!**" (48) Many were sternly telling him to be quiet, but **he**

kept crying out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" (49) And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him here." So they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take courage, stand up! He is calling for you." (50) Throwing aside his cloak, he jumped up and came to Jesus. (51) And answering him, Jesus said, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And the blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, **I want to regain my sight!**" (52) And Jesus said to him, "**Go; your faith has made you well.**" Immediately he regained his sight and began following Him on the road.

A. What Was His Condition?

- 1) He was blind
- 2) Reduced to a beggar
- 3) His only possess was his cloak

B. The Nature of "He Can" Faith

- 1) He began to shout (vs.47a)
- 2) His shout revealed respect and faith in Jesus as the Messiah, "Son of David" (vs.47b)
- 3) His shout was specific, "have mercy on me" (vs.47c)
- 4) He was Persistent, and did not give up when rebuked (vs.48)
- 5) He threw aside his cloak.
- 6) He cried out to Jesus because he had heard of Him (vs.47)

C. The Response of the People to the Blind Man

- 1) They rebuked him and told him to be quiet (vs.48)
- 2) Those who rebuked him were followers of Jesus. This is still true today.

D. Jesus' Response to "He Can" Faith

- 1) "Call him!" Who is calling the people in need of healing to Jesus today?
- 2) Jesus asks him, "What do you want me to do for you?" **THIS IS AN IMPORTANT QUESTION.**
- 3) Jesus told him to "Go" and that his faith had healed him. And, immediately the man received his sight and followed Jesus (vs.52).

Faith is important as seen in the above cases. However another important condition is: they all had the opportunity to be near Jesus.

For each of these people, being in the PRESENCE of Jesus was all important.

Faith was important, but (1) bringing the need to Jesus, (2) being in His Presence with their need and (3) requesting healing was the issue.

Whether they had little, some, great or reckless faith they all received their healing.

X. The Role of Obedience in Activating Healing

Throughout the Old and New Testament there are many miracles which occurred after an act of obedience to the Word of the LORD. We will only look at a few from the gospel of John.

THE MIRACLE AT CANA

John 2:1-11 there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, . . . the wine ran out, (5) His mother said to the servants, "**Whatever He says to you, do it.**"

- This is A VERY IMPORTANT KEY to receive healing or to receive anything from the LORD. Luke 6:46-49

(7) Jesus said to them, "**Fill the waterpots with water.**"

(8) And He said to them, "**Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter.**"

(11) This beginning of His signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.

HEALING A NOBLEMAN'S SON

John 4:46-54 There was a royal official whose son was sick at Capernaum.

(47) When he heard that Jesus had come . . . **he went to Him and was imploring Him to come and heal his son;** for he was at the point of death. (48) So Jesus said to him, "**Unless you people see signs and wonders, you simply will not believe.**"

- This is true today for many people. Jesus will and often does heal a person BEFORE they believe in HIM to bring them to Faith, to Believing. There is also a multitude of testimonies of people seeing a vision or dream of Jesus that brings time to Faith in HIM.

(49) The royal official said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies."

(50) **Jesus said** to him, "**Go; your son lives.**" The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started off. **He OBEYED.**

(51) As he was now going down, his slaves met him, saying that his son was living. (52) So he inquired of them the hour when he began to get better.

Then they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him."

(53) So the father knew that it was at that hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son lives"; and **he himself believed and his whole household.**

John 5:1-9 **THE HEALING AT BETHESDA**

(2) . . . by the sheep gate a pool, . . . called in Hebrew Bethesda, . . .

(3) In these lay a multitude of those who were sick, blind, lame, and withered, . . . (5) A man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years.

(6) When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he had already been a long time in that condition, He said to him, "**Do you wish to get well?**"

- This is an important question. This man had lived with his affliction for 38 years. After many years some accept their condition and surrender to it as their 'way of life.'

(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."

- He did not answer with a strong "Yes, I want to be healed" but gave the reason why he was not healed.

(8) Jesus said to him, "Get up, pick up your pallet and walk."

- This required a difficult act of Obedience after 38 years of not being able to walk. He Obeyed and . . .

(9) Immediately the man became well, and picked up his pallet and began to walk.

John 6:1-14 **FIVE THOUSAND FED**

(2) A large crowd followed Him, because they saw **the signs** which He was performing on those who were **sick**.

- They were following Jesus either to see a miracle or to receive a healing and not because of who He was.

(5) Therefore Jesus, . . . said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these may eat?"

- Jesus had and we must always have a love, concern and compassion for the needs of others.

(6) This He was saying **to test him**, for He Himself knew what He was intending to do.

- Jesus was teaching and training His disciples. He teaches and trains us also to have compassion for the needs of others, and to meet their needs.

- The Holy Spirit is continually asking us similar questions. The question just appears in our mind or conscience testing and teaching us.

(7) Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, for everyone to receive a little."

- Philip's answer was as our answer usually is, a very rational answer looking at the situation only from a monetary standpoint and not from the Heart of the LORD from whom "all things are possible."

(8) One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, (9) "There is a lad here who has **five barley loaves and two fish**, but what are these for so many people?"

- Andrew's answer was also looking at the need from a negative position, what we do not have and not from what the JESUS can do.

(10) Jesus said, "**Have the people sit down.**" Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about **five thousand**.

- The disciples had to obey the instructions of the LORD.
- Having them sit down their expectation was increased and they could all see JESUS with the five loaves and two fish.

(11) Jesus then took the loaves, and having **given thanks**,

- The people saw JESUS pray so that they would know who and where the miracle came from. PRAYER is always very important so that we can hear and know what the LORD wants to do and what we must do.

He distributed to those who were seated; likewise also of the fish **as much as they wanted**. (12) When they were filled, He said to His disciples, "**Gather** up the leftover fragments so that **nothing will be lost**." (13) So they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. (14) Therefore when the **people saw the sign** which He had performed, they said, "**This is truly the Prophet** who is to come into the world."

- Two things were accomplished: the needs of the people were met and the miracle was a sign clearly revealing who JESUS was.

- Before the miracle JESUS was a good teacher. After the miracle He was known to be the Prophet who was to come.
 - A person, or persons, do not need to be believers for the LORD to heal or meet their needs. Many, many times the miracle or healing is what brings a person to faith.
-

John 9:1-12 **JESUS HEALS A MAN BORN BLIND**

As He passed by, He saw a man **blind from birth**. (2) And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, **who sinned**, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?"

- The disciples asked this question because earlier (John 5:14) after healing a man, Jesus told him: **you have become well; do not sin anymore, so that nothing worse happens to you**. This clearly indicates that some sicknesses and physical problems are caused by sin. Sin gives satan a legal right to attack us.

(3) Jesus answered, "It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents; but it was so that the **works of God might be displayed in him**."

- Jesus' answer clearly tells us that all sin is not caused by sin.

(4) "**We must** work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; **night is coming** when no one can work."

- Jesus said, "**We** must . . ." clearly meaning that **we** are now to do the same works that He did, as sent and directed by HIM who sent us. Jesus said to His disciples: **as the Father has sent Me, I also send you** (John 20:21)

(5) "While I am in the world, **I am the Light of the world**."

- Light allows one to see.
- Jesus has now returned to Heaven and HE says to us: **You are the light of the world**. (Mt. 5:14)

(6) When He had said this, He spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and applied the clay to his eyes,

- When praying for healing, listen carefully to any directions the LORD may tell you to do, as Jesus did here. To your best, to be sure the directions are from HIM and not from your own thoughts.

(7) and said to him, "**Go, wash** in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). **So he went** away and washed, and came back seeing.

- With a mud-pack on his eyes he was told he must go and do. A test of obedience, his faith and his degree of his desire for sight.

(8) Therefore the neighbors, and those who previously saw him as a beggar, were saying, "Is not this the one who used to sit and beg?" (9) Others were saying, "This is he," still others were saying, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the one." (10) So they were saying to him, "How then were your eyes opened?" (11) He answered, "**The man** who is **called Jesus** made clay, and anointed my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; **so I went away and washed, and I received sight.**" (12) They said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know."

- There is no record here that the man was seeking Jesus or asking to be healed or that he had any faith to be healed.
- We must be careful about placing qualifications on anyone that is in need of healing. Simply ask the LORD, "what do you want to do?"
- The "works of God" were displayed for all to see that they might seek Jesus.

John 11:38-44 **Jesus Raises Lazarus From The Dead**

So Jesus, again **being deeply moved** within, came to the tomb. Now it was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. (39) Jesus said, "Remove the stone." Martha, the sister of the deceased, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there will be a stench, for he has been dead four days."

- Martha's reply does not indicate much faith. Still Jesus said to her:

(40) Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that **if you believe, you will see** the glory of God?" (41) So they removed the stone. Then Jesus raised His eyes, and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. (42) "I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, **so that they may believe** that You sent Me."

- Again, this act of healing was to bring people to faith or belief in who Jesus was, and the healing was also motivated by a love of Lazarus.

(43) When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, "**Lazarus, come forth.**"

- In this case a dead man was required to obey.

(44) The man who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

John 21:1-7 **Jesus Causes a Miraculous Catch of Fish**

After these things Jesus **manifested Himself again to the disciples** at the Sea of Tiberias, and He manifested Himself in this way.

- And again, this miracle was to make known and impress on His disciples that JESUS was: The Son of GOD, The LORD GOD ALMIGHTY.

(2) Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. (3) Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will also come with you." They went out and got into the boat; and that night they caught nothing. (4) But when the day was now breaking, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. (5) So Jesus said to them, "**Children**, you do not have any fish, do you?" They answered Him, "No." (6) And He said to them, "**Cast the net on the right-hand side of the boat and you will find a catch.**" So they cast, and then they were not able to haul it in because of the great number of fish.

- Their obedience was required for the miracle to happen.

XI. An Open Heaven and Angelic Ministry

Genesis 28:10-17 **Jacob's Prophetic Dream, An Open Heaven**

Then Jacob . . . spent the night there, because the sun had set; and he took one of the stones of the place and put it under his head, and lay down in that place. (12) **He had a dream**, and behold, **a ladder** was set on the earth with its top reaching to heaven; and behold, **the angels of God** were **ascending** and **descending** on it.

- This clearly indicates that the angels of God travel back and forth between the LORD and His people, ministering for the LORD and ministering to His people as the LORD directs.
- The LORD now speaks the Covenant He gave to Abraham to Jacob.

(13) And behold, the **LORD stood above it** and said, "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie, I will give it to you and to your descendants. (14) "Your descendants will also be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and in you and in your descendants shall all the families of the earth be blessed. (15) "Behold, **I am with you and will keep you wherever you go**, and will bring you back to this land; **for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.**" (16) Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it."

- Where the presence of the LORD is manifested, there His angels are.

(17) He was **afraid** and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than **the house of God**, and this is **the gate of heaven.**"

- When the **presence** of the LORD is recognized it brings a **fear**, a **reverence**.
- A church is to be **the house of God's dwelling**, where HIS Presence is manifested and people are aware of His Presence.
- A church should be "a gateway to heaven" and exist under an "**open heaven.**"

Luke 3:21-22 **An Open Heaven with the LORD on earth**

Now when all the people were baptized, **Jesus** was also **baptized**, and **while He was praying, heaven was opened**, (22) and the **Holy Spirit descended upon Him** in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased."

- This time the LORD is at the bottom of the ladder and the Holy Spirit descends upon Him.
- **Where the Presence of the LORD is there is an "open heaven."**

As the LORD told Nathanael:

John 1:50-51 . . . You will see greater things than these. (51) And He said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see **the heavens opened** and the **angels** of God **ascending and descending on the Son of Man**.

And they did see:

Matthew 4:11 The Temptation of Jesus

Then the devil left Him; and behold, **angels came and began to minister to Him**.

- Angels minister to the LORD in His time of need.

Mark 1:13 And He was in the wilderness forty days being tempted by Satan; and He was with the wild beasts, and **the angels were ministering to Him**.

Luke 22:43-44 Now an **angel** from heaven appeared to Him, **strengthening Him**.(44) And being in agony He was praying very fervently and His sweat became like drops of blood, falling down upon the ground.

The Nature and Purpose of His Angels:

Hebrews 1:7 And of the **angels** He says, "who makes **His angels** winds, and **His ministers a flame of fire**."

Exodus 3:2 The **angel** of the LORD appeared to him in a **blazing fire** from the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, yet the bush was not consumed.

2 Kings 2:11 As they were going along and talking, behold, there appeared a **chariot of fire** and **horses of fire** which separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind to heaven.

Hebrews 1:14 Are they not all **ministering spirits**, sent out to render **service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation**?

Matthew 18:10 See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that **their angels** in heaven continually see the face of My Father who is in heaven.

Psalms 104:3-4 He makes the clouds His chariot; He walks upon the wings of the wind; (4) He makes the **winds His messengers, Flaming fire His ministers**.

Exodus 23:23 **I will send an angel** before you and **I will drive out** the Canaanite, the Amorite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite.

Psalm 103:20-21 Bless the LORD, you His **angels, mighty in strength**, who **perform His word, obeying** the voice of His word! (21) Bless the LORD, all you His hosts, you **who serve Him**, doing His will.

Understanding the Prophecy of John the Baptist:

Luke 3:16 John answered and said to them all, "As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit **and fire**.

- The word "and" means "in addition to" or something different from the Holy Spirit. It could be referring to "He makes the winds His messengers, **flaming fire His ministers**" (Psalm 104:4)

And so, on The Day of Pentecost:

Acts 2:1-4 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. (2) And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent **rushing wind**, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. (3) And there appeared to them tongues as of **fire** distributing themselves, and they rested **on** each one of them. (4) And they were **all filled** with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

- The wind and fire being the manifestation of His ministering Angels.

Randy Clark tell of his ministry in Brazil. "A wind came into the large auditorium, blew open the big stage door, and then blew down several rows of chairs in the back; but NO wind was blowing outside of the building, only INSIDE! That night 90 percent were being healed and on the other nights 10-20 percent."

Acts 5:18-20 They laid hands on the apostles and put them in a public jail. (19) But during the night **an angel of the Lord opened the gates** of the prison, and taking them out he said, (20) Go, stand and speak to the people in the temple the whole message of this Life.

Acts 8:26 But an **angel of the Lord** spoke to **Philip** saying, Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza.

Acts 10:3 About the ninth hour of the day he clearly saw in a vision an **angel of God** who had just come in and said to him, "Cornelius!"

Acts 10:22 They said, Cornelius, a centurion, a righteous and God-fearing man well spoken of by the entire nation of the Jews, was **divinely directed**

by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and hear a message from you.

Acts 11:13 And he reported to us how he **had seen the angel** standing in his house, and saying, 'Send to Joppa and have Simon, who is also called Peter, brought here

Acts 12:5-11 So Peter was kept in the prison, but prayer for him was being made fervently by the church to God. (6) On the very night when Herod was about to bring him forward, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and guards in front of the door were watching over the prison. (7) And behold, **an angel of the Lord** suddenly appeared and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter's side and woke him up, saying, "Get up quickly." And his chains fell off his hands. (8) And **the angel said** to him, "Gird yourself and put on your sandals." And he did so. And he said to him, "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me." (9) And he went out and continued to follow, and he did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but **thought he was seeing a vision**. (10) When they had passed the first and second guard, they came to the iron gate that leads into the city, which **opened for them by itself**; and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the **angel departed** from him. (11) When Peter came to himself, he said, "Now I know for sure that the Lord has sent forth **His angel** and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.

Revelation 1:1 The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place. He **made it known** by sending his **angel** to his servant John,

Revelation 22:16 I, Jesus, have sent **My angel to testify to you** these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.

Revelation 12:7-9 And there was war in heaven, **Michael and his angels** waging war with the dragon. The **dragon and his angels** waged war, (8) and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven. (9) And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was **thrown down to the earth**, and **his angels** were thrown down **with him**.

- The angels of the serpent that were cast out of heaven are the demons that carry out the bidding of the devil.
- However:

Luke 10:17-20 The seventy returned with joy, saying, Lord, even the **demons are subject to us in Your name.** (18) And He said to them, I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning. (19) Behold, **I have given you authority** to tread on serpents and scorpions, **and over all the power** of the enemy, and nothing will injure you. (20) Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven.

Angels are Never to be Worshiped:

Revelation 19:10 Then I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, **Do not do that;** I am a fellow servant of yours and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus; worship God.

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