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LESSON 12 - HEALING & THE LORD'S SUPPER
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Lesson 12 – Healing and the Lord’s Supper

In this lesson we will explore what healing is, how you can personally receive God’s healing and how God can use you to bring healing to others. Healing is a miraculous spiritual gift that appears frequently in the Word, but today most people don’t understand the operation of the healing anointing or the healing power of God.

We will also look at the Lord’s Supper, why it is important and how it should be practiced. The Lord's Supper is an important reminder of the sacrifice Christ made for mankind and the price He paid for our sins. The celebration of the Lord's Supper is an intimate meeting with Christ which is not to be entered lightly.

There is a lot of confusion today on both issues and we will attempt to clarify them.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY CONCERNING HEALING?

The Bible has much to say about healing. Healing is not something that we only read about in the Bible. It did not pass away with the disciples and the early church. Healing is for today and is part of our covenant with God.

He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely, He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. Isa 53:3-5

This is prophecy concerning Jesus Christ and His work on the cross. The Word “sorrows” in the Hebrew is “makobah” and literally means “pain”.

The word “griefs” in the Hebrew is “choliy” and means “disease or sickness”.

This prophecy tells us that on the cross, along with bearing our transgressions and iniquities (vs.5), He alone bore our sicknesses, diseases, and pains. Why? For the same reason He bore our transgressions and iniquities - so we wouldn’t have to bear them!

When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses." Matt 8:16-17

Notice it says, “Himself took our infirmities and bare our sicknesses”. Not just mental grief but sickness in our bodies.

...who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness - by whose stripes you were healed. 1 Peter 2:24

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“By whose stripes ye were healed” is past tense, Jesus paid for your healing over 2000 years ago. If you were healed then, you are healed now.

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. 3 John 2

It’s God’s will that you be in health. Also see *Ps. 103:2-3*, concerning God’s will for your health.

HOW DOES HEALING COME?

Healing can come in many ways. You can receive healing through your faith in God’s Word, by a sovereign move of the Holy Spirit in your life, through the prayers of faith by others and the laying on of hands by believers. How it comes is not really the issue, just if it comes.

Healing through faith in the Word:

My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them during your heart; For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. Prov 4:20-22

He sent His Word and healed them and delivered them from their destructions. Ps 107:20

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and for the Greek. Rom 1:16

You must release faith in God’s Word by the words of your mouth.

So, Jesus arose and followed him, and so did His disciples. And suddenly, a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years came from behind and touched the hem of His garment. For she said to herself, "If only I may touch His garment, I shall be made well." But Jesus turned around, and when He saw her He said, "Be of good cheer, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that hour. Matt 9:19-22

The woman spoke what she believed, and she was healed by her faith or belief in Jesus.

And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith let it be to you." Matt 9:28-29

So, Jesus answered and said to him, "What do you want Me to do for you?" The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight." Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road. Mark 10:51-52

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Healing through a move of the Holy Spirit:

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. 1 Cor 12:7-11

And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way. 1 Cor 12:28-31

People can be healed by the moving of the Holy Spirit through the gifts of healing and miracles, as the Spirit determines.

Laying on of hands:

He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." Mark 16:16-18

Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. James 5:14-15

We receive healing the same way that we receive salvation. We accept it as a finished work of the cross. To be saved we believe in faith in the name of Jesus, that He is the Son of God and that He paid the price for our sins at Calvary. We also can know that the price for our healing was paid as well.

WHY ISN'T HEALING COMING?

There are many reasons why healing doesn't come. Many people have fallen under guilt and condemnation because they feel they have failed to receive healing. As believers, our job is not to sit in judgment of others and speculate as to why someone is having difficulty; rather we should be a source of encouragement and prayer for those who are struggling with sickness.

The Bible clearly indicates that there are some things that will hinder our healing.

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Unforgiveness: Unforgiveness can hinder your prayer life and keep healing from flowing to you. It is impossible to stand in faith for healing and walk in unforgiveness towards someone; you will short-circuit your faith.

If you forgive anyone, I also forgive him. And what I have forgiven — if there was anything to forgive — I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes. 2 Cor 2:10-11 NIV

"And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses." Mark 11:25

Not walking in love: When you get out of love with someone it will disconnect the power to your faith, which will cause you not to receive.

Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered. 1 Peter 3:7

And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. 1 Cor 13:2-3

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love. Gal 5:6

Doubt and unbelief: People stop believing or they give up too soon; they look at the problems or circumstances and they feel defeated. They relinquish their beliefs and shut down their faith.

And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Gal 6:9

We live by faith, not by sight. 2 Cor 5:7

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. James 1:5-8

Lack of knowledge: Sometimes people go without healing because they have not been taught the truth, or they have been taught incorrectly. The Word of God says you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free.

My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge... Hos 4:6

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Therefore, my people have gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge; Their honorable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst. Isa 5:13

Lack of faith: People often try to measure their faith against the circumstances in their lives. They ask the question “Do I have faith?” That is a difficult question to answer. Faith is simply a belief in God. A better question to ask is “Do I believe that God is my healer?” If the answer is “no”, the next step is to go to the Word and become fully persuaded that God is your healer.

So, then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God. Rom 10:17

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Joshua 1:8

This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck. 1 Tim 1:18-19

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. 1 Tim 6:12

Sin: Without a doubt sin will hinder you spiritually; when you walk in disobedience and live a life of sin, you will close yourself off from the blessings of the Lord.

For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the LORD is against those who do evil." 1 Peter 3:12

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Rom 6:23

Attack of the devil: Jesus told us up front that the devil was a liar and a thief. There is no truth in him and he is always looking for opportunities to stop you from serving God. He will try to put sickness and diseases on you, but you obey the Word and fight the good fight.

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. John 10:10

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. 1 Peter 5:8-9

Therefore, submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. James 4:7

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Failure to ask for healing: Sometimes we talk about sickness and complain about how we feel but we neglect to truly ask God to do something about it.

...Yet you do not have because you do not ask. James 4:2

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Matt 7:7-8

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. 1 John 5:14-15

Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. John 16:24

THE LORD’S SUPPER

What is the importance of the Lord’s Supper and how does it relate to healing? There are many spiritual truths found in the Lord’s Supper that apply to us today. The Lord’s Supper speaks of what Jesus did for us through the cross and speaks of our salvation. Although our salvation does not depend upon celebrating the Lord’s Supper, the Bible does speak that we should do it in remembrance of what Jesus did for us.

The elements of the Lord’s Supper serve as a reminder of what He has done for us. They are intended to bring our attention back to what Christ has done for us. As we partake of the Lord’s Supper, by faith we can also partake of His healing power.

And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." Likewise, He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you." Luke 22:19-20

For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. 1 Cor 11:26

Not only are we to remember His death but also what He accomplished for us on the cross.

...and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 1 Cor 11:24

...who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness — by whose stripes you were healed. 1 Peter 2:24

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The blood that can cleanse us from our sins is identified in the cup from which we drink at communion. This blood was shed for us.

And He said to them, "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many. Mark 14:24

We can see the significance of the shedding of blood stated in Hebrews.

And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission. Heb 9:22

MEMORY VERSES

And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank from it. And He said to them, "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many. Assuredly, I say to you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." Mark 14:22-25

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. Acts 2:42-43

*The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread.
1 Cor 10:16-17*

Behold, I will bring it health and healing; I will heal them and reveal to them the abundance of peace and truth. Jer 33:6

But when the multitudes knew it, they followed Him; and He received them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God and healed those who had need of healing. Luke 9:11

