

DIVINE HEALING - Lesson 1

Sermon by Pastor Henry F. Clark

The subject of this lesson fully describes what is meant by Divine Healing. It means healing and protection of our body by the direct Power of God. We do not have to say that doctors, medicines, hospitals and all human help are ruled out, for when healing is done by the direct Power of God, there is no place whatever for man or his works.

Strange to say, when a person makes their decision to trust in our Almighty God alone for the health and protection of their body, never to go back to human remedies or any human help again, it is considered the greatest risk a human being could take and that it borders on fanaticism.

BLINDED BY SATAN

This is the case, even among professed Christians, which shows how very far they are from the real Truth of God. When we look at the subject of Divine Healing in the right light by God's Grace, we can easily see that any person, who thinks it radical and extreme to trust God alone for the health and protection of their body, is terribly blinded by Satan.

If we would approach the subject as free from prejudice as we look into human affairs, we would be enthusiastic about the idea of having one, like the Almighty God, to be our Personal Physician. The fact that when a person, even a professed Christian, thinks it is going too far to make a final decision to trust Him alone for the health of their body, it shows that the blindness and prejudice is not normal or natural, but is directly from Satan and is a delusion of his.

From every angle, Divine Healing is the most sensible and the most logical way of receiving health and protection for our body; it is the only sure way to be healed and to be kept free of disease, accident and pain; it is the only right plan to follow.

GOD WILL HEAL WHAT HE CREATED

We shall see how true this is by His Grace, as we go further into this lesson. The Scriptures tell us that God made man out of the dust of the earth.

"Then the Lord God moulded man out of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the Breath of Life, so that man became a living being. Then the Lord God had a trance fall upon the man; and when he had gone to sleep, He took one of his ribs, closing up its place with flesh. The rib which He took from the man the Lord God built up into a woman, and brought her to the man." Genesis 2:7,21,22 (Goodspeed's Translation).

As God created our bodies out of the dust of the earth, He is the only Competent Person to heal and protect them. But there need be no argument or controversy on this point, for the same God Who created these bodies in the first place, out of the dust of the earth, promises to heal them when they are out of order.

If I will trust in Him alone to heal them as the need arises, I will prove His promises to be true. So if the Scriptures are true concerning what God will do to heal our body when we place it fully in His hands, then it proves the Bible is true when it tells us what He did in Creation. This is so easily proven; a person need not remain in doubt. He alone knows all about the working of the parts and organs of our body and, therefore, He is the only One in whom we could safely trust. He is the only Specialist. We do not have time to take this up in detail, although we want to go into it briefly for a moment.

There are men who claim to be brain specialists, and yet, physicians admit that two-thirds of the brain area has never been explored. Then there is no brain specialist, except God, for He invented the marvelous working of the brain, made a working model in Adam and then made millions of these wonderful and intricate pieces of machinery.

But in the face of this, when there is any brain disorder, the first and only impulse of a person is to go to man for help and they would not even think of shutting themselves up to depend on God alone.

MAN'S IMPULSE TO TRUST IN MAN INSTEAD OF GOD

This impulse to trust man is from Satan, for there has never been found a remedy or cure for brain disorders. What a terrible case of idolatry! It is all the more terrible, for it is depending upon and trusting in a man, who cannot heal such a trouble, and, in fact, could not heal himself, instead trusting in the God, Who invented the wonderful piece of machinery and has made millions of them! In His sight, this is considered a great lack of intelligence, for He describes it, as in the case of Israel, as one who has forsaken the fountain of living waters and hewn out for themselves cisterns that HOLD NO WATER!

"Has a nation changed its gods, Which are not gods? But My people have changed their Glory for what does not profit. Be astonished, O heavens, at this, And be horribly afraid; Be very desolate," says the LORD. "For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, And hewn themselves cisterns-- broken cisterns that can hold no water." Jeremiah 2:11-13 (New King James)

He proved what He could do if He was given a case of mental trouble to work on. When Jesus was here in the flesh, the Father worked the miracles through Him. In the country of the Gadarenes, He met a man, who was insane, for he would not wear any clothes, shrieked night and day, lived in the cemetery, cut himself with stones, attacked the passersby, etc. Mark 5:1-20:

¹ Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. ²And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, ³who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, ⁴because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. ⁵And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones. ⁶When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him. ⁷And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me." ⁸For He said to him, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit!" ⁹Then He asked him, "What is your name?" And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion; for we are many." ¹⁰Also he begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country. ¹¹Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains. ¹²So all the demons begged Him, saying, "Send us to the swine, that we may enter them." ¹³And at once Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine (there were about two thousand); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea. ¹⁴So those who fed the swine fled, and they told it in the city and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that had happened. ¹⁵Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ¹⁶And those who saw it told them how it happened to him who had been demon-possessed, and about the swine. ¹⁷Then they began to plead with Him to depart from their region. ¹⁸And when He got into the boat, he who had been demon-

possessed begged Him that he might be with Him. ¹⁹However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you." ²⁰And he departed and began to proclaim in Decapolis all that Jesus had done for him; and all marveled.

His family and the authorities had done all they could to change him, but without avail. When Jesus came to that country, He simply cast the devils out of the man and the cure was so effectual that no one had to tell that man to be quiet, nor to put on clothes to cover his nakedness, nor to cease injuring himself, for he was found quiet, clothed and in his right mind. Neither did some person have to use human efforts to bring about a spiritual change in his life, for he had no other desire but to follow Jesus. The Scriptures give us indisputable evidence that God and His Son, Jesus Christ, have never changed.

"For I am the Lord, I change not." Malachi 3:6.

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever." Hebrews 13:8.

In His work of Creation, God also invented the wonderful organs of sight He has placed in our heads. These are really very intricate and delicate pieces of machinery, far more so than any video camera or any other machinery of that kind. They are automatically protected by eyelids, which open and shut instantly and without the least effort. God invented them, without consulting any human or Heavenly being, made a working model of these in the body of Adam and made billions and billions of them since that time.

But what does a person do when they begin to have trouble with such delicate pieces of machinery? They go to a man, who calls himself an eye specialist and then get two little pieces of glass to wear, in an effort to help the sight.

This is also a terrible case of idolatry, for it is putting more trust in two little pieces of glass than in the God, Who invented and created these wonderful organs of sight. And the man, to whom they go when their eyes begin to give them trouble, may be wearing glasses himself, which shows he is not at all competent to render aid to us when he cannot improve his own sight. And the shame of it is, that there are very, very few professed Christians who do not wear glasses, even many who claim to believe in Divine healing. In the face of this, God PARTICULARLY promises to heal blind eyes and He sent His Son as much to heal afflictions of the eye, as to forgive sins.

"The Lord opens the eyes of the blind." Psalm 146:8.

"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me, To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed."
Luke 4:18

In my heart, I do not believe in Divine Healing at all, unless I depend on God, absolutely and alone, for all the health and protection I need for this body.

God alone invented the wonderful nervous system we have all had installed in our bodies. It is similar to a telephone system, but where a telephone system may have hundreds of electrical impulses every five minutes, the nervous system has millions of impulses. These nerves and their impulses are in every part an organ of our body. This is also a most intricate and delicate piece of machinery and there is actually no nerve specialist, for no man has ever been found to have a thorough knowledge of our nervous system or ever devised a cure.

But in the face of this ignorance on man's part, the average person would not think of going to

God alone in a case of nervous trouble, but deals with man about it, without any tangible result and spends a small fortune in the bargain.

TELEPHONE PROBLEMS REPORTED TO THE TELEPHONE COMPANY

If a housewife has a telephone in her home and it is out of order, she does not plan to tell her husband about it when he returns home and have him repair it. And yet, the telephone system is not nearly as marvelous and amazing in its working as our nervous system. But on the other hand, the housewife reports it to the telephone company, so they may send a competent man to repair it. This service is covered in the monthly bill.

PHYSICAL PROBLEMS REPORTED TO GOD

If our nervous system is so much more complicated and delicate, how much more does it need the services of only the competent person; and who is more competent than God? This is only common sense. It is a clear case of idolatry, for if God invented this amazing nervous system, and made billions of them, He is the Only Competent Person to do a job of repair and renewal when it is out of order.

TREMBLING HAND

To show how illogical it is to go to man for help, we visited a lady, who was a professed Christian, but she had never taken her stand to trust God alone to heal her body, for she was in touch with religious teaching that opposed Divine healing. It is certain a person can never be successful in trusting God alone for the healing of their body, so long as they keep in touch with a church or any religious teaching that is not clear on this important Bible doctrine. But this lady in point, had a nervous trouble, which caused her hand to shake and tremble. Her husband urged her to visit his physician, in the hope of getting help. In her blindness and ignorance, she finally gave in and accompanied her husband to the physician's office.

When she let him, to her surprise, **BOTH OF HIS HANDS TREMBLED AND STARTED SHAKING AS BADLY AS HER ONE HAND.** It is easy to see that it is Satan, who blinds people to consult and to trust in a man, who has the very same afflictions and cannot help himself.

HEART TROUBLE

Heart trouble is another case in point. The heart is a wonderful invention, for it is like a pump or motor, which works unceasingly in the human body night and day. It performs very valuable functions, although it only weighs ten ounces, and yet, it beats about 110,000 times a day. Now this is very remarkable indeed, for it means that this wonderful organ God invented and placed in the human body, beats over 36,000,000 times a year and pumps in that about 37,000 pounds of blood through our system.

God not only invented this wonderful piece of mechanism, but has made millions of them. And yet, there are men who call themselves "heart specialists," but who know very little about the heart; for they never made one, and when one of these is out of order, they cannot cure it, since it is a known fact that heart trouble is incurable, from the medical standpoint. To show man's inability in this one case alone, heart trouble caused more deaths in the United States of America than any other disease; it causes over 30,000 deaths every year in this country alone; almost 25% of the total.

Leading so called "heart specialists," die of this very disease. Not quite six months ago, one of these specialists died at, the age of 56, at the bedside of one of his patients, whom he was treating, no doubt, for heart trouble, but was stricken with that very disease.

About two years ago, another heart specialist died in New York, of heart trouble, having retired from practice four years previously, because of HEART TROUBLE!

This shows so clearly that the only one in existence, who we may call a Heart Specialist, is the One Who invented and created that organ. It is God alone. He alone knows how to cure it, but He cannot do it unless He has the case in His hands, and this is not done until we have laid aside all human remedies.

AUTOMOBILE MECHANIC

To trust Him alone is good policy, even from the human standpoint, for we would not be such a fool as to trust a man to repair some machinery of ours when he could not, repair his own. For instance, if a man has an automobile and he cannot start the engine, because there is some trouble with it, he would not be found going to a mechanic, or garage man, who also had trouble with his own vehicle, and had not succeeded in getting it started. No! He would use common sense and go to a man, who was successful with the car he personally owned.

SATAN'S DELUSION

If a physician cannot start his heart after it stops, how could he be considered competent to work on the heart of another person? This is another illustration of how strong a delusion Satan can put on the members of the human race, for even among professed Christians, they go to man for help; incompetent as he is, instead of trusting God alone, Whom they claim to believe is the Creator of all things.

It is all the more tragic and pitiable because Eternal Life is involved and not simply the health of our body, while we are here on earth. Suppose now, I have symptoms of heart trouble, which means this wonderful piece of mechanism, of which there is not the like among the works of man, is out of order. This needs a Master Workman, but if I go to man, he will prescribe, we will say, a "pill." On the other hand, the Scriptures tell me that it was through Christ our bodies were made.

"All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made." John 1:3.

IDOLATRY

Then the Word also tells us that "... He is always at our side, never to leave nor forsake us." Hebrews 13:5. Now I have man and his "pills" on the one hand, and Christ, through Whom my body was made, on the other hand. When my heart is not working right, I need help that will be both prompt and effective. If I take the "pill," I have shown by that act that it can help me more effectively and more promptly than the Christ, Who is at my side, in the person of the Holy Spirit. I have placed the created things ahead of the Creator, and THIS IS IDOLATRY! That is most serious, for if I do not repent and change my trust to God alone, I will spend Eternity in the fiery pit.

"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and IDOLATERS, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." Revelation 21:8.

The same principle is involved in all cases of sickness and trouble when I go to man for help. It is well illustrated so far as other parts and organs of our body are concerned, but we do not have time to take this up now, but we will in a later lesson.

USING COMMON SENSE

We are not mentioning these things simply to show how futile man's efforts are in making the parts and organs of this body go right, or to show it is, best to go to God alone in the time of sickness and trouble, although we can easily see this is the only course to take. But there are other reasons we are bringing out these facts and they are so much more important, for they have to do with our Eternal welfare, as well as our welfare here in this life.

As we said, in the face of the fact that God invented these wonderful organs of the human body and created billions of them, a person with ordinary common sense would just naturally go to Him for healing and protection, and would not even think of having anything to do with doctors, medicines, etc. But, the fact that they go to man and depend absolutely on him and his remedies, and leave God entirely out of the picture, and this includes practically all professed Christians, then it shows, beyond all doubt, that they are under a strong delusion of Satan.

DELIVERANCE FROM SATAN'S DELUSIONS

To depend on man for help, to take the least human remedy, proves a person does not really believe the Bible story of creation, nor do they believe that God and His Son, Jesus Christ, are present with them, or they would not commit the sin of idolatry by going to man for help. To depend on God alone, in time of sickness and trouble, does more than bring us perfect health, for it enables Him also to deliver us from Satan's blindness and his delusions, as well as deliver us from the idolatry that would take us to the Eternal Burnings, if, it were not repented of.

FAITH TO TRUST IN GOD VS. MAN

Another reason for bringing out the facts of man's inability to cure us of sickness and disease is that, the average person, especially professed Christians, claim they do not possess the faith to trust God alone for healing. This is a real delusion of Satan, and not the exact truth of the matter at all, as we shall see. If I, as a professed Christian, can turn to man for help in time of sickness, taking heart trouble for example, trusting in a man who cannot cure himself of sickness, and who actually admits such a disease is incurable; if I am capable of exercising faith in man, whose failures are notorious, then it shows I DO POSSESS THE FACULTY OF TRUSTING A GOD, WHO MADE MY BODY AND ALWAYS HAS A SURE CURE!

Under these circumstances, when I trust in man for help; it is not a case of a lack of faith, for it is clear to see that it takes more faith to trust in a man, who is not consistently successful, than to trust in a God, who is noted for His success; for in 4,200 years of Bible history, there is no record that He ever lost a case of sickness. The fact that we all possess the faith to trust God alone, then, when we go to man in time of trouble and sickness, it is a case of out-and-out rebellion.

YOU CANNOT SERVE (TRUST) GOD AND MAN

But some professed Christians excuse themselves by saying that they are trusting God, while they are going to man, taking his remedies and following his directions. This is also a strong delusion of Satan, for their heart is deceived, inasmuch as it is not humanly possible for us to trust in God and man at the same time. Jesus made this clear when He said in Matthew 6:24

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

THE FEARFUL AND UNBELIEVING

So it is not a matter of how much faith we have, for we are all full of faith, which is proved by the ease with which a person can go to man for help when the outcome is always in doubt. On the other hand, it is a matter of putting the faith we all possess, in God, and not in man. If we persist in exercising our faith in man, instead of God, this is unbelief in God and His Word.

You will notice that among those to go to the Eternal Burnings, there are the "fearful and unbelieving."

"But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." Revelation 21:8

Where Eternal Life is involved, the issue is more important than are other earthly one.

DIVINE HEALING IS PART OF THE GOSPEL

Another important issue involved in Divine Healing, is the spiritual one. The Scriptures teach us that every sickness and trouble comes from a spiritual lack somewhere in our life.

¹⁷Fools, because of their transgression, And because of their iniquities, were afflicted. ¹⁸Their soul abhorred all manner of food, And they drew near to the gates of death. ¹⁹Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, And He saved them out of their distresses. ²⁰He sent His Word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions. ²¹Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men!" Psalm 107:17-21.

"Bless (affectionately, gratefully praise) the Lord, O my soul, and forget not [one of] all His benefits--Who forgives [every one of] all your iniquities, Who heals [each one of] all your diseases," Psalm 103:2,3.

JESUS FORGIVES AND HEALS A PARALYTIC

When Jesus was here on earth, the pardon of sins and the healing of the body went hand-in-hand together. This is made clear in many places, but the ones which illustrate it so well are found in Mark 2:1-12, regarding the case of the paralytic, who was led down through the roof before Jesus:

JESUS IS LORD OF HEALING AND THE SABBATH

¹And again He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. ²Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. ³Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. ⁴And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. ⁵When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." ⁶And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, ⁷"Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ⁸But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? ⁹Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'?" ¹⁰But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on

earth to forgive sins"--He said to the paralytic, ¹¹"I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." ¹²Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

Another is the case of the man, who lay at the pool of Bethesda for 38 years in John 5: 1-15.

HEALING AT THE BETHESDA POOL

¹After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ²Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. ³In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. ⁴For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. ⁵Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" ⁷The 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." ⁸Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." ⁹And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath. ¹⁰The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed." ¹¹He answered them, "He who made me well said to me, "Take up your bed and walk.'" ¹²Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, "Take up your bed and walk'?" ¹³But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in that place. ¹⁴Afterward 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." ¹⁵The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. John 5: 1-15.

SIN CAUSES SICKNESS AND DISEASE

When I go to man for help in time of sickness, he does not ask me about my spiritual condition, to see what allowed Satan to get in to oppress me. Not at all; for he simply tries to diagnose my physical symptoms. Suppose he would succeed in giving me relief or a cure, I would be far worse off, for although I would feel better, yet he helped to cover my spiritual lack, and if this was not exposed and repented of, it would take me to the Eternal Burnings blindfolded.

INCREASE IN INCURABLE DISEASES AND SICKNESSES

I was speaking to a man, who had stomach trouble for he wanted us to pray for his healing. I told him of the importance of trusting God alone; and that he would not be taking the slightest risk in doing so, for man could do so little for us, as incurable sicknesses and diseases are certainly on the increase. He stoutly defended the medical profession and it was no wonder, for I discovered he had been a druggist for many years. He then told me that it was not surprising there was such an increase of incurable diseases, for people were getting deeper in sin and, naturally, it would bring an increase of sickness and disease.

DEFENDING THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

So, as he said, the medical profession could not be blamed. But we pointed out to him that this was the very reason a person should go to God under the circumstances, and never have anything to do with earthly help; for if sin has caused my trouble and I go to man for help, he will not deal with the sin question, but only take up the matter of my physical symptoms. If he

succeeds in helping me at all, he has still done me a most terrible wrong, by HELPING ME TO COVER MY SINS. He is in the most risky business possible, for it is one of helping to cover sin. The seriousness of this is brought out in Proverbs 28:13:

“He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.”

As we said, if these are not repented of in this life, they will face us at the Judgment, and then it will be too late to do anything about it. So it is clear to see that Eternal Life is involved and it is not simply a matter of health.

PROMINENT PHYSICIAN AS YOUR FATHER

This man, the druggist, would naturally defend the efforts of man to heal and protect our body, but we told him that in comparison with God's Power, there was nothing at all to be said in man's behalf. We told him to look at it in this way: Suppose you had a father, who was a very prominent physician and seemed far above the average. It was his ambition to build or construct a human body and put life in it, so it would talk, act, work, and do everything we could do. We will suppose he spent years in research and study, in an effort to realize his lifelong ambition.

We will say that he finally succeeded in making a heart just like ours, a pair of lungs exactly like ours, then after years of hard work, he succeeded in making a brain like ours, together with all the other parts that go to make up the human body. He put all of these parts and organs together, and was actually able to make a skin like ours with which to cover it. But he had no life in it, and after a few more years of persistent effort, he succeeded in putting life into the body he constructed, and it worked just like ours in every way.

GOD, THE GREATEST PHYSICIAN

As a result, he would be acclaimed the greatest physician that ever lived, and no matter how great a reputation others had nor no matter how much they claimed to be a specialist, they would not nearly compare with your father, if he succeeded in erecting or making a human body like ours. He agreed. We then told him that suppose he had some sickness or disease to come upon him, to whom would he go in such a case? We said that he would not think, of going to anyone but his father, for after this wonderful achievement, he was far, far ahead of every other physician who ever lived.

The thought would not even enter his mind to go to any other physician, and if some person suggested or urged him to go to another physician, he would have no difficulty in refusing, for he could not even be bribed to go to another, not even for a million dollars, especially when health and even life itself were at stake. It would be only common sense to keep away from those, who, in comparison with his father's knowledge and achievements, did not know their business. That would be only ORDINARY common sense, and it would not take one bit of extra faith to make or to hold to such a decision; for in fact, it would be the path of least resistance. This man agreed such would be the case, if he had a father like that.

BELIEVING BIBLE STORY OF CREATION

He claimed to be a Christian and to believe the Bible so we asked him if he believed the Bible story of Creation. He answered, “Why, of course I do!” We then called his attention to the facts that God, Whom he professed to believe was his Father, created man out of the dust of the earth, and then took a bone out of the man and made a woman. These were perfect physical specimens. Every part and organ of these bodies, as wonderful as they are and with such intricate mechanism, are His invention and creation. Since then, He has made billions of

these human bodies.

We made it clear to him that, in upholding man's ways and plans of healing, and depending on man for help, it proved that down in his heart, he did not believe the Bible story of Creation at all, and no matter how much he claimed to believe it, his "actions spoke louder than words." He then admitted this was all true, and that his ideas had been wrong, and asked for our prayers that God would help him to place his trust fully in Him, so he could receive healing.

UNBELIEVING HEART

So when a person, professing to be a Christian, goes to man for help, in time of sickness and trouble, they show "by that very act that, down in their hearts, they do not believe the Bible story of Creation, and also deny the fact that God is their Father. This shows that we have an unbelieving heart.

"The heart is deceitful above all things; and desperately wicked: who can know it?"
Jeremiah 17:9.

This is a serious matter, for it would be enough to take us to the Eternal Burnings, for in the verse we quoted a short time ago, "the fearful and unbelieving" are at the head of the list of those who go to the pit. So, not only does our health and protection depend on our trusting God alone, in time of sickness and trouble, but Eternal Life as well.

COMPARING AN EARTHLY FATHER TO ALMIGHTY GOD

Now if we had an earthly father, who succeeded in making a human body and putting life into it he would, first of all, minister to the members of his own family and put their bodies in perfect working order and he would see that they were kept in perfect shape. With his expert knowledge, he would bring this about and his children would be noted for the health, strength and protection they possessed. They would be a good advertisement for their famous father. Is God, our Heavenly Father, willing to do the same for us? Jesus said He would:

"If you then, evil as you are, know how to give good and advantageous gifts to your children, how much more will your Father Who is in heaven [perfect as He is] give good and advantageous things to those who keep on asking Him!" Matthew 7:11 (Amplified).

GOD CARES FOR THOSE WHO TRUST HIM

Such being the case, God is most delighted to work in behalf of those who come to Him for help and depend absolutely on Him alone for deliverance, to heal them and to put their body in perfect working order, so that those who profess to be His children, would be noted for the health, strength and protection they enjoyed.

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."
1st Peter 2:9.

GOD HEALS BECAUSE OF JESUS CHRIST

We have, however, a stronger proof than this, of His willingness to make and keep our bodies strong and well. This was done in a way that we could never have a doubt concerning His willingness. This was by sending His Son, while we were all sinners, to suffer on the Cross in our stead. The Scriptures make it so clear that Jesus bore every infirmity sickness and disease of ours in His body, on the Cross, as much as He bore our sins, so we would never have any to

bear.

"But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our guilt and iniquities; the chastisement [needful to obtain] peace and well-being for us was upon Him, and with the stripes [that wounded] Him we are healed and made whole." Isaiah 53:5.

The very fact that this Great God, our Father, Who made these bodies, sent His Son to bear all of our sicknesses in His body, makes it unmistakably clear that HE never wants us to have the least sickness or suffering at any time.

GOD'S DIVINE HEALING STILL ACTIVE

Therefore, He will not hesitate to use the wisdom, knowledge and great power with which He created our bodies in the first place, together with the infinite love that prompted Him to send His Son to suffer for us on the Cross, to make these bodies strong and well, as we place them fully in His Hands. He says so in His Own Words:

"He who did not withhold or spare [even] His own Son but gave Him up for us all, will He not also with Him freely and graciously give us all [other] things?" Romans 8:32.

It is no wonder that He strictly commands us to depend on Him alone for all our help, in every circumstance of life. But to do this, we are not walking along a very narrow pathway, but have the most valuable privilege a human being could have. As we then are willing to make our decision final to lay aside all human remedies and all help of man, God supplies the spiritual power and strength we need to carry this out and we are then at the place where we can have His power manifested to deliver us at once. He has placed this right in our own hands!

"If ye abide in me, (fully depend on Him) and My Words abide in you, (believe and obey them) ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall done unto you." John 15:7.

PREPARING OUR HEARTS TO RECEIVE DIVINE HEALING

Of course, we are to ask His forgiveness for the blindness and ignorance that has caused us to depend on human help in the past and also to ask his forgiveness for anything else in our lives that may be contrary to His Will. This forgiveness is given for the asking, so we are now in a position to receive the full manifestation of His healing power and to receive help in every other part of our life.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1st John 1:9.

Our first prayer for healing, as we offer it in the name of Jesus, is heard and answered,

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in My name, He will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full." John 16:23,24 (King James)

"And when that time comes, you will ask nothing of Me [you will need to ask Me no questions]. I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, that My Father will grant you whatever you ask in My Name [as presenting all that I AM]. Up to this time you have not asked a [single] thing in My Name [as presenting all that I AM]; but now ask and keep on asking and you will receive, so that your joy (gladness, delight) may be full and complete." (Amplified)

ACTING ON FAITH

Without waiting to see or feel any change in our condition or symptoms, we are to accept His Word as evidence that we have been perfectly healed, and act accordingly. Every move we make to believe His promises and to act as persons who have now become perfectly well, will be backed up by His Great Power.

This is the same Power He used to create our bodies in the first place and which raised our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ from the dead. This will flow into our bodies and we will receive that perfect health and strength, as well as that full protection He has wanted every member of the human race to enjoy from the beginning.

“Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, does not faint or grow weary; there is no searching of His understanding. He gives power to the faint and weary, and to him who has no might He increases strength [causing it to multiply and making it to abound]. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and [selected] young men shall feebly stumble and fall exhausted; But those who wait for the Lord [who expect, look for, and hope in Him] shall change and renew their strength and power; they shall lift their wings and mount up [close to God] as eagles [mount up to the sun]; they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint or become tired.” Isaiah 40:28-31.

“And if the Spirit of Him Who raised up Jesus from the dead dwells in you, [then] He Who raised up Christ Jesus from the dead will also restore to life your mortal (short-lived, perishable) bodies through His Spirit Who dwells in you.” Romans 8:11.

We are to see the condition of our body as His Word pictures it and use it accordingly. In putting His Word ahead of all that we see or feel or actually experience, He can fulfill His wonderful promises, as He did for the people in Bible times, who believed and acted on the spoken Word of His Son when He was here in the flesh.

“For this reason I am telling you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe (trust and be confident) that it is granted to you, and you will [get it].” Mark 11:24.

MAN’S FAILURE TO HEAL

In closing, we might add that there is a good reason for man's failure to heal and protect these bodies of ours, for in fact, it is not possible that man can ever get to the place where he will succeed because of the increase of sin.

SATAN IS THE CAUSE OF SICKNESS AND DISEASE

This is because sickness, like all trouble, sorrow and sin, does not come from natural or human causes, for the Scriptures tell us they are in direct work of Satan. His power is supernatural and man can never drive him out or remove his influence by any way or plan of his. The only way his power is broken and his works destroyed, is solely by a power stronger than his and this is, as we know, the power of our Almighty God alone.



TESTIMONY

The man and wife, the writers of the letter quoted below, have received miraculous deliverances in their body, but they had a married daughter in the hospital, who had not taken her stand to trust God alone for healing. She was run-down and nervous, but after the physicians had taken X-rays for three days, they would not say what they discovered her trouble to be, but said it was fortunate she was in the hospital under circumstances of this kind.

Naturally, the parents could be much worried about her, for it looked as if she would have an operation. But we told them that if there was a physician in their neighborhood, who did not fool around taking "pictures," but could actually go to the hospital and work on her case and cure her within an hour or so, they would pay the large fee he would demand and send him on that mission. If he returned two or three hours later and told them he performed the mission on which they sent him and their daughter was now well and would leave the hospital any time now, they would believe it and feel greatly relieved and consider the daughter's condition was what he said it was.

This proved they had the faculty to trust a person who was capable of helping them and could believe his word. Then I told them that God would go to the hospital at their request, for His services were paid for by the Blood of Christ and He would not fool around "taking pictures" for two or three days, but would go to work on the case at once and make her perfectly well. His Word said He did it when they asked Him, so if they could believe the word of an earthly physician, who brought them such a report, they could believe God.

Dear Pastor Clark:

While I was saying goodbye to you at the door, my husband was getting the good news at the telephone that our daughter was being dismissed from the hospital. She was doing the talking and she said she was leaving the hospital tomorrow, with a clean bill of health.

When I am happy, I usually cry, so I couldn't talk for a few minutes. And we know it was nothing less than a miracle. And still there are folks that dare to say the days of miracles are past.

Your sister in Christ,

.....

This is another letter from the writer of the above letter. This daughter's husband had a brain tumor for about five years, was unable to work, and of course, physicians had no cure for it. When they received the miraculous healing of their daughter, their eyes were opened to see they had a right to receive the answer to their prayer for the healing of the son-in-law. They took the same stand to trust God in his case, as in the case of their daughter.

Dear Pastor Clark:

I am very happy to report some very good news and I know you will be glad to hear it. Our son-in-law had been sick for five years with a brain tumor that is at least, what has been the diagnosis of several of the best brain specialists in this country. Last Saturday, he had an appointment with a brain specialist on Park Avenue in New York, who charged \$100.00 for one examination. Now comes the good news that the brain specialist pronounced him a well man, nothing wrong with his brain now and advised him to go to work, as he would give him a clear bill of health. Is it not almost too good to be true, the way God undertakes for us and answers prayer?

And we are extremely happy to be advised by his wife that he recognizes from whom the healing came. Well, we just cannot praise God enough. Our daughter is getting along splendidly and is at work again, taking care of a very responsible position. The conditions of their home have changed from torment to a Heaven on earth. Only God could bring this about when we were willing to believe Him and to trust Him alone and ask Him, in the name of Jesus, to take full control of the whole situation.

If others can be helped by this testimony, you may use this letter as you wish and we would be glad to verify it at any time, if there should be any doubting "Thomases."

We are both feeling grand since we learned to draw on His strength, for He has said, "Without ME, ye can do nothing." I write this for His glory and in His precious name.

Your sister in Christ,

March 1983

We are always glad to give Scriptural advice and counsel to those who desire to write us about their problems, and to remember their requests for prayer in our services.

In addition we publish sermons on other subjects, which take up in detail teaching on how to deal with God successfully and be delivered out of all our troubles. We will gladly send them to those who desire them for their own use or for others.

Printed by: First-Century Gospel Church, P.O. Box GP 574, Accra, Ghana, West Africa

Reproduced by: First Century Gospel Church Washington DC Area
6040 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22205 U.S.A.
email: FCGCUSA@yahoo.com