

7. Divine Healing in God's Covenant

www.victory.net.nz 27.08.2023
www.youtube.com/c/VictoryChristianCentre

Subtitle: God has no Favourites

We're studying divine healing in God's covenant that He established with us.

God makes covenants with His people & enshrines certain blessings within those covenants, so we can have faith, confidence & certainty about His promises. This includes His promises on healing.

God heals people, not randomly, but based on His covenant promises.

Summary points of last week's message

- A. The woman with the issue of blood is healed
- B. Two blind men are healed

1. A paralysed man is healed

John 5:1–9 (NKJV) *After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 2 Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. 3 In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. 4 For 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. 5 Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. 6 When 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?" 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." 8 Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." 9 And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath.*

- Doubtlessly, everything recorded in this passage is correctly & accurately stated
- John recorded the understanding of the day concerning the Pool of Bethesda & a supposed (occasional?) stirring of the water by an angel

- However, it is doubtful whether God really sent an angel (occasionally?) to stir the water, to give the fastest person the opportunity to be healed
- Knowing the character of God, we understand that:
 - God does not play “lottery” with His healing power
 - God does not play twisted games with people
- God is completely impartial and does not play favouritism

Deuteronomy 10:17 (NKJV) *For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, **who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe.***

Job 34:19 (NKJV) *Yet **He is not partial to princes, nor does He regard the rich more than the poor;** for they are all the work of His hands.*

- The vicinity of Bethesda Pool was filled with sick people, all waiting to be healed
 - They waited for healing, instead of receiving their healing
- (Many people today are still, in a way, waiting for the stirring of the water)
 - They put healing off into the future, when it is, in fact, available now
- One man was there who had been paralysed for thirty-eight years
- Jesus prompted him and said: Do you want to be made well?
- The man replied to Jesus & gave a reason why he couldn't be healed
- Jesus issued a faith command & said: Rise, take up your bed & walk
- Vs. 9... immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, & walked
- Jesus' “faith command” prompted a “faith action” by the paralyzed man, & he was healed

2. Simon's mother-in-law is healed

Luke 4:38–39 (NKJV) *Now He arose from the synagogue and entered Simon's house. But **Simon's wife's mother was sick with a high fever, and they made request of Him concerning her. 39 So He stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her.** And immediately she arose and served them.*

- Jesus went to Simon Peter's house where request was made of Him concerning Peter's mother-in-law
- She was bed-ridden because of a high fever
- Jesus stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her
- She arose immediately and served them

3. Jesus spoke with authority and power

Luke 4:36 (NKJV) *Then they were all amazed and spoke among themselves, saying, "What a word this is! For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits, and they come out."*

- In dealing with sickness (fever etc.) and with demons, we need to speak and command with authority and power
- When Jesus rebuked the fever in Peter's mother-in-law, He wasn't making a gentle request

Luke 4:40–41 (NKJV) *When the sun was setting, all those who had any that were sick with various diseases brought them to Him; and He laid His hands on every one of them and healed them. 41 And demons also came out of many, crying out and saying, "You are the Christ, the Son of God!" And He, rebuking them, did not allow them to speak, for they knew that He was the Christ.*

- Jesus main ministry activities were:
 - Teaching (explaining)
 - Preaching (proclaiming)
 - Healing (incl. deliverance)

Matthew 9:35 (NKJV) *Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.*

4. Bartimaeus is healed of blindness

Mark 10:46–52 (NKJV) *Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging. 47 And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" 48 Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" 49 So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called. Then they called the blind man, saying to him, "Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you." 50 And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus. 51 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." 52 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.*

- Blind Bartimaeus sat by the road begging
- When he heard that Jesus was passing by, he began to cry out and say: Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me
- Jesus commanded him to be called to Him
- When he came near, Jesus asked: What do you want me to do for you?
- He replied: Rabboni, that I may received my sight
 - Notice, he did not say: Lord, heal me
 - He said: I want to receive my sight
- Jesus replied: Go your way, your faith has made you well
- Immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus

5. Why are some people not healed

- It is not uncommon for someone to say:
 - I prayed for God to heal me, but He didn't heal me
- The more correct way to phrase this sentence would be:
 - I prayed, but I failed to receive my healing
- God's healing power is always present, but we have to receive it