

HEALING

"For to another is given the gifts of healings by the same Spirit" (I Corinthians 12:9)

WHAT IS THE GIFT OF HEALINGS?

1. The gifts of healings are supernatural manifestations of the healing power of God, administered by the Holy Spirit, through one individual to another.
2. The gifts of healing are for the supernatural healing of disease without natural means of any source.
3. "The gifts of healings are for the supernatural healing of diseases and infirmities... they are the miraculous manifestation of the Spirit for the banishment of all human ills whether organic, functional or nervous; acute or chronic" (Harold Horton, pg 94, The Gifts of The Spirit)

TOTALLY SUPERNATURAL

As with each of the nine gifts mentioned in I Corinthians 12, this gift is completely supernatural and distributed as God wills. "Have all the gifts of healing?" (I Corinthians 12:30) Obviously, the answer to Paul's question is NO, for the Spirit divides to man severally as He wills. "The gifts of healings are given within the sovereignty of the Holy Spirit if and when He sees the need to confirm the ministry of His servant" (L.Thomas Holdcroft, pg. 155, The Holy Spirit)

DONALD GEE WRITES:

"It appears to be a spiritual gift especially connected with the ministry of an evangelist and granted to those called to fill that office (Philip, Acts 8:6,7). It often gave the apostles an open door in their evangelistic work; as, for instance, the healing of the father of Publius by Paul (Acts 28:8-10).

We would note that these special gifts of healing, though given only to certain individuals, do not preclude all believers in the Lord Jesus Christ from laying hands upon the sick for their recovery (Mark 16:18), or all elders in the church from anointing with oil for healing (James 5:14). Such ministries are not dependent upon possessing any spiritual gift of healing" (Donald Gee, pg.45, Concerning Spiritual Gifts)

IS HEALING FOR TODAY?

"Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel, provided for in the Atonement, and is the privilege of all believers" (G. Raymond Carlson, pg.104, Spiritual Dynamics)

DO WE BELIEVE?

1. "I am the Lord that healeth thee" (Exodus 15:26)
2. "I will take sickness away from the midst of thee" (Exodus 23:25)
3. "With His stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5)
4. "Who healeth all thy diseases" (Psalm 103:3)
5. "By whose stripes ye were healed" (I Peter 2:24)
6. "Lay hands on the sick and they shall recover" (Mark 16:18)
7. "The prayer of faith shall heal the sick" (James 5:15)

DOES JESUS HEAL? JESUS HEALS...

- ...1. The Nobleman's son (John 4:46-54)
- ...2. Peter's Mother in law (Matthew 8:14,15)
- ...3. A Leper (Matthew 8:2-4)
- ...4. A Paralytic (Matthew 9:2-8)
- ...5. A man at the pool of Bethesda (John 5:2-9)
- ...6. A man with a withered hand (Matthew 12:10-13)
- ...7. A great multitude (Matthew 12:15)
- ...8. The Centurion's Servant (Matthew 8:5-13)
- ...9. Widow's Son at Nain (Luke 7:12-16)
- ...10. A man blind and dumb (Matthew 12:22)
- ...11. Two Gadarene Demoniacs (Matthew 8:28-34)
- ...12. A woman with an issue of blood (Matthew 9:20-22)
- ...13. Jarius' Daughter (Mark 5:22-24)
- ...14. Two blind men (Matthew 9:27-30)

(over)

- ...15. A Canaanite woman's daughter (Matthew 15:22-28)
- ...16. A deaf and dumb man (Mark 7:32-37)
- ...17. Blind man at Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26)
- ...18. Demoniac Son (Matthew 17:14-21)
- ...19. Blind man (John 9:1-7)
- ...20. Demoniac man in the synagogue (Mark 1:23-28)
- ...21. Ten lepers (Luke 17:11-19)
- ...22. Lazarus (John 11)
- ...23. Two blind men (Mark 10:46-52)
- ...24. Woman infirmed in the synagogue (Luke 13:10-17)
- ...25. Man with dropsy (Luke 14:1-4)
- ...26. The sick in the temple (Matthew 21:14)
- ...27. Malchus' ear (Luke 22:50-51)

FACT:

27 Healings by Jesus are recorded in the four Gospels. 90% of Jesus' public recorded ministry involved Healing The Sick.

WHY DOES JESUS HEAL?

"And Jesus went forth and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and He healed their sick" (Matthew 14:14)

*Jesus heals out of compassion.

*Jesus longs to heal the sick and make them well.

WHAT ABOUT TODAY?

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8)

"For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:15,16)

WHAT ARE THE DIVINE MEANS, WAYS OR VEHICLES USED TO MINISTER HEALING?

1. Through The Prayer of Faith (Matthew 21:22; Mark 11:24)
2. Through Applying The Word (Matthew 8:8; Proverbs 4:20-22)
3. Through The Laying on of Hands (Matthew 8:15; Mark 6:5; Mark 16:18)
4. Through Anointing With Oil (James 5:14,15)

CAUTION:

Anointed cloths were also used (Acts 19:11,12) as well as the shadow of one ministering this gift (Acts 5:15,16). Yet, nowhere does Scripture teach us that we should continue with these means as a prescribed ritual or formula to minister healing today.

THE GOOD NEWS

While the specific manifestation of the Spirit mentioned in I Corinthians 12:9 (The Gifts of Healings) is distributed sovereignly as God wills (usually to confirm the ministry of an evangelist) through "signs" and "wonders", there is nothing to prevent a gift of healing from becoming effective for a believer. Absolutely Nothing!

While God uses the gifts of healings as signs and wonders to give evidence of divine intervention (Acts 2:43; 9:35; 3:6; 5:15; 9:40; 14:10; 20:12; 28:6) general provision of divine healing for the entire church is available to all.

*What if you cannot find a healing evangelist?

*What if you have no oil to be anointed with?

*What if you are unable to call for the church elders?

"Those who believe shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover" (Mark 16:17,18)

...While the "gifts of healings" in I Corinthians 12:9 is distributed as God wills...

...And while not everyone will be used to administer this particular gift...

...If you are a believer, you can expect God to heal you and use you to minister healing to others!

"AND THEY WENT FORTH, AND PREACHED EVERYWHERE, THE LORD WORKING WITH THEM, AND CONFIRMING THE WORD WITH SIGNS FOLLOWING" (Mark 16:20)

HEALING FROM THE INSIDE OUT

Many people are hurting, wounded, bitter, defensive, unforgiving, suffering, joyless, unable to love and in need of healing for three primary reasons. I promise you, if Jesus carries you, you will experience personal offences and encounter many people who are in need of healing from responding improperly to offences as well. Allow the following truth to "create a clean heart, renew a right spirit, not grieve the Holy Spirit, restore the joy and lead people to Calvary" (Psalm 51:10-13)

3 GREAT DANGERS

I. Personal offences or wounds you have incurred that have never been relinquished to God.

FACT: If you love - you'll hurt!

FACT: If you love (like Jesus did) - you'll experience pain (like Jesus did).

FACT: If you want to minister to people - you will always be vulnerable.

1. Why do many people get hurt, offended and many times withdraw when someone says something or does something that pains them?
2. What is the result of not recognizing that "we are DEAD and our life is hid with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3)?

*The result of not seeing irritations and suffering from God's perspective and responding to it with grace is bitterness.

*The fragrance the flower leaves on the heel of the shoe that crushes it is forgiveness.

- A. The Biblical Reason To Forgive - Matthew 18:21-35
- B. The Biblical Results of Forgiveness - Hebrew 12:15
- C. The Biblical Reality of Forgiveness - Luke 4:18
- D. The Biblical Resource of Forgiveness - Genesis 42:21-24; 45:4-7; 50:19,20

II. Personal defilement and contamination through an evil report about someone else.

WHAT IS AN EVIL REPORT?

1. Words, tonal patterns or facial expressions that put someone else in a bad light.
2. Damaging someone else's reputation with a distortion of facts or false information.
3. Encouraging or spreading discontent or discord among others.

GOD'S DESCRIPTION OF A CARRIER

1. Whisperer (Proverbs 16:28; Romans 1:29)
One who secretly or privately passes on evil reports to others.
2. Gossip (Proverbs 11:13; 18:8; 20:19; 26:22)
One who magnifies rumors and partial information, sharing detrimental information with those who are not part of the problem or part of the solution. (also called talebearer)
3. Slanderer (Psalm 101:5; Proverbs 10:18; Numbers 14:36)
One who tells the truth with a design to hurt; seeking to destroy another's credibility or reputation with a distortion of facts or evil suspicions.
4. Busybody (I Timothy 5:13; I Peter 4:15)
One who digs up evil reports and makes it his business to spread them by means of gossip, slander or whispering. This sin is equal to murder and stealing, as God warns "let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evil-doer, or as a busybody in other men's matters". (I Peter 4:15)

BE WISE AND ALERT

"A whisperer separateth chief friends" (Proverbs 16:28)

"A wicked doer giveth heed to false lips; and a liar giveth ear to a naughty tongue"
(Proverbs 17:4)

"He that covereth a transgression seeketh love, but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends" (Proverbs 17:9)

(over)

"The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly" (Proverbs 26:22)

"The simple believeth every word, but the prudent man looketh well to his going" (Proverbs 14:15)

"As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife." (Proverbs 16:21)

CAUTION - CAUTION - CAUTION...

If the defilement of an evil report is not cleansed, wrong attitudes, opinions, conclusions and actions will follow - even toward very close friends. "A whisperer separateth chief friends." (Proverbs 16:28)

SYMPTOMS OF INFECTION

1. Believing the evil report is true.
2. Forming negative opinions based on the report.
3. Focusing on negative aspects of the person involved.
4. Backing away from the person in your spirit.
5. Telling the evil report to others.

SYMPTOMS OF A DISEASED CHRISTIAN

1. Developing bitterness / or rebellion, even though the person involved did not directly offend us.
2. Setting ourselves up as the judge in matters which are God's responsibility, and recruiting others to "our side".
3. Searching out evil reports and then using them to give the worse possible impression. "An ungodly person diggeth up evil and in their lips there is a burning fire." (Proverbs 16:27)

*A diseased Christian will grieve and quench the Holy Spirit by taking up the offenses of others and making them their own (and adding to them).

BE STRONG IN THE LORD

To practice Psalm 133 and insure harmony and peace, don't be afraid to ask the following:

1. What is your reason for telling me this?
2. Where did you get your information?
3. Have you gone to those directly involved?
4. Have you personally checked out the facts?
5. Can I quote you if I check this out?

III. Personal anger against God over pain, tragedy or disappointment He has allowed to enter your life.

Pain is real (and Biblical) I Peter 1:6
Grief is real (and Biblical) Hebrews 12:11
Sorrow is real (and Biblical) Luke 22:44

Ever ask why Hebrews 11:1-34 is with v.35-40?

TRUTH TO COUNT ON

1. Psalm 18:30
2. Isaiah 55:8,9
3. Psalm 147:3