

GOD'S HEALING IS FULL AND COMPLETE
Jeremiah 17:14

March 10, 2023

I spoke to someone recently who went to their doctor to receive relief from a medical condition. Her doctor gave her a thorough examination and prescribed a medication expected to bring healing and relief from the condition. She expressed her frustration when two weeks later she had not received either any relief or healing of the condition. Her frustration continued as after several months of doctor's visits, she was no closer to relief than her first visit.

Jeremiah shouts his praise for God as Jeremiah declares the sufficiency of God's healing, "Heal me, O LORD, and I will be healed." The New Living Translation (NLT) translates the verse, "Oh LORD, if you heal me, I will truly be healed." For Jeremiah, there is no question and there is no doubt about God's healing. When God heals, God heals. Again, when God heals, God heals. God's healing is full and complete.

Unlike human doctors who do the best they can, understanding the limitations of their humanity, God does not heal partially or incompletely. God's healing does not unravel and become undone. God's healing does not work for the moment then need a booster in the future. When God heals, God heals. Again, when God heals, God heals. God's healing is full and complete.

JESUS CAN HEAL EVERYTHING
Matthew 4:23-25

March 11, 2023

I have a great doctor. We have sustained a doctor-patient relationship for over 30 years. Our relationship is so personal that the first 15 minutes or so of my appointment is spent talking about family and life. However, when I was having a pain in my knee, he referred me to an orthopedic specialist. As I was having problems with my voice, he referred me to an ENT specialist. As the problems with my voice persisted, he referred me to an allergist. Although my doctor is great and we have a great relationship, he cannot heal everything.

Jesus ministry had three foundational emphases: teaching, preaching and healing. Jesus' teaching and preaching were masterful. In John 7:32, the religious leaders sent temple guards to arrest Jesus. After returning without Jesus, the guard's response in verse 46 for not arresting Jesus was, "We have never heard anyone speak like this."

The same could be said for Jesus' healing – it was masterful. Jesus healed all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. They brought people to Jesus who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, people possessed with demons, people having epilepsy, people who were paralyzed and Jesus healed them all. Jesus, the chief physician, could heal everything.

No matter what medical condition you are suffering with or what physical ailment you are struggling with, Jesus, the chief physician, can heal everything. Jesus, the Lord my healer, can and will heal you.



He restores my soul

THE LORD MY HEALER
(JEHOVAH RAPHA)

GOD WILL HEAL AND RESTORE OUR SOULS
Psalm 23:3

March 5, 2023

While I did not have headaches often, when I did, my mom would give me two aspirins and tell me to lie down and relax. I followed her instructions and in a short period of time, I was relieved of my headache. Over the years, I have often questioned if the relief of my headache should be attributed more to the aspirins or to the restoring of my soul by lying down to relax. Restoring of the soul, that is, relaxing, refreshing and repairing is healing.

David proclaimed that the shepherd restored his soul. David presented the shepherd as one who restored, relaxed, refreshed and repaired – as a healer.

God, as healer, means different things for different people. Unfortunately, some theologies have so grossly distorted what it means for God to heal that they have, consequently, placed people seeking freedom from their illnesses into deeper bondage. Some theologies are not grounded in Scripture. Rather, they are built upon misinterpretations, misquotations and misunderstandings of Scripture. These 'misses' in Scripture, although seemingly minor, have major consequences regarding our understanding of God and healing.

For example, some teach that Christians should not become ill. Others add that if they do, it is because of unconfessed sins. Still others believe that one can speak healing and become healed, unless they have unconfessed sins.

Does God heal? Yes. Does God heal everyone? Maybe not. Sick people remained on earth after Jesus left. Is all healing physical? Maybe not. Paul was not physically healed of his thorn yet he was healed. Yes, we should pray for healing, however, we should remember that God has a greater plan for our lives. However God chooses to heal us, God will heal and restore our souls.

FAITH AND OBEDIENCE IN GOD'S REMEDY
Exodus 15:22-27

March 6, 2023

No matter what medical condition I experienced, be it major or minor, my mom always had a remedy. Some of the remedies did not make sense, others did not taste good and others seemed completely ridiculous. For example, I still do not understand how rubbing sardine oil on a child's neck and cheeks and wrapping a cloth under her chin and tying it on top of her head cures the mumps – nevertheless, it did.

Israel was without water for three days. They were experiencing the affects of dehydration. They were at the waters of Marah, however, they could not drink the water because it was bitter. Israel cried out to Moses and Moses cried out to God. God instructed Moses to throw a piece of wood into the water. I am sure this sounded completely ridiculous to Moses. How could a piece of wood heal the water? Nevertheless, Moses faithfully and obediently, threw the piece of wood into the water and the water was healed. Clearly, the healing was not in the piece of wood, it was in Moses' faith and obedience.

Many are in need of various levels of healing. Sometimes, God's remedy for our healing does not make sense, others do not taste good and others seem completely ridiculous. However, as we consider God's healing in our lives, we must place less emphasis on the means that God uses and more on the exercise of our faith and obedience to receive the remedy God prescribes.

GOD HEALS HOLISTICALLY
Jeremiah 30:16, 17

March 7, 2023

Those who are survivors of domestic violence often share that the mental, emotional, psychological and financial abuse can have more long-term consequences than the physical abuse. Therefore, holistic healing (mentally, emotionally, psychologically, financially and physically) is needed for one to be healed and fully restored.

God's people were exiled to Babylon and broken down physically, mentally, emotionally, psychologically, financially. They lost hope and every expectation that their outcome would end positively. While in the depths of their despair, Jeremiah brought a promise from God of holistic healing and restoration. God promised to heal them physically and to vindicate them by placing back upon their enemies the evil and inhumane actions they inflicted. God promised to restore their health, holistically, and heal their wounds.

Many are yet struggling with and haunted by trauma from their childhood. Whereas the physical scars have healed, the mental, emotional, psychological and financial scars remain. The message of hope given by Jeremiah is available to you. God knows what you have gone through and how it still affects you. God promises to heal you physically and to vindicate you by placing back upon those who harmed you the evil and inhumane actions they inflicted. God' promise to restore your health includes a holistic restoration and God's promise to heal your wounds includes all of them.

GOD FORGIVES AND HEALS
Psalms 103:1-5

March 8, 2023

Knowing the potential of our falling and the injury it would cause, my mother always warned us not to climb into the apple tree, Unfortunately, I did not always comply with her requests. One day, while climbing in the tree, I fell and badly bruised my leg. After the fall, I experienced two pains. The first was the pain in my bruised leg. The second was the pain of disappointment from my mom because I disobeyed her. Although she forcefully voiced her disappointment, her love for me led her to both forgive me and heal me.

David sang a soul praise to God and, with everything within him, he blessed God's holy name. What would cause David to give such a deep, personal praise to God? David responded, "... all his benefits." At the remembrance of the benefits of God, David explodes in praise. Two of the benefits David remembers are worthy of noting: God forgives all sins and heals all diseases.

Imagine if God said, "I will not heal your diseases because you committed sins." I am grateful that God does not wait for me to stop sinning before healing my diseases. I am grateful that even though I disappoint God through my disobedience, God's love for me leads God to both forgive me and heal me. Therefore, I too will bless the Lord deep within my soul.

HEALING IS GOD LIFTING
Psalms 30:1-3

March 9, 2023

Upon approaching someone whom I heard was ill, I shared, "I heard you were sick and not feeling well." He responded, "Actually, I was almost out of here." As I responded with surprise, he added, "I was near death." Whether or not he was near death is a matter of perception. Nevertheless, long-term chronic pain, illness, sickness and disease can create experiences where one can feel near death. In those times, they need to know that healing and deliverance is God lifting them from the doors of death and everything that would weigh them down, and repositioning them to a fresh, new life.

David expressed a time he was near death and God healed and delivered him. David described death as the grave and down to the pit. By contrast, David's praise was in God lifting him up; lifting his soul up from the grave; lifting him up and keeping him alive. David's praise was in the God who took him higher and higher as the pains of life would take him lower and lower.

Many have experienced the weight of long-term chronic pain, illness, sickness and disease. The weight presses down in a way that results in depression, hopelessness, pessimism and a variety of other self-diminishing feelings that cause us to feel near death. I encourage you right now to sit up, look up and expect God to lift you up; to lift up your soul from the grave; to lift you up and keep you alive. As the pains of life may be attempting to take you lower and lower, praise God who is taking you higher and higher.