IT'S REALLY NOT HARD TO RECEIVE HEALING. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS BELIEVE GOD'S WORD AND REFUSE TO LET THE DEVIL TALK YOU OUT OF IT.

by Gloria Copeland

WHAT MAKES HEALING SEEM DIFFICULT SOMETIMES IS THAT WE TRY TO RECEIVE IT OUR OWN WAY.

Instead of just going to the Word and accepting what God says, with childlike simplicity, we get tangled up in past experiences and unscriptural ideas. We get our attention over on symptoms and give in to the devil's deceptions. Then, when we fail to get results, we think God is the problem and we pray up a storm trying to get Him to change.

As most of us have discovered, however, that just doesn't work.

God never changes (Malachi 3:6) because He's always right. His ways are always perfect. He's never the One who's missing it, so when our prayers for healing aren't producing results, where the change needs to take place is in us.

This is what Jesus told His disciples in Matthew 13:15. He said the reason the religious people of His day were failing to receive from His ministry was because "...their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted [or changed], and I should heal them."

While that's a sobering statement, it actually gives us some very good news about healing. It tells us that any time we see, hear and understand with our heart what the Word of God is saying, if we will change our thinking in accordance with it, we'll be healed.

Think of it! Anytime we'll agree with God, we can receive healing!

Anytime we're willing to set aside the circumstances, or the doctor's report, or the religious doctrines we've been taught and just take God at His Word, His healing power will be released in us. We don't have to wait for our church to have a special healing meeting or for some special anointed person to come pray for us. We don't have to wait for anything. We can just find out what the Bible says, change what we believe so that we're in agreement with it and be healed. Anytime!

"What does the Bible say about healing that I need to agree with?" you might ask.

For one thing, it says that healing is always God's will; He always wants His people well. He's always saying to us, as His people, the same thing He said to the Israelites in Exodus 15:26, "I am the Lord that healeth thee."

Contrary to what some have been taught, the Scriptures don't say anywhere that it's God's will for His people to be sick. There's not one verse in the Bible that indicates He ever gets glory out of sickness, or that He puts it on people to teach them something. Those are just religious traditions the devil concocted to make the Word of God "of none effect" in our lives (Matthew 15:6).

What the Bible reveals is that wherever God's will is done unhindered, sickness doesn't have any place at all. There's no sickness in heaven, for instance, where everything goes exactly the way God wants. And in the beginning, when things on earth were going according to God's will, there wasn't any sickness here, either. God didn't put any diseases in the Garden of Eden when He created it for Adam to live in. He created everything on earth to be "very good" (Genesis 1:31).

That goodness got messed up, of course, when Adam sinned and the devil usurped his authority. But when Jesus came on the scene He showed us God's perfect will once again. He did things exactly the way God wanted, which meant when great multitudes of sick people came to Him for help, "he healed them all" (Matthew 12:15).

I've never understood how anyone could read about the ministry of Jesus and still think it's God's will for some people to be sick. It doesn't make sense. If God wants some people sick, certainly Jesus would have come across at least one of them when He was on earth. He surely would have said to at least one of the multiplied thousands who asked Him to heal them, "No, I'm sorry. It's not My Father's will for you to be well. You'll have to stay sick."

But Jesus never said that! Not to anyone, anytime, anywhere. Instead, He responded to everyone who reached out to Him in much the same way He responded in Mark 1:41 to the leper who said to Him, "If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean."

"I will;" Jesus answered, "be thou clean."

Not One Feeble Among Millions

Another thing the Bible says about healing is that, no matter what the circumstances, God has more than enough power to get the job done. Just look at

POINTS TO GET YOU THERE

It's really not hard to receive healing. All you have to do is believe God's Word and refuse to let the devil talk you out of it. Here are some points to get you there:

Find out what God says about healing and agree with it and you can be healed anytime. Matthew 13:15

Healing is always God's will. Psalm 103:2-3

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When Jesus was ministering on earth He never refused to heal anyone. Luke 6:19

Not only did Jesus pay the price for sin, He liberated you completely, spirit, soul and body. Isaiah 53:5

Sickness is as much a work of Satan as sin itself, and Jesus has defeated it and given you dominion over it. 1 John 3:8 what He did for the Israelites in the book of Exodus, for example. When He delivered them from the bondage of Egypt there were several million of them, and He healed them all at the same time. He brought them out of captivity, as Psalm 105:37 says, with "not one feeble person among their tribes."

Isn't that amazing? Those people had been living for years as slaves. They'd been underfed, overworked and mistreated. Yet, after God poured out His healing power on them, every single person, from the oldest grandma to the tiniest newborn, was well and strong.

If God could heal a whole nation under those conditions in Old lovingkindness and tender mercies." (Psalm 103:2-4)

"My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh." (Proverbs 4:20-22)

As Much Satan's Handiwork as Sin Itself

"But Gloria, those verses are all in the Old Testament. Are you sure they still apply to us today?"

Of course they do. God wouldn't make a way for His people to be healed

who does that, and the thief is Satan, not God. As Jesus said in John 10:10, "The thief comes...to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows)" (*The Amplified Bible, Classic Edition*).

The whole purpose of Jesus' ministry was to "destroy the works of the devil" (1 John 3:8)! That's why, when He was on earth, He dominated the devil at every turn: He made crooked bodies straight that Satan had bent over. He cast out demons. He raised from the dead people the devil had killed. He made "the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the

FORGIVENESS & HEALING ARE PART OF THE SAME SPIRITUAL PACKAGE. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS REPENT AND YOU CAN RECEIVE THEM BOTH.

Testament times, before people were even born again, He can certainly heal us, as believers, today. His power has not diminished. He isn't wringing His hands, wondering what to do about whatever new disease currently has the experts in an uproar. For anything and everything, God still has the cure.

I think sometimes we as believers forget this! We get so wrapped up in natural facts and medical diagnoses that we lose sight of who God actually is. He's not only our Great Physician, He's Almighty God. He's the Omniscient, Omnipotent Creator of heaven and earth—and it's His power that backs every healing scripture in the Bible. It's His infinite ability that's behind scriptures like:

"Ye shall serve the Lord your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee." (Exodus 23:25)

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with for thousands of years under the Old Covenant and then, after sending Jesus to pay the price for our sins, cut off healing under the New Covenant. That would be absurd! What's more, it would be impossible because, as we've already established, God never changes. With Him there is "no variableness, neither shadow of turning" (James 1:17). So if He was ever the healer, He still is.

God always has been and always will be an enemy of sickness and disease because it originated with the devil. It's part of the curse that came into the world when Adam fell. It's evil and destructive and it's as much Satan's handiwork as sin itself.

Man-made religions have gotten this wrong. They've told people that God is sometimes the author of sickness. But that's totally untrue. God is the author of righteousness and goodness. He's "gracious, and full of compassion...and of great mercy. The Lord is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works" (Psalm 145:8-9).

God doesn't go around stealing people's health. He doesn't go around putting diseases on them. It's the thief blind to see" so that people "glorified the God of Israel" (Matthew 15:31).

For three solid years during His earthly ministry, Jesus was the devil's worst nightmare—and that was just the beginning!

Once He finished His work on earth, He went to the Cross, purchased our complete Redemption, and got back everything the devil had gained through Adam's Fall. He didn't just destroy the work of sin to leave sickness and disease in dominion. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus liberated us completely—spirit, soul and body.

"He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5). Or as 1 Peter 2:24 puts it, "Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."

The Bible actually says if the devil had understood what Jesus was really doing when He went to the cross, he would never have crucified the Lord of glory. That was the worst mistake Satan ever made. He had no idea that, through Jesus' death and resurrection, He would open the way for people to be born again in Jesus' likeness. He never dreamed that after the crucifixion he'd have to deal with multiplied millions of believers who would walk in Jesus' authority and do the same works.

It was a mystery hidden in God.

A Bad Day for Hell

Don't you know Satan went into shock three days after the Crucifixion when, right before his very eyes, that mystery began to unfold? I'm telling you, that was a bad day for hell!

Just imagine it. The devil and his demonic hoards thought they'd put an end to Jesus. They had Him down there in the pit and they were celebrating because they had the Redeemer of mankind in their clutches. Then suddenly the glory of God came storming in, raised Jesus from the dead and, right there in the devil's own domain, Jesus whipped him! He "spoiled principalities and powers, [and] made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it" (Colossians 2:15). He stripped Satan of his armor and all the authority Adam had given him in the Fall, took away from him the keys of hell and death, and left him with nothing absolutely nothing at all!

Ever since that moment, the devil has been utterly defeated. The only weapon he has left is the weapon of deception.

That means the only way he can stop you from receiving healing is by lying to you. He has to talk you out of believing the Word of God and into thinking that your condition is hopeless, or that God doesn't care about you, or that for some reason you don't deserve to be healed. If you believe those lies, the devil will continue to dominate you. He'll keep your body sick. But if you'll believe the Word and resist him, he has no recourse, except to flee.

"But Gloria, what if I've sinned? Won't that stop me from receiving healing?"

No! Forgiveness and healing are part of the same spiritual package. All you have to do is repent and you can receive them both at the same time. You can act on James 5:15 and simply believe that "the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him."

God is quick to forgive and quick to heal. So don't make healing difficult. Make it simple by doing it God's way. Receive His Word, believe it, and don't let the devil talk you out of it.

Agree with God and be healed...anytime! 🖤



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