

The Biblical Basis for Divine Healing

In this series we will explore the rationale for divine healing; why we believe in it. We will talk about why people resist this teaching and divine healing in general. We will discuss the various methods for divine healing and how to be effective practitioners of it. For example there is the laying on of hands, there is the sending forth of the Word, there is ministering through the healing gifts, there is also healing that comes as a result of the glory or manifest presence of God in a meeting. This series will empower you to go to a higher level of faith for healing and other areas of your life. My desire is for you to be so grounded in faith for healing so that when the storms come you will withstand them. Sadly. There are many people today who are always in healing meetings and are healed for some time but they keep losing their healing because they don't have a coherent theology of divine healing. So what is the biblical basis for divine healing?

1. Jesus came to give us life.

John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

2. Healing is in the atonement.

Jesus went to the cross for both our sin and our sickness.

1 Pet 2:24

'He himself bore our sins' in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; 'by his wounds you have been healed.'

"So you can say to people, Jesus healed you two thousand years ago, you just found out about it tonight!"

Isaiah 53:4-5

⁴*Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. ⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.*

Pain = Chalah = sickness, disease, illness.

Suffering = Macob = pain, sorrow

Just these two words show me that Jesus healed me both physically and within my soul. So this healing includes inner-healing.

"Jesus bore your sicknesses and carried your diseases at the same time and in the same manner that He bore your sins. You are just as free from sickness and disease as you are free from sin. You should be as quick to cease sickness and disease in your body as you are to cease sin." - Gloria Copeland

If you have a bad thought you tend to rebuke it but if you get a headache or back ache perhaps you embrace it as a normal part of life. God is taking us to a place where we fall out of agreement with the things the enemy is trying to put on us. For too long the enemy has duped believers into embracing his stealing, killing and destroying as a normal part of life to embrace.

Colin Urquhart concurs: "When Jesus stood bearing the lashes from the Roman soldiers, all our physical pain and sicknesses were being heaped upon him. . . It is as if one lash was for cancer, another for bone disease, another for heart disease, and so on. Everything that causes physical pain was laid on Jesus as the nails were driven into His hands and feet."

Of course, ultimately all sickness is a result of sin, in that Adam's fall introduced corruption and death into the human race. But that does not mean that every time we get sick it is because of some specific sin we have committed. It does mean that had Adam not sinned, there would be no sickness. Sickness is the effect of sin (just like tornadoes, weeds, and sadness). - Sam Storm

We will at some point receive our heavenly bodies so the healing we are talking about is in a sense temporary. When we receive salvation it is important to embrace it for spirit, soul and body. In the same way that we are passionate about personal wholeness and sanctification as a process in this life, we ought to also desire physical healing and wholeness.

The life of the believer is a tension between what we long for and what we experience now.

Phil 3:20-21

²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Through faith we bring heavenly realities to earth.

3. Healing the sick was central to Jesus' ministry.

If we want to know God's will we must look at Jesus. Acts 10:38 *How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.*

Jesus was on a mission to destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8

He that commits sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. FOR THIS PURPOSE THE SON OF GOD WAS MANIFESTED, THAT HE MIGHT DESTROY THE WORKS OF THE DEVIL.

Hatred for sickness and disease will help you in healing the sick.

The Bible says as Christ is so are we in this world. His mission is our mission.

1 John 4:17 (NASB)

By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgement; because as He is, so also are we in this world.

John 17:18

As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.

4. Sickness is from the devil and healing is from Jesus.

Luke 13:10-17

¹⁰On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, ¹¹and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, "Woman, you are set free from your infirmity." ¹³Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened

up and praised God. ¹⁴Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, "There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath." ¹⁵The Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? ¹⁶Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?" ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.

There is no sickness in heaven and there was no sickness before the fall of man. So be careful what you agree with. A lot of people remain sick because they have agreed with the enemy's suggestions.

There are times when a spirit is actively binding someone and has to be rebuked. There are other times when a spirit causes harm and then moves on to other people. It is interesting to note how Jesus ministered to this crippled woman.

5. It is in God's nature to heal.

Exodus 15:26 (Jehovah Rapha)

²⁶ He said, 'If you listen carefully to the Lord your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, who heals you.'

Ps 147:3

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Deut 7:13-15

¹³He will love you and bless you and increase your numbers. He will bless the fruit of your womb, the crops of your land – your corn, new wine and oil – the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks in the land that he swore to your ancestors to give you. ¹⁴You will be blessed more than any other people; none of your men or women will be childless, nor any of your livestock without young. ¹⁵The Lord will keep you free from every disease. He will not inflict on you the horrible diseases you knew in Egypt, but he will inflict them on all who hate you.

Ps 103:3-5

³who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, ⁴who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, ⁵who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Last time I checked, the New Covenant was better than the Old Covenant.

There is no sickness in heaven. Jesus taught us to pray, "They Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven" not "on earth as it is has been in my experiences and other people's negative experiences."

Why is it that we limit heavenly qualities that we want on earth; peace, joy etc? Why don't we include freedom from sickness and emotional wholeness?

6. Sickness was something the early church aimed to rectify

James 5:14

Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

If you are sick, let's do something about it.

Miracles and healings were prayer points for early church believers and they got the results.

Acts 4:29:31

Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

This is what I will be doing now. We tend to get more results when we are specific in how we impart healing, hence the use of crafted prayers for specific illnesses. God responded to the early church's request and He has responded many times to our request for healings.

Do you stop selling your product just because some people didn't like it or don't buy it? No. So let's keep praying for the sick because it is making a difference to those that receive their healing.

Please send prayer request to prayer@gochurch.co.za and please share testimonies by emailing tesimonies@gochurch.co.za.

Crafted Prayer

Lower Back Problems and Skeletal Pain

Right now, I come against any muscle or ligament strain. Where this has been caused by repeated heavy lifting or a sudden awkward movement I speak healing to any straining of back muscles and spinal ligaments.

I declare healing of bulging or ruptured disks. Thank you for our disks Lord that act as cushions between the bones (vertebrae) in your spine. So I speak order where there is disorder. Be healed from Arthritis. Be healed from any skeletal irregularities. Be healed from osteoporosis.

I pray Lord for those experiencing lower back pain. I speak healing from any mechanical issues and I declare healing over any soft-tissue injuries that have caused this lower back pain. Be healed right now where there is damage to the inter-vertebral discs, healing where there is compression of nerve roots, and improper movement of the spinal joints. I speak restoration where there has been a torn or pulled muscle and/or ligament.

Right now I speak to this entire region of your body from below the ribcage; the lumbar region. I release you from that intense pain in the lumbar region. I speak an acceleration to the healing process that has already started in your body. Be healed from that dull ache or stabbing or shooting sensation that you have been experiencing. I speak mobility to you where your pain has made it hard for you to move or stand up straight. Be healed from that sports injury or heavy lifting. Whatever the cause was, be loosed in Jesus' name. I pray for those that have been in pain that has lasted for more than 3 months and is now chronic. This is not your portion. This is not God's plan for you. Do not embrace it as part of your new life now. You are released from it in Jesus' name.

Father I pray for those who are currently seeing medical practitioners. May you use these people to be your hands. May whatever treatment they are on also play its role. May whatever exercises they are given, be accurate and useful. I release you from all other issues related to back pain. I release you from loss of bowel or bladder control. I release you from numbness in the groin area. I release you from leg weakness, fever, and pain when coughing or urinating.

I pray for those with Muscle Strain or Sciatica. Where a disk has ruptured or bulged I declare restoration to perfect working order and functioning. Where the bulging or ruptured disc is pressing on the sciatic nerve, I release you from the pain running from the buttock down one leg. You are released from sciatica in Jesus' name.

I pray for those with Herniated Discs Lord. Where the discs on your spine are experiencing wear and tear from ageing or injuries I declare rejuvenation right now. Where weakened discs are putting pressure on your spinal nerve roots, I release you from the pain and speak order there.

I pray for those with Chronic Back Conditions that are causing lower back pain. I come against Spinal stenosis; where there is narrowing of the space around the spinal cord putting pressure on your spinal nerves I release you from that in Jesus' name. I come against Spondylitis; where you are experiencing chronic back pain and stiffness due to severe inflammation of the spinal joints, be released from that in Jesus' name. I come against Fibromyalgia; where you have widespread muscle aches, including back pain, be released from that in Jesus' name.

Father give us wisdom in getting to the root of this back pain. Father give all those struggling with back pain wisdom concerning the root cause. Show them what to do about it. I release your grace to those whose job involves lifting, pulling, or anything that twists the spine. I pray for many of us who sit for hours at a desk. I pray for those whose chairs are uncomfortable and those who tend to slouch. May we be proactive in preventing back issues I pray.

Give us wisdom Lord as we carry things. We thank you for our lower backs Lord. Thank you for how it supports our upper bodies. Give us wisdom when we carry things and also when we work out. Give us wisdom so that we may not overextend our muscles in sport or even in our general posture.

I release your grace for those that are overweight. I release your grace for those that have lived sedentary lifestyles. I pray for God ideas and solutions for each of them, in Jesus' name. We declare that this type of pain is not our portion, in the mighty name of Jesus!