

## WE BELIEVE – Jesus Heals 1.15.17 #cccsermons

**WE BELIEVE** that the Bible is inspired by God and that it declares His design and plan for mankind.

**WE BELIEVE** that Jesus still saves and continues to challenge us to be His representatives of this message.

**WE BELIEVE** that Jesus heals.

- Sickness and disease is playing havoc in the lives of the people today, **so much so** that sickness and disease has become an **ACCEPTED** and **EXPECTED** way of life. Even though there is no doubt in the minds of **any of God's people** that God can heal all sickness or disease, many people doubt that God can still heal today. The problem today is that people of faith think God **SHOULD** heal everyone who is a Christian.
- The proper biblical perspective is for us to **pray to God earnestly for healing**, and **have faith to believe** that He can heal you, **but be careful** about demanding that He answer your prayers according to your will. We are to pray that His *will be done on earth as it is in heaven* (see **Matthew 6:10**).
- **God's plan has always been to HEAL His people.**
- I believe that if God healed back in the Old Testament and Jesus healed in the New Testament, I believe that God can heal you and your situations today! WHY? Because...
- **Hebrews 13:8** (NIV) *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.*

**Chroniced in every book of the Bible is God's power to heal.**

In the Old Testament, God established His covenant with the people of Israel, that if they obeyed Him, He would take away sickness from them.

- **Exodus 23:25-26** (NIV) <sup>25</sup> *Worship the LORD your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you,* <sup>26</sup> *and none will miscarry or be barren in your land. I will give you a full life span.*
- **Exodus 15:26** (NIV) *God 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."*
- Here we see one of the covenant names of God, which is **Jehovah Rapha**, (*I am the Lord who heals you*). (see also **Psalms 103:3** and **Jeremiah 30:17**)
- **Jehovah** is the **GREAT PHYSICIAN** who heals the physical and emotional needs of His people.

In the New Testament, we have the Great Physician in the **FLESH** and He demonstrated that God still wants to heal.

- Of the **3,779** verses of the four Gospels, **727** (1/5) of them are devoted to Jesus' healing ministry! Everywhere that Jesus went, people were getting healed.

Why did Jesus heal?

- **#1** Jesus healed because He was moved with **COMPASSION** for people and their needs (see **Matthew 9:35-36; 14:14**).
- **#2** Jesus also healed the sick to **DEMONSTRATE** His **DEITY**.
- **#3** Jesus healed the sick to **DEMONSTRATE** to others that it is normal to pray for the sick and **EXPECT** them to be **HEALED!** (see **Matthew 10:5-8** and **Mark 16:15-20**)
- God doesn't want us to look at **SYMPTOMS**, but look to the **PROMISE** of God that He will heal. (see **John 14:12**)
- **God has ALWAYS done what he said he would do.**
- **If He is the same yesterday as He is today, then God will do this for us also.**

Jesus still heals today!

- God often works His healing through doctors, other trained professionals, and through medicine. Sometimes it's through miracles, through the laying on of hands, but sometimes God heals in other ways.
- There is a danger to think that because I serve the Lord, it means that God will meet my every need. However, most people do need to realize that the Lord **MAY ALLOW SICKNESS** to come into our lives to bring us to a **DEEPER** level of spiritual intimacy with our Heavenly Father.
- The Lord allows some to be blind, crippled, or handicapped for His perfect reasons. (see **John 9:1-4**)
- God doesn't just want to heal us physically, but He wants us heal us emotionally and spiritually.
- Occasionally, the Lord will **CHOOSE NOT** to heal someone so that a **GREATER WORK** of God could be done in their situation.
- God never said that He would bless your every need, but that He would be **WITH** you in your time of need.
- **Hebrews 4:15-16** (NIV) <sup>15</sup> *For we do not have a high priest [Jesus] who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are — yet was without sin.* <sup>16</sup> *Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*
- And we can know that God can cause all things to **work together for good**, if we love God and submit to His planning. (see **Romans 8:28**)

**Exodus 15:22-27** A piece of wood can make what is bitter better. (see also **Isaiah 53:3-5** and **1 Peter 2:24**)

- It is God's intention that we be completely **HEALTHY** in body, soul and spirit.
- Only Jesus can sweeten the bitterness of life.

Even though we do believe that God has given us doctors and medicine, we ought to pray first and give God a chance. It's okay to go to professionals, but go to the Great Physician **FIRST**. (see **Hebrews 11:6** and **James 5:14-15**)