



4/28/26

*This week I'm looking at situations where Jesus healed the sick and even raised the dead. The first question that comes to my mind as I read these stories is, "Why don't we see massive healing like that today?" I have two answers for that... one that's just my own thoughts, and one that I looked up. The one I looked up shows me the answer from scripture. My thoughts are probably less significant cuz they're just... my thoughts. 🙏*

- 1. My thoughts... When Jesus walked the earth, the average life expectancy excluding the high infant mortality rate was 50-60 years. They didn't have the kind of medical technology we have today. Here's the thing... we separate science from the miracles. But... we would not HAVE the technology we have if God didn't reveal it to us. The medical technology we have IS miraculous... supernatural... As with every gift from the Lord, some of it is used for evil purposes by those who have no faith in God. But it's still God's mercy and grace allowing us to understand how to use medicine to heal.*
- 2. Help from scripture... First, John closes his gospel account of Jesus with this statement in John 20:30-31, "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written SO THAT you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name." The greatest miracle, the one we need the most, came at the cost of Jesus' own suffering, even His death. While the people only had His spoken words and healing to show that He was the Messiah, I have His written words that include the gospels with all their miracles, and I have HIS death and resurrection to look to. Truly, every other person He healed still eventually died. Only those who put their trust in Him live in heaven with Him. And we have a lot of scripture that shows followers of Christ who still suffered... like in 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Galatians 4:13-14, and 2 Timothy 4:20.*

*I also see from the story in Matthew 5, when Jesus healed the man at the pool of Bethesda that there is no evidence that he ever turned to Jesus in faith. Even with his healing, if that man didn't turn to Jesus, he died without Him.*

*Also... there were other people at that pool who were sick that weren't healed. The bigger and more necessary miracle is not that God heals my body here on earth, but that He heals the disease of sin so that I can spend eternity with Him.*

*That being said, how does today's passage inspire my faith in Jesus? That's what I need more than anything.*

*Matthew 8:5-17 ~*

*Vs. 5-13 ~*

*Jesus went to Capernaum, a small town on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. When He arrived, a centurion came to Him and told Him that one of his servants was paralyzed and in a ton of pain.*

*This is kind of a big deal in itself. A centurion was an officer in the Roman army... an Italian Gentile. Many of these officers were extremely hard hearted. And they certainly had no interest in a Jewish rabbi. This centurion cared about his servant, not even a family member... and he referred to Jesus as "Lord, Master." He showed Jesus deep respect. Luke's account of this story says that this centurion was even respected by Jewish elders.*

*Jesus told the centurion He would go and heal his servant. But the centurion actually hadn't asked Jesus to come with him. In fact, he told Jesus, "I am not worthy to have You come under my roof. Just say the word, and I know my servant will be healed." Wow. He could have tried to use his Roman authority to demand that Jesus come. Instead, he said he understood authority, and that Jesus could heal his servant just with a word. Wow.*

*Jesus basically said "wow", too! Jesus said, "Truly, I have found no one in Israel with that kind of faith!" I love how Jesus could be excited about our faith... even with knowing what was going to happen. The closest thing I can think of to understand this is when I see my daughters worshipping Jesus at church. I KNOW they love Jesus and it makes me happy. But when I SEE it, it fills me with joy. I wonder if that's a glimpse of the joy God has when He sees His kids worshipping in faith.*

*Jesus then said something that I'm sure the other Jewish people would not like. Jesus said that people will come from all over the globe to recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. Jesus was talking about the Gentiles!!! That's me!!! But sadly, there will be a lot of Jewish people (and Gentiles) who refuse to put their faith in Jesus and will be "thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Let me not miss this. God IS a very forgiving God. BUT He forgives those who repent in faith, not those who shake a fist at Him and refuse Him in pride.*

*Because of the centurion's faith in Jesus, He told him that he was free to go and his servant would be healed. And his servant WAS healed at that very moment.*

*How does this inspire my faith in Jesus? I see His compassion and I see that He can do anything even with a word. My deepest need from Him is one He's already provided. He who was raised from the dead gave me new life in Him so that I will never face separation from Him in the outer darkness. I pray that I will view any suffering I experience on earth as another opportunity to rest in His all sufficient and satisfying grace.*

*Vs. 14-17 ~*

*So Peter just happened to live in Capernaum. And after that encounter with the centurion, Jesus went to Peter's house where his mother-in-law was very sick with a fever. Jesus touched her hand and made her well. This is a big deal. She would have been considered unclean because of her sickness, which meant Jesus should have been made ceremonially unclean by touching her. But you can't make Jesus unclean! Jesus makes the unclean clean.*

*As soon as He touched Peter's MIL, she got up and started serving Him. I think this is so cool. She didn't need time to recover. She was completely restored. And she was probably SO happy to be able to serve Jesus!!!*

*I remember when I had my two surgeries to reconstruct my achilles on both ankles. I had to be resting and putting zero weight on the foot that had just gone through surgery... for 9 weeks... and then I still had to put almost no weight on them for several weeks after that. I was not able to take care of myself or help my daughters with anything or help my husband. I HATED it!!! I was SO THANKFUL when my ankles recovered!!! I totally relate to the gratitude Peter's MIL felt in being well and wanting to serve Jesus. I will never take the health I have in my feet for granted again.*

*Well... news spread in that small town and many people came to Jesus that night. He healed them of demon possession, casting out demons with a word. And Jesus healed the sick. No matter what the suffering is from, Jesus has the authority and power to heal, and He is the fulfillment of the prophecy about Him in Isaiah 53, "He took our illnesses and bore our diseases."*

*O Lord, You still do that today. You took my disease of sin first and foremost. You nailed it to the cross. And no matter what I face here on earth... in this tiny little vapor of life compared to eternity... I know that I will dine in heaven with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and all the saints who put their trust in You... When I do, the only scars I'll see are the scars on the hands and feet of my Savior and King, Jesus.*