

# Healing and Jesus (Jesus' Healing Ministry)

Matthew 8:5-13

## Intro

Today I would like to focus on Christ's healing ministry and some of the principles we can learn from it.

In Matthew 4:23-25 we read, "*Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.*"<sup>24</sup> *News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them.*"<sup>25</sup> *Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him.*"

During the time Christ was on earth the healings he performed were giving evidence of His deity and Messiahship. The healings were one of the proofs of His divinity, His power, and His goodness and these were obvious and beyond contradiction.

John 20:30-31 "*Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.*"

Christ's healing ministry also attested to Him bringing the spiritual kingdom of God to earth. In Matthew 12:28 Jesus said, "*But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.*"

## Christ was anointed by the Spirit

Acts 10:38 "*How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.*"

Isaiah 61:1-2 & Luke 4:18-19 "*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.*"

Anointing means a special endowment, a consecration, and of God's empowerment.

## Christ Didn't Want His Healings Broadcast

"Don't tell anyone"

-At least 6 times after Jesus healed someone he explicitly told them not to tell anyone of their healing.  
WHY?

### 3 Reasons

- 1/ He did not want to be considered just as a miracle worker.
- 2/ He did not want his preaching and teaching ministry hindered by too much publicity given to His healing miracles.
- 3/ He did not want His death to come prematurely, before he had finished his ministry.

Perhaps Christ was guarding his healing ministry against the hype and sensationalism that often comes with it. His primary focus was proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and of eternal life.

That's much more important than physical healing. Physical healing is only temporary because eventually people die. Lazarus was raised from the dead but he eventually died again. This physical existence on earth is not our final home.

You see, disease and death cannot be permanently removed until sin's curse is permanently removed Romans 8:22-25 (v. 23) "...*but we ourselves...groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.*"

## **7 Principles Found Throughout Jesus' Healing Ministry**

About 23 healings are recorded throughout the gospels that Jesus performed. Through His healing ministry we find some common principles.

### **1. Plea for Mercy**

- Healing is an act of God's mercy and compassion for the sick!
- Jesus at times was filled with compassion.
- Many of the people who came to Jesus begged for mercy.
- 2 blind men called out for mercy, "*Have mercy on us, Son of David!*" (Matt. 9:27).
- 10 lepers cried out, "*Jesus, Master, have pity on us*" (Luke 17:13).

### **2. Humility and Brokenness**

- Many people knelt and pled.
- Centurion, "*I did not consider myself worthy to come to you*" (Matt. 8:8).

### **3. Say the Word**

- Faith of a Centurion, "*Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed*" (Matt. 8:8).

Psalm 107:20 "*He sent forth his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave.*" (Also Psalm 147:15, 18).

- His word is his command, personified as the agent of his purpose.

Rhema (Greek): means spoken word or command that causes an action.

- Jesus rebuked and commanded spirits to leave people (Mark 1:25).
- Jesus rebuked the fever in Peter's mother-in law and it left (Luke 4:39).

### **4. Will of God**

- God is sovereign.
- Holy Spirit is like the wind. We cannot predetermine the Spirit of God. He will do as He wills (John 3:8).

**Matt. 8:1-4** The man with leprosy said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

### **5. Faith and Belief**

- The faith of the Roman centurion astonished Jesus (Matt. 8:10).
- Faith of the woman with the bleeding issue. "If I just touch his clothes I will be healed" (Mark 5:25-34).
- To the father of the demon-possessed son Jesus said, "Everything is possible for him who believes" (Mark 9:23).

## **6. Physical Contact**

-Jesus often touched people with his hands or laid hands on the sick.

-The healing of a deaf and dumb man (Mark 7:31-36).

*“Jesus put his fingers into the man’s ears. Then he spit and touched the man’s tongue.”*

-The blind man at Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26). Jesus took the blind man by the hand and led him outside the village. He spat on the man’s eyes and put his hands on him.

-On another occasion Jesus spat on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s blind eyes (John 9:1-12).

## **7. Response and Action on the part of the healed**

-To the paralytic Jesus said, *“Get up, take your mat and go home”* (Matt. 9:6)

-To the lepers he told them to show themselves to the priests.

-To the invalid Jesus commanded him to get up pick up his mat and walk (John 5:1-8).

-To the blind man whom Jesus had applied mud made from his saliva commanded him to wash in the pool (Siloam, John 9:6-7).

## **Conclusion**

### 7 Principles in Healing

1. Plea for Mercy
2. Humility and Brokenness
3. Say the Word
4. Will of God
5. Faith and Belief
6. Physical Contact
7. Response and Action on the part of the healed

In conclusion we know that only in Jesus Christ is the healing power. He has the absolute and sovereign power to heal. Healing comes from Christ and He is the final authority on healing. Even the Moslems believe that in Jesus there is healing.

No one can heal on their own authority or power. It is total dependence on Christ for He is the source and power of all miraculous healing.