

## **What We Believe Lesson 11 Divine Healing – Part 2**

Article 11 of the Church of God Declaration of Faith:

**“We believe divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.”**

### **VI. Healing in the Ministry of Jesus**

A. John was specific in recording miracles of all kinds performed by Jesus. John 20:30-31 And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

B. Healing goes along with and is central to the understanding of the larger doctrine of salvation.

It is not just a matter of whether God can do miracles, but that God is redeeming the world.

C. The gospel is not only a gospel of salvation but is also a gospel of healing.

D. The Bible does not fragment emotional, spiritual, and physical healing: it deals with health, wholeness and healing as the restoration of wholeness.

E. The healing of the Lord is provided in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

1. Christ not only sought to affirm His authority with God, but He also ministers to the needs of people in a ministerial role.
2. Acts 10:38 declares the ministry of Jesus: “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.”
3. The ministry of doing good, healing, and relief for suffering were all a part of Christ’s ministry, which He now passes on to His disciples.

### **I. Special Ministerial Roles Ascribed to Christ**

A. Christ responded to the intercession of others on behalf of those who were ill.

1. The Nobleman who came seeking for his servant
2. Peter’s mother-in-law
3. Jairus’ daughter. He responded with healings at Gennesaret
4. The healing of the blind man at Bethsaida, and at the Mt. of Transfiguration
5. The Syrophoenician woman

B. Acting from compassion is a reason for healing in a number of instances.

1. When the multitudes came to Jesus in the evening, He healed them because He had compassion upon them – Mark 1:30-34

2. When the woman, sick with infirmities for a long length of time, came to Jesus, He healed her out of His great compassion for her.
- C. Jesus' healing acts are specifically related to the act of faith on the part of the believer.
1. The woman with the issue of blood had faith to touch the hem of His garment and believed she would be made whole – Luke 8:43.
  2. The faith that developed in the Syrophenician woman.
- D. The mercy of Christ is also involved in His ministry and is a constant in the character of the gospel of Christ.
1. Two unnamed blind men – Matthew 9:27
  2. The man with the withered hand – Matthew 12:10-13
  3. The Syrophenician woman's daughter – Matthew 15:21-28
  4. The epileptic boy – Matthew 17:14-18
  5. The ten lepers – Luke 17:11-14
- E. There were times Jesus responded to a need He saw. When multitudes came to Him, He responded to the need that was evident – John 5:1-8 The man at the pool in Bethesda.
- F. There is a relationship between healing and the proclamation of the Kingdom of God.
1. Miracles of divine intervention are part of the Kingdom of God.
  2. There is no indication that divine intervention as miracles is to cease until the Kingdom of God is fulfilled.
  3. As long as the Kingdom is in formation, the Lord will continue to minister by His power through the agency of Holy Spirit.
- G. There are miracles of healing and other miracles through the ministry of Holy Spirit after Christ's ascension.
1. We are commissioned to continue to work in the power of Holy Spirit seeing the signs, wonders, and miracles in the heavens.
  2. It is a characteristic of the Book of Acts that preaching, signs, and wonders go hand in hand.
  3. Joel promised the outpouring of Holy Spirit as well as the signs, wonders, and miracles.
  4. Present among these signs and wonders are miracles of healing.
  5. Mark 16:18 is a promise to heal the sick and that it is expected in the fulfillment of Christ's commission to His church.

6. Christ promised His presence which the Father would provide for the church by the continuance of His ministry in the world by the presence and power of Holy Spirit.
7. James 5:13-14 assures us that the healing of the sick will continue as a ministry of Jesus Christ in the church.

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. <sup>14</sup>Is anyone among you sick? 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.

- a. This passage also instructs the church on the way it should conduct its ministry of healing.
- b. The sick should call for the elders of the church v. 14 – not the only way.
- c. In the community of the church and the body of believers it is appropriate that elders be used in the fulfillment of this particular ministry.
- d. Praying for them, anointing them with oil, and the prayer of faith and they will recover. (vv. 13-15)

H. In response to those who claim that healing has ceased, the following questions need to be dealt with:

1. Why does the Holy Spirit give regulation regarding healing for that which He is removing? Why are there guidelines in the Bible of how to believe when healing is removed?
  2. Why does He give instructions as to how healing is to be conducted, if He is removing it from the character of the church?
- a. You do not regulate that which is prohibited.
  - b. You do not regulate that which does not exist.
  - c. You regulate that which continues because you want it to be conducted in a way which glorifies the Lord and fulfills the purpose of the church and its commission.

Hebrews 2:3-4 how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard *Him*, <sup>4</sup>God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

#### **Four observations about Hebrews 2:3-4**

1. There is a direct line of witness from the Lord Himself to the believers addressed in the epistle to the Hebrews.

2. God continued in this manner to witness to those who heard Christ with signs and wonders and miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit.
  3. Among these witnesses are the gifts of Holy Spirit which include the various forms of healing.
  4. These signs, wonders, and miracles are bound together with the message of the gospel. Wherever the gospel story has gone and will go, the sick are healed, the blind see, the deaf hear, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. This continues until there is no longer any need for healing.
- I. Healing is a ministry in the mortal condition.
- The one infirmity that God is not going to heal us from is our mortality.
    - He will heal us, but through death and the resurrection.
  - Even Lazarus and others who were raised from the dead had to face death again.
  - Mortality is a condition that will prevail until the Resurrection.