





	<h2>Divine Healing</h2> <p><i>Selected Scripture</i></p>
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	<h2>Some Common Misunderstandings</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1) Sickness is always God's chastening for a pattern of sin in your life. • 2) If you have enough faith you will always be healed. • 3) All troubles come from Satan, so you should rebuke your sickness just as you would Satan. • 4) Because God wants every Christian to be well, don't ever pray that God's will be done when it comes to illness.
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	<h2>I. A Brief Theology of Sickness & Disease</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God takes ultimate responsibility for all forms of sickness. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ex. 4:10-11 - Moses said to the LORD, "Please, Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither recently nor in time past, nor since You have spoken to Your servant; for I am slow of speech and slow of tongue." 11 The LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes <i>him</i> mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD?" • Deut. 32:39 - 'See now that I, I am He, And there is no god besides Me: It is I who put to death and give life. I have wounded and it is I who heal, And there is no one who can deliver from My hand.
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	<h2>I. A Brief Theology of Sickness & Disease</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God takes ultimate responsibility for all forms of sickness. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job 5:17-18 - "Behold, how happy is the man whom God reproves, So do not despise the discipline of the Almighty. 18 For He inflicts pain, and gives relief; He wounds, and His hands <i>also</i> heal. • Is. 45:7 - The One forming light and creating darkness, Causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the LORD who does all these. • Lam. 3:37-38 - Who is there who speaks and it comes to pass, Unless the Lord has commanded <i>it</i>? <i>Is it</i> not from the mouth of the Most High That both good and ill go forth?
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	<h2>I. A Brief Theology of Sickness & Disease</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satan may <u>sometimes</u> be the immediate cause. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luke 13:11 – there was a woman who for eighteen years had had a sickness caused by a spirit, and she was bent double, and could not straighten up at all. • 2 Cor. 12:7 - Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me-- to keep me from exalting myself! • Job 2:1-8
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	<h2>I. A Brief Theology of Sickness & Disease</h2>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God uses all forms of sickness for His own purposes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To punish sin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ps. 32:3-4 - When I kept silent <i>about my sin</i>, my body wasted away Through my groaning all day long, 4 For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was drained away <i>as</i> with the fever heat of summer. Selah. • Ps. 38:3 - There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your indignation; There is no health in my bones because of my sin.
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I. A Brief Theology of Sickness & Disease

- God uses all forms of sickness for His own purposes.
- To allow the consequences of sin and the curse to run its course
 - Rom. 8:20-23
 - 2 Cor. 4:16 – we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

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I. A Brief Theology of Sickness & Disease

- God uses all forms of sickness for His own purposes.
 - To humble us and keep us dependent
 - 2 Cor. 12:7 - Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me-- to keep me from exalting myself!
 - To strengthen our endurance and build our hope.
 - Jam. 1:2-4 - Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴ And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.
 - To bring glory to His name.
 - John 9:3 - Jesus answered, "It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents; but it was so that the works of God might be displayed in him."

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II. A Biblical Perspective on Divine Healing

- God Is the Only One who Heals.
 - Ex. 15:26 - I, the LORD, am your healer [YHWH Rapha].
 - Ex. 4:11-12 - The LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes *him* mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? "Now then go, and I, even I, will be with your mouth, and teach you what you are to say."
 - Deut. 32:39 - See now that I, I am He, And there is no god besides Me; It is I who put to death and give life. I have wounded and it is I who heal, And there is no one who can deliver from My hand.

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II. A Biblical Perspective on Divine Healing

- God Is the Only One who Heals.
 - Ps. 103:3 - Who pardons all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases;
 - Is. 45:7 - The One forming light and creating darkness, Causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the LORD who does all these.
 - Phil. 2:27 – For indeed he [Epaphroditus] was sick to the point of death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only but also on me, so that I would not have sorrow upon sorrow.

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II. A Biblical Perspective on Divine Healing

- God Does Not Promise to Heal Everyone.
- Specific examples:
 - Jacob's hip – Gen. 32:25, 31-32
 - Epaphroditus (Phil. 2:27)
 - Trophimus (2 Tim. 4:20)
 - Timothy (1 Tim. 5:23)
 - Paul (Gal. 4:13; 2 Cor. 12:7)

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II. A Biblical Perspective on Divine Healing

- What about Ex. 15:26?
 - Ex. 15:26 - He said, "If you will give earnest heed to the voice of the LORD your God, and do what is right in His sight, and give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have put on the Egyptians; for I, the LORD, am your healer."
 - Part of the blessings & curses on nation Israel.
 - Conditional promise for them
 - Possibly only with the Exodus
 - We don't have a right to claim other promises made to them...
 - E.g., Ex. 16:1-21 – daily quail & manna
 - E.g., Deut. 29:5 – neither clothes nor shoes will wear out.
 - If you want this blessing, then you're going to have to get in line for the curses as well (Deut. 28:15-68).

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II. A Biblical Perspective on Divine Healing

- What about Is. 53:4?
 - Heb. "Our sicknesses He Himself bore; our pains He carried."
- Is. 1:4-6, 18
 - Sin is pictured as a sickness that consumes and destroys the person.
 - Cf. Jer. 17:9 - "The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it?"

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II. A Biblical Perspective on Divine Healing

- **Health is guaranteed in the eternal state only.**
 - Rom. 8:23 - And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.
 - Rev. 21:4 - He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be *any* death; there will no longer be *any* mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."

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II. A Biblical Perspective on Divine Healing

- **God Most Frequently Uses Means to Heal.**
 - 1) The Body's Immune System
 - 2) Doctors

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Doctors

- The OT Levitical priests also functioned as health officers among the people of Israel (Lev. 13).
- Paul traveled with a personal physician (Col. 4:14).
- Jesus gave a tacit recognition of the role of doctors, even as He affirmed His ministry to people's souls.
 - Matt. 9:12 - when Jesus heard *this*, He said, "*It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick.*"
 - Luke 10:30-37 - similar passage
- Two crucial caveats:
 - 1) Doctors don't know everything.
 - Mark 5:26 - [she] had endured much at the hands of many physicians, and had spent all that she had and was not helped at all, but rather had grown worse.
 - 2) Don't put your trust in doctors instead of God.
 - 2 Ch. 16:11-14

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II. A Biblical Perspective on Divine Healing

- **God Most Frequently Uses Means to Heal.**
 - 1) The Body's Immune System
 - 2) Doctors
 - 3) Medical Aids
 - Sanitation (Ex. 19:14; Deut. 23:12-14)
 - Sterilization (Lev. 11:32, 39-40; Num. 19:11; 31:21-24)
 - Quarantine (Lev. 13:1—14:57; Num. 5:2-4)
 - Hygiene & diet (Lev. 11:1-47)
 - 4) Medicine
 - 1 Tim. 5:23 - No longer drink water *exclusively*, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.

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II. A Biblical Perspective on Divine Healing

- **God Most Frequently Uses Means to Heal.**
 - 1) The Body's Immune System
 - 2) Doctors
 - 3) Medical Aids
 - 4) Medicine
 - 5) Men with the gift of healing

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Power to Heal

- Men with the Gift of Divine Healing
- **Primarily** during three periods of history.
 - Moses & Joshua (1450—1390 BC)
 - Elijah & Elisha (ca. 860-800 BC)
 - Jesus & Apostles (30-60 AD)
- There was in the 1st century a miraculous gift of healing.
 - 1 Cor. 12:9, 28, 30
 - Mark 16:17-20
 - 2 Cor. 12:12
 - Heb. 2:3-4

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Modern Day Faith Healing?

- 1) Medical treatment worked
- 2) Healing capacity of the body
- 3) Spontaneous remission
- 4) Emotionally induced illness (can easily reverse)
- 5) Misdiagnosis (the person simply doesn't have what they've been diagnosed as having)
- 6) Misleading report
- 7) Placebo effect
- 8) Peer pressure/Mass hysteria
- 9) Deliberate deceit
- 10) Satanic involvement

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II. A Biblical Perspective on Divine Healing

- **God can act directly and without means.**
- Paul (Acts 14:19-20)
- Paul (Acts 28:1-6)

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III. A Biblical Response to Sickness

- **Remind yourself of God's sovereignty in health and sickness.**
 - Ex. 4:11
 - Deut. 32:29
- **Confess any known sin.**
 - James 5:14-18
- **Call for the elders if you suspect that your sickness is because of a pattern of unrepentant sin in your life.**
 - James 5:14-18
- **Use the means God has provided in His common grace.**
 - Col. 4:14 – doctors
 - 1 Tim. 5:23 – medicines

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III. A Biblical Response to Sickness

- **Pray for health & healing if it is according to His sovereign will and most promoting of His glory.**
- Hezekiah
 - Is. 38:16 - "O Lord, by *these* things *men* live, And in all these is the life of my spirit; O restore me to health and let me live!
- Paul
 - 2 Cor. 12:8 - Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me.
- John
 - 3 John 2 - Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers.

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III. A Biblical Response to Sickness

- **Accept God's providential plan.**
 - Job 2:9-10
 - 2 Cor. 12:7-10

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