

God Heals – Healing Is His Nature

Dr. John Carmichael

[Exo 15:22-26 NASB95] 22 Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness and found no water. 23 When they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter; therefore it was named Marah. 24 So the people grumbled at Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?" 25 Then he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree; and he threw [it] into the waters, and the waters became sweet. There He made for them a statute and regulation, and there He tested them. 26 And 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."

[Mat 4:23 NASB95] 23 Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people.

- In my healing journey, before the miracle of my son's survival, the Lord told me to "study nothing but healing." Yahweh revealed Himself to me as Healer before the crisis came. A pattern of His faithfulness.
- Israel had just crossed the Red Sea; free from Pharaoh but now facing bitter waters at Marah. It's here, not at Sinai, that God first reveals Himself as Yahweh-Rapha, "... for I, the LORD, am your healer."
- Healing was not given as a luxury. It was a revelation of God's covenant identity. Before He gave commandments, He gave character: He is the God who heals.

What do we need to know about divine healing and the nature of Jesus?

Here are four truths about divine healing and the nature of Jesus.

- I. Healing Is a Revelation of God's Character ([Exo 15:26 NASB95] 26 And 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.")**
 - Healing Is God's Name, Not Just His Action
 - The Hebrew Yahweh-Rapha means "the Lord who restores, who stitches back together."
 - This was the first covenant name revealed after redemption from Egypt. Healing flows from covenant relationship.
 - God didn't say, "I might heal you." He said, "I AM the Lord who heals you."
 - Healing Demonstrates His Unchanging Nature
 - "For I am the Lord, I do not change." ([Mal 3:6 NASB95] 6 "For I, the LORD, do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed.)
 - The same God who healed at Marah heals through Jesus today.
 - Healing is not a temporary expression of mercy. It's a permanent expression of His identity.
 - See Jesus not only as Savior and Provider, but as Healer. You don't have to convince Yahweh to heal; you just need to come into agreement with His nature.
- II. Healing Is Revealed in the Ministry of Jesus ([Mat 4:23 NASB95] 23 Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of**

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the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people.)

- a. Jesus Is the Perfect Revelation of the Father
 - i. Jesus said, "He who has seen Me has seen the Father." ([Jhn 14:9 NASB95] 9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and [yet] you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how [can] you say, 'Show us the Father'?)
 - ii. Everything Jesus did revealed Yahweh's heart, including healing.
 - iii. Matthew 4:23 shows His ministry pattern: teach, preach, heal: information, proclamation, and demonstration.
- b. Healing Was Central, Not Peripheral
 - i. Jesus healed "every kind of disease and sickness." No exceptions.
 - ii. He did not just teach about heaven; He made heaven touch earth.
 - iii. Trevor Grizzle wrote that "preaching and healing were interwoven and inseparable."
- c. The Church must return to Jesus' model. Teaching without healing is incomplete. We must be both Word-centered and Spirit-empowered.

III. Healing Is Rooted in the Covenant of the Cross ([Isa 53:5 NASB95] 5 But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being [fell] upon Him, And by His scourging we are healed.)

- a. Healing Is in the Atonement
 - i. Jesus bore our sins and sicknesses ([Mat 8:17 NASB95] 17 [This was] to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet: "HE HIMSELF TOOK OUR INFIRMITIES AND CARRIED AWAY OUR DISEASES.").
 - ii. The same blood that forgives sin carries healing for the body.
 - iii. My research has shown that the atonement removes both the cause (sin) and the consequence (sickness).
- b. Healing Reveals the Kingdom's Power
 - i. When the Church prays for the sick, it announces that the curse is broken ([Gal 3:13 NASB95] 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE").
 - ii. Healing is a foretaste of the coming Kingdom—where no sickness will remain ([Rev 22:2 NASB95] 2 in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve [kinds of] fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.).
- c. Believers believe for healing as boldly as you believe for forgiveness. It comes from the same cross.

IV. Healing Is the Church's Continuing Ministry ([Mar 16:18 NASB95] 18 they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly [poison,] it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.)

- a. Healing Is Part of the Great Commission
 - i. Jesus' command to heal wasn't a suggestion; it was a continuation of His ministry ([Mat 10:8 NASB95] 8 "Heal [the] sick, raise [the] dead, cleanse [the] lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give.).
 - ii. The Church that teaches and preaches must also heal.
- b. Healing Builds Faith and Witness
 - i. When people see God's power, they open their hearts to the Gospel ([Act 9:34-35 NASB95] 34 Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you; get up and

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make your bed." Immediately he got up. 35 And all who lived at Lydda and Sharon saw him, and they turned to the Lord.).

- ii. A healing church is a growing church: spiritually and numerically.
- c. Challenge the congregation: North Church must be known as a house of healing. When the sick walk in, they should expect to encounter Yahweh-Rapha.

- **Because Yahweh's nature is to heal, His people can confidently expect wholeness: spirit, soul and body, through Christ, our Healer.**
- **Divine healing is not optional theology. It's an essential revelation.**
- **If we remove healing from the Gospel, we misrepresent the heart of Yahweh.**
- **The world is desperate for a church that preaches a whole Gospel to whole people.**

Altar: