

## What is Divine Healing?

The mode of healing can vary, but let's face it, all healing is divine. Healing might come with the aid of medicine, surgery or therapy. It may come by a creative miracle, prayer or fasting. But, no matter how healing comes, it ALL comes from The Healer.

The general Christian community accepts healing from medical intervention, however, much of the body is skeptical of healing through the laying on of hands manifesting in miracles, signs and wonders. Leaving us with the question, "does the Lord still supernaturally heal today?" Many Christians will pray for healing and then tack on a disclaimer at the end, "if it's God's will." By the end of this article I hope to have explained to you why I believe it is ALWAYS God's will to heal.

Let us start with a few fundamental scripture references and see what God says about healing.

Psalm 103:3 *"who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases."*

Isaiah 53:5 *"But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed."*

I Peter 2:24b *"by His wounds you have been healed."*

Matthew 14:36b *"and all who touched Him were healed."*

How many people coming to Jesus in His time of earthly ministry for healing were actually healed? ALL OF THEM! Why? Because it is the Father's will to heal. Many believers struggle to know the will of God when most times the will of God is plainly shown to us in His Word. Healing is one of those instances. The above scriptures show us healing is God's will, not some of the time, but ALL of the time!

Let me address another angle. There are those who believe sickness and disease are part of suffering for Jesus. In 2 Corinthians 12:10 Paul refers to delighting in his weaknesses, hardships, persecutions and difficulties, because when he is weak, he is strong in the Lord. According to the context of this passage, I do not believe this is referring to sickness or infirmity, but rather the struggles that come from being a sold out follower of Christ in a world that does not readily accept the gospel of Christ.

I recently ran across a sermon implying cancer was a gift from God to make a person more reliant on Him and bring Him glory. Friends, I simply do NOT believe God gives cancer. In fact, I do not believe God gives any sickness. God simply does not give what He does not have. There is no infirmity in heaven and He tells us to pray, "*on earth as it is in heaven.*"

God is the giver of life. He sent His only Son to earth to die in our place to purchase abundant life. How many names of God speak to this attribute of life? He is the Bread of Life, Living Water, El Elohim (the Creator), Breath of Heaven, The Resurrection and the Life, the Word of Life, Fountain of Life, Jehovah Rapha (the Healer), The Way, The Truth, The Life...get the picture? He is LIFE!

If Jesus is Life, then who is death? John 10:10 clearly defines Satan as "*the thief who comes only to steal and kill and destroy.*" Satan is the destroyer, the thief, the deceiver, the father of lies. He is like a lion seeking whom he may devour. What does sickness do? It almost always robs, it sometimes destroys and many times it kills. Where does sickness originate? It originates with the fall of man. It is the result of living in a fallen world. It comes from the enemy through open sin doors, perhaps personally or generationally.

But there is hope! Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil! Not only did He come to die to secure our place in heaven, He came to deliver and heal us while we walk on this earth! This is part of the good news!

Let's go back and address the issue of God using sickness to bring Him glory. Friends, God can use anything! Romans 8:28 tells us He works all things together for our good for those who love Him. He is the Redeemer! He takes what Satan means for harm and turns it to good, which is exactly what we see time and time again when someone is struck with a life altering disease or near death experience. Their priorities change. When we hit our lowest of lows is when we are most desperate for a move of God in our life...and it is then He receives all the glory, honor and praise. In our place of brokenness and weakness His grace is sufficient!

One of my favorite pastors/writers is Bill Johnson from Bethel Church in Redding, California. Bill is highly anointed at delivering truth from the Word of God with simplicity and great revelation. He speaks of the questions regarding supernatural healing. Instead of trying to defend God and explain why people sometimes are not healed He simply replies, "*I chose not to empower the question, but rather the solution. The solution is Jesus.*"

We can focus on the questions. Many times I have prayed for mine or another's healing and it has not manifested how I would like to see it manifest. I do not have an answer to why some are not healed. I do not have an answer to why children are dying of cancer, why teenagers die in car accidents, why good people die at young ages leaving families here to mourn their passing. I could spend hours and days focused on this injustice resulting in depression and hopelessness or I can choose to focus on the Giver of Life, empowering His presence in my body and in the lives of those I minister to.

Recently a child of a family we know was facing death. Major organs were beginning to fail and the sad reality of the situation was he was not a good candidate for transplant because of the brain damage shown on recent tests. The family called on the body of Christ to pray for healing. Their son needed a miracle. Within a day or two the organs started to function properly and a transplant was no longer in the picture. Other issues arose and doctors came in and said the next 48 hours were critical. They gave the child a 1% chance of survival...1%. In other words they gave him a 99% chance of death...not odds you would want at a poker table, huh?

Those of you who follow my articles know they almost always have a confession. This article is no different. When I read the prognosis of 1% chance I have to admit, I was discouraged. Really discouraged is not a strong enough word...I just about gave up. I do not know the child or parents personally, but my heart broke for them. For a couple of hours my prayer for them was for the Lord to comfort them and give them peace. Then Holy Spirit gently reminded me the same power capable of raising Jesus from the dead was within me (John 14:12). Friends, my focus completely changed. I immediately got my fervor back. I have the upmost respect for doctors, but was I going to take their word over the word of my Lord who is King of Kings? I begin to pray and break off the curse of 1%, coming into agreement with the Lord and speaking life into the child's body in the name of Jesus Christ!

I was not alone in praying this way. Many on the webpage created to disperse updates commented and were praying for complete healing as well. Praise God He heard our cries and the child has continued to defy the medical odds stacked against him! I believe with all my heart I will be able to come back and add to this article a testimony of complete restoration and healing for this precious child!

I recently read Beni Johnson's *"The Happy Intercessor"*. Beni is Bill Johnson's wife and oversees the prayer ministry at Bethel Church. In her book she writes about

praying from a place of victory. She explains how we are either partnered with God or partnered with fear. Christ said on the cross, "*it is finished.*" Finished...as in He has done His part. Many pray for victory, when the victory has already been purchased on the cross! We can pray with confidence from a place of victory, coming into agreement with heaven!

After reading Beni's book the way I pray has changed dramatically. I have learned to approach the throne of grace with boldness as we are instructed to do in Hebrews. I come into agreement with heaven and say "NO" to the works of the enemy. I call forth the healing purchased by the blood of the Lamb, because I know this is the will of God. I choose to focus on Jesus and not the works of darkness...fully believing what we focus on we empower.

In conclusion I would like to say God does not need me to defend Him. He is NOT on trial. It is simply my desire to share with you the power of Christ, to encourage you in your walk with Him and to entice you to dive deeper into the Word and discover for yourself the will of God! As always I love to hear from you at [amydover@iggm.org](mailto:amydover@iggm.org)