

Divine Healing

Sermon Notes

2/5/2023

The Big Idea: You can believe God for healing.

Introduction

Back in 2003, my family and I were headed to Missouri to drop me off at college. Not long into the trip, my car broke down. We pulled over and my dad and I took a look and couldn't determine what the issue was, but we thought it might be bad. This was a very nerve wracking situation, but having my dad present at the moment gave me the confidence that we would get this sorted out and everything would be ok. Like a good father, my dad fixed things, not just objects, but situations. He seemed to always know what to do. That gave me confidence. We had the car towed and it was determined that my transmission was shot. The car wasn't worth the cost of repair. My dad couldn't fix the car, but he still fixed the situation.

We drove back home and got his SUV and proceeded on our trip. He let me use that SUV while I searched for another vehicle, even though he and my mom could definitely have used a spare vehicle much more than I needed it. Nevertheless, he gave it to me because he loves me. He fixes things.

This story reminds me of our Heavenly Father. If my dad loves me and fixes things, how much more does our Heavenly Father love us and how much greater is His ability to restore, to fix situations? Particularly, we're going to consider God's ability to fix our bodies through healing. This is the twelfth doctrine or foundational belief that we hold and it says: *Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement, and is the privilege of all believers.*

My goal is simply to help you understand that God still wants to heal and inspire you to believe Him for it. You can believe God for healing.

1. You should trust that God does heal and wants to heal.

- What we're talking about is not God's intervention through natural means, but supernatural means. James 5:14; 1 Corinthians 12:9
- As long as God continues to save He will continue to heal, spiritually and physically.
- Salvation is an ongoing work. Matthew 24:11-13; 1 Corinthians 1:18; Romans 5:9
- Since healing is tied to the atonement, it is an ongoing work as well. Isaiah 53:4-5

- While healing is provided in the atonement, that doesn't mean we see its final effect. In fact, we won't see the final effect of healing until the resurrection. Saying healing was provided in the atonement isn't to say that temporary healing in the present is always guaranteed, but that healing is possible and will be finalized at the resurrection.

2. You should avoid obstacles to healing.

- There are some attitudes and actions that can hinder healing:

Unrepentance-not every sickness is the direct result of a personal sin, but unrepented sin can be a roadblock to healing. James 5:15

Disobedience and lukewarm commitment to God.

Lack of faith. Mark 6:5-6

3. You should pray for healing.

- The Bible provides examples of people who approached Jesus in faith and asked for healing.
- James 5:14 instructs the sick to call for the elders of the church and they will pray in faith for healing.
- You should pray for healing, but don't be burdened by guilt as if it's your responsibility if it doesn't happen. Similarly, don't think that faith is a way of manipulating God.
- Have faith in God, not faith in faith.

Conclusion

You can believe God for healing. We don't control and we can't manipulate God to heal, but that doesn't mean that we can't trust Him. Divine healing was provided for us in the atonement of Jesus. When His blood was shed and He died on the cross, He paid the penalty for sin and provided for the healing of all its consequences, including physical healing.

God is a good Heavenly Father. While we don't understand all His ways, we can trust that He is good and we should approach Him with that kind of faith.