

More Biblical Perspectives from God's Word

The Healing Covenant

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I. Introductory Remarks.

The purpose of this lesson is to show you that healing is a part of God's divine nature that is being poured into the hearts of His people. It is also a part of the great covenants that God has established with His people throughout the ages. Healing was a part of the Old Covenant under the law and is also a part of the New Covenant under grace that was established through the blood of Jesus Christ.

- Healing under the **Old** Covenant.

Exodus 15:26 and said, "If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. **For I am the LORD who heals you.**"

- Healing under the **New** Covenant.

Matthew 8:16-17 When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, ¹⁷**that it might be fulfilled** which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses."

"What is God's will concerning healing in the church? Is healing still relevant today? Is healing a part of the atonement? Is it God's will to heal every time? Why we don't always receive our healing? These are just some of the questions that come up when the topic of healing comes up.

The purpose in this lesson to convince you through the divine harmony of God's Word that God wants all of His children healed and well, just as He wants everyone to come to repentance. It is His will that all be healed and experience healthy lives.

If we are to receive God's healing, we must be fully convinced that it is His will to heal. When there is doubt in your mind concerning healing, perfect faith cannot be exercised and as a result healing will not come forth.

Hebrews 11:6 *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*

Knowing God's will concerning the word of healing will provide you with a solid foundation and basis for your faith to be exercised and released so that you can receive the healing God has intended for you to enjoy.

II. **Historical** & Biblical Examples of Healing

1. The Passover Lamb, The Exodus And Healing – Exodus 12:1-14.

Exodus 12:3 *"Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying: 'On the tenth day of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of his father, a lamb for a household.'"*

Exodus 12:5-6 *'Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight.'*

- **Passover** as a type of our Great Salvation.

This is one of the great passages of Scripture in the Bible concerning the Covenant of Healing. The historical exodus of the nation of Israel leaving Egypt after partaking of the Passover Lamb is a type of the great salvation God has offered to us through Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God – the New Testament fulfillment of the Passover Lamb.

1 Corinthians 5:7 *Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed **Christ, our Passover**, was sacrificed for us.*

On the night that Israel came out of Egypt they were to take a lamb without blemish and kill it at twilight and then they were to spread the blood on the doorposts of their homes and eat the lamb.

Exodus 12:11 *'And thus you shall eat it: with a belt on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord's Passover.*

- **The Passover Lamb was for the healing of the nation of Israel.**

Psalm 105:37 *He also brought them out with silver and gold, and there was none feeble among His tribes.*

This is an amazing Scripture, because there must have been about three million people who came out of Egypt. It says there was not one feeble person among them, not one weak person or one sick person.

If that was true in Israel, for those people who were living under the Law, how much more true is it for us who are living under a New and better Covenant of grace, mercy and truth, who have been redeemed by the blood of God's perfect Lamb, Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 8:6 *But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises.*

- **God made a covenant with them saying, "I am the Lord who heals you."**

Exodus 15:26 *and said, "If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. **For I am the LORD who heals you.**"¹*

Here we see very clearly that the very nature of God has to do with healing. God says, "*I am the LORD who heals you.*" The word LORD is more correctly translated **Jehovah – Rapha**, which means "*I am the Lord your Physician, or I am the Lord who heals you.*" This name is given to reveal the redemptive privilege of being healed.

This privilege is provided for by the atonement. The prophet Isaiah prophesies concerning Christ and His work of atonement when he says, "*Surely He has borne our griefs (sicknesses), and carried our sorrows (pain).*"²

- **The First Covenant after the crossing of the Red Sea involved Healing.**

This was the first covenant God gave to the children of Israel after crossing the Red Sea. It was a covenant of healing, which is typical of our redemption as

¹ Isaiah 53:1-10

² Isaiah 53:4

well. As we shall see later in the lesson, healing is included in the Greek words “sozo” and “soteria” which are the words for salvation. Part of their salvation and deliverance from the Passover Lamb was healing.

- **The promise of healing has two parts: The conditions and the promise.**

The conditions were extended to Israel and all those who chose to come under the covenant of God as it was given to Moses. If these conditions were met the promise of healing took effect. If the children of Israel didn't live up to the conditions then they didn't receive the promise. The same is true for us under the New Covenant.

Under the New Covenant we observe the Passover feast in the partaking of the communion service, which is representative of the blood and the body of Christ.

Jesus instituted this during the Old Testament Feast of Passover prior to His death, burial and resurrection.

Matthew 26:26-28 *And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body."²⁷ Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you."²⁸ For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*

The Passover lamb that Israel partook of was a type of Jesus Christ, who is the Lamb of God, our Passover Lamb. Jesus, who is our Passover Lamb has come to heal the whole nation of spiritual Israel, for as 1 Corinthians 5:7 says,

Under the New Covenant we observe the Passover feast in the partaking of the communion service, which is representative of the blood and the body of Christ. Jesus instituted this during the Old Testament Feast of Passover prior to His death, burial and resurrection.

- **The conditions and promise of healing are evident in the New Covenant as well.**

1 Corinthians 11:29-30 *For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.³⁰ For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.*

Since Jehovah – Rapha is one of God's redemptive names, sealing the covenant

of healing, then Christ could no longer abandon His office of Healer than His other offices as revealed by His other redemptive names. The name, “The Lord Jesus Christ” encompasses all of God’s redemptive names.

It is God’s will for every Christian to be well and strong. As we believe in His Word and meet His conditions we shall experience Jehovah – Rapha our Healer healing our bodies and delivering us from all kinds of sicknesses and diseases. God is no respecter of persons.³ If God will heal anyone, He will heal you.

- **David understood the healing covenant.**

Psalm 103:2-4 *Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: ³Who forgives all your iniquities, **Who heals all your diseases**, ⁴Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies...*

When we keep the Word of God and keep our eyes upon Jesus Christ, healing will be ours continually.

- **Just as sin does not belong to us neither does sickness belong to us.**

It should have no part in the body of Christ. The Bible declares if the Word of God is in our life, there will be health, and there will be healing.

- **Very important – the balance.**

One very important thing to keep in mind while looking to God for healing is that we have not come into the fullness of our salvation yet, even though Christ has completed His part in the process. We are still pressing towards the mark. Just as we still have sin in us, even though Christ has paid the full price for our sin, we still have sickness at times as well. We are not perfect, but we continue to press forward for that which Christ has laid hold of for us!

Philippians 3:12 *Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.*

When you fail to get the victory over sin, do you say, “It’s God’s will for me to be in sin? No – of course not! Then why should we think that it might be God’s will for us to be sick when we are not healed?”

³ Acts 10:34

III. Healing and the Atonement

1. The Prophecy of Isaiah – Isaiah 53:1-10.

The prophet Isaiah gives us a wonderful glimpse into the life and ministry of the coming Messiah. This is a prophetic passage concerning the atoning work of Christ, the Messiah. In this prophecy he prophesies many things concerning the Messiah's ministry and all that He would go through on behalf of God's people, of which we find healing being very much a part of the atoning work of Christ.

Isaiah 53:4-6 Surely **He has borne our griefs** and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and **by His stripes we are healed**. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

(Griefs - 2483)⁴. choliy, khol-ee'; from H2470; malady, anxiety, calamity:--disease, grief, (is) sick (-ness). "Griefs" is literally "sicknesses."

Isaiah 53:10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; **He has put Him to grief**. When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days....

(Grief - 2470)⁴. chalah, khaw-law'; to be rubbed or worn; hence (fig.) to be weak, sick, afflicted; or to grieve, make sick; also to stroke (in flattering), entreat:--beseech, (be) diseased, (put to) grief, be grieved, (be) grievous, infirmity, intreat, lay to, put to pain, make prayer, be (fall, make) sick, sore, be sorry, make suit, woman in travail, be (become) weak, be wounded.

As we can see there are three very bold affirmative statements in this passage of Scripture that refer to healing being a part of the atoning work of Christ.

1. **Verse four: He has borne our griefs** – The word “**griefs**” means sicknesses, weaknesses and diseases.
2. **Verse five: by His stripes we are healed** – this includes emotional and physical healing.
3. **Verse ten: He has put Him to grief** – The Amplified version says, “*He has put Him to grief and made Him sick.*”

⁴ From Strong's Concordance

2 Corinthians 5:21 *For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.*

In the same sense that Jesus became sin for us that we might be righteous, **He also became diseased and sick for us that we might be healed and made totally whole.**

Healing is as much a part of the atoning work of Christ as the removal of sin. From both sin and sickness we have redemption through the precious blood that was shed and the stripes that Jesus bore for us. He took our sicknesses as well as our sins

2. The Testimony of Jesus **Fulfilling** the Atonement.

Matthew 8:16-17 *When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick,¹⁷ that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "**He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses.**"*

The above passage of Scripture very plainly illustrates to us that Jesus fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah 53 by healing all who came unto Him. It says, "*He took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses.*"

(bore - 941)⁵. bastazo, bas-tad'-zo; perh. remotely der. from the base of G939 (through the idea of removal); to lift, lit. or fig. (endure, declare, sustain, receive, etc.):--bear, carry, take up.

- Jesus was **committed** to healing all because of the healing covenant.

The Gospels reveal very clearly that throughout the ministry of Jesus, he carried out this commitment of healing to all who came unto Him.

Matthew 12:15 *But when Jesus knew it, He withdrew from there. And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them all.*

Matthew 14:36 *and begged Him that they might only touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched it were made perfectly well.*

Luke 6:19 *And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for power went out from Him and healed them all.*

⁵ From Strong's Concordance

- In Jesus' mind, **healing** and **forgiveness** were equal.

Mark 2:9 *"Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'?"*

The precious blood that was shed by Jesus and the stripes that He bore give us redemption from both sin and sickness, therefore in Jesus' mind He saw healing someone of sickness just as easy as forgiving someone of their sins. Sin and sickness came into the world through the fall of mankind, therefore we must look for the healing of both in the Savior.

- Since Christ "bore our sins", how many is it God's will to forgive? ***"Whoever believes."***
- Since Christ "bore our sickness", how many is it God's will to heal? ***"He healed them all."***
- Peter sees healing as something that has already been **accomplished**.

1 Peter 2:24 *...who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness; by whose stripes you were healed.*

This, once again, shows that healing is very much a part of the atonement of Jesus Christ.

- The same Bible that invites whosoever to be forgiven of his sins also invites any to be healed of their sicknesses.
- The same Christ that always forgives sins, always healed sicknesses.
- The same Scripture that says, 'who Himself bore our sins in His own body' also says, 'by whose stripes you were healed.'
- The same Scripture that says who forgives all your iniquities also says who heals all your diseases.

Healing is simply the salvation of Jesus Christ having its divine action in a man's body the same as it had its divine action in a man's soul.

3. The Greek words for salvation or saved show that healing is a part of the atonement.

“**Sozo**” (verb) and “**Soteria**” (noun) are the two Greek words that are used for the term salivation or saved.

4982. sozo, sode'-zo; from a prim. sos (contr. for obsol. saos, "safe"); to save, i.e. deliver or protect (lit. or fig.):--heal, preserve, save (self), do well, be (make) whole.⁴

4991. soteria, so-tay-ree'-ah; fem. of a der. of G4990 as (prop. abstr.) noun; rescue or safety (phys. or mor.):--deliver, health, salvation, save, saving.⁴

- **We must draw from the wells of Salvation.**

Few understand that the terms salvation and saved affect the whole man, not just man’s ultimate destiny. The waters of salvation run deeper than most of us realize. It is our responsibility to draw from those waters, that all our needs may be met according to His riches in glory.

Isaiah 12:3 *Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.*

The chart below shows you how these two words are translated in the New Testament.

Health	Healed	Preserved	Do Well
Acts 27:34	Acts 14:9	2 Timothy 4:18	John 11:12
	Mark 5:23		
	Luke 8:36		
Be whole	Made whole	Saved – Save	Salvation
Matthew 9:21-22	Mark 6:56	Mark 8:35, 16:16	Romans 1:16
Mark 10:52`	Mark 15:30-31	Romans 1:10	2 Timothy 3:15
Luke 8:48-50	Luke 9:56	2 Timothy 3:15	
	Luke 18:42	1 Corinthians 1:21	
		1 Timothy 1:15, 2:15	
		James 5:15	
		Mark 16:16	

III. Abraham’s Example of Applying Faith to the Covenant.

Abraham is called the Father of our Faith for a reason. I believe it is because he

understood the correlation between faith and the covenant God had made with Him.

Genesis 22:2 *Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and **offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.**"*

1. Abraham's **Confession** of Faith.

Genesis 22:5 *And Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and **we will come back to you.**"*

Genesis 22:8 *And Abraham said, "My son, **God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.**" So the two of them went together.*

Genesis 22:13 *Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.*

2. God's Promise to Abraham.

Abraham simply based his confession of faith on the covenant God had already made with him rather than the circumstances he found himself in.

Genesis 17:7 *"And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you.*

Genesis 17:19 *Then God said: "No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; **I will establish My covenant with him** for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him.*

3. Abraham Was Fully **Convinced**.

Romans 4:20-21 *He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, ²¹and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.*

IV. Concluding Remarks.

In this lesson we have covered a number of areas concerning the word of

healing. The main objective was to see how healing is a part of the atoning work of Christ and how it is to be implemented into our lives.

- **Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever.**

It is God's will to heal all who come to him today just as it was during the ministry of Jesus almost 2000 years ago.

With this in mind we should always have perfect liberty in Christ to expect to be healed, with an understanding that if we are not, we should continually press towards the mark of the high calling in God in this area.

- **Pressing Toward the Goal**

Philippians 3:12-14 *Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. ¹³Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

