

## *Divine Healing, Purchased.*

October 2014

Dear Friend and Partner,

Isaiah 53:4,5: **Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.**

Matthew 8:17: **That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.**

1 Peter 2:24: **Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.**

3 John 2: **Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.**

Many dear Christians are struggling with trying to get healed. Most of them don't realize that Jesus has **already** taken their sicknesses and diseases. So, divine healing is a very controversial subject in the body of Christ. Usually, it's because they know somebody who they feel was a 'good' Christian, somebody who they think 'loved the Lord' and 'had a lot of faith,' who believed that God was going to heal them up to the point that they died from their illness.

Some people have very strong feelings and opinions that 'God doesn't always heal.' I've had people come to services who just couldn't wait to be confrontational over this very subject. They didn't listen to the scriptures that were read, they were only interested in expressing their views and opinions. I've had them say things such as: "My mother was a good mother, and God never did heal her." In response, I've said things like: "Where does it say in the Bible that if your mother is good, she'll have a better chance of getting healed? God bless your mother; I don't know anything about her, but the fact of your mother not receiving her healing does not change 1 Peter 2:24. If no one gets healed, it still doesn't change the truth of God's Word!"

Ephesians 2:8,9: **For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.** You can't get anything from God because you're good. You can't earn it. Everything that God gives is on a **gift basis**. You'll receive everything from God **by faith**. You cannot earn anything from God. Somehow, Christians have a real hard time believing that it doesn't make any difference who you are or how good you are. Satan will kill you with sickness and disease if you don't stop him (Luke 10:19, Ephesians 4:27, James 4:7, 1 Peter 5:8,9).

**Numbers 12:1-15:** And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman. And they said, Hath the LORD indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the LORD heard it. (Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.) And the LORD spake suddenly unto Moses, and unto Aaron, and unto Miriam, Come out ye three unto the tabernacle of the congregation. And they three came out. And the LORD came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth. And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream. My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house. With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses? And the anger of the LORD was kindled against them; and he departed. And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous. And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and wherein we have sinned. Let her not be as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he cometh out of his mother's womb. And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee. And the LORD said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again. And Miriam was shut out from the camp seven days: and the people journeyed not till Miriam was brought in again. Read also Exodus 15:20.

Miriam was a prophetess, tambourinist, singer, and dancer. Today, she'd probably be heading the worship team! But she opened herself up to the curse of sickness. Miriam was not afraid to criticize Moses. God said she wasn't. The implication is that she should have been afraid to say anything about anyone. She criticized who Moses married. Now, your mother may be a nice person, but has she ever criticized anyone for who they married? There's a reason why believers get sick. Usually this is the number one way they open the door to the devil. Your life is going to get a lot better if you keep your mouth shut. You can say anything you want to say, but if you judge anyone, you're going to open the door to the devil to 'put the hurts on you.'

Jesus said in Matthew 7:1,2: **Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.**

Romans 2:1-4: **Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things. But we are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things. And thinkest thou this, O man, that judgest them which do such things, and doest the same, that thou shalt escape the judgment of God? Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?**

Romans 14:4: **Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he**

shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.

Galatians 6:1: **Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.**

1 Peter 3:7-12: **Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered. Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it. For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.**

There's always a cause for sickness. 1 Corinthians 11:30 says, **For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.** As a believer, if you want to walk in divine health, you can't say anything about anybody. Christians have gotten to the place that if they're sick, they believe it's not their fault. Or they think they didn't deserve it or that they didn't do anything wrong. They get the victim mentality. Well, Miriam got sick, and it **was** her fault. And all these testimonies and events that took place in the Old Testament are recorded, according to 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 for our admonition. Read it, along with Hebrews 3:7– Hebrews 4:2.

The scriptures teach us that what happened to these people could happen to the church. Thank God for medical science and all the help they've been to humanity, but there will always be diseases that mankind cannot cure. So, stay built up in all the promises in your New Covenant. The first thing you want to do when sickness, worry, fear, pain, or depression come to you is to refuse, resist, and not accept them, because it's never God's will that you be sick.

Almost all churches believe that God can heal, **but they also believe that He does not always heal.** In regard to receiving divine healing, it's not up to God; it's up to you. The first thing is don't get sick. If you do, start resisting it with your mouth. Put more time in God's Word than you've been doing. By doing so, you'll be building up your confidence. What God believes about healing is 1 Peter 2:24: **...by whose stripes ye were healed.**

There is no such thing in the New Testament about getting spiritually healed. When you got born again, you didn't get spiritually healed. Actually, you didn't become forgiven then, either, because Jesus had already taken your sins. You became a new creature in Christ Jesus (John 1:29; Romans 5:1,9; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21).

God doesn't want us to be sick; God doesn't want us to sin. He's got a cure for both of them: **Jesus**. All Jesus suffered on the cross He did for you, and every single person in the world. God does not want you to have any kind of pain. Jesus bore your pains...all of them! Jesus took emotional and physical pain; He took every kind of pain!

I've had preachers tell me, *"If God wants me to be healed, why doesn't He just go ahead and heal me?"* I'm going to answer this question, but before I do, I'm going to tell you this: **Don't ever talk that way about God and don't even let your mind think that way about God! Always show God the utmost respect, and never take sides against God's Word!** No matter how you and I feel, God says we're healed. So, we never question what God says about us, or what God says we are. God's Word is holy, because He's holy, and He and His Word are one. **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.** John 1:1

We accept God's Word as truth, and as the final authority. Regardless of your current circumstances, show God that you believe His Word by saying what God's Word says about you. We say we are what God's Word says about us, no matter how much guilt and condemnation is facing us. You receive what God has promised you by thanking Him for it.

And back to the question that critics of divine healing ask: *"If God wants sick people healed, why doesn't He just go ahead and heal them?"* **The same reason He just doesn't go ahead and save someone!** God is not willing that any should perish (2 Peter 3:9). God has done all He can do about it, and now it's up to the individual to receive Jesus Christ. Jesus suffered a lot for you so that you could receive your healing, and live in divine health.

But you cannot be lazy with God's Word (Prov. 4:20-22). You want to read your healing scriptures night and day to build up your confidence that you are what His Word says you are. In your heart, you're going to know if you're confident or not, but it isn't something you want to play games with. Remember, 1 Peter 2:24 says **...by whose stripes ye were healed.**

God wants you healed and whole. Someone might say, *"Br. Rich, that's not how I interpret it."* Well first of all, I didn't interpret it. I just read it to you, and you don't have a right to private interpretation of God's Word! (2 Peter 1:17-21). Christians who talk that way, whether they realize it or not, are avoiding the responsibility of using their authority in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. It's convenient to say *'That's not how I believe.'* But it's very dangerous, because you'll never stop Satan with believing and talking like that (Matt. 11:12, Matt. 12:29, Matt. 16:19, Matt. 18:19, Eph. 6:10-19).

**If you'd like to have our Divine Healing scripture sheet and CD on Divine Healing, we will send it to you when you request it in writing with your offering of \$25 or more.**

God bless, your Word of faith pastor,

*Pastor Jesse Rich*