

God's Best for us is His Word

God's best for us today is in His Word, and we've got to get into the Word. Religion came along, and got us to lay aside our faith, dominion and authority, and just let everything be up to God. Religion says, *"Let the will of the Lord be done."*

A Case of Believing Religion over the Word

One time I went to visit a lady who'd apparently come to one of my seminars, and didn't like what I said and left. Finally, someone called and said she wanted me to visit her. The hospital had sent her home to die with cancer. She had a huge, dimly-lit home. I'd come in out of the snow, so when I got in the house, I could hardly see. They led me down a long hallway to a little room that looked like a den or sewing room that they'd converted into her bedroom.

She was in a twin bed pushed against the wall next to a tall window with a large sill. She was smoking in bed when I arrived, and got embarrassed because I came and saw her smoking. She was trying to hide her cigarette, so I turned until she could get rid of it.

She turned her television off, and I began talking to her -- just small talk at first. She'd been a member of a historical church for years -- her parents and grandparents had been members of the church all their lives. They lived as members and died as members. Well, you're liable to die and go to hell the member of a church, too, if you don't receive Jesus. I was trying to feel her out about where she stood with God. Finally, I asked her, *"Has your minister been here to see you?"*

She said, *"Oh, yeah, Brother Rich, he just left. I'm surprised you didn't see him on the way out."* I thought, *'As dark as the hallway was, we could have passed each other and not even see each other!'* Then, I asked, *"What did he say?"*

She was all skin and bones and looked kind of scared. She shrank down into the mattress and said, *"Well, he said it was God's will that I have this cancer."* I said, *"Well, sister, what do you believe?"* With that, she got even more scared and intimidated and shrank down even more into her mattress. She said, *"I believe it's God's will that I be sick."*

She had all kinds of prescriptions from her five medical doctors lined up on her windowsill. I picked up as many of those prescriptions as I could, and I said, "Sister, you're a liar." She looked at me shocked. I said, "If you believe that it's God's will that you be sick, why are you taking all of this medication if you believe God put this cancer on you? What are you going to the hospital and to the doctor for?"

Thank God for hospitals and thank God for medicine and doctors, but she's saying it's God's will for her to be this way. If it is God's will, why are you trying to get out of it? Did your pastor/minister/priest pray the prayer of faith?

I said, "We can't get you healed if you believe it's God's will that you be this way. If God wanted you to be sick, then why are you trying to get out of it? And if God wanted you to be sick, why did He lay your sicknesses and diseases upon Jesus so you could be free? You've been listening to all these other things, and now you're in the situation that you're trying to build your house in the storm. It's not that it's impossible. With God, all things are possible, but He's always going to work according to your faith."

When she had come to my meeting to try the message out, she didn't know she was sick. Then, the cancer just took over. Cancer doesn't work a few minutes a day-- that disease is going to work on you night and day. That's why we've got to stay in the Word of God. First of all, we've got to keep ourselves built up so that we don't receive anything like that. And if a person does get themselves in that situation, they need to stay married to the Word of God. Don't do anything else, just stay in the Word 24/7.

That wasn't something she wanted to do. She had already made her choice. She chose not to believe God always heals, and she chose not to believe that sickness comes from the devil. But we have to realize that it was Satan who smote Job with sore boils: **So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.** Job 2:7

Jesus said in Luke 13:16, **And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?** This lady had been bowed over for eighteen years, like a hunchback. Jesus came and laid hands on her, and she got healed.

Acts 10:38 says, **How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.**

If a believer -a *born-again child of God* - does not use their spiritual authority, and does counter Satan's attacks and talk back to Satan, they'll end up dying prematurely with something they'll wish to God that they never died with. We need to realize that God wants us to walk in divine health.

It's not what God can do that we're going to get. It's what we can believe God for. It's always going to be according to our faith.

We need to build up our faith, and faith comes by hearing the Word.

Someone might say, "*Oh, I've heard the Word, I've heard the Scriptures.*" Are you acting accordingly? Are you doing the Word? God intended for every believer to walk in divine health.

Ever since the book of Acts and on down through the years, we've had people not receiving divine healing, so ministers started making up excuses like God doesn't always heal. That excuse has been in the church for the last couple thousand years.

We have not heard that God doesn't always save. If we've ever heard anything about salvation, we've always heard that it's God's will for everyone to be saved. But for the last couple thousand years, we've always heard, and people have always proclaimed that God does not always heal. Why? Because they prayed for someone, or ministered to someone, and that person didn't get healed.

When a person doesn't get healed after being prayed for, it doesn't mean that it wasn't God's will to heal them. It doesn't mean they can't receive healing, and it doesn't mean God doesn't want them healed, it just simply means they failed to receive. And when a believer fails to receive, they need to get into God's Word to find out why and where they missed it.

If you have a favorite radio program you listen to every day, and one day you turn it on and it's not there, you check the tuner. You wouldn't call up that radio station and tell them they're not transmitting today. You would just assume that someone changed your dial, or somehow it got bumped to another station, and you'd check that first. Well, spiritually speaking, we need to check up on ourselves. 2 Corinthians 13:5 says, **Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?**

God doesn't miss it. He's never failed one time. There's not one promise in the Word of God that God's ever failed to come through on. What we've had is **people failing**. So we need to keep ourselves walking in the God kind of love, being led by the Holy Spirit, and walking by faith. So often, a dear believer is counting on someone else to do their spiritual work for them and they don't do any spiritual work themselves.

Each one of us, as believers, has got to take authority over the devil. When sickness, pain, fever, or anything else comes to you, or your family or loved ones, immediately say, *"Oh no, Satan, you can't put that on us. We're redeemed from the curse of law, and no plague will come nigh our dwelling, for it is written..."* Then just quote what is written.

Follow the example of Jesus. Just do the Word of God. Jesus talked to the devil. He told us to resist the devil. He said in Ephesians 4:27, **Neither give place to the devil.**

We, as believers, always need to make sure we walk in the God-kind of love and make sure we don't hold anything against anyone. You won't walk in divine health if you have ought, bitterness, or resentment against any one, or if you sow discord among the body of Christ. You cannot do these things, and at the same time, enjoy the benefits of being a child of God. The first thing you lose when you sow discord or get out of love is your divine protection.

We have to keep confessing what the Word says over and over again. Say things like, *He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most high shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty, I will say He is my refuge and my fortress, my God in Him will I trust. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.* As we say the Word, faith will rise in our heart.

God gets blamed for every person that dies sick. He gets blamed for every hurricane, every tornado, and it was not God that did it. It wasn't God that caused it! It is man's failure for not doing the Word of God. We have authority over the devil. Jesus took authority over these things. Why shouldn't we? We were given His Name. Jesus said, right before he left in John 14:12, **Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.**

If Jesus went to His Father, as He said He would, He's at the right hand of God the Father. If He's at the right hand of the Father, we've got authority in this world in the Name of Jesus. Adam and Eve didn't use their dominion, they didn't use their authority, and they died over it. And every born-again child of God that doesn't learn to resist the devil, and doesn't stand against Satan, and doesn't take authority over him, ends up forfeiting their blessings.

I look forward to sharing more with you tomorrow. Remember that God wishes above all things that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers (3 John 2).

Your Word of faith pastor,

Pastor Jesse Rich

**Jesse Rich Ministries
P.O. Box 237170
New York, NY 10023**

PHONE: (212) 501-7999

Email: www.JesseRichMinistries.com/contact.htm

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