

LESSON 1 – GOD'S WILL CONCERNING HEALING

Lesson Objective: Based on scripture, to establish that it is always God's will to heal.

I. Introduction

a. The integrity of God's Word – what does integrity mean?

1: firm adherence to a code of especially moral or artistic values : INCORRUPTIBILITY

2: an unimpaired condition : SOUNDNESS

3: the quality or state of being complete or undivided : COMPLETENESS

Synonyms see HONESTY¹

i. **Numbers 23:19** - *God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?*²

ii. **Psalms 89:34** - *My covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that has gone out of My lips.*

iii. **Malachi 3:6** - *"For I am the LORD, I do not change;*

b. Discuss the above scriptures: God does not lie, change, nor break His covenant, ever.

c. The will of God will never contradict the Word of God. Therefore, what does the Word of God say about healing?

II. What does the Word say about healing in the Old Testament?

a. Healing from God is as old as the human race -

i. God healed Abimelech, his wife, and slave girls so they could have children. (*From Genesis 20:17*)

ii. God healed Miriam of leprosy when Moses cried out to God (*From Numbers 12:10-13*)

iii. God healed Hezekiah when he turned his face to the wall (*From 2 Kings 20:1-3, & 5*)

b. God established His covenant of healing through Moses

Exodus 15:26 "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 "integrity." Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary. 2009. Merriam-Webster Online. 2 December 2009 <<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/integrity>>

² All Scripture is from the New King James Version / Blue Letter Bible. 1996-2009. 2 Dec 2009.

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- c. Isaiah prophesied of the healing that Jesus would take on the cross

Isaiah 53:4-5 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.

- d. **Key point** – God healed throughout the Old Testament, and established the coming healing ministry of Jesus.

III. What does the Word say about healing in the New Testament?

- a. Jesus only did what He saw and heard the Father doing
 - i. John 5:19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.
 - ii. In John 5:30, He states, "I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me."
 - iii. John 8:28-29 ...and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."
- b. Jesus went about teaching, preaching, and healing, therefore it was the Father's will that Jesus preach, teach, and heal.
 - i. Matthew 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, **teaching** in their synagogues, **preaching** the gospel of the kingdom, and **healing** all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.
 - ii. Matthew 9:35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, **teaching** in their synagogues, **preaching** the gospel of the kingdom, and **healing** every sickness and every disease among the people.
- c. Discuss - Jesus did what God wanted Him to do, nothing more and nothing less. One third of Jesus' ministry was healing.
- d. Jesus fulfilled the law/As God healed in the Old Testament, so Jesus fulfilled in the New Testament.
 - i. What Isaiah prophesied in Chapter 53, is fulfilled in Christ, Matthew 8:14-17

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Vs. 14 - Now when Jesus had come into Peter's house, He saw his wife's mother lying sick with a fever.

Vs. 15 - So He touched her hand, and the fever left her. And she arose and served them.

Vs. 16 - 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,

Vs. 17 - that it might be **fulfilled** which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses."

- e. **Key point** – It is God's will that Jesus healed, therefore it is God's will for us to be healed.
 - f. **Hebrews 13:8** - *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.*
 - g. Jesus came to heal.
 - i. **John 10:10** - ...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.
 - ii. **Acts 10:38** - 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.
- IV. What does the Word say about healing for followers of Jesus?
- a. Jesus gave authority to believers
 - i. **Matthew 28:18 & 19** - And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All **authority** has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **Go** therefore and make disciples..."
 - ii. **Mark 16:15 & 20** - And He said to them, "**Go** into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ...And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with [them] and confirming the word through the accompanying signs.
 - b. Peter, Paul, and James minister/instruct the church regarding healing
 - i. **Acts 5:14 & 15** - And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of **Peter** passing by might fall on some of them.
 - ii. **Acts 19:11 & 12** - Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of **Paul**, so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.
 - iii. **James 5:14** - Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.
 - c. Peter looks back at the cross and proclaims healing by the stripes of Jesus.

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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.

- d. **Key point** – Jesus commissioned His followers to minister healing to others. Believers are the vessels that God uses to heal others. We do not do the healing. God is the Healer, and God is still in the healing business!

V. Conclusion

- a. Based on the integrity of the Word of God, it is God's will that we are healed.
- b. Jesus paid a costly price for our healing at the cross of Calvary.
- c. God healed in the Old Testament, God healed through Jesus and His followers in the New Testament, and God continues to heal through His believers today.

