

2. Divine Healing in God's Covenant

www.victory.net.nz 23.07.2023
www.youtube.com/c/VictoryChristianCentre

Subtitle: Forget not all His Benefits

We are journeying through a series of messages & take a fresh look at divine healing in the covenant that God's has established with us.

As Bible-believing Christians we believe in the full redemptive acts of Jesus Christ that He achieved through His sacrificial suffering & death on the Cross.

God makes covenants with His people, and enshrines certain blessings within those covenants, so we can have faith, confidence & certainty about His promises, including His promises on healing.

In other words, God does not heal people randomly. He heals according to His covenant promises.

1. Jesus heals a covenant woman

Luke 13:10–13 (NKJV) *Now He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. 11 And behold, **there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity** eighteen years, and **was bent over and could in no way raise herself up.** 12 But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, “**Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity.**” 13 And **He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.***

- Jesus interrupted His teaching session to heal a woman with a back issue
- Today people would say: This woman has a severe back problem
- But the bible says: She had a spirit of infirmity
- Jesus said to the woman: *You are loosed from your (spirit of) infirmity*
- Vs. 13... *He laid His hands on her, & immediately she was made straight*
- *... and she glorified God*
- Vs. 17 *...all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him*

Luke 13:14-17 (NKJV) *But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and **he said to the crowd**, “**There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day.**” 15 The Lord then answered*

him and said, “Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead it away to water it? **16 So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound—think of it—for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?” **17** And when He said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him.**

- ...the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation (very displeased)
- ...he said to the crowd, “There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day
- Vs. 15 The Lord then answered him ...
- Vs. 16 ... ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound—think of it—for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath
- **Notice the phrase: ... being a daughter of Abraham ...**
- **This means: She is a covenant woman, and she has covenant rights**
- God had made a covenant with Abraham who became the father of the Jewish people
- Being an offspring of Abraham, this Jewish woman, by inheritance, was in a covenant with God
- God’s covenant with Abraham & his descendants is a covenant of grace & benevolence

It is interesting to note that:

- The ruler of the synagogue was thinking “work”
- But Jesus was thinking “heal this woman”
- The ruler of the synagogue was thinking “rules”
- But Jesus was thinking “covenant”
- The ruler of the synagogue was thinking “to condemn”
- But Jesus was thinking “to heal and deliver from bondage”
- The ruler of the synagogue was thinking “this woman is not good enough”
- But Jesus was thinking “this covenant woman needs to be healed”

2. Covenant benefits include forgiveness of sins & healing of the body

Psalm 103:1–5 (NKJV) *Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! 2 Bless the Lord, **O my soul, and forget not all His benefits**: 3 **Who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases,** 4 **who redeems your life from destruction, who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,** 5 **who satisfies your mouth with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.***

- Psalm 103 is a psalm of David where he speaks to his own soul
- David says: *Bless the Lord, O my soul, & forget not all His benefits*
- **What benefits was he talking about?**
- **He was talking about covenant benefits!**
- David was also an offspring of Abraham, and as an Israelite by inheritance, he had a covenant with God
- What were the covenant benefits:
 - ... *who forgives all your iniquities* - forgiveness of sins
 - ... *who heals all your diseases* - healing of the body
- Vs. 4. ... *who crowns you with lovingkindness*
 - Lovingkindness - Heb. checed – unfailing covenant love, loyal love
 - God's love for us does not fluctuate according to whim or feelings, but it is constant and steadfast based on His covenant commitment
 - Furthermore, His willingness to heal us is not based on our performance, but on His covenant commitment and promises

3. Jesus heals the daughter of a non-covenant woman

Mark 7:24–30 (NKJV) *From there He arose and went to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And He entered a house and wanted no one to know it, but He could not be hidden. 25 For a woman whose young daughter had an unclean spirit heard about Him, and she came and fell at His feet. 26 **The woman was a Greek, a Syro-Phoenician by birth, and she kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter.** 27 But Jesus said to her, "Let the children be filled first, for it is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." 28 And she answered and said to Him, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs under the table eat from the children's crumbs." 29 Then He said to her, "For this saying go your way; the demon has gone out of your daughter." 30 And when she had come to her house, she found the demon gone out, and her daughter lying on the bed.*

- Jesus visited the Phoenician region of Tyre & Sidon (north of Israel)

- A Syro-Phoenician woman asked him to cast a demon out of her daughter
- *But Jesus said to her, “Let the children be filled first ...*
 - He refers to God’s covenant people Israel
 - “Healing is the children’s bread”
- *it is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the little dogs*
 - this refers to all non-covenant people outside of Israel

Matthew 15:24 (NKJV) *But He answered and said, “I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”*

- Jesus’ primary mission, during His earthly ministry, was towards the Jewish people
- Of course, in His death, He paid the price for the salvation of all people

Romans 1:16 (NKJV) *For I am not ashamed of **the gospel of Christ**, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, **for the Jew first and also for the Greek.***

- The gospel was first preached to the Jews, and then to the non-Jews
- God wants everybody saved and healed, but He started with the Jews
- The Syro-Phoenician woman did not have a covenant with God, but God healed her anyway

In summary:

- Jesus called the covenant woman with back trouble to Him to heal her
- The Syro-Phoenician woman came to Jesus, and would not leave until she had obtained the deliverance and healing for her daughter
- Jesus called her persistence “great faith”

Matthew 15:28 (NKJV) *Then Jesus answered and said to her, “**O woman, great is your faith!** Let it be to you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed from that very hour.*