



The Battle for Healing

Lesson Objective:

The objective of this lesson is to inspire the quest for more of God and the favor of His anointing to heal "All" who would come to Jesus for healing. We will deal with the sources and causes of sickness with the battle for the reality of what Jesus purchased, bought and paid for, being our salvation; deliverance and healing.

Key Scripture:

Luke 6:19 *And all the people were trying to touch Him, for power was coming from Him and healing them all.*

Anointed With the Holy Spirit and With Power

Matthew 4:23-24 ²³ *Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people.* ²⁴ *The news about Him spread throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all who were ill, those suffering with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, paralytics; and He healed them.*

Luke 6:19 ¹⁹ *And all the people were trying to touch Him, for power was coming from Him and healing them all.*

Acts 10:38 ³⁸ *"You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.*

Jesus raised the standard of normal Christianity when He healed all who came to Him.

Two thousand years ago Jesus left his church an example of what normal Christianity looked like. Under the anointing of the Holy Spirit Jesus healed **ALL** diseases, **ALL** types of sicknesses, and delivered the people from **ALL** kind of demons or spirits. In all that He said and did Jesus revealed the

nature of the Father, for He was the image of the Father to us. And out of a lifestyle of living in right relationship with His Father, he accurately and properly represented the Father. In doing the will of His Father, Jesus healed all who were sick and oppressed by the devil. And **ALL** who came to Jesus were healed. Why was Jesus able to heal all? Because, God was with Him. It is the nature of God to be a healer.

Commissioned With Power and Authority

Luke 9:1-2 ¹ And He called the twelve together, and gave them power and authority over all the demons and to heal diseases. ² And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to perform healing.

Luke 10:1-2 ¹ After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. ² He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. (NIV)

Luke 10:17-22 ¹⁷ The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name." ¹⁸ He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. ²⁰ However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." ²¹ At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure. ²² "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." (NIV)

Matthew 10:7-8 ⁷ "And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' ⁸ "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you received, freely give.

Matthew 28:18-20 ¹⁸ And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

The disciples of Christ are given His anointing to do His works, just like Him.

The same authority and power that Jesus ministered under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, Jesus now gives that authority and power to His disciples. In Matthew twenty-eight Jesus adds this to the commission, “make disciples of the nations and teach them how to minister just like I taught you.” Living in obedience to Christ is by preaching and teaching the message of the kingdom and in doing what Jesus did, just like Him. Discipleship is more than knowing all that the teacher knows. It is also demonstrated through a lifestyle that imitates Him.

Shift from the Truth

2 Timothy 3:1-5 ¹ But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. ² People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³ without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, ⁴ treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God-- ⁵ having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them. (NIV)

The early church did just what Jesus taught them to do. They healed the sick, cleansed the lepers, cast out devils, preached the gospel of the kingdom and impacted the nations of the world.

But something happened some time prior to the dark ages. The apostle Paul saw the warning signs of it in his day and began confronting those in the Church for holding to a form of godliness but denying its power. Paul made it very clear that the gospel of the kingdom was not presented in words alone, but with the demonstration of the Spirit and power.¹ Yet, the ways of the world with a religious spirit brought its influence into the church and she exchanged the glory of God for philosophies of men and lies of the enemy resulting in powerless Christianity.

If sickness was a means to righteousness and holiness, Jesus would had demonstrated victory through suffering through sickness.

In two thousand years there has been such a shift in the theology of the church as a whole that a large part of the body of Christ believes that God allows sickness to make us better people, to build character, and teach us lessons. They believe that those who pray for the sick are deceived by the devil. **If sickness were a means to righteousness and holiness, would not have Christ demonstrated a sickly lifestyle? Would not he had endured sickness like a champion?**

Somehow in today's theology God has taken over the devils job. It used to be that the devil came to steal, kill and destroy; now we give God the credit for it. People don't know any better. They have just been taught a lie.

¹ 1Corinthians 2:4

To read the Scriptures through doubt and unbelief leads to excuses supported by misinterpreted Scriptures.

Somewhere in our Church history our forefathers read the scriptures and then looked around them were at the difference between the powerful early church and their present powerless condition. But instead of raising the standard of their faith to that of the early Church they began to lower the standard contained within the Scriptures. They read the scriptures through the lenses of doubt and unbelief and invented excuses for their powerless gospel. "After the apostles died so did the miracles," they theorized. "Once the church received the canonized scriptures there was no need for the power of the Spirit," they deduced. And what they called "theology" was passed down to the following generations.

"Theology" means "the study of God, of religious doctrines and of matters pertaining to Divinity." However, there are points in theology that are based upon false doctrines of faithless men rather than true doctrine. "Doctrines" simply mean, "something taught, teachings, or instructions." These false doctrines are derived from the intellect of men rather than divine revelation, which is the only source of true doctrine and theology. Theology is supposed to be what God believes.

If our theology violates the nature of God and places blame on Him for bad things that happen, that is a doctrine of demons.

How do they explain the miracles of healings that there are so many testimonies of? There is this mysterious rug called the "Sovereignty of God" and anything they don't understand gets swept under it. They thus end up with a theology that violates the nature of God and they end up blaming God for the things the devil is responsible for.

God feels the same way about sickness to the body as he does sin to the soul.

Why do some get healed while others do not? We don't know. But one thing we do know is that God feels the same way about sickness to the body as He does with sin to the soul of man. He hates it and wants it destroyed. Therefore, the question that we need to be asking is, "why are we falling short of what God has accomplished through Jesus Christ?"

If I were to attempt to cross the street and get hit by a car and die there are some who would say, "God allowed it for a purpose." No! God had nothing to do with it. God created within this system called "life on planet earth" a law of reciprocity, of sowing and reaping. When you live in a realm where a man is given free choice there must be a reaping of those things which are outside the purposes and will of God.

There was a powerfully anointed singer by the name of Keith Green in the late 1970's. His music was impacting the youth of America in a tremendous way. In the height of his ministry his life was taken in an airplane crash. Some have tried to see the purposes of God in this tragedy. Many declared that it was according to God's will so that the greater purposes of God could be fulfilled. However, a life of a revivalist was cut short, not by the will of God, but because they overloaded the plane.

There has been great confusion in the church concerning the suffering and trials of believers being associated with sickness and disease. There is a perverted idea that sickness is the suffering, trials, or hardships that the Scriptures talk about. The suffering and trials that the Scriptures talk about has to do with the pressure that comes upon a believer for walking by faith and living righteously. It is the resistance of darkness that comes upon the believer because of making right choices in an adverse culture. That is the nature of suffering and has nothing to do with sickness and disease. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil by revealing the nature of God.

There is a discipline that comes upon the life of the believer as the Spirit calls out for righteousness. When we embrace the personal self-sacrifice of our fleshly desires and appetites, and embrace the self-discipline and self-control of saying "No!" to the evil appetites of the natural man. This is the lifestyle of suffering referred to in Scripture. It is never associated with sickness.

There are people in the church who believe that miracles are not for today. We have people who believe that healing and miracles are for today but do not experience them. And we also have people who believe that healing and miracle are for today and actually have them. It is because of this middle group, those who believe in it theologically but do not experience it practically that act a fuel for the anti-healing group. If everyone who believed in healing and miracles pursued God until they had them as an active part of their faith there would be no anti-healing groups.

God is Good; the Devil is Bad

Heaven is the manifestation of God's values.

God is good, the devil is bad. Heaven is a manifestation of the nature and character of God. There is no sickness in heaven because there is no sickness in God. It is a violation of His character. God feels the same way about sickness as he does about sin. Sickness is to our body what sin is to our soul.

When the presence of God comes into a place, He seeks to establish his domain. God's intentions are to take up residency. But He will not rest where there is no agreement with His dominion. The king's domain contains all that is in heaven. Jesus encouraged his disciples to make this fact their prayer, "Father, let your kingdom come and your will be done on earth just like it is in heaven." If there is no sickness in heaven, then we have the authority to drive it from this earth as we bring in the dominion of God.

God is looking for someone who will by faith stand in the gap to plead the cases of those inflicted by sin's consequences. There are consequences that are inevitable unless the mercy of God comes into the situation.

God knew that there was famine coming to the whole middle east region so He gave Pharaoh, a heathen sinner, a dream that only a man of God could interpret. Because Pharaoh turned His ears to God's warning of coming calamity the whole region was saved.

A lot of people receive the revelation of God the Father from the perspective of the Old Testament when God was having to demonstrate to people the power of sin and their inability to live by the law. The primary message of the Old Testament is the revelation of the power of sin and its consequences.

For example: In the Old Testament, if you touched a leper you became unclean. Leprosy was the power of sin and darkness. In the New Testament Jesus touched the leper and the leper was healed and made clean. Because the New Testament is a greater revelation, it is the power of righteousness by grace.

The Magnificent Body of Man

When God created Adam and Eve, he made them perfect and complete. He created their bodies for regeneration and maintaining health. Antibiotics are our body's way of fighting off infection, harmful viruses and bacteria and disease. Rejuvenation was the bodies' way of recovering from a physical impairment. Man was created to be an everlasting creature.

Man Had Accesses to the Resources of Health and Life.

1. Blessings of God's intimate presence and glory.
2. Proper diet
3. Exercise
4. Rest

God's nature is healing. But there is a greater kingdom reality and that deals with living in a culture of divine health. A life that dwells in health does not find a need for healing. In restoring the culture of health to the church, she will need to repent, change the way she thinks, about diet, exercise and rest.

The Source of All Sickness

All sickness and disease is the result of man's fallen condition.

All sickness and disease, along with demonic oppression and torment, had its origin in effecting mankind at the fall of Adam and Eve. They opened the door to the devil who is the author of sin with all the curses associated with it.

The fruit of the tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil acted as poison to their spirit, soul, and bodies. Every aspect of man's being was affected by the consequences of their choice to disobey God. Because of death's effect, mankind lost their ability for rejuvenation. Our antibiotic system along with our gene and DNA structures began breaking down and the diseases that we used to resist began to claim the lives of many. Why? Not because of God. He warned man what would happen if they disobeyed.

All sickness and disease is the result of sin. It may be the result of individual sins, the sins of the parents, or simply because of the failure of our forefathers. The truth is, the devil is bad and he brought bad things to us through the open door of sin.

The primary source of all sickness and disease is the devil. Sin, death and sickness is his nature. The same doors that open our souls to the deceptions and torment of the enemy are the same doors that open our bodies to whatever sicknesses these devils bring with them. Just as there are spirits of divination, insanity, or fears there are also spirits of infirmity.

Does that mean that when I catch a cold I am dealing with a demon? Not necessarily. It means you are probably dealing with a natural virus that your body was designed to resist. Does that mean that if you have a child that is born blind it is an evil spirit. Not necessarily, although that is one of the possibilities. It is more likely that the genes from either the mother or the father were defective - the result of death in operation in all of mankind. There could be other natural causes for such a defect to take place. The bottom line is this; the source of all sickness is the consequences of a bad decision which opened the door to a bad devil.

The Causes of Sickness

1. Natural Causes

Most illness can be traced to "natural causes." Whereas, sicknesses caused by natural causes originate from the presence of death working in all mankind from the fall, these are cases where blame can be attributed to impairments or break downs in the physical body. These causes could range from accidents, hereditary ailments, viruses and bacteria, or dysfunctional genes or DNA structure.

2. Self-Induced Causes

Many of our ailments can also be caused by self-induced practices such as; poor diet, lack of exercise, the build up of toxicity in the body from junk food, the lack of rest, or the use of alcohol, nicotine, drugs or narcotics. Healing may be released simply by the correction of abuses we do to our bodies.

3. Prolonged Emotional Stress

It is a scientific fact that many diseases are caused by prolonged emotional stress caused by ongoing fears resulting in worry, unforgiveness resulting in extended feelings of anger, rage, and bitterness, or the tendency to carry the weight of the worlds problems upon one's shoulders. Prolonged emotional stress breaks down the immune system by releasing overloads of adrenaline that wear the body down. Again, healing can usually come when the causes are dealt with through forgiveness, and removing the emotional stress.

4. Demonic Forces

Demonic forces find entrances into our lives through open doors we create for them. Many of the healings Jesus performed were directly related to casting out demons. The type of ailment one receives is directly related to the type of evil spirit that comes through the open door. The best way of dealing with these type of ailment is to keep the doors shut. Healing can only come when the evil spirit or spirits are cast out.

Open doors to the demonic realm include the following:

- **Agreement with lies** – all a demon needs is agreement. The demon comes and we ignorantly accept it. We simply yield to its presence without resistance. Some people live with a sense of guilt and shame which they feel needs to be punished. So when sickness or disease comes through a demon they accept it as punishment from God.
- **Disobedience or Rebellion**
- **Fear**
- **Hatred based in Unforgiveness/Bitterness**
- **Idolatry** (occult or witchcraft)
- **Sexual Sin**

5. Sin

Although sin opens the door to the powers of darkness to bring havoc on the health of people. Jesus demonstrated healing by dealing with individual's sins. A paralytic man was healed when Jesus forgave his sins.² The indication is that some sicknesses gain entrance through our choices which are contrary to the will of God.

6. Spiritual Violations

Whereas this category actually falls under the demonic open door of disobedience and rebellion, it needs to be dealt with in its own category because of its severity. Spiritual Violations is an out right affront against the holy nature of God's presence resulting in the removal of His presence.

- **Lying to the Holy Spirit** - Ananias & Saphira - In Acts chapter five we are told of a couple by the names of Ananias and Saphira who sold some of their land and brought a portion of it back for the church under the deception that they were giving all. Peter confronted Ananias by exposing the fact that Satan filled his heart to lie to the Holy Spirit. This affront on the Holy Spirit resulted in the immediate death of both Ananias and his wife. Why? Did God kill them? No! When the presence of the Holy Spirit withdrew the door was open for the spirit of death to come and claim their lives.

² Luke 5:17-25; Matt.9:2

- **Blasphemy** - Jesus warned that the sin of blasphemy was a sin that could not be forgiven. Blasphemy is a spiritual violation of the Holy Spirit.
- **Violating the Lord's Supper** - In 1 Corinthians 11:27-30, Paul directly related the sicknesses and even death of some of their church members as being a consequence of choices to partake of the Lord's suppers without the value of the consecration of heart it deserved. Did God bring these sicknesses upon these people? No! But their actions violated his holy presence and when he withdrew his hand the enemy was quick to come in like a flood.
- **Judging others** - Matthew 7:1-2 (NASB) ¹ "Do not judge so that you will not be judged. ² "For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you.

God is Not Mocked

Galatians 6:7-8 ⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. ⁸ For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

Sowing and reaping does not only have to do with our finances. Jesus said, "blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy."³ He said, "Judge not so that you will not be judged." It is whatever we release from our lives that will come back to us. Whatever action we take in disobedience, rebellion or negativity against the will of God is like the stench of death to the demonic. It attracts them like a hoard of flies.

Whatever action you take in obedience to God there will be a reaction from heaven. It is impossible to take an action of obedience of giving, showing kindness, praying for people and not have an effect. It is a mockery to God to think that we can pray for the sick and not expect anything to happen.

Keys to Maintaining Healing

Almost everything God does in our lives He begins with seed form. Sometimes healing come to us in seed form, which means it can be stolen away. The parable of the sower illustrated the potential the enemy has to come and steal our seeds.

Sometimes when we pray for people there are immediate results. These we call miracles. But sometimes we can pray and there appears to be nothing happening. When we are done praying the

³ Matt.5:7

symptoms are still there and we assume nothing happened. With fear and lies the enemy comes looking for legal right to sustain and maintain the injury or sickness.

The truth is, you cannot pray the prayer of faith without impacting this world with heaven. The difference between a miracle and healing is that healing is a process the body goes through as it eliminates the disease or the injury. God designed our bodies to heal themselves. The prayer of healing activates what God has already placed within our bodies. It removes the hindrances and promotes the healing process. A healing process takes time, but it is just as much the power of God as are miracles.

How to Maintain Your Healing

These are some keys for continuing one's healing:

1. **Come into agreement with heaven** – by faith take possession of what is in heaven belonging to us as His children. Healing is our inheritance.
2. **Confessions of Faith** – make declarations of your healing. When doubt attempts to bring your focus on the symptoms, declare what God says. Your salvation comes with the complete package of; spiritual security, freedom of soul, and healing for the body.
3. **Maintain an attitude of gratitude and praise** – When the symptoms remind you of what you have yet to obtain, thanksgiving and praise focuses on what you have obtained.
4. **Look for improvement** – Look beyond the symptoms you are still experiencing and test yourself for signs of improvement. Then return to key three and thank God for His continued healing.
5. **Receive More Prayer** – It is not a sign of the lack of faith to continue to receive more prayer. It is a sign of active faith that you are pursuing God and His favor for what you know belongs to you because of the truth that Jesus purchased it for you. Your healing has been bought and paid for. Every time you receive more prayer heaven is activated in your behalf. God will not be mocked. The prayers of faith carry power to release heavens remedies.
6. **Be Tenacious in Your Pursuit** – Don't give up in your pursuit of total healing. Until you have received the "ALL" that Jesus revealed as the will of God, be tenacious in your pursuit. The widow who encountered an injustice against her did not stop beating upon the door of the judge's house until she received justice.⁴
7. **Keep focused on the purpose set before you** – You have a purpose in this life. Set your eyes upon the calling of God. Nothing, not even death, can stop us from accomplishing the purposes of God. Agreement with God's will breaks the power of death and all the curses that come with it.

⁴ Luke 18:1-8

Conclusion

In the life of Jesus, all who came to Jesus were instantly healed. I believe Jesus had such a supreme measure of the Holy Spirit that when He put His hands on a man, or spoke His words of authority for healing, that person was submerged and smeared with the anointing of the Spirit and the disease or infirmity simply withered out and vanished.

The woman with the incurable disease saw Jesus pass by with an anointing for here healing. It was as if Jesus was pushing a grocery cart with all the blessing of heaven inside and she knew He had what she needed. Her faith in what Jesus possessed drove her to press through the obstacles of the crowd and touch the edge of His garment. Her faith released from heaven the virtue of the Holy Spirit's anointing and faith cannot go unnoticed or ignored.⁵

Revelation 19:10 states that, *"the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."* When Jesus set the standard of normal Christianity he set before us the possibility for "All" to receive miracles of healing. The greatest quest set before us is to have more of God's presence. To become so saturated with His presence that when we lay hands upon the sick the anointing that we carry causes sickness and infirmities to wither and disappear. The testimony of Jesus is a prophetic picture of what has been purchased for us.

The same divine authority and power that was vested in Jesus is vested by Jesus in every Christian soul. Jesus made provision for the Church to go and do the same as He did with the same and even greater exploits against the powers of darkness.

Now the Holy Spirit is upon every Christian in a measure. There are degrees of the measure of the Spirit of God in men's lives. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a greater measure of His presence from what we received in our born again experience. There is more of God for us. How much more of God can we contain? When we are walking just like Jesus and the "All" he demonstrated is being experienced by those around us, even then there is more of God. For we shall do even greater things than Jesus.⁶

No matter the source or causes of sickness, disease or infirmity, Jesus set the standard for "ALL" to be made well. His healing anointing has the power to deal with whatever opened the door to darkness. Nature bows at the presence of the Almighty God. Demons tremble and flee from His glorious light. The judgment against Sin and all its consequences have been dealt with through the blood of Jesus. The peace that passes understanding brings freedom from worry and mental torment. All who come to Christ shall be saved, spiritually, mentally, emotionally and physically.

End of Lesson 1002

⁵ Matthew 9:20-22

⁶ John 14:12

