**WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES**

*HEALING*

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1. What is spiritual healing?

 Spiritual healing is the mysterious and miraculous move of God that heals all manner of diseases (physical, mental and emotional). **ALL HEALING COMES FROM GOD.**

 Spiritual healing can take place ***with*** or ***without*** human intercession, intervention or assistance. The use of human medicine or surgical procedures does not mean that a miracle has not taken place.

 The use of medicine or treatment by human doctors is not a contradiction of religious faith. All medicine comes from the earth or natural environment. Therefore, God has instilled within the earth and the creation, certain components with healing properties. The misuse of those components does not mean they should not be used, any more than reckless or drunk driving means that cars should not be driven.

 Physicians and health care professionals can be agents of God’s healing, just as pastors, preachers, prophets and our prayers can be agents for the transmission and release of God’s will, God’s word and God’s power

1. God’s people are invited to pray and encouraged to pray for healing and God promises to respond to those prayers.

**Exodus 23: 25-26**, **“**You shall worship the Lord your God, and I[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+23%3A25-26&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-2170a)] will bless your bread and your water; and I will take sickness away from among you. No one shall miscarry or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days.”

**II Chronicles 7: 14-15**,**“**If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place.”

**Psalms 143: 7**, “He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.”

**Isaiah 53: 4-5**, “surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities, upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his stripes we are healed.”

**Jeremiah 17: 14**, “Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved; for you are my praise.”

**James 5: 13-16**, **“**Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.”

1. God heals according to God’s purposes

 Miracles though possible are the exception and not the rule. The exceptional nature of miracles is what makes them miracles.

1. Wedding feast at Cana, **John 2: 1-11**
2. Cured nobleman’s son, **John 4: 46-47**
3. The great haul of fishes, **Luke 5: 1-11**
4. Cast out an unclean spirit, **Mark 1: 25-28**
5. Healed Peter’s mother-in-law, **Mark 1: 30-31**
6. Healed a leper, **Mark 1: 40-45**
7. Healed the centurion’s servant, **Matthew 8: 5-13**
8. Raised the widow’s son from the dead, **Luke 7: 11-18**
9. Stilled the storm, **Matthew 8: 23-27**
10. Cured two demoniacs, **Matthew 8: 28-34**
11. Cured the paralytic, **Matthew 9: 1-8**
12. Raised the ruler’s daughter from the dead, **Matthew 9: 18-26**
13. Cured a woman of an issue of blood, **Luke 8: 43-48**
14. Opened the eyes of two blind men, **Matthew 9: 27-31**
15. Loosened the tongue of a man who could not speak, **Matthew 9: 32-33**
16. Healed an invalid at the pool of Bethesda, **John 5: 1-9**
17. Restored a withered hand, **Matthew 12: 10-13**
18. Cured a demon-possessed man, **Matthew 12: 22**
19. Fed at least five-thousand people, **Matthew 14: 15-21**
20. Healed the daughter of a Canaanite woman, **Matthew 15: 22-28**
21. Cured a deaf and mute man, **Mark 7: 31-37**
22. Fed at least four-thousand people, **Matthew 15: 32-39**
23. Opened the eyes of a blind man, **Mark 8: 22-26**
24. Cured a boy who was plagued by a demon, **Matthew 17: 14-21**
25. Opened the eyes of a man born blind, **John 9: 1-38**
26. Cured a woman who had a crippling spirit, **Luke 13: 10-17**
27. Cured a man of dropsy, **Luke 14: 1-4**
28. Cleansed ten lepers, **Luke 17: 11-19**
29. Raised Lazarus from the dead, **John 11: 1-46**
30. Opened the eyes of two blind men, **Matthew 20: 30-34**
31. Caused the fig tree to wither, **Matthew 21: 18-22**
32. Restored the ear of the high priest’s servant, **Luke 22: 50-51**
33. The Lord Jesus rose from the dead, **Luke 24: 5-6**
34. The second great haul of fishes, **John 21: 1-14**
35. Jesus ascended into heaven, **Acts 1: 6-9**

The Lord Jesus performed between 34-35 miracles. However, he ministered for three years or approximately 1,095 days according to our calendar, which means that even during the ministry of Jesus, miracles were not every-day occurrences

1. Miracles and spiritual healing are a mystery. We do not know they occur, or when they occur, or if they will occur. Therefore, since we do not know the will of God is for ourselves or another person, we pray as an expression of faith in God’s healing power and as an expression of faith in God’s will.

 Sometimes prayers brings forth miracles, II Kings 20: 1-7 (Isaiah 38: 1-8

Note the application of figs as a medical treatment in the II Kings narrative, even though healing had been granted

 Sometimes prayers do not bring forth miracles, II Corinthians 12: 1-10

 Since healing is a mystery we must be careful about harsh judgments if the healing and miracles do not occur such as

1. Unconfessed sin
2. Insufficient faith
3. We are being tested
4. Steps to Full Recovery
	1. Prayer of faith
	2. Seeking guidance regarding further physician’s care and treatment

Sometimes we physicians are needed for confirmation, Luke 17: 14

* 1. Our responsibility care and proper treatment of bodies as appropriate offerings of praise and thanksgiving for our health (I Corinthians 6: 19-20
1. Unhealed miraculous lives

Apostle Paul

Fannie Crosby (Blessed Assurance; Pass Me Not; Praise Him, Praise Him; To God Be

 The Glory)

Helen Keller

Ray Charles

Stevie Wonder

Jose Feliciano

John Milton

Homer

Ludwig Beethoven

Thomas Edison

Albert Einstein

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Alexander the Great

Stephen Hawking

George Moore

Matthew Watley

Muriel Annette Watley