

GOD'S HEALING IS COMPLETE

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The bible concept of healing is far more than physical and mental repair or restoration. There are numerous encompassing scriptures that reveal just how big the offered blessings are. Our primary problem is that man is mortal, and God is immortal. Through Jesus Christ, God has provided unlimited and far-reaching healing opportunities, for the human race.

The scriptures inform us that by his stripes we are healed... healed from what?

1PET 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being **dead** to sins (to be removed from), should live unto righteousness: by whose **stripes** ye were **healed** (2390 iaomai... to heal, to make whole, to free from errors and sins). This verse confirms that we are healed from our sins... to be healed is to be made whole.

25 For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the **Shepherd and Bishop of your souls**. Jesus never needed to be striped for our physical healing, as healing is part and package of the Holy Spirit. The obvious and observable truth is, that his death alone would have given us the Spirit and its gifts. His abandonment, mocking torture, sacrifice and death, paid for our life through the infilling/anointing of the Spirit.

The significance of the stripes.

However, there still needed to be a recognisable mechanism whereby the sins and mistakes of the new covenant saints could be dealt with in an ongoing fashion (just as it was under the Law). The stripes, or the punishment for breaking the law also gave us our forgiveness should we breach the law of God (sin), after we receive the Holy Spirit (Jesus has already paid the compensation a long time ago). Some people feel that Christians shouldn't or don't sin, but that is ridiculous and proven to be wrong by numerous scriptural examples that needed to be dealt with in the New Testament Church. The seven letters to the churches in Revelations certainly made clear the sin that still needed to be appropriately dealt with. The parable of the good Samaritan also deals with the same issues and answers many questions at the same time. The parable starts by revealing a man who was robbed of his possessions and garments (his spiritual robes)... he was still alive but needed support. The self righteous priest and Levite both ignored him... they had no understanding, nor desire to know what was needed: so they left him no better than when they found him. The good Samaritan (wise shepherd) knew exactly what was needed. **LUK 10:33** But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, **34** And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in **oil and wine** (these are both metaphors of the effective working of the Spirit), and set him on **his own beast** (the shepherd bears the pain of recovery as it was also in the parable of the lost sheep... the shepherd picked up the lost lamb and placed it around his shoulders Luke 15:5), and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. **35** And on the morrow when he departed, he took out **two pence** (two days wages... also a metaphor for the two days of the New Testament church period... two thousand years), and gave them to the host, and said unto him, **Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.** This cannot relate to the death of Christ as he only had one life to give... but he was striped thirty nine times, the penalty for our transgressions. If the cost is greater... then the Lord will fix it up when he returns. This is the wisdom that the Lord wants us to understand. We do not have the liberty to think or act like the priest or the Levite.

This is why Jesus is effectively the shepherd and bishop of our souls... he is our high priest and has the authority to forgive our ongoing sins. Sin no longer prevents him from fulfilling his duty. See the details in this prophecy. **ISA 53:5** But he [was] wounded for our transgressions, [he was] **bruised** (crushed) for our **iniquities** (sins): the **chastisement** (disciplines or corrections) of our **peace** (completeness) [was] upon him; and with his stripes we are **healed** (forgiven). The verse is dealing with sin... not physical sickness. His stripes gave us the ability to deal with the weakness of the flesh as a spirit filled person. Also of interest is the meaning of "bruised", which means crushed, and that Gethsemane means the place of crushing. Gethsemane = "an oil press". The oil and wine poured in by the good Samaritan are the results of crushing: both are metaphors for the purifying ability of the Spirit. In any true sense of understanding... Jesus was not striped for physical healing, but he was striped for the ongoing penalty of our sins so we can be forgiven. He traded his life for our life and his punishment for our punishment. Thus a further benefit of his stripes becomes very clear. Seeing that our sins can be dealt with effectively by his stripes... many of the faith/guilt issues that prevent people from getting physical healings are removed. One form of healing clearly leads to another. Spiritual wellbeing offers better opportunities to achieve physical wellbeing.

Physical healing also identifies his church according to **1 COR 12:28** And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then **gifts of healings**, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

Salvation is also listed as Healing.

ACT 28:27 For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should **heal** (2390 iaomai... to heal, to make whole, to free from errors and sins, to bring about ones salvation) **them**. See also Mat 13:15 & John 12:40. The greatest healing that anyone could receive from God, is eternal life and the ongoing vital, maintenance offered by the Spirit.

The Lord tells us the best way to live our lives.

ROM 8:1 [There is] therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. *To walk in the Spirit is to live for the Lord... but we still face a war between the natural and the Spiritual (see chapter seven in Romans, where Paul laments the nature of the flesh)... sometimes the natural gets ahead of us. Don't feel condemned... deal with it in a Spiritual manner.*

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. *To be free from the law of sin and death means just that. If you default and are guilty of death once again, then you are not free at all... you would be straight back under the law. God gives us a way of escape... his Son did much more than die on the cross. He also made a way of repentance for us. Heb 4:14-16 Approach the throne of grace with boldness... because... like the good Samaritan... Jesus is touched by our infirmities.*

3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh (*the ongoing failures*), God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: **4** That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who **walk** (*present tense... whose manner of life is*) not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. *God's righteousness is first imputed when we receive the Spirit (2Cor 5:21) and then maintained when we handle the ongoing transgressions according to the way of the Spirit.*

5 For they that are after (*present tense*) the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. *There is a difference between making a mistake, verses forsaking the Lord altogether.* **6** For to be carnally minded [*is*] death; but to be spiritually minded [*is*] life and peace. *The repentant defaulters need to be given Spiritual directives not threats of death... that is carnal not Spiritual.* **7** Because the carnal mind [*is*] enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. *Your natural mind, which we all still have, will never bring us any blessing or resolution with God.* **8** So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. *Your sin can never be effectively dealt with if you don't have the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The indwelling Spirit is the key to eternal life and it allows our high priest (Jesus), to deal with the ongoing nature of our not so perfect lives.* **9** But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

Directions for understanding the management of sin.

ROM 6:10 For in that he died, he died unto sin **once** (*2178 ephapax... once for all*): but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. **11** Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. **12** Let not sin therefore **reign** in your mortal body (*to be king of your life*), that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. **13** Neither **yield ye** (*present tense*) your members [*as*] instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members [*as*] instruments of righteousness unto God. **14** For sin shall not have **dominion over you** (*future tense*): for ye are not under the law, but under grace. *Sin and its effects don't have the power over us any longer... if we choose to serve the Lord.* **15** What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. *We don't have the freedom to sin just because Jesus made an offering... we don't need to be held captive by it either.* **16** Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? *We are expected to make a genuine effort to keep as sin free as possible. There are many ways to avoid pitfalls and weaknesses and we should be diligent to do so. Encouraging one another, offering advice and examples of life experience can go a long way with people... but sin will never go away all together.*

ROM 8:13 For if ye live **after** (*according to*) the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do **mortify** (*put to death, paralyse... present tense*) the **deeds** (*doings*) of the body, ye shall live. *If to 'mortify' was to be a once off event, ie., when you received the Holy Spirit, then it would be in the 'past tense' not the 'present'. We can't do anything through the Spirit till after we have received it, thus mortifying the doings of the flesh, is a process that only a Spirit filled person performs. This is done through our whole walk in the Lord, as failings come about.*

HEB 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily **beset us**, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us... *Anyone can fall if perfect vigilance isn't maintained. We can become negligent or even find ourselves out of our depth in guarding our salvation. There are countless reasons why sin might occur... but there is one reason why it can be fully managed.*

Jesus offered himself as a perfect sacrifice. No further price needs to be, nor indeed can be made for salvation.

HEB 9:25 Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; **26** For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now **once** (*once for all*) in the end of the world hath he **appeared** (*perfect tense*) to **put away** (*abolish, cancel*) sin by the sacrifice of himself. **27** And as it is appointed unto men once to die (*you have already done this*), but after this the judgment: **28** So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin (*sin would no longer be a burden as it was under the law*) unto salvation.

These are the principles behind successful repentance. In this case it was deliverance from faulty doctrine as well as correcting a rebellious member.

2COR 7:8 For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent, though I did repent: for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry, though [it were] but for a season. **9** Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. **10** For godly sorrow **worketh** (*performs and accomplishes... present tense*) repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. *The only people in the church who would need to reconsider their salvation are those who have sinned in a major way... this letter is to the church not the unsaved and refers to matters discussed in 1Corinthians. Paul reveals the benefits of repentance based on Godly sorrow rather than judgemental moralising or disciplines.* **11** For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort (*the church sorrowed because it was out of order as distinct from the nominated sinner*), what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, [what] **clearing of yourselves** (*correction from bad doctrine and ungodly actions*), yea, [what] indignation, yea, [what] fear, yea, [what] vehement desire, yea, [what] zeal, yea, [what] revenge! In all [things] ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter. *They were cleared because they actively chose to obey bible principles rather than remain in their man made traditions.*

Summary.

HEB 10:9 Then said he (*Jesus*), Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the **first** (*covenant*), that he may establish the **second** (*covenant*). **10** By the which **will** (*divine will*) we **are** (*present tense*) **sanctified** (*perfect tense*) through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once [for all]. Also, **2PET 3:9** The Lord is not slack (*slow to respond*) concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward (*you and me*), not willing that any should perish, but that all should **come** (**5562 choreo**... *see note in box*) to repentance. *Jesus was striped (punished) in place of us... that is why there is space for repentance and space for forgiveness... he has already paid the price for the sins that occur after we are spirit filled. He gives his people the chance to get things right... by repenting from their sin... what else do you repent from?* **11** And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: *The priests offered the sacrifice for the ongoing sins of the people not just for the sins prior to their spiritual beginning.* **HEB 7:24** But this [man], because he **continueth** (*present tense*) ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood (*God placed Christ in this priesthood and no one else can step into it*). **25** Wherefore (*Since he alone holds this priesthood*) he is **able** (*present tense*) also to **save** (*sozo... save, to heal, make whole*) them to the uttermost that **come** (*present tense... draw near*) unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. *He is always available to deal with sin for those who approach him.*

12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; **13** From henceforth **expecting** (*expecting sins to be dealt with*) till his enemies be made his footstool. **14** For by one offering he hath **perfected** (*perfect tense... to make perfect, complete*) for ever them that are **sanctified** (*present tense*). **JOH 17:19** And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also **might** (*present tense... Mood - Subjunctive The subjunctive mood is the mood of possibility and potentiality*) be **sanctified** (*perfect tense*) through the truth. (*That they may remain sanctified through the effective dealing of sin*). *The stripes (whipping), removes the confusion, that often surrounds the successful dealing of sin; both at a shepherding and congregational level.*

Making things right.

MARK 11:24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive [them], and ye shall have [them]. **25** And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses (*3900 paraptoma*). *The Lord reveals one of the most important principles behind healing and blessing.* **26** But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses (*3900 paraptoma... the verses at the end of James also deal with a similar theme and uses the same words. This article does not cover this observation*). *The Lord links trespasses (sins) and the forgiveness of such with the successful outcome of prayer. This principle invokes healing from all problems for the whole church. Upsetting this clear cut direction will have negative and divisionary consequences for the church and its people.*

Key Point. *Some think that it doesn't matter whether we are physically healed or spiritually forgiven by his stripes, as it is all interchangeable... BUT THAT IS NOT SO!! Even though they are common in principle, if we miss the difference between the two... we also miss the significance of many of the scriptures in Hebrews. This will result in poor scriptural knowledge, poor shepherding with multiple failures and also will leave many people confused about their spiritual status. This means that many people cannot serve the Lord with the faith and vigour that the scriptures permit. What did Jesus achieve by his stripes that could not be achieved by his death? You need to know the answer, or you will never fully understand mercy and forgiveness!*

5562 choreo... *to have space or room to repent. The same space he offered the New Testament church at Thyatira: **REV 2:21** And I gave her space to **repent** of her fornication... a very serious problem, but nothing the stripes could not heal (forgive).*

15 [Whereof] the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us (the working of the Holy Spirit is the evidence... **1COR 4:19** But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord will, and will know, not the speech of them which are puffed up, but the power... *dunamis*): for after that he had said before, **16** This [is] the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; **17** And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. **18** Now where remission of these [is, there is] no more offering for sin. *Repetition of the sacrifice is needless.* **19** **Having** (present tense) therefore, brethren, **boldness** (free and fearless confidence) to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, You come before the Lord because his blood is the perfect sacrifice... you can be bold because you know that he is more than able to deal with your sin... present tense, not past tense. **20** By a **new** (as a freshly killed sacrifice) and **living way** (this new way doesn't have a death sentence on it like it did under the law), which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; Sin can be dealt with and thus we are not prevented from entering in behind the veil into the Holiest of the holy. **21** And [having] an high priest over the house of God; **22** Let us draw near (present tense) with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts **sprinkled** (to cleanse by sprinkling, another O/T principle... perfect tense) from an **evil** (troubled) conscience, and our bodies **washed** (perfect tense) with pure water. Another metaphor relating to the O/T methods of redemption. The concept of the stripes, the oil, the wine, the sprinkling, washing in water... are the same in principle. Some of these themes transfer us from unsaved to saved, while others cleanse us as we maintain our walk in the Lord. The clarity of our understanding depends on the context and our ability to discern between spiritual principles.

Comparing spiritual with spiritual. Many bible truths are not evident by reading singular phrases. In fact many great truths are only realised by comparing the differences between similar scriptures. For example... ROM 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. Also ROM 8:24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? Both these scriptures reveal how to be saved, but neither is complete. Hope alone won't get results and neither will mental belief. Our fellowship understands and well promotes the need for repentance, water baptism and the anointing of the spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. This is discerned by comparing the differences between the scriptures and applying them, so that all the scriptural references work in harmony with each other. The same is true of physical and spiritual healing. By comparing all the scriptural references we see that the stripes of Jesus were a separate topic to his death, yet both achieve their own specific benefits. He died so we don't have to die and he was punished so we don't have to be punished. The application of all healing/sacrifice scriptures must balance out against these truths.

23 Let us hold **fast** (present tense... keep on holding fast) the profession of [our] faith without wavering; (for he [is] faithful that promised;) **24** And let us consider one another to **provoke** (to sharpen, to stimulate, to incite) unto love and to good works: **25** Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some [is]; but exhorting [one another]: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. **26** For if we sin **wilfully** (to abandon spiritual disciplines... present tense) after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, We are never permitted to take selfish or abusive advantage of what is being offered. If we leave the church and live in sin, what more can the Lord do for us? **27** But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. Repentance with Godly sorrow can safely restore those who are lost; anything less will be unworkable.

There is no dispute that physical healing is one of the gifts of the spirit and is as valid today as it was in the days of Christ. It is also worth noting that the same authority to forgive sin is equally as valid today as it was when Jesus walked the earth. Thus, when we understand the power that Jesus death gave us and the cleansing that his stripes gave us, then we realise that...

It serves us well to remember the words of chorus 309 "He poured in the oil and the wine". These lyrics are based on the principles contained within the parable of the Good Samaritan... 'He poured in the oil and the wine... the kind that restoreth the soul'. The author well knew that the parable was about spiritual restoration... not physical healing.

God's healing is complete in every way!