

# Is It Always God's Will to Heal?

*By Russ Divine*

## **An Important Question**

*"And it happened when He was in a certain city, that behold, a man who was full of leprosy saw Jesus; and he fell on his face and implored Him, saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." – Luke 5:12*

This statement, made by a man over two thousand years ago, accurately reflects the view most Christians have about healing today. "...If you are willing, you can..." Most people believe that God can heal them, but aren't clear if it is God's will to heal them. Christians need to know the truth.

## **Jesus Revealed the Father's Will**

Jesus was the exact representation of God the Father (Heb. 1:3) and everything He did expressed his Father's will (Jn. 4:34, Jn.5:19, Jn. 5:30). So, how did Jesus deal with the leprosy man? "...He put out *His* hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed. Immediately the leprosy left him" (Lk. 5:13).

But, Jesus didn't stop with just this one man. Check out how he dealt with multitudes of sick people during his ministry:

*"Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them." - Matt. 4:24*

*"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." - Matt. 8:16*

*"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." - Matt. 9:35*

*"But when Jesus knew it, He withdrew from there. And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them all." - Matt. 12: 15*

*"And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick." - Matt. 14: 14*

*"And when the men of that place recognized Him, they sent out into all that surrounding region, brought to Him all who were sick, and begged Him that they might only touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched it were made perfectly well." - Matt. 14:35-36*

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For those of you who know the Bible there is one instance in which Jesus was said to have healed many instead of all. Mark 1:32-34 records a situation in which the crowd that was gathered to him was so large (the entire population of the city) that he couldn't get to everyone. But this case was a matter of logistics not the Father's will. In every other case Jesus healed them all. Let's take a look at some of the individuals Jesus healed:

- Peter's Mother-in-Law (Mk. 1:30-31)
- The Paralytic (Mk. 2:3-12)
- The Man with a Withered Hand (Mk. 3:1-6)
- The Demon Possessed Man (Mk. 5:1-20)
- Jairus' Daughter and The Woman with the Issue of Blood (Mk. 5:21-43)

The list goes on and on with the same response of healing every time he was approached. Jesus never turned anyone away, they all left healed. It didn't matter who was asking. "I am willing," was always Jesus' answer. Hebrews 13:8 says "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever," so his response today is the same. It doesn't matter who is asking nor the circumstances surrounding the question, "I am willing" is still the answer.

## **A Matter of Tense**

Like most Christian, I used to believe that God can heal, but I don't anymore. That's right; I don't believe that God *can heal*; instead, I believe that *He already has healed*. What you might ask? Well, the bible clearly teaches that at the same time Jesus saved us he also healed us – 2000 years ago on the cross.

*"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." - 1 Peter 2:24*

Notice the tense healing takes in this verse. It says you **were** healed, not **are** healed or **going to be** healed. Healing is an accomplished work. Believing that God can heal places the healing in the future tense while believing that God already did heal puts healing in the past tense. The tense makes all the difference.

So many Christians are asking God to heal them, begging Him to move with power on their behalf. What most Christians don't know is that He already did. It was provided two thousand years ago on the cross of Calvary as a part of your salvation. Salvation includes healing! Notice the immediate context of the verse above; it includes our death to sin and our raising to a new

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life of righteousness as a product of what Christ did on the cross. Christians easily equate those works with salvation, but are slow to accept that healing is also a part of their salvation.

The Greek word for "saved" ("sozo") in association with the noun "salvation" ("soteria"), is defined as (1) being delivered or rescued from danger and suffering, (2) preserved from sickness, (3) made whole, (4) healed. These concepts are not merely spiritual but physical as well in their use throughout the entire Bible. In English we have separate words for these concepts and tend to separate them in our minds, but the Greek language includes them all in the word "saved." For the Greeks, one word describes an event which produced many freedoms for those who believe.

Let's look at a few passages in the Old Testament that look forward to the salvation works that the Messiah would perform:

*"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies" - Psalm 103:2-4*

*"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." – Isaiah 53:5*

*"But to you who fear My name the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings; And you shall go out and grow fat like stall-fed calves. - Malachi 4:2*

These prophetic passages look forward to the coming Messiah, but now that He has come we can, like Peter, look back at the Prophecy of Isaiah 53 and say that we **were** healed! David looked forward to having his sins forgiven when he said, "...As for our transgressions you will provide atonement for them" (Psalm 65:3). And now that the provision has come, we can look back and say, "As for our transgressions you **did** provide atonement for them." It's the same with healing; we can look back to the cross and see a finished work.

Understanding that healing **was** poured out as a part of the salvation plan for the world fully answers the question of whether or not it is God's will to heal. It helps to make a comparison with another salvation work that Jesus accomplished. Jesus died to take away the sin of the whole world (Jn. 1:29, Jn. 3:17). It is the Father's will that none are lost, but that **all** come to repentance (2 Pet. 3:9). So despite the fact that it is God's will for all to be saved and that He has made provision for the whole world to be forgiven, some still have not received the forgiveness God has provided.

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It's the same with healing. The Apostle John accurately reflects the heart of the Father when he says, "Beloved I wish above all things that you may prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers" (3 Jn. 2). Provision was made for the healing of the whole world at the cross (Matt. 8:17). Yet despite God's will and provision, many remain sick because they have not received what the Lord has already done for them.

## **So How Do I Receive My Healing?**

*"All things are possible to them that believe." – Mark 9:23*

So Russ, you may be asking, "If it is God's will to heal everyone, then how do people receive it?" In the same way that we receive forgiveness or salvation, we have to believe God's word and act on it! Romans 10:17 says "so then faith *comes* by hearing and hearing by the word of God." Therefore, number one, we have to base what we believe on the word of God and get faith for healing by reading bible passages about healing. The bible teaches that the Word of God is like a seed. When it is meditated upon, it establishes roots in our hearts and grows up to produce fruit in our lives (Mark 4:1-29). So, if you desire the full fruit of health, then sow seeds of healing by meditating on healing scriptures.

*"The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit."  
– Proverbs 18:21*

Secondly, we must also act on what we believe and release our faith through words, just as we did when we were saved. Romans 10:9-11 says "...that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, *"Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame."* **Words are powerful!** Therefore we must get into agreement with the Word of God and speak the truth that we are healed, even when we're feeling sick.

*"They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth" - John 17:16-17*

But you wonder, when we confess our faith in the bible that says we already have been healed while we are experiencing symptoms of sickness, isn't that lying? Which is true the Word or the circumstances? 2 Corinthians 5:7 provides the answer: "For we walk by faith, not by sight." It's not lying or denying physical reality to agree with God, it's faith.

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Lastly, don't forget that we must not only release our faith by speaking words of life that are in line with God's Word, but we must also **stop speaking unbelief**. Your mouth releases both life and death, so "fear not, believe only" (Luke 8:50) and only speak the truth of the word. Release life and health to your body by speaking in line with scripture and watch the healing power of God manifest!

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If this article has helped and you would like to know more about how to receive your healing, or if you still have questions about God's will concerning healing, you can click on the links below for free teachings about this subject or contact the ministry at [info@sjmi.org](mailto:info@sjmi.org) with questions or prayer requests.

- Keith Moore teaching series - [God's Will to Heal](#)
- Andrew Wommack teaching series - [God Wants You Well](#)