

Biblical Promises and Healing

1. Healing is a promised blessing in the Scripture.
2. Healing was a big part of Jesus ministry
3. Healing is a big part of the Apostles' ministry.
4. Healing is often (but not always) linked to or limited by faith.
5. Healing is a controversial part of Christian theology.

Mark 5

"²¹ And when Jesus had crossed over again in the boat to the other side, a great multitude gathered about Him; and He stayed by the seashore. ²² And one of the synagogue officials named Jairus came up, and upon seeing Him, fell at His feet, ²³ and entreated Him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death; please come and lay Your hands on her, that she may get well and live." ²⁴ And He went off with him; and a great multitude was following Him and pressing in on Him."

"²⁵ And a woman who had had a hemorrhage for twelve years, ²⁶ and had endured much at the hands of many physicians, and had spent all that she had and was not helped at all, but rather had grown worse, ²⁷ after hearing about Jesus, came up in the crowd behind Him, and touched His cloak. ²⁸ For she thought, "If I just touch His garments, I shall get well." ²⁹ And immediately the flow of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her affliction. ³⁰ And immediately Jesus, perceiving in Himself that the power proceeding from Him had gone forth, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My garments?" . . . ³² And He looked around to see the woman who had done this. ³³ But the woman **fearing and trembling**, aware of what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him, and told Him the whole truth. ³⁴ And He said to her, "**Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.**"

"³⁵ While He was still speaking, they came from the house of the synagogue official, saying, "Your daughter has died; why trouble the Teacher anymore?" ³⁶ But Jesus, overhearing what was being spoken, said to the synagogue official, "**Do not be afraid any longer, only believe.**" . . . And entering in, He said to them, "Why make a commotion and weep? The child has not died, but is asleep." . . . ⁴¹ And taking the child by the hand, He said to her, "Talitha kum!" (which translated means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise!"). ⁴² And immediately the girl rose and began to walk; for she was twelve years old. And immediately they were completely astounded. ⁴³ And He gave them strict orders that no one should know about this; and He said that something should be given her to eat."

What is the controversy?

It is not over whether or not miraculous physical healing takes place today BUT:

- ✓ Why does it seem to be outside the control of our faith and prayer?
- ✓ Why does it seem to be unrelated to virtue or need?
- ✓ Does it tend to displace the central themes of the Gospel?
- ✓ How are we to understand the Biblical "promises" concerning physical healing?

Psalms 103:2-5

"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits - who forgives all your iniquity, **who heals all your diseases**, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's."

What does this mean -

**Is it for Israel only, or the church?
Is it hyperbole, or a literal promise?**

Luke 9:1-2

“Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and **to heal the sick.**”

**What does this mean -
Is it for the Apostles only,
or all believers?**

John 20:30-31

“Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written **that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.**”

**What was the purpose of Jesus’ miracles -
personal & social reform of this world
or a sign of his authority & authenticity
leading to saving faith?**

Mark 5:34

“And He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.”

**Why doesn't faith always work -
Are there other issues
that make healing more complicated?**

Some observations on Mark 5

1. This story is not only about physical healing. It is also about faith, fear, and God’s timing.
2. Jesus asks for trust even when fear all is lost and there is no hope.
3. Jesus’ actions reveal the tender compassion and tremendous power of God.
4. Faith is to displace our anxieties and fears with peace in God’s character and timing.
5. Sometimes apparent failures are really victories in disguise.

**Example
of Jesus being IN but not OF
the world.**

**Faith in God’s love, power,
and timing remove our
anxiety when all seems lost.**

Romans 8:25

“But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we **wait** eagerly for it.”

Philippians 3:20

“For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly **wait** for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;”

John 15

“⁴ **Abide** in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it **abides** in the vine, so neither can you, unless you **abide** in Me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches; he who **abides** in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing ⁶ If anyone does not **abide** in Me, he is thrown away as a branch, and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. ⁷ If you **abide** in Me, and My words **abide** in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you. ⁸ By this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. ⁹ Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; **abide** in My love. ¹⁰ If you keep My commandments, you will **abide** in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments, and **abide** in His love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.”

Faith involves waiting

- ✓ How long did Israel have to wait?
- ✓ How long did Daniel and his friends have to wait?
- ✓ How long did the Apostles have to wait?
- ✓ How long have the saints that have gone before us had to wait?
- ✓ Why are we confused when we have to wait?

Lessons for us today

1. Recognize the demonic spirit forces of our modern age, which center life on - ME, NOW, & STUFF.
2. Abiding in Christ = patient trust in his compassion, power, & wisdom.
3. Faith is trusting God's love and care and timing.

