

“JESUS – THE HEALER” Mark 1:29-34, 40-45

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INTRO – Video on “HOPE”

Jesus is in the healing business. He is the Healer &, today, He offers hope & healing for our lives in every area.

- Healing for marriage struggles
- ...depression
- ...addictions
- ...injustice
- ...grief
- ...rejection
- ...sickness & disease
- ...captivity
- ...bitterness & unforgiveness
- ...bleak future

The Bible is full of promises from the Lord about healing:

- Ps. 103:1-5 – “Bless the Lord, O my soul, & all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, & forget not 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 & mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.”

- Ps. 147:3 – “[The Lord] heals the broken-hearted & bandages their wounds.”
- Isa. 53:5 – “But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, & by his wounds we are healed.”
- Jer. 17:14 – “Heal me, O Lord, & I will be healed. Save me, O Lord, & I will be saved, for you are my praise.”
- Acts 9:32-35 – “Meanwhile, Peter traveled from place to place, and he came down to visit the believers in the town of Lydda. There he met a man named Aeneas, who had been paralyzed and bedridden for eight years. Peter said to him, “Aeneas, Jesus Christ heals you! Get up, and roll up your sleeping mat!” And he was healed instantly. Then the whole population of Lydda and Sharon saw Aeneas walking around, and they turned to the Lord.”

EXPLANATION – Open your Bibles to Mark 1:29-34, 40-45 (page **836** in pew Bible).

In these verses, we see Jesus involved in 3 beautiful, life-changing ministry activities:

- Healing – 1:29-31, 34a
- Casting out – 1:32-34b
- Cleaning – 1:40-42

Let's do a quick word study of these words:

- “healing” (v. 34a) – *therapeuo* – to heal, cure, serve, care for
- “cast out” (v. 34b) – *ekballo* – to expel, drive out, throw out, send out, exorcise a demon
- “clean” (v. 41) – *katharizo* – to make clean, cleanse, purify, purge

In each of these circumstances, the people involved were in a desperate place in their lives. Jesus met them in their desperation & changed their lives.

- Simon Peter's mother-in-law had a serious fever. Luke's account of this said it was a “high fever” or a “great fever” (KJV), a very violent one that would be very dangerous for an elderly person.
- Then we see in v. 32-34 that they kept bringing the sick, diseased, & demon-oppressed to Him & He kept healing them & setting them free.

- And then we see the leper whose life had been totally wrecked by his leprosy. Interesting that the leper used the word “clean.” He had been told his entire life that he was dirty, worthless, & an outcast. What a difference Jesus made in his life when he cleaned him up on the outside & on the inside!

Jesus made it clear in Mark 10:45 that He came “not to be served, but to serve & to give His life as a ransom for many.” We see Him living out this verse as He served person after person in their time & place of need, bringing His healing power, His delivering power, & His cleansing power into their lives. As one theologian said, “With a sense of mission and urgency Jesus is here and He is there ministering to this one and then another. He truly is the Servant of the Lord healing the physically sick and setting free spiritual prisoners held captive by the prince of darkness and his demonic hoards!” (<https://www.danielakin.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/Mark-1.29-34-A-Day-In-The-Life-Of-Jesus-Manuscript-ds1.pdf>)

APPLICATION – So, the question may come to our minds: Is He still doing these things today – healing, delivering, & cleansing? And the answer & application for us to day is a resounding YES!

He is still healing, delivering, & cleansing today. That's what He can do for us today. He can do this & much more than we can ever hope or imagine! Let's establish this truth right now – **God is still in the healing business!** And He graciously allows us as His children & Christ-followers to be involved with Him in it.

He heals, delivers, & cleanses when we pray –

The Church should pray for healing. And we should pray specifically for healing. The Bible teaches that the gift of healing has been given to the Church & to believers within the Church.

- 1 Cor. 12:7-11 – “A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge. The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the one Spirit gives the gift of healing. He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being

said. It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.” (NLT)

And we ought to earnestly desire the gift of healing as much as we pursue any other gift. Don't be afraid of it! Long for it!

- 1 Cor. 14:1 – “You should seek after love, and you should truly want to have the spiritual gifts...” (NCV)

Praying for healing for someone is not complicated. There's no special formula to use or incantation to say. Just pray. You don't have to say, “if it be thy will” every time either, although there's nothing wrong in saying those words. I believe we say those words sometimes to give God an “out” just in case the person doesn't get healed. Don't worry about that. Just pray & ask God to heal the person. He WILL answer. Answer may be yes, no, or later, but He WILL answer.

- **Pray specifically** – Pray for the person's healing specifically – “Father, I pray in the name of the Lord Jesus that Donna will be healed of her cancer.”
- **Pray believingly** – James 5:15 – “...the prayer that is said w/ faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will heal that person.”

- **Pray fervently** – James 5:16 – “...The effective, fervent prayer avails much.”
 - o AMP – “The heartfelt persistent prayer of a righteous man (believer) can accomplish much [when put into action & made effective by God – it is dynamic & can have tremendous power].”
- **Pray authoritatively** – Pray in Jesus’ name b/c we have no authority over healing – only He does.

He heals, delivers, & cleanses in whatever way will bring Him glory – When God brings healing to someone, it is always for His glory. It is always to magnify Him – who He is & the power that He has to heal, deliver, & cleanse.

- **If He will receive the most glory by healing a person’s physical illness in this life, then that is what He will do & we can rest in that truth.**
- If He will receive the most glory in healing a person by allowing them to pass from this life into the next, then that is what He will do & we can rest in that truth, as well.

God is jealous for His own glory. He will not give His glory to anyone else. His ultimate goal is to uphold & magnify the glory of His name.

As difficult as it is sometimes when we or someone we love is in the throes of a physical illness, disease, or debilitating condition, we must always remember that God is working all things together for our good & for His glory, no matter how things may look from our human perspective.

- **He created us for his glory.**
- He gave His Son as our Redeemer for His glory.
- **He called us for His glory.**
- He saved us for His glory.
- **He doesn’t cast us away for His glory.**
- He allows suffering & sickness, even death, for His glory.
- **Everything that happens in our lives will reinforce & reflect His glory.**

We must remember that, when God does not bring healing in this life even after we’ve prayed for it, then there is a greater reason that we may not be able to comprehend right now. Isa. 55:8-9 tells us that His thoughts & His ways are not like ours, but are higher than ours.

- Joni Eareckson Tada – diving accident left her paralyzed – prayed for healing that didn’t come. 45 yrs later: **“God may remove your suffering, and that will be great cause**

for praise. But if not, He will use it, He will use anything and everything that stands in the way of His fellowship with you. So let God mold you and make you, transform you from glory to glory. That's the deeper healing"

He heals, delivers, & cleanses so we can point others to Him – When God heals someone, He does it for the common good of the Church & as a witness to the watching world. We certainly can't expect that every illness or injury will be healed. Each of us will eventually succumb to some physical condition that will end our physical life, unless we are still alive when the Rapture happens.

But when the healing does happen, the common good is multifaceted. It brings joy, encouragement, strength, courage, perseverance, faith, & opportunities to share the Gospel w/ others.

And healing is also a witness to the lost world that Jesus Christ is Lord, & that His Kingdom is steadily advancing against the kingdom of Satan's darkness. Healing bears witness to the Gospel that we proclaim, that Jesus is taking back the

ground from Satan. It's a reminder to us all that there will be a day coming soon when there will be no more sickness or death b/c Jesus will reign forever as King of kings & Lord of lords!

CONCLUSION – So what kind of healing do YOU need today?

- Physical?
- Relational?
- Emotional?
- Spiritual?