# **Bible Verses on Health and Healing**

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# <u> The Great Healer</u> –

"<sup>2</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: <sup>3</sup>Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases." (Psalm 103:2,3)

The Healer of the blind, deaf, dumb, and lame – "<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. <sup>6</sup>Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert." (Isaiah 35:5,6)

"Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise." (Jeremiah 17:14)

#### Jesus, the Healer

<sup>(18</sup>While he spake these things unto them, behold, there came a certain ruler, and worshipped him, saying, My daughter is even now dead: but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live. <sup>19</sup>And Jesus arose, and followed him, and so did his disciples.

<sup>20</sup>And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment: <sup>21</sup>For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole. <sup>22</sup>But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour. <sup>23</sup>And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the minstrels and the people making a noise, <sup>24</sup>He said unto them, "Give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn. <sup>25</sup>But when the people were put forth, he went in, and took her by the hand, and the maid arose. <sup>26</sup>And the fame hereof went abroad into all that land." (Matthew 9:18-25)

## Jesus Healed the Blind

<sup>"27</sup>And when Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying, Thou Son of David, have mercy on us. <sup>28</sup>And when he was come into the house, the blind men came to him: and Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, Lord. <sup>29</sup>Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you. <sup>30</sup>And their eyes were opened; and Jesus straitly charged them, saying, See that no man know it. <sup>31</sup>But they, when they were departed, spread abroad his fame in all that country." (Matthew 9:27-31) Jesus Healed the Dumb and the Demon Possessed

<sup>"32</sup>As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil. <sup>33</sup>And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel." (Matthew 9:32-33)

Jesus, the Healer of Every Sickness and Disease

"And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people." (Matthew 9:35)

Jesus Has Authority over Sickness

"And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power... to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease." (Matthew 10:1)

"<sup>11</sup>And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering. <sup>12</sup>And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go. <sup>14</sup>But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; <sup>15</sup>And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all." (Acts 3:11-16)

Jesus Restored the Mutilated and Mangled

"Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel." (Matthew 15:31)

Maim – mutilate, mangle, cripple, deprive of the use of a limb or limbs

Jesus Healed from Fever

<sup>"38</sup>And he arose out of the synagogue, and entered into Simon's house. And Simon's wife's mother was taken with a great fever; and they besought him for her. <sup>39</sup>And he stood over her, and rebuked the fever; and it left her: and immediately she arose and ministered unto them." (Luke 4:38,39)

Healing Power Went Out from Jesus

"And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all." (Luke 6:19) Jesus healed all who touched Him and desired His healing

Healing (Physical and Spiritual) Comes from Above, Not from the Power of Man

"<sup>19</sup>And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another? <sup>20</sup>When the men were come unto him, they said, John Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another? <sup>21</sup>And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight. <sup>22</sup>Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached. <sup>23</sup>And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me." (Luke 7:19-23)

Sickness Caused by Satan: God Heals When It Glorifies Him and He Has Power over Satan

"<sup>10</sup>And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. <sup>11</sup>And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. <sup>12</sup>And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. <sup>13</sup>And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. <sup>14</sup>And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day. <sup>15</sup>The Lord then answered him, and said, "Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? <sup>16</sup>And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day? " (Luke 13:10-16)

Sometimes Satan can oppress and cause illness; but God has power even over that. God has all power to release from illness, even if it caused by the oppression of Satan. In this case, God chose to heal this woman who had been bound by Satan many years. In the case of the Apostle Paul, God allowed him to continue to be afflicted by Satan.

This account illustrates God's power over Satan. Satan may think he has a person where he wants them, but Satan is no match for God. God will heal when that will get Him glory. This account illustrates that God is not bound by time. This woman had been in this condition for eighteen years. That made no difference to Jesus. All He had to do was speak the word and she was healed. Jesus healed this woman on the Sabbath day. The religious leaders did not think that this was the right time for people to be healed. However, God cares for us every day of the year. He does not need a special time or place to do the healing. And it seemed fit to Him to loose this woman from her bondage to Satan on the Sabbath day.

#### Healing in God's Timing

"<sup>1</sup>After this there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep market a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches. <sup>3</sup>In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water. <sup>4</sup>For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had. <sup>5</sup>And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole? <sup>7</sup>The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me. <sup>8</sup>Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk." (John 5:1-8)

There was a certain man with an infirmity who had waited thirty-eight years for healing. God knew he was there. God knew this man was waiting by the pool of Bethesda, just waiting for his healing. He told Jesus, "Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool." For thirty-eight years he had tried to get into the pool, but others always got there before him. For thirty-eight years, no one came along and was willing to help him get in. But, when God knew it was the right time for this man to be healed, He sent Jesus. Jesus did not need to put the man in the pool. All He had to do was speak the word and the man was healed. Sometimes we wait a long time for healing. We think it may not be God's will for us to be healed, but maybe it is just His will for us to wait. When the time is right that God will be glorified in our healing, then He will heal. Until then, we cannot depend on the help of man. Man does not have the power to heal. All God has to do is speak the word, and we can become completely healed. We only have to wait on Him and rest in His will. If it is His will to heal, He will heal when the time is right.

Sickness for the Glory of God

# "When Jesus heard that, he said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby." (John 11:4)

The sickness, death, and resurrection of Lazarus were for the glory of God. These occurred so that people would know that Jesus had power over sickness and death. Jesus gave life back to Lazarus. Jesus could do this because, as He said, *"I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."* John 11:25,26) People would see that Jesus had power over death, that Jesus was the resurrection. Later, Jesus would lay down His own life. No man would take it from him. He had power to both lay it down and take it again. Jesus said, "Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father." (John 10:17,18)

We do not need to fear sickness, or even death, because Jesus is the Healer, and He is the resurrection and the life. There is no power greater than God – not even sickness and death.

Healing that Reveals the One True God

<sup>"8</sup>And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked: <sup>9</sup>The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, <sup>10</sup>Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked. <sup>11</sup>And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men. <sup>12</sup>And they called Barnabas, Jupiter; and Paul, Mercurius, because he was the chief speaker. <sup>13</sup>Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people. <sup>14</sup>Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out, <sup>15</sup>And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein: <sup>16</sup>Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways. <sup>17</sup>Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness. <sup>18</sup>And with these sayings scarce restrained they the people, that they had not done sacrifice unto them." (Acts 4:8-18)

When Paul went to Lystra to preach the gospel there, he saw a man who had the faith to be healed. He told him to stand upright on his feet, and the man leaped and walked. The people thought that the gods had come down to them, and the people were about to worship Barnabas and Paul. This grieved Barnabas and Paul very much. They had come to teach them to turn from the vanities of following other gods. Only the one true God has power over sickness. He can heal even those who are crippled from birth. God's hand is not shortened that He is unable to heal. Sometimes His healing shows that He is all powerful while the false gods have no power. Sadly, the people misunderstood this message, but their misunderstanding gave another opportunity for Paul and Barnabas to explain the truth to them once more.

When God is Not Glorified By Healing

Sometimes it is not God's will for a person to be healed. The Apostle Paul experienced this hardship and records it in II Corinthians 12:7-10, "<sup>7</sup>And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. <sup>8</sup>For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. <sup>9</sup>And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup>Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong."

When God chooses not to heal, it is because He will be more glorified in a person's infirmity than in their healing. God always has a reason for not healing. In Paul's case, he knew God did not heal him because God wanted him to stay humble. Paul had many revelations from God. There was a danger that he would be exalted above measure and begin to trust in his own power. God wanted to remind Paul that Paul's strength comes from God, not from himself. Without God, Paul could do nothing. When Paul was weak, then he was strong because he depended on God's strength and God worked through him.

When we go through infirmities, if God chooses not to heal us, we can know that there is a reason. If we seek His face, perhaps He will reveal this reason to us. Or perhaps we may not know the reason until we reach Heaven. Whatever the case, we know that, if God chooses not to heal us, it is because He will be more glorified through our infirmity than through our healing. With God's help, we can take pleasure in our infirmities. This does not necessarily mean we enjoy having our infirmity. No, we take pleasure in that God is glorified and others see a right view of Him because of our lives. We take pleasure in having the opportunity to develop a closer relationship and walk with God because of our infirmity. We take pleasure in getting to know God better and in knowing that this is His will for us and this is the best way He can use us. God chooses to heal many people; but we know that, if God chooses not to heal, there is a very good reason.

#### Healing Hindered by Sin

James 5:13-16 says, "<sup>13</sup>Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. <sup>14</sup>Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: <sup>15</sup>And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. <sup>16</sup>Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

If there is sin in the body of Christ, or in a local church body, this can affect the whole body. Some members may become ill. If they so desire, these members can call for the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil. God will hear the prayer and raise up the sick. But there is a condition to this healing given in verse sixteen, "Confess your faults one to another, and pray for one another, that ye may be healed." In this context is given the assurance that "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

What kind of sicknesses in the body of Christ will cause members to become ill. The Bible does not tell what all of them may be, but it does tell about one. I Corinthians 11:23-31 says, "<sup>23</sup>For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: <sup>24</sup>And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. <sup>25</sup>After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. <sup>26</sup>For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. <sup>27</sup>Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup. <sup>28</sup>But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. <sup>29</sup>For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself,

not discerning the Lord's body. <sup>30</sup>For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. <sup>31</sup>For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged."

I Peter 4:17 says, "For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?"

It is important to look at our lives and see if we are harboring sin there. Are we coming to the Lord's table with an unclean heart? Is this causing sickness in the body? Are there many people in the body who are sick? Then perhaps it is time to take a close look and do a good examination. Well, we say, "So and so is sick a lot, and they are a strong Christian. Why would they get sick?" Well, the verses do not say that the sick person or the sick people are necessarily the one or ones who partook unworthily. They say that some are partaking unworthily, and, for that reason, there are many sick among them. In James chapter five, it says regarding the sick person, "if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him." Yet the passage goes on to say, "Confess your faults one to another, and pray for one another, that ye may be healed." One person's sin always affects others. If there is a lot of sickness among the saints in the church, it may help to start looking inward and seeing if there is sin that needs to be confessed. Then we can pray for one another. We may be amazed to see how the Lord works in hearts and bodies.

Sickness Caused By Sin and Rebellion

Sometimes sickness is caused by sin, by rebellion against God's word. Sometimes we bring it upon ourselves by refusing to obey God's word. God warned Israel that sickness would result if they refused to obey His word, "<sup>14</sup>But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments; <sup>15</sup>And if ye shall despise my statutes, or if your soul abhor my judgments, so that ye will not do all my commandments, but that ye break my covenant: <sup>16</sup>I also will do this unto you; I will even appoint over you terror, consumption, and the burning ague, that shall consume the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart: and ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it." (Leviticus 26:14-16)

Remember also from the verses we looked at previously, that sin in the body of Christ hurts all the members of the body. Those that took communion, or the Lord's supper, without dealing with known sin in their lives, caused hurt in the congregation. Because some were partaking unworthily, many were sick among them and man slept (had died) Sometimes people who do obey God's word and live a very godly life suffer greatly with illness. However, I believe we could avoid much of our illness if we would only hear and obey the word of God. He has given it to us for our wellbeing.

Psalm 38 gives a long description of how sick and miserable a body can feel when a person is walking in sin. There is no peace or rest to the spirit or body.

The Deliverance of the Lord Brings Health

While sin and rebellion in the body of Christ may cause sickness or even death among God's people, the deliverance of God and the forgiveness of those who were in sin will heal relationship with God and restore health.

<sup>"22</sup>For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us... <sup>24</sup>And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity." (Isaiah 33:22,24)

Praise and Service to the Lord When Healing is Granted

If we are healed, we owe to God all praise and our service too. "<sup>5</sup>Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful. <sup>6</sup>The LORD preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me. <sup>7</sup>Return unto thy rest, O my soul; for the LORD hath dealt bountifully with thee. <sup>8</sup>For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling. <sup>9</sup>I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living. <sup>10</sup>I believed, therefore have I spoken: I was greatly afflicted.... <sup>12</sup>What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me? <sup>13</sup>I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD. <sup>14</sup>I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people." (Psalm 116:5-10 and 12-14)

The Fear of the LORD Results in Healthy Children

It is true that there are many Christians whose children suffer illnesses and so on. However, there are many things that would afflict the unrighteous that do not often afflict those who fear the Lord and train their children in the fear of the Lord and nurture them in the things of the Lord. Doing these things will help raise godly children who are not drunk, running around and getting diseases, or living recklessly and putting themselves in unnecessary danger. "Blessed is every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways. <sup>2</sup>For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee. <sup>3</sup>Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table. <sup>4</sup>Behold, that thus shall the man be blessed that feareth the LORD." (Psalm 128:1-4)

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made

We can come to God for help when our bodies have trouble. He can help us because He made us, and we are fearfully and wonderfully made. *"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well."* (Psalm 139:14)

The Fear of the LORD Prevents Early Death

"<sup>17</sup>Be not over much wicked, neither be thou foolish: why shouldest thou die before thy time? <sup>18</sup>It is good that thou shouldest take hold of this; yea, also from this withdraw not thine hand: for he that feareth God shall come forth of them all." (Ecclesiastes 7:17,18)

A person who lives wickedly and foolishly is much more likely to die "before his time." Perhaps he/she drinks until they are sick. Maybe they are driving around quickly and showing off. Maybe they are going from party to party. Maybe they are doing some other "exciting" and dangerous thing. All this may bring a thrill for a season; but that thrill is only temporary. The person who lives in the fear of the Lord will come forth, or come out, from those who live wickedly and foolishly. The person who lives in the fear of the Lord will be saved from the terrible consequences of wicked and foolish actions.

God Can Heal Even a Sickness Unto Death

"<sup>1</sup>In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die, and not live. <sup>2</sup>Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, <sup>3</sup>And said, Remember now, O LORD, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore. <sup>4</sup>Then came the word of the LORD to Isaiah, saying, <sup>5</sup>Go, and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years. <sup>6</sup>And I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria: and I will defend this city." (Isaiah 38:1-6)

Hezekiah was sick unto death. The Lord told him to put his house in order for he was going to die. When Hezekiah heard this, he turned his face toward the wall and cried out to the Lord. The Lord heard Hezekiah's prayer and granted him healing. Sometimes, when God grants us healing from a serious illness, He does not heal simply by speaking. God did tell Hezekiah, "I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold I will add unto thy days fifteen years." However, God also gave Hezekiah a remedy to use. In his praise to the Lord for his healing, Hezekiah said, "<sup>19</sup>The living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known thy truth. <sup>20</sup>The LORD was ready to save me: therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the LORD. <sup>21</sup>For Isaiah had said, **Let them take a lump of figs, and lay it for a plaister upon the boil**, and he shall recover." (Isaiah 38:19-21) God told Isaiah to have Hezekiah use a lump of figs for a poultice on his boil. That was the remedy God had given for Hezekiah's sickness unto death. Hezekiah was careful to give God credit and praise for his healing.

If God chooses to heal us from a sickness unto death, God may tell us a remedy to use. It is important to remember when we are healed that the remedy did not bring about the healing. God brought about the healing. If we use the remedy God gives, we will get healed; but it is still God that does the healing.

## Good Health is a Godly Wish for Others

III John verses 2-4 says, "<sup>2</sup>Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth. <sup>3</sup>For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth. <sup>4</sup>I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth." John wished for Gaius good physical health to go with his good spiritual health. Gaius' spiritual health was made strong by walking in the truth, and his soul prospered. John wished for him to prosper in life and health as well. These are good things to pray and wish for others, that God would bless them with good health and the things they need just as He blesses them with spiritual prosperity as they walk in the truth. There is nothing more joyful than knowing that others walk in truth.