



Divine Healing

Lesson 5: Questions People Often Ask About Divine Healing

Introduction

We have already looked at several hindrances to healing and studied the Book of Job.

However, there are other ideas and teachings in the Body of Christ that have not been accurate have made it difficult for people to receive physical healing.

In this lesson we will tear down a few other “strongholds” that stand in the way of people living the abundant life Jesus desires for them.

How God Disciplines

To look at this subject we want to be careful to see what the Bible says and not our opinions or things we have been taught in the past.

Proverbs 3:11, 12

What do we learn from this passage?

- We should not despise the chastening of the Lord.

- _____

Hebrews 12:5-11

This does not tell us how God disciplines.

We do know:

- He disciplines us.
- We should not despise it.
- He does it out of love for us.

- It is not always joyful but can be painful.

Definition of CHASTEN (Greek – PAIDEIA):

- Chasten

- _____

- _____

- Train

Let's look at the word PAIDEIA in the New Testament

Acts 7:22

LEARNED (Greek – PAIDEIA):

- Instructed
- Trained

God will PAIDEIA you when you are doing something wrong and when you are doing something right. He trains and instructs all of the time.

Discipline and instruction are parts of the same thing.

God disciplines us _____

Ephesians 6:4

TRAINING is the word PAIDEIA

2 Timothy 3:16, 17

INSTRUCTION is the word PAIDEIA

God disciplines us with _____

According to verse 17, you are made complete and equipped by the Word, not by sickness and disease.

God does not use the devil to teach you. He uses His Word.

Matthew 7:11

The Sovereignty of God

Definition of SOVEREIGN:

- _____
- Supreme in power and authority
- Having independent authority

Definition of SOVEREIGNTY (noun):

- _____
- Power to govern without external control

The word SOVEREIGN is used in the New International Version.

However, the word SOVEREIGN does not appear in other translations or in the original Greek text.

When someone says, “God is sovereign,” they tend to mean the following:

- God can do whatever He wants.
- God heals those whom He wants to heal and chooses not to heal others.
- If it happens it must be God’s will.
- God is in control.

1. _____

John 1:1

Psalm 138:2 – Amplified Bible

... for you have exalted above all else Your name and Your word and You have magnified Your word above all Your name.

Jeremiah 1:12

Definition of READY: _____

Jeremiah 1:12 could read this way – “I watch over my word to see it fulfilled.”

QUESTION: Can God do whatever He wants?

ANSWER: _____

2. _____

QUESTION: Is God in control?

ANSWER: Yes, but God's will does not always come to pass.

2 Peter 3:9

“If God wants him saved then he will get saved.”

No. – Why evangelize with this theology?

Ephesians 1:4, 5

If you read only this scripture you might think that everything results from God's will.

You must let scripture _____ scripture. What else does the Bible say?

Revelation 22:17

John 3:16

3. _____

1 Thessalonians 2:17, 18

4. _____

“Whatever will be, will be.”

NO – What about faith?

Mark 11:22-24

According to this passage, the responsibility rests on _____ to move your mountain.

“It will all happen in God's timing.”

You are saying that God will move the mountain when He wants to. But that is not scriptural.

Why did God give you faith to move mountains if “whatever will be will be”?

Luke 8:43-48

Paul's Thorn

Many people have come to believe that Paul's thorn was blindness or some kind of eye disease.

Let's look at what the Word of God teaches.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

QUESTION: What was Paul's thorn?

Paul, a scholar of the Old Testament, used an illustrative term borrowed from the Old Testament.

Numbers 33:55

Joshua 23:13

“Thorns” or “thorn in the side” were terms used to describe people who were enemies of God.

2 Corinthians 12:7

Paul's thorn was a personality, _____

It had nothing to do with sickness.

QUESTION: What about Paul's blindness?

Paul was blinded on the road to Damascus but was healed.

Acts 9:18

Galatians 6:11

Why was he writing large? – Why do you write some things with large letters?

We write with large letters to stress the importance of certain things.

QUESTION: What was Paul's thorn?

ANSWER: _____

QUESTION: How did Paul's thorn operate?

2 Corinthians 12:7

Definition of BUFFET: To hit time and again, blow after blow

The messenger of Satan _____

The same Greek word is used in Mark 14:65 (beat).

Mark 14:65

QUESTION: How did Paul's thorn operate?

ANSWER: _____

QUESTION: Why did Paul get this thorn in the flesh?

2 Corinthians 12:7

Paul was doing much for God, therefore he got attacked more by Satan.

QUESTION: What did this thorn do to Paul?

2 Corinthians 11:22-28

Here Paul mentions all he is going through. Sickness and sin are not mentioned.

Galatians 6:17 *From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus.*

The marks are scars of wounds inflicted on him by persecutions.

2 Corinthians 12:8, 9

Definition of GRACE: _____

God's grace was sufficient each time.

God gave him grace (empowerment) to overcome.

Acts 14:19, 20

This is an incredible example of God's grace or empowerment to overcome the persecution.

2 Corinthians 12:9

Definition of INFIRMITIES: _____

Romans 8:26

Here a weakness is the _____

Hebrews 4:15

Here we see that temptations are a weakness.

2 Corinthians 12:10

Definition of REPROACHES: Persecution from haughty people; religious persecution

Definition of PERSECUTIONS: Persecutions

Definition of DISTRESSES: _____

QUESTION: What did Paul's thorn do?

ANSWER: It brought constant pressures from people who opposed the Gospel.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 – The Passion Translation

2 Corinthians 12:7 *The extraordinary level of the revelations I've received is no reason for anyone to exalt me. For this is why a thorn in my flesh was given to me, the Adversary's messenger sent to harass me, keeping me from becoming arrogant.*

2 Corinthians 12:8 *Three times I pleaded with the Lord to relieve me of this.*

2 Corinthians 12:9 *But he answered me, "My grace is always more than enough for you, and my power finds its full expression through your weakness." So I will celebrate my weaknesses, for when I'm weak I sense more deeply the mighty power of Christ living in me.*

2 Corinthians 12:10 *So I'm not defeated by my weakness, but delighted! For when I feel my weakness and endure mistreatment—when I'm surrounded with troubles on every side and face persecution because of my love for Christ—I am made yet stronger. For my weakness becomes a portal to God's power.*

Wine for Timothy's Stomach

In 1 Timothy 5, Paul gives instructions to help Timothy pastor his church and also some practical advice.

1 Timothy 5:22, 23

"Do not lay hands on anyone hastily" is not referring to praying for the sick. It is speaking about ordaining someone into ministry.

The Greek word for "wine" is the same word used for the grape and for grape juice.

In the day Timothy lived in, wine had very little alcohol content and sometimes none at all.

For example, you would have to drink twenty-one glasses of wine to equal the alcohol content in two martinis today.

So, why didn't Paul tell Timothy to stand in faith for his healing?

The water quality back in that day was poor. It was causing Timothy to have stomach issues. So Paul says, use a little wine for the sake of your stomach.

Timothy's stomach condition was not a matter of divine healing but of divine health.

In this case, the answer was on the natural side, not the spiritual side.

It was the water that was causing the problem. If Jesus healed Timothy, he would have gone right back and got sick again when he drank the water.

So the adjustment that he needed to make was not a matter of faith. It was a matter of changing what he was putting into his mouth.

You cannot violate laws of nature and get God's power to work in your body.

If your lifestyle is causing you to have physical problems or is leading to sickness or disease in your body, then divine healing is not your answer.