

# *Adventures in God*

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## **I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?**

### **Chapter 10 - Health & Long Life**

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The belief that God is in control of when it is your time to die and that nobody can stop it when it comes has been prevalent in the church. Even the people in the world who don't believe in God as we have adopted this belief. But is it in the Bible?

**Sponsored by:** Adventures in God

# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

## Health & Long Life

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The older I get, the more I love what the Bible teaches on long life. It seems good for me to live a long life, especially when I think about all the things I have not yet done that are in my heart to do. The older I get, the more experience I have had, and the more wisdom I can share to help people around me.

Too many break down with sickness and weakness and aging just when God needs them most. I have resolved not to allow this. I will continue practicing what I preach about my health as I have been doing.

Those who say that God's in control of everything, including when you die, don't understand what the Bible teaches on this subject. Though they read the Bible, they cannot see what the Bible teaches because of their religious lens. What they have heard blinds them to the truth.

There is so much in scripture that shows that our lifespan depends more upon our decisions and lifestyle than on the will of God. Let's take a new look and conform ourselves to what the Bible teaches on long life. Let's reject traditions and teachings that contradict the Bible.

There are many "if then" statements in the Bible. There is our part and God's part in almost every provision God has given.

In computer programming, there is what is called an "if then statement" The statement would look something like this: "If these conditions are true, then this will happen. If these other conditions are true, then this other thing will happen."

If you write an error in your code in your computer program and you try to run it, it won't run. If you get a punctuation mark wrong, the entire program will stop until you fix it. It may say something like

# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

“fatal error.” The first time this happened to me, it was very alarming. But it ended up being easy to fix—just one slight error had to be adjusted. Then the entire program ran perfectly.

What did Jesus say?

*For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.*

*Matthew 5:18 (NKJV)*

The Bible is more certain than a program you write for a computer. If an “if-then” statement works flawlessly in programming, how much more reliable is a biblical “if-then” statement? How much sure is God’s Word than anything in the natural world?

If you don’t live according to the God’s natural laws in Creation or His spiritual; laws of right and wrong, then you won’t get the best results in life—including in the length of life.

You may have one jot or tittle out of place. There may be some small area you are missing it in. Take the time to look for “if then” statements in the Bible. God always gives us our part to play. If we do our part, He will do His. So much of what God does in our lives is in response to what we do.

You will find this principle throughout the entire Bible. You can count on the fact that the Word will work—both positively and negatively. The law of sowing and reaping is a controlling law of all creation.

## Job

Let’s talk about Job. Just about everybody has heard of Job. He is that guy who went through a series of trials and suffered, but most people don’t know the full story of Job. They only know about his suffering. After his suffering, he lived many more years and prospered.

God blessed Job in his early life. Then came a time when the devil challenged and tested him. He had a sickness, and he lost children, and his wife started accusing him.

What many don’t realize is that this time of suffering in his life lasted around a year, and at the end of that time, he encountered God and repented. The trials of Job were only a small part of his entire life.

God blessed him more at the end of his life than at the beginning. He lived a blessed life for 140 years after his suffering. People should therefore consider Job as a blessed man more than a suffering one.

# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

Look at this passage from the end of the book of Job.

*“The Lord restored the fortunes of Job when he prayed for his friends, and the Lord increased all that Job had twofold. And the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; for he had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 yoke of oxen, and 1,000 female donkeys. After this, Job lived 140 years, and saw his sons and his sons’ sons, even to four generations. So Job died, an old man and full of days.”*

*Job 42:10, 12, 16-17 (NASB)*

Notice this, that the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning. He had double the blessings. After his short time of trial, Job lived 140 years longer. His trial was a very short part of his life. We all go through hard times. We all go through times when things seem to go wrong and don’t work.

Job’s life was described at the time of his death as blessed; He was an old man full of days. This sounds like a long blessed life.

Contrary to what many believe and teach, the length of your life is more up to you than God. It depends on many things: your faith, your knowledge and beliefs, your thoughts and emotions, as well as your lifestyle, maybe somewhat on heredity.

Many times, when we get to a certain age, maybe it is 60 or maybe it is 70, we think, “it’s time to wind down now, my life is almost over”. Instead of this, I am going to take the opinion that the Lord is blessing my latter days more than my beginning days. This is based on scripture. All the promises of God are yes and amen for me. Anything good that happened to anyone in the Bible I can claim for myself.

While many claim the trials of Job, I claim the blessings of Job. Job died an old man full of days. People will say this kind of thing about me at the end of my life. Why? Because I choose to live long and continue to line up my life to the will of God—and therefore I will prosper, be in health, and live long on this earth.

## Who Determines Your Time of Death?

*“And just as it is appointed for [all] men once to die, and after that the judgment.”*

*Hebrews 9:27 (NKJV)*



# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

Some people use the scripture in Hebrews 9:27 to “prove” that God is in control of the length of your life. They take from this it that there is a specific day for people to die. They say things over someone who dies like, “His time has come.” They think there is a specific day set apart for your death.

I don’t see this at all in the verse. The verse says it is appointed for all men to die once, but it says nothing about a specific time. All men will die once. This proves there is no reincarnation. Everyone will die, and after that, there is a judgment Everyone (except maybe the last generation) will die, but the time isn’t up to God. Scripture clearly teaches that your lifespan is more in your hands than God’s.

People are under the mistaken belief that when someone dies (even young) that God “took them.” Some even make up reasons why it happened. Things like, “God needed them more than you do. He knew that if they lived longer, they’d get into trouble.” People have said many things like this, trying to comfort one another when someone died young,

But these words are a lie, and I think it is probable that more people have turned from God by hearing these words than to God. If you think God took your child or he took your husband, how are you supposed to trust Him?

There are many things we don’t understand. We don’t always know why many times someone dies early. But it isn’t God’s fault. He didn’t take them.

I believe God will give you wisdom why someone in your family died early if you ask Him. He probably won’t give you wisdom about why someone outside of your circle of friends and family died. It is none of your business. But make sure the wisdom you receive is according to scripture, not tradition.

These beliefs about death, though widely accepted, are not truth; they are not at all scriptural. What does scripture teach concerning long life? If the day of your death isn’t in God’s hands, what determines when you die? Who or what decides the length of your life?

There are many things, natural things, spiritual things, the way we live, and things we have believed and said throughout our lives that can influence our lifespan.

The Bible has much to say about things that contribute to a long life and things that might cut it short. Let’s not look for some “mysterious” reason God has for “taking” someone before their time. Let’s look at the Word of God. And Let’s conform our beliefs to what we find there.

After seeing what the Bible teaches, we will have to renew our minds to think as God thinks, rather than persisting in our traditions—if we want to live long lives. There are many things we can do to lengthen our lives. And there are things we can do that will shorten them.

# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

We are going to go through many verses. Look for patterns in these scriptures. Take the time to look them up for yourself and write them out. This will help the truths presented in them become real to you.

The more scripture you find that supports an idea, the more certain you can be in convictions in that area. We shouldn't base doctrines on ideas that appear only once or twice, but on those consistently presented throughout the entire Bible.

## Long-Life Scriptures

*"Then Abraham's spirit was released, and he died at a good (ample, full) old age (175 years), an old man, satisfied and satiated, and was gathered to his people."*

*Genesis 25:8 (AMPC)*

Abraham died at an old age, satisfied with life. We are the Sons of Abraham, and his blessings belong to us. You can die at an old age and be satisfied with life.

*"But you shall serve the Lord your God, and He will bless your bread and your water; and I will remove sickness from your midst. There shall be no one miscarrying or barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days."*

*Exodus 23:25-26 (NASB)*

If it is possible to fulfill the number of your days, it is also possible to not fulfill the number of your days. So, who is up to whether or not you fulfill the number of your days? Here it is connected to whether you serve God. It also seems connected to God blessing your food and water.

*"Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you, that your days may be prolonged and that it may go well with you on the land which the Lord your God gives you."*

*Deuteronomy 5:16 (NASB)*

If you honor your parents, your life will be longer. If you hold things against your parents and refuse to honor them, it can cut your life short.

What if they mistreated you? What if they were imperfect parents? The Bible doesn't say you don't have to honor them if they were bad parents. To enjoy the long life promised in this verse, you will have to do it and not make excuses or reason why it doesn't apply to you.

The New Testament provides further information on this commandment.

# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

*“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), So that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth.”*

*Ephesians 6:1-3 (NASB)*

In this verse in Ephesians, the New Testament mentions this same commandment with its blessing. It adds that you will live a long life on earth if you honor and obey your parents. If you hate your parents, even as an adult, it could cut your life short. So, for your own sake, if you want to live a long, healthy life, forgive your parents.

*“You shall walk in all the ways that the Lord your God has commanded you, that you may live, and that it may go well with you, and that you may live long in the land that you shall possess.”*

*Deuteronomy 5:33 (AMPC)*

If you walk in God's ways, you will live long. Could the opposite be true? If you don't walk in God's ways, your life will be shorter.

*“That you may [reverently] fear the Lord your God, you and your son and your son's son, and keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged.”*

*Deuteronomy 6:2 (AMPC)*

Fearing the Lord (knowing and reverencing Him) and keeping His Word will prolong your days.

*“And if you will go My way, keep My statutes and My commandments as your father David did, then I will lengthen your days “*

*1Kings 3:14 (AMPC)*

This implies that if you don't keep His word, He won't lengthen your days, and your days will be shortened. In most cases, people who follow God's word and principles will live longer than those who don't.

These verses all say the same things in slightly different words. Keeping His Word and living according to God's ways will prolong your life. Not keeping the Word and not living according to His laws will shorten your life.

# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

When God created the world, He set up spiritual and natural laws. These are still in effect. If we live contrary to them, we will reap what we sow. We will bring our own ways upon our heads.

Take the time to look at the references in the Bible where it mentions someone's way coming upon them. The law of sowing and reaping is what rules our lives on earth—not some arbitrary will or purpose of God.

*“Behold, how happy is the man whom God reproves, so don’t despise the discipline of the Almighty... You shall come to your grave in ripe old age, and as a shock of grain goes up [to the threshing floor] in its season.”*

*Job 5:17, 26 (NASB)*

The one who God reproves and corrects will come to their grave at a ripe old age. Does this mean someone who doesn't receive correction might have a shorter life?

You don't have to be perfect to live a long life, but you need to be moving forward in the knowledge of God. Be correctable and open to change.

*“He asked life of you; you gave it to him, length of days forever and ever.”*

*Psalms 21:4 (NASB)*

Prayer has something to do with the length of your life. You can pray for a long life.

*“My son, don’t forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you.”*

*Proverbs 3:1-2 (NASB)*

Keeping God's Word from your heart will add length of days, years of life, and peace to you.

*“How blessed is the man who finds wisdom and the man who gains understanding. Length of days is in her right hand, and in her left hand are riches and honor.”*

*Proverbs 3:13, 16 (NASB)*

God's wisdom will lengthen your days if you follow it. Long life goes with wisdom.

*“Hear, my son, and accept my sayings and the years of your life will be many.”*

*Proverbs 4:10 (NASB)*



# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

*“The fear of the Lord prolongs life, But the years of the wicked will be shortened.  
Proverbs 10:27 (NASB)*

These verses all speak of serving the Lord, knowing His Word and ways, walking in His wisdom, and other related things. These are the things that will increase your life’s length.

Notice the end of this verse. It says that the years of the wicked will be short.

What if you come from a family where many die early? These kinds of things can be generational. If you know the Lord, you are free and redeemed from the curse. You can stop this for yourself and for future generations.

Take authority over it and break it. But your life habits will also have to adjust. Much of what we call generational curses are learned behaviors and habits we pass down.

Learn God’s ways, and walk in His wisdom, and teach these things to your children and grandchildren. Some things might be inherited, but most of it comprises generational habits, not curses.

According to these verses in Proverbs, to whom is the length of your life up? It is plainly up to you.

You can choose to serve the Lord or not. You can choose to learn His Word and live according to His ways. Or you can live contrary to God and His ways—and you will reap the results.

If you do your part, God will do His. He isn’t against you. He loves you. He supports you. God sent Jesus to save you, not to judge you. It isn’t a matter of guilt—but the law of sowing and reaping is still in effect (Galatians 6:6-7).

That is why the length of your life depends on your lifestyle and your beliefs.

## The Apostle Paul’s Example

*“For me to live is Christ [His life in me], and to die is gain [the gain of the glory of eternity]. If, however, it is to be life in the flesh and I am to live on here, that means fruitful service for me; so I can say nothing as to my personal preference [I cannot choose], But I am hard pressed between the two. My yearning desire is to depart (to be free of this world, to set forth) and be with Christ, for that is far, far better; But to remain in my body is more needful and essential for your*

# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

*sake. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I shall remain and stay by you all, to promote your progress and joy in believing.”*

*Philippians 1:21-25 (AMPC)*

Paul believed he could choose the length of his life, when he was done with his work on earth, and when it was time to go on to heaven.

This is an interesting passage. Paul believed he had a preference as to when he died. He believed it was his choice. He asks himself, “Do I stay here, live longer, and continue to preach the Gospel, or do I go home and be with Jesus?” His desire for himself was to go to live in heaven with Jesus. But he stayed on earth longer because it was more beneficial to them.

These scriptures show certain actions and attitudes lengthen your life. Other actions, however, shorten your life. Your day of death isn’t a predetermined day. There is much you can do or not do in your life that will determine the length of your life.

We can see from these verses that it isn’t up to God how long you live. It is more up to you.

## How Long is Long Life?

*“Because he has loved Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him securely on high, because he has known My name. He will call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With a long life I will satisfy him and let him see My salvation.”*

*Psalms 91:14-16 (NASB)*

God satisfies the one who loves Him, calls upon Him, and trusts Him with a long life. How long is a long life? What is a normal lifespan? This speaks of being satisfied with a long life. Are you satisfied yet? You can decide when you are satisfied with your life.

How long is a lifespan to be according to the Bible? When you look through the generations in the Bible and in history, normal lifespan has changed many times.

Before Noah, long life could have been 600, 700, 800, even 900 years. After Noah and the flood, normal lifespans were more in the 100 to 200 range for many generations.

In the Middle Ages, sometimes called the Dark Ages, lifespan was around 40. They lacked knowledge of health laws and effective ways to deal with infection, viruses, and other common health issues. The child mortality rate was very high for many years—even up to modern times.

# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

With increased medical knowledge and medical treatment, lifespans have come up. Lifespans are now around 80-90. There are some people who live over 100 but many people are 70 or 80 or 90 when they die.

People have mistakenly used the scripture in Psalm 90 to say that 70 or 80 is the normal lifespan. A review of the entire Bible shows that, before and after Psalm 90 was written, most people didn't live to 70 or 80.

*“Our iniquities, our secret heart and its sins [which we would so like to conceal even from ourselves], You have set in the [revealing] light of Your countenance. For all our days [out here in this wilderness, says Moses] pass away in Your wrath; we spend our years as a tale that is told [for we adults know we are doomed to die soon, without reaching Canaan]. The days of our years are threescore years and ten (seventy years)—or even, if by reason of strength, fourscore years (eighty years); yet is their pride [in additional years] only labor and sorrow, for it is soon gone, and we fly away.”*

*Psalms 90:8-10 (AMPC)*

Below is a quote in the margin on the Classic Amplified version concerning this psalm.

*“This psalm is credited to Moses who is interceding with God to remove the curse which made it necessary for every Israelite over twenty years of age to die before reaching the promised land. Moses says most of them are dying at seventy years of age. This number has often been mistaken as a set span of life for all mankind. It was not intended to refer to anyone except those Israelites under the curse during that particular forty years. Seventy years never has been the average span of life for humanity. When Jacob, the father of the twelve tribes had reached 130 years, he complained that he had not attained the years of his immediate ancestors. In fact, Moses himself lived to be 120 years old, Aaron 123, Miriam several years older, Joshua 110 years.”*

*Note on this Psalm in Classic Amplified Bible*

These are very interesting thoughts. Could it be that the Christian idea of the current lifespan and expectation to die at 70 or 80 might be based on misunderstanding?

I have heard of many people in these days, Christians and non-Christians, who are going for 120. There is no reason that the expected lifespan can't increase.

# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

For me, I plan to be healthy for my entire life. I don't want to stay here past when I am healthy and able to do what I need to. But I will stay until I am finished with what I am to do here.

You need to be spirit-led in all of this. Ask the Lord what He wants for you. Ask what He wants you to do. Whatever He tells you, you can live long enough to get it done. You don't have to die early.

There are many other considerations: what you eat and drink, your exercise habits, how you care for your body, your thought life, and the ability to manage stress. We covered these areas in the last few chapters. Go back over them if necessary.

Then you need to listen to your heart. If your heart says, "Don't eat that, then don't eat that." If you feel in your heart you need to start an exercise regime of some sort, then do it. Make your health decisions wisely and live them out.

Is there guilt involved for someone who dies early? Of course not! They get to go to heaven, and as the Apostle Paul said, that is far better. Can you decide not to live long on earth? Much of this is up to you.

In conclusion, we can see that our lifespan isn't up to God as much as it is up to us. It is partly a matter of choice. Part of it is our belief system and knowledge, the words we speak. And much is up to our lifestyle and whether we live according to God's ways.

Our lifestyle and natural health habits will affect how long we live—things like what we eat and how much we exercise, how we deal with stress, how we treat others, our bad habits like drinking too much, smoking, and drugs.

## Activations—Health & Aging Declarations

- I will die at a ripe old age (Genesis 15:15).
- I shall come to my grave at a full age, like as a shock of corn comes in its season (Job 5:26).
- He will take sickness away from the midst of me and the number of my days He will fulfill (Exodus 23:25).
- I will be in good health, and my days will be multiplied and prolonged similar to the days of heaven on earth (Deuteronomy 11:9).
- As my days, so shall my strength be (Deuteronomy 33:25).

# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

- I have found a ransom; my flesh shall be fresher than a child, and I shall return to the days of my youth (Job 33:24).
- He will preserve me and keep me alive (Psalm 41:2).
- The years of my life shall be many (Proverbs 4:10).
- He will renew my strength. He will strengthen and help me (Isaiah 40:31).
- To my old age and gray hair, He will carry me and will deliver me (Isaiah 46:4).
- He will restore health unto me, and He will heal me of my wounds (Jeremiah 30:17).
- He will bring me health and cure, and He will cure me, and will reveal to me the abundance of peace and truth (Jeremiah 33:6).
- His anointing heals the brokenhearted, and delivers the captives, recovers sight to the blind, and sets at liberty those that are bruised (Luke 4:18). His anointing is working in me.
- The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead now lives in me and that Spirit will quicken my mortal body (Romans. 8:11).
- Lord, you desire above all things that I may be in health (3 John 2). I agree with you.
- I shall walk in the ways that the Lord my God has commanded me, that I may live, and that it may go well with me, and that I may live long in the land that I shall possess (Deuteronomy 5:33).
- I honor my father and mother, so it goes well with me and that I live long in my land of promise (Ephesians 6:1–3).
- I fear the Lord and prolong my life (Proverbs 10:27).
- I don't forget His teaching, but let my heart keep His commandments, and length of days and years of life and peace they add to me (Proverbs 3:1–2).
- Wisdom multiplies my days and adds years to my life. (Proverbs 9:11).
- Lord, I will walk in your ways, keeping your statutes and your commandments, and you lengthen my days. (Kings 3:14).



# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

- I ask life of you, Lord; you give it to me length of days forever and ever (Psalm 21:4).
- With long life you satisfy me and show me your salvation (Psalm 91:16).
- I flourish like a palm tree and grow like a cedar. I am planted in the house of the Lord, and I flourish in the courtyards of our God. I still yield fruit in advanced age. I am full of sap and very green (Psalm 92:12-14).
- I am redeemed from the law of sin and death operating in my bodily organs; I am free from the law that kills, and the dispensation of death engraved in the letters on stone, and I walk in newness of life (Romans 7:5, 23; 2 Cor 3:6-7).

## Conclusions

### Review

In the first chapter, we spoke about the purpose of this book and how to get the most of it, as well as an overview of what we would be covering.

In the next chapter, we started by showing from the Bible that healing is the will of God for YOU, and healing is in our redemption. We saw that healing is God's very nature. It is His name forever—Jehovah Rapha.

In the third chapter, we looked at the earthly ministry of Jesus and saw how many times Jesus healed them all. We also saw how He is compassionate and cares about people's health, and therefore He heals.

Then we went through various reasons that a person might not be healed even though they believe in healing.

Is there any specific reason that stood out to you that you think might block your healing?

### Review of Reasons

Some reasons we covered were:

- The traditions of man can invalidate the Word of God.

# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

- Erroneous teachings about healing and God's nature have misled many, blocking their ability to receive.
- An inaccurate belief about your identity can block you from healing and maybe cause you to self-sabotage in receiving healing.
- Some believe that healing and miracles were in the Bible but have passed away.
- Rationalism, humanism, the belief that God now works through the natural realm rather than the supernatural realm.
- Some believe that God is in control of who gets healed or not and don't believe healing is for all.
- The extremes of some people who believe in healing have scared many away.
- Unbelief. This isn't just unbelief in your outward thoughts; your inner unconscious and subconscious thoughts can be full of unbelief.
- Ignorance as to God's plan for healing and how He set it up for us to receive.
- God works through us in ministering healing to us and through us.
- The gifts of healing VS healing provided for all in redemption.
- We are told to go out and lay hands on the sick (no one excluded), and they will recover.
- Not being a doer of what you have heard of healing.
- Holding sin in your heart.
- Your healing and prosperity are according to the prosperity of your soul.
- God has given the land of healing, but you will have to take possession of it.
- Be diligent in your seeking God and the fight to take your healing.
- Overworking or pushing the body and not resting.
- Not understanding that mental and emotional issues were covered in the redemption God accomplished for us in Christ.
- Symptoms can be lies. Resist the devil, the father of lies, and he will flee.

# I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

## Last Thoughts

As I end this book, I want to end where I started, which is Mark 4:24.

*“And He said to them, be careful what you are hearing. The measure [of thought and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure [of virtue and knowledge] that comes back to you—and more [besides] will be given to you who hear.”*

*Mark 4:24 (AMPC)*

As you have read this book, you have gotten a lot of information. This is information that can change your life if you take heed of it.

What I have done is condense some thoughts and ideas given in scripture. In order to get the full benefits of this course:

- Go back to each chapter.
- Look up the scriptures for yourself.
- Pray and ask the Lord how it applies to you.
- See yourself with what God has promised.
- Change your thinking to match what God says.
- Feed on the truths of God’s Word until they become part of you.

As Jesus said in Mark, the amount of thought and study you give to the truth you hear will decide the amount of virtue and knowledge you receive—and those who hear will receive even more.

Ask the Lord what is going on in your body and ask Him what His plan for your health is. Ask Him how to increase your health.

You CAN BE healthier. You CAN receive the healing God has provided for us all. Spend time with Him on these things and let Him show you and teach you.

As you keep going over the truths you have heard, He will show you increasingly—because he wants you healthy.