

Adventures in God

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I Believe in Healing. Why Am I Not Healed?

Reasons 5-10 Some Who Believe Aren't Healed

In the last chapter, we began to examine some scriptural reasons why people might not be healed or might not receive what is promised.

In this chapter we cover several more reasons, emphasizing the importance of faith in receiving the promises of God.

The reasons covered in this chapter are:

- Relying on Works
- Ignorance
- Unbelief Blocked Jesus
- Not Mixing Faith with the Word
- Not Praying with Faith
- Heart Faith VS Heart Faith

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Reasons 5-10: Faith

Reason 5: Relying on Works

Why don't we see more miracles?

Could it be that we are relying on works rather than faith?

We have learned about healing. We have learned about miracles. But we don't experience them even close to what we know. Few of us actually expect miracles regularly.

Why don't we see more miracles of healing? What does the Bible say?

The Apostle Paul expresses the reason in the book of Galatians.

“So then, does He who provides you with the Spirit and works miracles among you, do it by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith?”

Galatians 3:5 (NASB)

“Does God, who give you his Spirit and works miracles among you, do these things because you have obeyed the Law or because you have believed the Gospel? Ask yourselves that.”

Galatians 3:5 (Phillips NT)

When do miracles happen? What does it say in this scripture?

He works miracles among us based on our believing, not doing. When you hear, believe, and act on the Word, He works miracles in and for you. He doesn't do a miracle because you did everything right.

So, the answer to the question of why He doesn't do more miracles among us is this. Miracles are not based on your behavior or your actions or your ability to obey the law or the Word. God does miracles based on the hearing of faith. Miracles are more based on what we believe than on what we do.

Let me put it this way? Could it be that the reason you don't receive your healing is more because of your lack of faith and expectation than that you fall short in your behavior?

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We are not going over these scriptures so that you feel condemnation but to identify reasons you might not be enjoying the healing you know is His will for you.

Reason 6: Ignorance

According to Romans 10, ignorance can prevent people from being healed.

“For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge. For not knowing about God’s righteousness and seeking to establish their own, they didn’t subject themselves to the righteousness of God.”

Romans 10:2-3 (NASB)

They didn’t know God’s way of righteousness. So, they made up their own way. Therefore, they didn’t subject themselves to God’s way.

If a person doesn’t know God’s will concerning healing or how He works with us to receive healing, he will probably not receive it—unless God divinely intervenes.

Verse 2-3 are basically saying you can be zealous for God yet not understand how He works. As a result, you make up your own way of how God ministers healing, and then you fall short of His way—and the result could be that you don’t receive the healing He has provided. We need to learn what God has provided, and we have to learn how to take it and live in it according to scripture.

Ignorance can keep us from the blessings of God and from healing.

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being my priest. Since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.”

Hosea 4:6 (NASB)

In the Old Testament, God said that a lack of knowledge destroyed His people. He went further to say that because they rejected knowledge, He rejected them. He also said that because they had forgotten the law, He would forget them.

If you turn from God’s ways and make up your own ways, He has nothing to work with. He cannot work outside of His ways.

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If you lack knowledge of His ways, you cannot live in them, and your ignorance will keep you from embracing the healing He has provided. This can enable the destruction of sickness and death.

We came to a place in the church world that we forgot His provision and promises of healing—and we stopped living in miracles and healing. Sickness and disease destroyed many, leading to premature death for even those who were the closest to God. They even thought that God wanted them sick and was working some mysterious divine will out in their sickness. This lack of knowledge has allowed many to be sick and die early.

The person who doesn't know God's will and provision concerning healing will probably not receive. God at times does miracles and other outstanding things without people believing, but most times, we will have to do what Romans 10 says about receiving.

“But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart”—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.”

Romans 10:8-10 (NASB)

What are the Romans steps to salvation and healing?

- A teacher or preacher is sent.
- Hear the word of God.
- Believe the Word.
- Confess what you believe.

Believing in the heart and confessing with the mouth is the way to receive salvation. It is the same receiving the healing part of the Gospel as the salvation part.

You will need to hear about healing. Then you believe what you hear concerning healing. Then you say what you believe and act on the healing.

In these technological days, information is everywhere. There is no reason for ignorance. There are many good preachers teaching healing.

If you have not received healing yet, take the time to study and learn. Renew your mind regarding healing and be transformed into health. But make sure you are not listening to

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someone who teaches more tradition than scripture. Check what you hear to scripture before accepting it.

Reason 7: Unbelief Blocked Jesus

The next thing we are going to cover that could block your healing is unbelief.

Jesus was blocked from healing some people by their unbelief. The Bible says He couldn't do any mighty works there.

“And He didn't do many miracles there because of their unbelief.”

Matthew 13:58 (NASB)

“And He could not do any miracle there except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He was amazed at their unbelief. And He was going around the villages teaching.”

Mark 6:5-6 (NASB)

Their unbelief blocked Jesus in His ability to do miracles among them. He could not do any mighty miracles there. He could only do minor healings.

“...If you can do anything, take pity on us and help us. And Jesus said to him If you can? All things are possible to him who believes.”

Mark 9:23 (NASB)

These scriptures reveal their unbelief limited Jesus' healing power towards them. If unbelief blocked Him while He was here on earth, unbelief could block Him today.

Also, there are many cases where Jesus equated a person's personal faith with their healing and wholeness. So, lack of faith can keep you from healing, and strong faith can draw healing to you.

In the passage from Mark, it says that Jesus could do no miracle except heal a few sick people. You think this cannot be right, “I thought God can do anything.” This verse says God couldn't do a miracle.

God can do anything, but we can hinder Him from when we don't believe and trust Him. God's will for you rarely overrides what you believe and expect to happen. You can limit His will from happening in your life.

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Could it be that Jesus wants to do a miracle in your life, but your unbelief is blocking him?

The solution is right here in the same passage. It amazes me how the answers for questions about the Bible are in the Bible—so many times in a scripture right in context with the one you are looking at.

What is the cure for the unbelief that hindered Him in healing the people and blocked His miracles? It goes on to say that He went around teaching in the villages.

Evidently, the cure for unbelief is hearing the truth. The solution for the unbelief which kept some of these people from receiving healing was understanding, which came through hearing.

Your faith is your connection with God; it is simply believing that what He said He will do; it isn't some weird, unattainable thing. You have faith. You can choose to believe.

Reason 8: Mix Faith with the Word

“Therefore, Let’s fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it. For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard didn’t profit them, BECAUSE it was not united by faith in those who heard. They didn’t enter in—although His works had been completed and prepared and waiting for all who would believe from the foundation of the world.”

Hebrews 4:1-3 (AMPC)

If any of you may seem to have come short of the promise...

That verse jumped out at me. This is what this book is about, coming short of the promise of full healing we desire to live in. Let's look further into this verse to see how they feel short, and it may be that we can see why we are falling short.

Most of us have heard the Word on healing. They also heard. But their hearing didn't benefit or profit them because they didn't mix what they heard with faith and could not enter the promised land.

What jumped out to me is that the Word that they heard didn't benefit them even though they had heard it. Why? Because it was not mixed with faith. Faith was the missing ingredient.

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You say, “I have faith. I know I believe in healing.” Yes, you have faith, but there are different levels of faith. There is head faith, and there is heart faith, and there can be a mixture of both.

There’s faith that comes when you hear a truth, you see it in the Bible, agree with it, and decide to believe it. This is belief in truth as a doctrine.

You can believe in the doctrine of healing and yet remain unhealed. You can fall short of God’s promise in your experience—even though you have heard and believe it.

Most churches know Jesus healed the sick. They love the healing stories, but don’t apply them to themselves. They don’t mix their faith with the truths in them. Either they don’t realize God still heals today, or they read the stories just as stories and not as truths to apply.

But Jesus still heals today. Your uncertainty regarding His healing—who, when, or even if—will obstruct the healing flow to you if you have not mixed faith with the truth of healing.

If God provided healing, and we are not living in what He provided, we are coming short of what He has promised.

Another interesting thought here is that healing, as well as all the promises of God, was prepared for us from the foundation of the world. We don’t have to ask God to do what He has already done; we merely need hear of it and partake of it.

Do you come short of the promise of healing? Are you living healthy and whole? If not, this might be the reason.

Be honest with where you are without getting into self-condemnation. God doesn’t condemn anyone for not being well—whatever the reason. Jesus has compassion for all sick people and wants them healed. Jesus has compassion for you wherever you are on your health journey. He will walk with you and work with you to improve your health.

Let’s look back to the previous chapter in Hebrews to get more information about what the author was speaking of in Chapter 4.

“Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.”

Hebrews 3:12 (NASB)

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“For we have become fellows with Christ (the Messiah) and share in all He has for us, if only we hold our first newborn confidence and original assured expectation [in virtue of which we are believers] firm and unshaken to the end.”

Hebrews 3:14 (AMPC)

“And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient? So we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.”

Hebrews 3:18-19 (NASB)

The book of Hebrews was written to believers. Therefore, there can be an unbelieving heart in a believer. We share in all that He has for us only if we hold our first confidence and original assured expectations to the end.

They could not enter the Promised Land because of unbelief. There are many blessings of God we won't be able to enter because of unbelief.

This story points back to Numbers 14. They sent twelve spies into the promised land. Ten of them came back speaking of the obstacles (giants) they would have to overcome—but didn't believe they could.

Only two of them spoke what God said—that they could certainly take the land because God had promised it and was with them. The crowds sided with the negative report, and they all ended up spending forty extra years wandering in the wilderness.

This story is what chapter 4 looked back to where it says the words they heard didn't benefit because they didn't mix their faith with it. This sounds like something all of us have been guilty of at times.

Reason 9: Not Praying with Faith

“But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”

James 1:5-8 (NASB)

This passage starts off talking about praying for wisdom in a time of trial, but in the end, it is speaking of anything you receive from God—which would include healing.

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The one who doesn't ask in faith but yields to doubt and wavering cannot expect that he will receive anything from the Lord.

You believe in healing. Are you convinced of it to the point you no longer waver or doubt? If you don't believe as strongly as you ought, there is no condemnation—but it is possible it could hinder you from receiving.

People used to tell others that their lack of faith prevented healing—and this became a problem. They made others feel bad for having no faith. Faith is important to God and connected to how much of His provision we receive and live.

But a faith problem isn't as big a problem as they made it. Faith is easy to increase. It isn't something you either have or don't have. We were all given the measure of faith, and it is in your power to increase it.

Get into the Word on the subject you lack faith in. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God (Romans 10:17). Study the Word, feed on the Word, meditate on it, and your faith will increase.

Reason 10: Heart Faith VS Head Faith

“And Jesus answered saying to them, have faith in God (Have the faith of God). Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, be taken up and cast into the sea, and doesn't doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him.”

Mark 11:22-23 (NASB)

The prayer of faith only works when it comes from the heart. Only heart faith can stand without wavering. A mental level prayer cannot move a mountain. Your faith must be from your heart to bring the full healing results you want.

Hearing a Bible truth and deciding to believe it isn't enough. It is a start, but you will have to go further. Just because you have decided to believe everything in the Bible doesn't mean you do. Faith grows. It is a process.

There is a difference between mental beliefs and heart beliefs. You can find what you believe by what you hear yourself speak, what you expect, and how you act when you are relaxed.

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We used to hear this kind of faith called mental assent. Mental assent isn't faith. It isn't a substitute for heart faith. While mental assent agrees with the facts, it doesn't connect with the heart.

If you really believe something, you will speak and act like it is true, and then you will get results. Otherwise, you are just mentally agreeing that it is true, and your faith won't be strong enough to withstand the opposition we all encounter.

Kris Vallotton calls this high value (what you have decided to believe) and core value (how you see the world, what you really believe). Your core value might not be the same as your high value.

People will repeat many scriptures to prove that they believe what they want to believe. They insist they believe because they have decided to believe. But to get the best results, they will have to come to a place where they realize that they don't actually believe what they think they believe.

It is with the heart man believes, not the head. Your head can be full of many things you quote and think you believe, but if your heart doesn't agree, your actions will follow what I really believe. One sign that you believe from your heart is the peace and full assurance that is an integral part of faith (Hebrews 11:1).

Wendy Backlund in her book, *Victorious Emotions*, calls this process being in inner unity.

"Many of us are unaware that much of our emotional distress originates from our own disunity. We believe one thing with our conscious mind and another with our subconscious mind. I believe that when Ephesians 4: 23 tells us to be renewed in the spirit of our mind, it is referring to the subconscious part of our mind. It is like the difference between a written law and the spirit of the law. Our conscious mind is concrete, but the subconscious holds the spirit or emotion of what we believe. The key to identifying our subconscious beliefs is to pay close attention to our emotions. Our emotions are often the result of what the subconscious mind believes. Therefore, to bring our emotions into unity with our conscious beliefs, we must change our subconscious beliefs. We will know we have inner unity with a truth when every part of us (spirit, soul, emotions, and body) believe it— even in the face of opposing circumstances. To change the subconscious or spirit of our minds, we must recognize that not everything we believe is true. A belief you have might be true for you by experience, but it isn't necessarily based on truth. For instance, the truth is Jesus paid for all sickness, and total health is ours. You may

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not be experiencing this truth yet, but it doesn't mean that it isn't true. It just means that you have not learned how to access or enter into that truth."

Wendy Backlund

Agnes Sanford had some thoughts about why the prayer of faith might not work for you along these lines.

"Though your conscious mind believes, your unconscious mind (the accumulated lifelong thought patterns and habits) doesn't. It is difficult to change these habits. To cure this, you will need to train the subconscious mind to think and imagine in a different way. The imagination of your heart has tremendous power. You can train the subconscious mind. It is fun, though it is a bit of work."

Agnes Sanford, Author of "The Healing Light"

Psychologists call this lack of heart connection cognitive dissonance.

Cognitive dissonance is a psychological phenomenon that occurs when a person holds two contradictory beliefs at the same time. It represents a conflict between what someone outwardly believes and what they genuinely believe and feel. There is a gap between what the person believes and their actions. This causes discomfort and dissonance.

When you hear something new, your mind has a strong desire for order and consistency. The moment your brain holds two contradicting ideas, you experience distress. Cognitive dissonance is the discomfort a person feels when their behavior (or experience) doesn't align with their values or beliefs.

Your mind often resolves this problem by tweaking your ideas until they become consistent with what you have previously believed, and you tell yourself to be true. This leads to self-deception and lack of inner unity.

But whatever you call it, for faith to work effectively, it will have to be heart faith.

Activations

- Ask the Lord to reveal to you reasons you are not as healthy as you wish you were—and EXPECT Him to tell you. (James 1:5-8; Jeremiah 17:9-10–MSG).
- When you see an area of lack in your believing and receiving, don't condemn

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yourself. Condemnation will get you nowhere.

- Find scriptures that counteract the lies you believe, write them out, and speak them to yourself to break the old patterns.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-5—Tear down the strongholds and line up your thinking with God's Word.
- Purposely and intentionally believe what God has said. Changing your thoughts will transform you.
- Spend time with the Lord seeing yourself with the promises of God; visualize your life healthy.

If you take the time to go over these things and perform the activations regularly, your health will transform.

If you continue to do them, you can grow to a place where health is more normal to you than sickness, weakness, and disease.