

Chapter Fifteen

God Loves To Heal

In this little book I can't share all the marvelous miracle healings I have seen, but each day brings new wonderful opportunities to pray and help people. The ability to do so has nothing to do with special spiritual gifting. Each believer in the Body of Christ has the same full measure of the Holy Spirit¹ and John 14:12 declares that he that believes can do the same works of Jesus Christ and even greater.²

Mark 16:15-20 is even more provoking – *these signs shall follow them that (do one thing!) ...believe.* To retreat behind the often heard excuse, “Well, you have a healing ministry” is to deny the working of Christ in every believer in the same full measure of the Holy Spirit. We are without excuse to step up to God and report for duty with faith. And in anything that we think we lack, we can always ask Him and He will supply all of our need in Christ Jesus!³

As I was writing this section of the booklet, a lady called who had been flat out on her back for weeks, unable to get up to take care of her family. She had collapsed with an anemic condition. Her church had prayed, laid hands on her, etc. But mostly, they were praying for her to be able to endure, and speaking ridiculously faithless things such as that God was trying to teach her something.

I almost screamed when I heard this. God does not bring evil to teach us something! I do not deny that we can learn things from our mistakes, and even our unbelief, but don't you dare accuse God of initiating evil against His people in order to teach them something.

We must take God at His Word and walk in the wisdom that is from above instead of trying to coddle sickness with dangerous platitudes, and running to the medical profession before asking the Great Physician, Jesus Christ.

I prayed for this lady over the phone, cast out a spirit of death, commanded her health and strength to return, and her blood to be made whole in the name of Jesus Christ. I simply spoke what the Lord showed me for this woman. I learned later from her husband that immediately after the prayer she got up from her bed, and never again laid down except to sleep the next night. The next day she even walked two miles – she was full of praise to God! Since then, the doctors have been amazed. What they predicted would take six months or more to restore her blood back to normal took less than two weeks. And it didn't happen with iron supplements or medicines. It happened by the power of God by faith!

¹ The Spirit is given in full measure without respect of persons (John 3:34; Romans 2:11; Ephesians 6:9; Colossians 3:25; 1 Peter 1:17).

² *John 14:12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth [lit. “is believing] on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.*

³ *Philippians 4:19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

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Receiving & Keeping Your Healing: Dealing With A Spirit of Infirmity

Recently I was driving to an evening prayer meeting and noticed a headache starting. I prayed and then forgot about it through the meeting. But as I was driving home, it began to rise again and intensify. I got angry at the devil, because I knew in my spirit that this was a demonic attack.

I have learned that when an ailment occurs suddenly without prior symptoms, I am always alert to the possibility, even the likelihood, of it being a purely demonic attack, and that often from a curse. Those who have deeply rooted professional medical knowledge often scoff at such possibilities, but of course, the denial of spiritual roots of disease is precisely why the profession has the unpredictable success record that it has. Again, this is not meant to sully the profession. It is merely to indicate that there is far more to health than science, genetics, nutrition, and exercise.

But back to the headache. I should tell you that in the past, the devil has tried many times to inflict a headache to immobilize me. Predictably this would happen on Saturdays, which are normally times of preparing my heart for preaching the next day. It does not take a spiritual giant to figure out where these attacks came from. Yet for all that, they were still difficult to deal with. Sometimes I was able to overcome them with my faith, and sometimes not.

So as I was driving home from the prayer meeting, I was led by the Lord to yell out, "Satan get out of here with your spirit of infirmity, and take this stupid headache with you!"

It left immediately. I was fine for a few moments, and then I felt the headache coming back. And here is what the Lord showed me:

It was indeed an evil spirit, a spirit of infirmity, causing the headache. The headache did indeed leave when I commanded it to do so. But there was another spirit waiting in line right behind the first one. That spirit stepped in almost immediately, and duplicated the attack (the headache), of the first one. Naturally, I cast this second spirit out too. Again I felt a few moments of relief. But then a third spirit tried to gain entrance with a headache pain, although by then it was a weak attack and that spirit left quickly.

Now here's the nugget of understanding that will help us deal with demons a little more successfully in the future. When you as a believer in Christ discern the presence of a spirit and you exercise your authority to cast it out, that spirit **must** leave. It cannot stay because of the spiritual authority you possess to use the name of Jesus Christ. At the name of Jesus Christ, it does leave. However, satan is clever enough to line up another spirit behind the first one to immediately take over when the first one leaves. In this scenario, we become tricked into wondering why the spirit didn't leave, and we question our faith. But the real truth is, the spirit did leave, and satan tricks us into thinking otherwise.

I recall a conversation with Pastor Carl Fox in which the Lord showed him something similar. He was ministering healing to a person and it appeared like the spirit was not leaving. So he asked the Lord why, and the Lord showed him that another spirit was coming in place of the first one and duplicating the symptoms of the affliction for the purpose of getting him to give up casting it out. Tricky, huh?

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How Can I Get My Healing From God?

We have authority given to us by the Lord to cast out and chain up devils. And it is a privilege to do so! Those evil spirits do not want to be recognized as such. But many believers tolerate their activities because those activities (which may include sickness, afflictions, poverty, runaway emotions, etc.) may have become seemingly normal, common, and familiar.

Older people often think their maladies are simply a part of old age, and thus become weak in their willingness to fight against sickness, or to insist on their eyes not going dim and their natural force not abating (as Moses experienced). Satan knows and cultivates this tolerance, and hides behind such thinking. We must discern sickness, for example, to see how it was able to enter, and move against it in faith.

I'm not telling you that all sickness is from a demon (although sickness is ultimately from the past and the present sins of mankind which the devil often happily exploits). I'm just telling you how sly the devil is, and how he often covers his activities against God's people through familiar reasonings and common human experiences. When a seemingly acceptable (to human logic) and reasonable excuse for a particular sickness or disease exists, our human logic tends to search for an entirely human solution. This is part of our nature to seek a rational human fix once we find a logical cause.

Often, the way our thinking habits are, when we have an explainable reason for a situation, we begin to agree with that situation or assessment. We begin to accept the assessment as factual or even as permanent. But the problem is that with reason comes the "faith" of agreement. The devil knows very well that with such agreement comes the tacit yielding of one's spiritual authority. In other words, when our intellect is satisfied, our determination to look to God for an alternative outcome by faith in His promises is easily compromised. Our insistence on God's promise of total healing can easily become all but neutered unless we deliberately choose the healing promise of God over what our eyes see.

We must realize that sickness is an enemy.⁴ It is never a friend. Nor is sickness an instrument that God uses to discipline, punish,⁵ or teach. God is all love. He does not inflict suffering even for a good outcome, but instead will help us overcome darkness as we rise up in faith.

With sufficient senses reasons for why a symptom of disease might exist, we often quit looking into the spirit realm for it's true source. After all, we have an explanation (often a medical explanation) that satisfies our soul and our experiences sufficiently so we turn off our spiritual

⁴ I Corinthians 15:26 declares that death is an enemy. Sickness is a partial form of death. Since Matthew 8:17 tells us that Jesus took our diseases and infirmities to the cross, we should treat sickness spiritually the same way that we treat sin. Sickness is clearly never a friend, nor is it ever given by our loving God. Sickness came with the fall of man.

⁵ Sometimes believers in Christ think that God is punishing them with sickness for not walking rightly. We have all heard it said that, "God made me sick to humble me." This is a doctrine of devils. It develops into a reason for keeping an enemy of God (sickness) instead of receiving God's promised healing. In this way, satan manages to afflict God's people with both sickness and death, all because they believed a lie instead of God's clear Scriptural promises to the contrary. Carried to a logical conclusion, if God makes people sick to make them more humble, then we should all be praying to get sick, and never to be healed! How like satan to try to manipulate people of God out of their promised blessings of life and health.

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antenna. Like the story of the woman lifting the forty pound box of meat on page 13. But remember, Ephesians 6:11-12 tells us that we do not wrestle with flesh and blood (and their methods such as plausible reasonings, diagnosis curses, generational curses, etc.).

We must remember: all life is spiritual, not just some parts of it. And all spiritual life has an impact on the physical life that we experience. If we want to fix something that is troubling in the natural realm, we do well to make sure its corresponding spiritual root is properly assessed and resolved before God.

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