

DIVINE HEALTH/FINANCES PROVIDED

First-Century Gospel Church/Philadelphia S89R S202R APRIL 14, 2021 (ref #193 rdg)

How to receive God's blessing of perfect health and to enjoy Scriptural financial prosperity, are valuable 'principles of the full Truth of God' for every true Christian to acquire. There are valuable results that come through a trusting faith on God alone for good health and protection from illness. The very first valuable result is to receive great spiritual light and blessing, along with a better knowledge of the true character of God and His divine healing power. We will get those same results when we accept any one of God's plans for us to follow, that is, His plan for having His presence in our home-life, His guidance in our work, His blessings financially (and in all other things that concern us).

Another great result of a trusting faith on God would be the perfect health and strength we receive for our body, which in itself would seem to be valuable enough even if we did not receive a spiritual blessing with it. As one who trusts God in real faith will soon learn, however, a spiritual blessing is always part of God's answer to our prayer of faith. And we want to always remind ourselves that through the great work of Jesus Christ on the Cross, we have been given a Blood-bought right to be in perfect health at all times (and it does not matter what season of the year it is).

This is something that is very hard for many people to comprehend, especially so in the early part of their Christian life (the late Pastor said), because the teaching given in most all other churches is directly opposite to that. And Satan is constantly busy trying to convince people that they do not have any Blood-bought rights in Christ Jesus. He has such a supreme control over the bodies of most people in the world, that he does not want to ever give up that control.

Furthermore, many religious teachers are saying that God afflicts people (which is not according to Scripture), and there-fore, that it would be foolish for one to go to Him for deliverance. If a person were to be consistent with that point of view, then if God really had smitten a person (for some good reason), it seems that it would be foolish rebellion to go to a doctor and pay him money to get rid of the affliction.

In other words, if it really were God's will that we should be sick, we should never try to rebel against it by trying to get healed. However, the average worldly church member will go to doctors (who are Satan's agents) and do everything they can to get rid of the same thing that they say is God's will.

However, (James 1:13 says), "Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone."

On the other hand, if it is the truth that all sickness and disease is from Satan (which Scripture proves is absolutely true), and that it is God's will for us to have perfect health (not only because of His great mercy and love for us, but also because of the work of Jesus Christ on the Cross), then we can readily see that we have both a lawful and divine right to be perfectly healthy and strong. That means we should never let the devil deceive us to accept the least thing wrong with our body, but to always claim our divine right to enjoy God's own health and strength, with every vital sense and organ working 100% efficiently. (James 1:16-17 says) "Do not be deceived, my dearly loved brethren. Every gift which is good, and every perfect boon, is from above, and comes down from the Father, who is the source of all Light. In Him there is no variation nor the slightest suggestion of change."

That Scripture verse makes it our privilege and our divine right to claim (and enjoy) God's own health and strength, and God, Himself could not keep us out of it (because God does not change, and Scripture cannot be annulled). We can interpret Scripture, but we cannot change it (even if we wanted to change it to cover our individual circumstance). If, however, we claim in real faith the divine gifts of a true believer's 'inheritance in Christ', (God, Himself cannot keep us out of them).

Satan will, however, keep us out of our Atonement right (if we will let him), but he cannot do so as long as we claim our 'divine rights' in Christ by faith.

Satan uses his plans to rob people of their right to have perfect health, (which in itself is a very valuable gift and well worth receiving), even if nothing else was received. The first thing we need to do in order to receive healing from God, is to put aside forever every human remedy (or human plan) for the health and protection of our body (and that of our children). That decision has to be settled right (and final), before we can possibly receive and enjoy the health that God has promised.

While we are depending on the least human plan for healing, it gives Satan an opening to attack us. That compromising attitude opens the door for Satan to get in (although we may not realize it at first). Furthermore, God is unable to help us (with rebellion in our heart). He cannot work with us to help us receive healing, until we have settled the human remedy question finally and forever. Most of us have already settled that, but there are always new people coming to the faith, who have not yet settled it to go through trusting on God alone. If we (for instance) were trusting on a certain beverage (or even a drink of water) to give us good health, that would be a human remedy (which must be gotten rid of for us to receive God's help).

The late Pastor referred to a woman who had suffered with an internal physical oppression (and had received healing from God), but Satan brought the attack back upon her again. She said, she thought she was attacked again because she had been riding a bus on very rough roadways and all that shaking of her body had caused the oppression to come back. That was not true at all, and instead of placing the blame on the devil she just gave him an excuse to hide behind, and to continue to attack her.

However, it did not take long to find out the real cause of her trouble, as she continued to say, "I suffered so much pain that I just had to get some (medicinal) drugs that I still had in my house, and I took them to get some relief."

Satan was permitted to attack her because she had never settled it finally and forever to give up the use of her human remedies and the help of man. "That principle will refer to every part of our life." If Satan has succeeded in getting in to attack us along any line, we can be assured we are still using a human remedy (or 'wrong plan of trust' somewhere in our life), and which had opened the door for Satan to come in and oppress us. It could be that we were either using a human plan or means, or else we intend to use a human plan (hidden in our heart) in an emergency, (in case the situation would get worse). That is like a leaving a plank on the bridge that we had crossed by faith on God (just in case the 'going gets tough' and we decide to retreat from our faith on God to deliver us). That human plan or remedy in itself, would hinder God's power from working to heal us.

It is the same principle if we are in a financial difficulty, and we can rest assured that we are looking to some human source for help (or there is a possibility of doing so). In either case we may as well not be looking to God at all for our deliverance.

Many people have wondered (the Pastor said), at the wonderful manifestation of God's power for three Hebrews in the fiery furnace, or Daniel in the den of lions (and others). There was only one reason for those manifestations of God's power, and that was because all human plans and ways of escape had been put aside forever.

In the case of the children of Israel in the wilderness, they had to trust God for their food and other supplies, because there was no other way out. However, it shows the marvelous love and mercy of God, when human elements (or 'plans of trust') were out of the way (even when the

Israelites were so rebellious and unyielding to God's directions. He supplied the needs for over two million persons for forty years, and that shows us decisively the importance and necessity of having the human 'plan of trust' fully eliminated from our life.

If we find that we are in a financial difficulty, we can be sure that we are looking to some human source for help (or that there is a possibility of our doing so).

The Pastor was reminded of a remarkable testimony from a member with a large family, who had been out of work for eight months. Even though they had a high rent to pay on their home, they never went in debt for one penny, (and never fell behind in their rent when it was due to be paid). The family had no visible source of income (and they trusted on God alone for those eight months). They had some tight pinches (just enough to test and prove a genuineness of their faith), but their needs were fully supplied.

This brother wondered why he had to be out of employment for so long, but they were at a Sunday morning service and heard the lesson about how we are to humble ourselves and get the last backlash out of our heart (about anything in our life). They then realized that they did have a few 'kicks' in their heart (like we all do until we learn better). Some of their relatives who do not attend our services (but claim to be very high-grade Christians), would send food to them that was not fit to be eaten. This family would resent such treatment and think of how mean and hard-hearted those relatives were. However, after hearing the service message, they settled it forever to never make another kick or complaint, even if they never got out of their financial trouble.

Also (during those eight months of unemployment), they had settled it to keep their rent paid up-to-date (day by day) and would not buy a penny's worth of food for that day until the rent for that day was met. God not only honored that stand of trust they took (by sending them food), but He also sent them money to cover the rent each day, and it was kept right up-to-date so they would have the full amount on hand each month (when the rent was due). They had taken a real Scriptural stand of full dependance on God, and a complete elimination of any human sources of help.

That was not all, because aside from all the needed blessings being provided over that eight-month-time of being unemployed, the brother received another job. More importantly, they had learned their lesson of getting the last bit of resentment and backlash out of their hearts (over mean treatments they experience). They were called to learn to meet that situation by following Jesus Christ's example for us (and God both inspired and enabled them to do that). (1 Pet. 2:21-23) "And it is to this you were called; because Christ also suffered on your behalf, leaving you an example so that you should follow in His steps. He never sinned, and no deceitful language was ever heard from His mouth. When He was reviled, He did not answer with reviling; when He suffered He uttered no threats, but left His wrongs in the hands of the righteous Judge." Getting rid of resentment and backlash in their heart was a most important victory from a spiritual aspect, for it would allow God to take them along His Heavenly Pathway of victory in Christ in all other things.

Through it all they had learned a most valuable lesson, and it took eight months for them to learn it, but it was the best eight months they ever spent (when we look at it from God's standpoint, of having 'self' removed from our heart, so that He can prepare us for eternity with Him).

Many a person who was not genuine in the Truth and being in the same predicament, would have turned to the 'arm of flesh' by letting people know their needs, either by a direct word or some kind of a hint. But this family had allowed God to bring them to the place where they would rather die of starvation than to let their needs be known to anyone but God alone.

That, to my mind (the Pastor said), was one of the most valuable experiences a real Christian could have. It was worth more to that family than all the money (or job positions) in the world. Most importantly, it was a big step in their preparation for Heaven, as well as for greater financial prosperity in the future. We can be sure that God will make up to any family for the time of testing and proving the genuineness of their trust on God alone (to deliver them from a trial they face). They will have all the money needed for themselves, and extra money to give away to others, (but not one penny to lay up on earth for that so-called 'rainy day').

The same 'principle of Truth' also works out in healing of one's body. The most vital thing in getting healing from God, is to take a true Scriptural attitude in our relation to Him. What is a Scriptural attitude? It means that we would rather risk our lives on God (and His Truth), and even die rather than take the slightest human remedy of help of man for healing. That is the mark of a true disciple, and that is what Jesus meant in (Luke 14:26), "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple."

Jesus meant that we should be willing and ready to go against the wishes of our wife, children, mother, or father, and even to die rather than displease or disobey God's Word (or to trust in anything or anyone but Him). (That is what allows God to bring enthronement of the Christ-life within our heart, and an actual death to the self-life (which is also of the greatest importance).

A second point to be mentioned, is that we are to act directly opposite to the old human way we would act if we are sick. What does that mean? It means that we are not to take any human precautions, nor to go to bed nor lie down when we feel sick. To lie down to the devil is as much a sin as taking medicine and having a doctor. The moment we lie down because we feel sick, at that moment we have rejected God's plan for our healing, and we are accepting the world's way of getting well by the 'laws of nature'. So long as we have that 'lay down attitude' in our heart, we will be attacked and robbed by Satan until we get rid of that attitude.

Jesus Christ already bore our sicknesses, diseases, and pains on the Cross, and He has given us perfect health paid for by His shed Blood on our behalf. That is the reason we should never act any different than we would if we felt perfectly well. Such a divine plan is directly opposite to the world's way of acting when a person feels sick. If we were sick and in the world and with a doctor, he would tell us; "you go right to bed, take good care of yourself, eat this, but don't eat that, etc." Then the doctor would give us a lot of poisonous medicine besides all that wrong advice.

Just the opposite is the case in the Truth, however. Instead of telling you to go to bed when you were sick, a true Minister of God's Word would tell you to go take a five mile walk and walk as fast as God enables you to walk. If you had a stomach problem, you would be told to eat a hearty meal as you would if you felt well. [The 'principle of Truth' involved, is vital to one living an overcoming 'life of faith'.

The point to be made is, that when we accept God as our Healer, we are to act opposite to what we would do in the world. Instead of sparing ourselves, we are to work harder in full dependence upon God's power, and (have more strength at the end than when we began to work). If we feel weak or have trouble with our feet or limbs, we should continue in faith, to walk. If we have a stomach problem, instead of eating light food, we should sit down to a heavy meal, and in faith, eat those things that do not naturally agree with us.

These are things Satan tries to talk us out of doing, because his object is to cheat us out of our Atonement rights in Christ. (Hebr.10:38) "But it is by faith that My righteous servant shall live; and if he shrinks back, My soul takes no pleasure in him."

Divine health and each day's finances,... (via an enduring and uncompromising trust on God's Word and Promises).

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The First Century Gospel Church Philadelphia

S202R (04/14/21) SOME MAIN POINTS:

- 1... The main theme throughout the message is the vital necessity of getting rid of human plans and all human remedies out of the way (forsaken forever),.... otherwise, God cannot help us.
- 2... Rich and wonderful blessings, enlightenment, and spiritual results come from trusting on God for good health, and provision of financial needs and wants, (because that is what the Atonement Blood of Christ has paid for).
- 3... The teaching given in most churches over centuries past, however, makes it hard for people to comprehend what the Atonement Blood of Jesus Christ accomplished for us on the Cross, because the teaching they give is directly opposite and is saying that God has changed,.. while Satan tries constantly to convince people that they do not have any 'Blood-bought rights' in Christ.
- 4... Some modern-day examples are mentioned, which testify to the fact that God has not changed, and He still answers prayer today.

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