

Biblical Answers to Healing Questions, Pt. 1 (53 Minutes)
Selected Scriptures, 2024-01-14A, #3

Introduction: Today, I want to talk to you about biblical answers to healing questions. Whenever I ask God a question, He answers me with the Scriptures. One of the ministries of the Holy Spirit is to bring to our remembrance Scriptures that we have read in the past (John 14:26). Reading through the Bible is important so that we have on file information that can be recalled with the help of the Holy Spirit. Another reason for reading through the Bible is to see things in context. Still another reason for reading through the Bible is because the best commentary on the Bible is the Bible.

I. Is Physical Healing in the Atonement?

A. The biblical answer to the question regarding physical healing is found in Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 8:16-17; 1 Peter 2:24.

- 1. “Griefs” in Isaiah 53:4 translates the Hebrew noun *chole* חֹלַי (Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance 2483) which occurs in the Hebrew Bible 24 times and is translated by the AV:
 - a. Disease which is mentioned 7 times (2 Kings 1:2; 8:8, 9; 2 Chronicles 16:12; 21:18; Ecclesiastes 6:2),**
 - b. Sickness which is mentioned 12 times (Deuteronomy 7:15; 28:59, 61; 1 Kings 17:17; 2 Kings 13:14; 2 Chronicles 21:15, 19; Psalm 41:3; Ecclesiastes 5:17; Isaiah 38:9; Hosea 5:13)**
 - c. Sick which is mentioned 1 time (Isaiah 38:9),**
 - d. Griefs and grief which are mentioned 4 times (Isaiah 53:3, 4; Jeremiah 6:7; 10:19).****
- 2. Why did the AV translators choose “griefs” rather than “sickness” or disease to translate *chole*?**
 - a. All translators and theologians, including me, have a bias or preference.**
 - b. When a Hebrew or Greek word has more than one meaning, the translator will choose the word that fits his or her bias.**
 - c. I try to guard against my bias by paying close attention to the biblical context and the biblical commentary which is the Bible.**
 - d. The translators who believe that physical healing is in the atonement will translate *chole* either “sickness” or “disease.” The New American Standard Bible; The Young Literal Translation; the Complete Jewish Bible; Holman Christian Standard Bible are examples.**
 - e. The translators who believe that physical healing is not in the atonement will translate *chole* by one of the following English words: “Griefs, Pain, Infirmities, and Weaknesses.”**
 - f. By comparing different translations, you can detect the bias of the translators.**
 - g. Assignments: Check Bible Hub for “griefs” in Isaiah 53:4 and observe (1) the interlinear, (2) Lexicon, (3) Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance, (4) Parallel passages – observe the different English words used to translate *chole*.**
- 3. There are no perfect translations, but most all translations are reliable.**
 - a. Most of the translations accurately translate what is most important to God – God’s glory and our salvation.**
 - b. Everything that God does is for His glory.**

- 1) God created everything and everyone for His glory (Proverbs 16:4; Isaiah 43:7, 21; 42:8; Revelation 4:11).
- 2) God chooses and calls whomever for His glory (1 Peter 2:9).
- 3) God converts for His glory (Ephesians 1:3-14; cf. 1 Corinthians 6:20).
- 4) God commands all to give Him glory (1 Chronicles 16:28; Psalm 22:23; 29:1-2; Isaiah 42:12; 1 Corinthians 10:31).

B. God's glory and our salvation are the factors most important to God.

II. Why Doesn't Everyone Receive Physical Healing?

A. Why doesn't everyone receive spiritual healing?

B. The answer to the question regarding healing in relation to salvation and healing in relation to sickness is found in Exodus 33:19; cf. Romans 9:15.

1. God is sovereign in healing and in salvation. God said to Moses "I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious and I will show mercy on whom I will show mercy" (Exodus 33:19; cf. Romans 9:15).
 - a. In His sovereignty, God heals whom He wills, when He wills, where He wills, and how He wills – Jesus went to the pool of Bethesda and healed only one man although there were many sick people at the pool (John 5:1-9).
 - b. God may use means to heal – in the context where God said that He was Jehovah-Rophe, God used means to heal the bitter waters at Marah (Exodus 15:25-26).
 - c. Means God used in the Bible to heal:
 - 1) God used a tree to heal the bitter waters at Marah (Exodus 15:25).
 - 2) God used a lump of figs to heal Hezekiah (2 Kings 20:7).
 - 3) God used the Jordan River to heal Naaman of his leprosy (2 Kings 5:1-14).
 - 4) God used salt to heal the waters at Jericho (2 Kings 2:19-25).
 - 5) Jesus used some mud and the pool of Siloam to heal the man born blind (John 9:1-7).
 - 6) God may use the Word of God to heal (Psalm 107:17-20; Proverbs 4:20-23).
 - 7) God may use His manifest presence to heal (Luke 5:17).
 - d. Going to the doctor and taking medication are not indicators of a lack of faith (Luke 5:31).
2. Four passages in relation to faith:
 - a. The gift of faith for salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9).
 - b. "Have faith in God" (Mark 11:22).
 - 1) The Greek is ἔχετε πίστιν θεοῦ. Literal translation: "Have faith of God." The meaning is "Have the faith that God provides or puts into you."
 - 2) "God" translates the Greek "Theos."
 - 3) "Of God" translates the Greek "Theou."
 - c. "The prayer of faith shall save the sick" (James 5:14-16).
 - d. The 10 lepers who were healed by Jesus – observe that the healing was not instant (Luke 17:11-19).

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