

Sunday, March 01, 2009—The World's Most Dangerous Doctrine—Sign Gifts, Healing Part 2

Introduction

- Last week we began looking at the issue of healing and the costs associated with failing to Rightly Divide the Word of Truth on this issue.
- If you recall from last week we were in the middle of talking about Our Grace Healing Program when we ran out of time and had to stop.
- This morning I would like to quickly review what we discussed last week and then finish discussing Our Grace Healing Program.
- *See The World's Most Dangerous Doctrine: Healing Part I notes from last week for the complete details. One could also view the review slides at the beginning of this week's PowerPoint.*
- Go through review points from last week on the PowerPoint.

Our Grace Healing Program

- II Corinthians 12:1-7, 9—If Christ died and paid for our physical healing at the cross, and God does not want you to be sick, then explain Paul's attitude toward his physical weaknesses and infirmities.
- Unless Paul possesses a different understanding and perspective about what God is doing he is a terrible guy glorying in the very things that Christ work at Calvary took away.
- II Corinthians 4:16—Paul makes a distinction between you inward and outward man.
- I Thessalonians 5:23—Your body is clearly your outward man, while your soul and spirit constitute your inward man. One is material the other immaterial.
- Colossians 1:14—What redemption is Paul talking about in this verse the inward or the outward man?
- Ephesians 1:3, 7—Our blessings are spiritual in nature. Today in the Dispensation of Grace, God is not forming an earthly agency but a spiritual heavenly agency.
- As such we are present possessors of a Spiritual redemption through the blood of Christ through which we possess the total and complete forgiveness of all our sins.

- Ephesians 4:30—I though we were already redeemed. Our inward man has been redeemed from the penalty of sin and received all spiritual blessings.
- Ephesians 1:13-14—The Holy Spirit, and His sealing ministry are the down payment of our inheritance until God redeems that which he as already redeemed.
- What is left for God to redeem? Our outward man which is still subject to the bondage of corruption that is in creation.
- Romans 8:20-22—The entire creation groans and travails under the curse of sin.
- Romans 8:23—Believers who have been redeemed from sin through the blood of Jesus Christ are not excluded from this suffering.
- Paul tells us that we need to wait for the redemption of our body. God has given us his Spirit as the down payment and seal of the future redemption of our bodies.
- Romans 8:25—In the mean time we are instructed to patiently wait for the redemption of our bodies.
- Romans 8:24—We presently saved from the bondage of corruption through hope. We hope to the future when we shall receive the redemption of the physical bodies. The Holy Spirit was given to us as a seal unto the Day of Redemption as the down payment as we wait for the realization of this hope.
- Titus 2:13—Our blessed hope will be realized that next time Christ appears to call his Church to meet him in the air.
- I Corinthians 15:51-53—Our healing program occurs at the Rapture

Paul's Attitude and Advice

- Acts 14:8-12—Paul heals the man with the withered hand.
- II Timothy 4:20—Paul left Trophimus and Miletum sick. If Paul still possessed the power to heal people why would he have done this.
- By the end of Paul's ministry the Dispensational transition that was occurring the book of Acts had run its course.
- I Timothy 5:23—Paul's advice to Timothy is not to pray to God to take away or heal the infirmity but to treat it medicinally with wine. Why would Paul say this if God were in the business of healing people physically today?

- We already know from II Corinthians 12 that the Grace of God is sufficient to see us through our infirmities. In fact, these are opportunities for us as believers to manifest the power of God in our mortal flesh and serve as a testimony of Grace to those around us.

What God Can Do and What God Will Do

- As I am teaching you these things this morning I am keenly aware that these ideas fly in the face of what is commonly believed and taught in Christendom.
- I know people who are made at God because He either has not yet healed them or given them the power to heal someone else. They read Mark 16 and do not understand why those things are not happening for them and consequently shake their fists in anger at God.
- In addition, as I alluded to earlier those would practice healing today come up with excuses to explain away why the passages are not functioning today in the same way they were written.
- Many of Grace Brethren would shout a hardy amen to the notion that God is no longer healing people indirectly. However, they still hold that God is healing people directly.
- Having sat under to difference schools of thought on this issue, I have concluded that Our Healing Program occurs at the Rapture and not before.
- As present possessor of our Spiritual Redemption we are asked to wait for the redemption of our bodies. Wanting or asking what God told us to wait for is being impatient.
- We need to make a distinction between what God can or could do and what He will do.
- Genesis 9:11-13--Could God destroy the entire world again through a flood? Yes. But will he? No, because he promised in his word that he would not.
- God cannot lie so if he says he is going to do something a certain way then we can have assurance that it will happen the way God says it will.
- II Corinthians 5:16—God could heal us physically today but it would be contrary to the relationship He has established with the Body of Christ.
- I Thessalonians 2:13—God is at work today in the inner man of believers who by faith apply his word to the details of their lives.

- Ephesians 3:16, 20—God is at work in the world today on the inner man of believers who by faith apply the word of God to the details of their lives.
- The Body of Christ, and Grace Believers in particular need to stop thinking, acting, and behaving like a bunch of closet defacto Calvinists who think that everything that happens is part of some prearrange like plan.
- Paul could glory in suffering and infirmities because he knew that one day he would be redeemed from physical suffering. In the meantime Paul understood that trials and tribulations were not designed to demonstrate God's favor or disfavor, but were opportunities to live out and in the Grace of God regardless of the circumstances.
- Grace Life Bible Church—Real Answers for Real Life