

Good News

From Getwell

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THE SPIRITUAL SWORD
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The Spiritual Sword Lectureship

Radio Program
The Truth in Love
 WHBQ-AM 560 / FM 98.5
 Sundays, 8:00 a.m.

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

SUNDAY

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.
 Worship.....10:20 a.m.
 Worship.....5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

Volume LXIV

April 16, 2023

Number 16

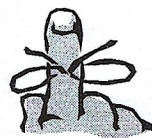
ON THE HOME FRONT

Proverbs 3

- 1 My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:
- 2 For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.
- 3 Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:
- 4 So shalt thou find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man.
- 5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
- 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.
- 7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.
- 8 It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.
- 9 Honor the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:
- 10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.
- 11 My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction:
- 12 For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.
- 13 Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.
- 14 For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.
- 15 She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.
- 16 Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honor.
- 17 Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.
- 18 She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is every one that retaineth her.
- 19 The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens.

Ron Wallace

RON'S REMINDERS



The Doctor Who Never Lost a Case

Many parents want their children to grow up to be doctors. It is an honored profession; it is rewarding to help others; it pays well. It is a popular enough field that there are 800,000 licensed physicians in America alone.

Jesus could have been a doctor. One of His followers, Luke, was (Colossians 4:14). But Jesus never carried a medical bag or opened an office on Main Street, Nazareth.

Still, Jesus was a healer. Various forms of the word heal are used fifty-five times in His four biographies. The New Testament contains more than seventy-five references to the healing work and ministry of Christ.¹ He was known to say, "I will come and heal him" (Matthew 8:7). In fact, He "healed them that had need of healing" (Luke 9:11). Jesus thought of Himself as a physician, and He seems to have been seen in this light by others. He said to those in His hometown, "Ye will surely say unto me this proverb, Physician, heal thyself" (Luke 4:23).

JESUS HEALED BODIES

Lots of bodies. All parts of bodies. You could say that He had a general family practice (Matthew 8:16; 12:15), but also specialized in

- pediatrics (healed Jairus' little daughter, Mark 5:23),
- hematology (woman's issue of blood, Luke 8:43),
- ophthalmology (caused the blind to see, Luke 18:35-43),
- orthopedics (made "bowed" to be straight, Luke 13:11-13),
- otolaryngology/ear-nose-throat (made the deaf to hear, Mark 7:32-35),

- neurology (cured "palsy,"² a condition Jesus seems to have faced often – at least three references are found in the New Testament, Matthew 4:24; 8:6; Mark 2:1-12; Luke 5:18-25),
- rheumatology (caused the lame/ maimed to walk and be whole, Matthew 15:30),
- internal medicine (dropsy,³ Luke 14:2-4), and
- infectious diseases (cured those with plague, Mark 3:10, and leprosy, Luke 5:12-13).

Jesus never made a referral ("healing every sickness and every disease among the people," Matthew 9:35). Jesus never found a case too hard. In fact, He seems to have specialized in impossible cases. Consider these:

- The woman who had an issue of blood "had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse" (Mark 5:25-26). She had been sick for twelve years.
- There was a woman who had "a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself" (Luke 13:11); Jesus healed her.
- "A certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years" (John 5:5-8); Jesus brought him back to health.
- The man who had been blind from his birth (John 9:1, 20, 32); Jesus gave him sight.
- Jesus met "a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in tombs" (Luke 8:27); Jesus returned him to a normal life.

JESUS HEALED MINDS (PSYCHIATRY)

"They brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them" (Matthew 4:24; cf. 17:15).

Isaiah prophesied of the coming Messiah: "He hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound" (Isaiah 61:1). Luke recorded the fulfillment when Jesus started His work in His hometown of Nazareth (Luke 4:18). The image is of a doctor tenderly rolling a bruised or diseased arm in a bandage or placing a broken one carefully in a sling (cf. Luke 10:34). Broken bones and bleeding wounds are bound up, that they may knit and close again.

Jesus binds up hearts with the bandage of His love. Inner lives crushed by sin and feelings rubbed raw with conflict find lasting peace in His presence (Matthew 11:28-30; Philippians 4:6-7). God alone can put broken hearts back together (Psalm 147:3; Isaiah 57:15). Matthew Henry makes an interesting point:

In a sense, we are all broken earthenware—cracked, mutilated jars that have been picked up from the waste heap and been mended and made serviceable for the King. No other religion ever even entertains the idea of making a broken vessel new.

JESUS HEALED SPIRITS

The Pharisees asked, "Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners?" When Jesus replied, "They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick" (Matthew 9:11-12), He was not talking about physical symptoms. He often used a medical metaphor for sin. For instance: "For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I

should heal them" (Matthew 13:15). Sin is pictured as a disease (Isaiah 1:6); thus salvation is the cure (Malachi 4:2).

Jesus specialized in impossible cases. While on earth, He cured the thief on the cross (Luke 23:40-43), the woman taken in adultery (John 8:1-11), and the publican Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10). Later, He cured Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9), the immoral Corinthians (1 Corinthians 6:9-11), and the very ones who had screamed for His blood to be shed (Acts 2:37-41). Another example is Mary, of Magdala, a little village on the northwest of the Sea of Galilee. She was afflicted with seven demons, and Jesus had set her free. She had been a prostitute, and Jesus offered her forgiveness, giving her self-respect once more. The result? She became a new person, full of love and loyalty to Jesus, who had transformed her life (Matthew 27:56, 61; 28:1).

Make your appointment with the Great Physician. His office is taking new patients.

God alone can put broken
hearts back together

Endnotes:

1. Jesus, M.D. A Doctor Examines the Great Physician, Introduction, Zondervan, Grand Rapids. 2001.
2. paralytic. Whenever Luke mentions this disease, he uses the verb and not the adjective paralytic (as Matthew 4:24; 8:6; his usage in this respect being in strict accord with that of medical writers (Vincent's Word Studies).
3. hudropikos. Robertson's Word Pictures says, "Late and medical word from hudor (water), one who has internal water (hudrops). Here only in the N.T. and only example of the disease healed by Jesus and recorded.

Allen Webster, House to House Heart to Heart
Vol.14, Number 2