Follow up #1 of 2: Things Learned; Who can expect divine healing?

Hi all,

It seemed good due to the response from the last series to talk more about when to believe for a divine healing versus when it is up to our faith. In the gospels we see healings falling into one of those two categories: Either their healing was a sovereign move of God, or their faith attained their healing.

Our interest today is with the ones Jesus acknowledged their faith was involved. I have a series entitled "*Healing School*" that goes into detail of their faith and on how sometimes the Lord maneuvered them in such a way for their faith to be brought forth, which led to their healing, which may be of interest for further insight. Let's look at a few of those:

1) The Centurion's servant of Matthew 8:5-13 and Luke 7: 1-10

This man understood authority, not wanting Jesus to come to his door, but telling Him to just speak the word of healing 'For I too am a man under authority.' <u>Jesus said he had not to that point found such</u> great faith in Israel.

He understood both the authority and the power of the personal promise of healing. Those needing healing need a personal promise from the Lord concerning their healing. My suggestion is make getting that promise to top priority by investing the time and effort to stay before Him until He gives you a word about it.

2) Woman with hemorrhage condition of Matthew 9: 20-22, Mark 5:25-34, Luke 8: 43-48 Mark's gospel provides the most detail, telling us in v27-28: "When she heard it was Jesus, came in the crowd from behind and touched His clothing, for she had said within herself; 'If I but touch his clothes I will be whole.' And immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up..."

When she heard it was Jesus - that was the point of her faith. She had revelation upon hearing of His other miracles that she would be healed - she had that revelation within her, and then acted upon it. Jesus said, 'Your faith has made you whole.'

3) Two blind men found only in Matthew 9: 27-31

They called Jesus the Son of David, which was a term for Messiah. Whenever we see people calling Jesus 'Son of David' it stops Him in His tracks. And also with each time, He tests them to see if they are using the term as a general term, or if they really believe He is the Son of David, the Messiah. If they demonstrate true revelation that He is Messiah, He meets them at their faith. These two blind men are the first of 3 examples we will look at who called Him 'Son of David'.

When these 2 men got Jesus' attention calling Him Son of David, Jesus tested them: "Do you believe I am able to do this?" When they responded; "Yes. Lord." That was all Jesus needed to know - they called Him Lord. His response was to acknowledge their faith: "According to your faith be it unto you." And immediately they were healed. His instructions not to tell anyone had to do with the confirmation of the fact to them He was Messiah the Son of David, more than anything else. According to your faith be it unto you seems to be the common thread, even for us today. Zero in on your core faith as they did. That's where He will meet you. At the acknowledgement of His Lordship. Read on:

Canaanite woman - In Matthew 15: 21-28 and Mark 7:24-30 we have a person of great faith who like the Roman Centurion, wasn't Jewish. She calls Jesus 'Son of David' as she asks Him to heal her daughter, 'vexed of a devil'. The disciples told Jesus to send her away, but her claimed revelation that He was the Jewish Messiah arrested Jesus' attention.

He had to test her to see as He did with the blind men; Did she really have the revelation that He was Israel's Messiah? To do so He spoke a parable to her as He had done so often with the people - those who had revelation received great truths while those following Him without revelation and with ulterior motives heard only stories about seeds and ground and such.

"It isn't right to give the children's bread to the puppies" came His parable to her. If she had revelation He was indeed Messiah she would be able to answer back in parable form, and she did: "True, Lord. Yet the puppies eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." She had it! She truly believed! Jesus responded: "O woman! Great is your faith! Be it unto you as you will." And her daughter was

made whole from that hour. This was the 2nd 'according to your faith' statement, just like with the 2 blind men. We miss that - we want God to touch us, but the truth is we need revelation first, and then healing comes.

The last example of the Son of David stopping Jesus in His tracks is blind Bartimaeus of Matthew 20: 29-34, Mark 10: 46-52, and Luke 18: 35-43, with Mark's gospel providing the detail we are looking for today.

The text says when he heard it was specifically Jesus from Nazareth, he cried out for His attention: "Jesus! Son of David! Have mercy on me!" The crowd told him to shut up. But that only made him cry out still louder. Jesus heard him and v49-50 tells us "Jesus stood still" which was polite, allowing the blind man to make his way to the Lord. Immediately Bartimaeus "...casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus."

The test Jesus used to discover if Bartimaeus calling Him Son of David was real or just a title was simple: "What do you want me to do for you?" That sounds like a silly question to the obvious, but it was a test. Did he want something fleshly like money, or for Jesus to talk to someone in town about providing a house for him to live in? Did what he want in life correspond to him calling Jesus the Son of David, the Messiah? Doesn't Jesus do that to us today: What do you want of Me? Our response betrays our selfish heart sometimes. He responded, "Lord! That I may receive my sight!" Jesus response was:

"Your faith has made you whole." Bartimaeus then immediately followed Jesus as a disciple, because the short answer to 'What do you want me to do for you?' was to be healed, but the long answer was he wanted eternal life. He knew, really knew, Jesus was the Son of David and responded to the larger revelation of salvation. That is where we have to be!

All 3 of these examples of people calling Jesus 'Son of David' demonstrate Jesus tested their revelation to find out if it was genuine. All 3 of these had to respond in a way that showed they were indeed moved by revelation to believe Him for healing (or deliverance). For us it means we need to go back to our earliest and core revelation when we first met Jesus. There remains Life in that initial revelation when you knew that you knew Jesus is Lord and you had to respond from that revelation - that same revelation can stir faith in you for healing.

I've run a bit long today, but review the points concerning faith - and we'll pick it up with other examples of faith for healing next week, until then, blessings, John Fenn

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Follow up #2 of 2: Things Learned; Who can expect divine healing? Chronic conditions

Hi all,

Last week we looked in the gospels at people who demonstrated personal faith for healing. Faith forms when you have a personal revelation for you and for your situation. Noah received revelation a flood was coming, his response to that revelation and grace, is faith. Moses was told he was deliverer for Israel, his response to that revelation and grace, is faith. Revelation comes first, faith is our response to the revelation of grace.

Visitation about chronic conditions

I was on senior staff at a mega-church and as such was given front row seats to the Tuesday evening service during a week long set of services with a new guest minister each night. Towards the end of the service the guest minister invited people who said they were healed that night come on stage and tell about it.

I noticed many of the testimonies were from injuries, and thought, "Father, did Jesus heal injuries in the gospels? Is healing from injury even in the atonement? I can't think of any specific reference to healing injuries in the gospels" as I quickly mentally scanned my memory of the 23 individual cases for any that might have been injury.

Suddenly to my far right, standing by the end of the platform I saw my angel, and he looked right at me and said, "Much of what Jesus and others healed were injuries." And disappeared. I had a personal interest in that question because our oldest son Chris, was brain damaged at birth with the umbilical cord wrapped around his neck, and over the years I'd tried everything to get him healed, but the healing of injuries being possible was not something I had even considered.

On Saturday night I had no official duties and Barb needed a break from caring for Chris all week long, so I took Chris to the concert that was held at the close of the conference on Saturday night. At the time Chris was 19 years old, in a wheelchair, and I rolled him to the main floor to the side of the platform and took my seat next to him in a folding chair. So he could see just a bit better I had rolled him slightly in front of me on my right side just a bit.

As the singer sang and accompanying videos played on the big screens placed around the arena, my mind noticed what was in my spirit - I suddenly felt the presence of Jesus in my spirit. Let me explain: I feel the presence of the Lord in my spirit 24/7, but when Jesus Himself is in the Spirit nearby, my spirit recognizes Him and the intensity in the spirit man increases and His presence causes my mind to notice. You've probably experienced that too but maybe not known Who was near. When I noticed that, then the Father suddenly opened my eyes to His realm, and with eyes wide open I could see both the natural realm and His realm, as Elisha saw the natural army and the angelic army at the same time in II Kings 6: 13-17.

I looked around thinking I might see Him walking among the thousands of people as the concert had transitioned from 'hip hop' to more vertical and true praise & worship. But all I saw was angels. I said, "Lord, I know you're here, I can't see you. But I know you're here." Suddenly I felt His presence behind me, and turned to look over my left shoulder to see Him walking up to me, pausing to stand at my left shoulder.

Without a greeting the Lord just started talking where the angel had left off on Tuesday night: "Much of what I healed in the gospels was injury, but I'd like to teach you some things about long term and chronic conditions."

"But what about the healing of injuries? I need chapter and verse on that Lord." He graciously included the references to the maimed in Matthew 15: 30-31, said the man with the withered (what we call atrophied) right hand of Mark 3: 1-5 & Luke 6:6 was in that condition from an accident (which was clear He pointed out because the hand had 'withered', having been normal before), and included Paul raising from the dead the man who accidentally fell out the window to his death in Acts 20:9, and the man crippled at birth but healed in Acts 14: 8-10.

We think in pictures

Satisfied I had my questions answered, He switched to why He had appeared to me, to teach me about people with chronic or long-term conditions. Keep in mind during this time my wheelchair bound and brain injured son was sitting to my right, Jesus standing on my left. Yes, I desperately wanted Him to lay His hand on Chris. But He had been many times in our home visiting me to teach me over the years, with Chris asleep right down the hall, and He never did. In fact Chris' faith is to this day centered around something the Lord said to him a few months before that evening.

A few months earlier Chris came crawling down the hall (pulling himself on his stomach with his arms as he can't walk) - "Dad! Dad! Know what Jesus said to me?! Jesus said He's going to walk through the mountains with me! Yep, that's what He said alright. Isn't that great! He's going to walk through the mountains with me. Yahoo! (laugh, chuckle), Yep, He's going to walk through the mountains with me!"

He has seen kids on TV running and said, "When I get to heaven I'm going to run like that" and many more comments that demonstrate his faith is not on healing for today, but for when he gets to heaven. To him, much to our (Barb and I) disappointment, 'walking through the mountains with me' meant in the age to come or heaven, not the mountains a day's drive away in Colorado in this lifetime. But that's where he is and I cannot override that because he is an adult and in that area has understanding (though I've tried). But lines of authority and how He works in families was another visitation...

Pictures

The Lord started: "People think in pictures." I asked what He meant and He responded: "If I say 'cat', what do you think of?" I said, "I think of and picture Clipper, the little cat my brother saved as a tar covered kitten after they had resurfaced the road in front of our house." He said, "Right. But others may think of and picture their own cat, or even a lion or tiger. People think in pictures."

"So when a person has been a long time in a condition, or even since birth, they have little or no knowledge in their mind of what they look like whole, of what life would be like if they were whole. They have no image that naturally comes into their mind, no memory of themselves whole. When you have an injury or something you can easily receive healing in part because you know what it is like to be whole. Whole is normal for you, needing healing is unusual. But for them the opposite is true: Their condition is normal, and they have little or no memory or image of what health and wholeness means."

"This is why it says when Bartimaeus heard it was 'Jesus of Nazareth', he called out. When he had heard of the healings and miracles and what people were saying, revelation began to work in him as he gave himself to it (revelation and therefore faith that sprung up as a result) first knowing who I AM and then he started thinking about seeing. The same of the woman with the hemorrhaging condition who it says 'had heard of Jesus', and therefore of other healings and miracles. She received revelation she too could be healed: "She said within herself, if I but touch His clothes I will be healed."

He continued: "Faith for healing generally requires personal revelation." I asked for other examples and He continued: "I already mentioned Paul in Acts 14 and the man crippled at birth had faith to be healed. Paul didn't do anything but perceive in his spirit the man had faith. The man's faith made him whole. Revelation comes from the Father, and most people you've dealt with haven't or don't take the time before the Father to receive revelation concerning the situation, or they receive it but ignore it and continue 'believing' as they had because what He reveals isn't what they want."

I asked for examples and He shared about people I knew. One was a young man who received a diagnosis that would be terminal if left untreated, but was curable if treated. He was a young evangelist with a wife and young children, but he refused medical treatment which was the Father's provision for Him, because he wanted to 'stand in faith'. He died a few months later, leaving many confused as to why God didn't heal him when he was 'standing in faith'. He wasn't, for he had revelation from the Father on the course of action to take but ignored it and suffered the consequences. He's in heaven of course, but he could have lived longer.

He spoke of Chris' Special Education teacher who was a Christian and had a brain tumor. I talked to her about healing and faith, and left with her a (cassette tape) of nothing but the reading of healing scriptures. She spent a week listening to it, reading example of healings in the gospels, and ended up being instantly and totally healed when I laid hands on her a week or so later. He shared of Barb who had crushed the right side of her face in a horrible fall, but received complete healing of the nerves and muscles of her face - something the reconstructive surgeon said could not happen due to severe nerve damage/severing nerves - because she spent her whole time listening to healing scriptures and from the moment I laid hands on her, worshipped and gave thanks to the Father - all based on revelation and singleness of heart and focus.

There were several other examples of where people received healing and where they did not. Where some had realized it was their time or their loved one's time 'to go', and where people fought against that revelation. And He concluded by giving me more understanding of Chris, His love for him, His delight in him, and other things more personal. And then He was gone.

And though the subject of healing and aging, faith and hope, is vast and thousands of books have been written on the subject, I must speak through the grace given me, though I perhaps raised as many questions as I answered, I hope it has provided food for thought though. If anyone has specific questions you can always email me directly at the email below. But I must conclude this series for now...next week: Why we don't pray to the Holy Spirit. Until then, blessings,

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