

## THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - PART V

### GIFTS OF HEALINGS (Part 2)

Text: I Corinthians 12:9b

**Key Word:** Healings

**Key Thought:** Understanding the Gifts of Healings

Last week we looked at some reasons why the Holy Spirit has given us the Gifts of Healings. Today, I want to illustrate how these gifts work within the body of Christ.

I wish to re-emphasize that the Gifts of the Healing are not what we see in operation throughout the medical profession. Luke was the only one within the 12 disciples who could have practised medicine since he was a physician. We have no record of him ever using medical procedures to minister to the sick.

When Paul and Luke arrived on the island of Melita, it was not Dr. Luke who opened his medical chest for those who were desperately sick.

\*\*\* One of the greatest preachers our modern world has ever seen, Smith Wigglesworth, was speaking on Psalm 103. When he came to verse 3, the verse he cherished the most which says, "**Who healeth all thy diseases**", he joyfully commented, "*I believe in divine healing.*"

A man in the front row shouted out a loud, "*Hallelujah!*" (must have been a Pentecostal). The congregation was one that was not used of these sorts of outbursts. The preacher handled it so delightfully careful. He remarked,

*"But then, I believe all healing is divine."* The people crowded into the pews were amused and began to chatter amongst themselves. It grew to a chorus of laughter.

The speaker turned to the man and said, "*Why don't you shout Hallelujah now?*" \*\*\*

In the ultimate sense all healing is from God. This DOES need explanation though. We understand that every good and perfect gift comes from the Father of lights. Yet we have had certain voodoo priests and New Age teachers who claim to be able to bring physical healing. Does this mean that they are being used of God? Of course NOT. **Without God putting certain laws into order in His creation no one could be healed.** So ultimately healing is not the devil's creation.

### We Need to Ask How Does God Heal?

## I. THROUGH PERSONAL PRAYER

*"Is any one of you in trouble? ("afflicted" - KJV) He should pray."*

*James 5:13*

This portion of Scripture is often not mentioned when we deal with sickness. Before we ask for others to join with us in prayer, we need to pray for ourselves. This, of course, would be overlooked if the person was too ill to pray for themselves.

God has offered us many rich and precious promises if we simply activate what level of faith we have and believe that He will stand upon His Word. We are NOT to always look to our sense of knowledge. God has often demonstrated His power to heal in very unusual ways (spit & mud in blind eyes).

The scriptures tell us that the prophet Isaiah was sent to king Hezekiah to tell him to put his house in order because he was going to die (II Kings 20:1). The king was not willing to accept the prognosis.

*"Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD,  
3. 'Remember, O LORD, how I have walked before you faithfully and with whole-hearted devotion and have done what is good in your eyes.' And Hezekiah wept bitterly."*

*II Kings 20:2,3*

God's response to the prayer came before Isaiah had a chance to leave the middle court.

*"I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will heal you. On the third day from now you will go up to the temple of the LORD.  
6. I will add fifteen years to your life. And I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria. I will defend this city for my sake and for the sake of my servant David."*

*II Kings 20:5,6*

God used a sign to confirm what He had said. The shadow of the sun went back 10 steps on the stairway of Ahaz.

## II. THROUGH THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

The Bible makes it very clear about what signs shall follow those who believe.

*"And these signs will accompany those who believe*

*...*

*18. . .they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.*

*Mark 16:17,18*

Our hands simply become the contact place for our faith to be activated from. God still flows through people who believe.

I remember many nights laying our hands upon our sick children and watching them immediately becoming well.

\*\*\* During one service we prayed for a woman who had an internal growth. She allowed us to place our hands upon her and pray for a healing. During the prayer she felt a warm, almost burning sensation at the area of problem. She knew she was healed.

She was told to return to her doctor to confirm what had taken place. Her doctor could not understand how a growth that large could simply disappear. It never returned while we pastored in that assembly. \*\*\*

\*\*\* Another lady from our church attended a convention with the P.A.O.C. in Vancouver. She was a diabetic and had to use a needle to give herself insulin.

She went forward for prayer and also experienced a touch of Jesus through the hands of other believers. Her daily blood glucose checks indicated that she no longer required insulin.

Upon returning home she made an appointment with her doctor who confirmed that she was no longer a diabetic. Tears flowed down her face when she told of how God miraculously healed her through the laying on of hands. \*\*\*

### III. THROUGH THE SPOKEN WORD

When Jesus returned home to Capernaum, a centurion came asking help of Jesus. He explained,

*"my servant lies at home paralysed and in terrible suffering."*

*Matthew 8:6*

Jesus was willing to go to the home of the centurion to heal the servant. The centurion's response was very surprising.

*"Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed."*

*Matthew 8:8*

He went on to explain that as a Roman leader he recognized that certain lines of authority were given to leaders. When they gave orders, the soldiers would respond without arguing. This centurion was telling Jesus that he believed that through His Word, Jesus could heal his servant. He didn't expect Jesus to come to his home. Jesus recognized that this man had exercised great faith in making that statement.

*"Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go! It will be done just as you believed it would. And his servant was healed that very hour."*

*Matthew 8:13*

\*\*\* During my intern year of ministry, a young man came forward during a service and asked me to join him in prayer for his mother. She was not a woman that missed a service, so I knew she had to be ill.

We joined hands together and believed for her complete healing. They called me after I arrived home from the morning service. I could hear shouting in the background.

I remember looking at my watch when we prayed for her. She also looked at her clock when she felt the healing power of God enter her body. It was the exact minute that we were praying. She attended the evening service and gave testimony of what God had done. \*\*\*

### III. THROUGH THE SPOKEN WORD (Contd.)

David knew that God worked this way when he wrote Psalm 107.

*"Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.  
20. He sent forth his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave."*

*Psalm 107:19,20*

### IV. THROUGH AN ANOINTED CLOTH

This is perhaps the least common way that healing takes place today. It was never given as an instruction to follow. Yet God can still use any particular method He chooses. I do feel that mass quantities of cloths being mailed out are not appropriate. It may be still used in single cases.

It is not the oil on the cloth that makes it effective. It is the anointing that has been upon the person owning the cloth which brings about the healing.

One of the most unusual cases took place in the O.T. during the time of Elisha the prophet. Elisha had died and was buried according to the custom of the day (II Kings 13:20).

The Bible tells us that the Moabites would often raid the country. Once when they were raiding, the Israelites were in the process of burying a man. In their fear they threw the man's dead body into Elisha's tomb.

*"When the body touched Elisha's bones, the man came to life and stood up on his feet."*

*II Kings 13:21*

**There was more anointing in Elisha's dead body than there is in most of our living bodies.** It took the contact with Elisha's body (draped in cloth) to bring the restoration of life.

Another case of this type of healing took place with Jesus. He was on His way to raise Jarius' daughter from the dead. As Jesus made His way through the crowds, a woman who had suffered from a bleeding disorder for 12 years, reached out to touch Jesus.

#### **IV. THROUGH AN ANOINTED CLOTH (Contd.)**

*"Because she thought, 'If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.*

*29. Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering."*

*Mark 5:28,29*

This unusual way of healing continued as the people saw how effective it was.

*"And wherever he went - into villages, towns, or countryside - they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched him were healed."*

*Mark 6:56*

God used the apostle Paul in this very unusual way as well. Paul was not able to go to everyone who was sick. When he was told of a specific need he responded by sending pieces of cloths.

*"God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, 12. so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them."*

*Acts 19:11,12*

#### **V. THROUGH THE ANOINTING OF OIL**

This is perhaps the most common approach taken to bring about healing today.

When Jesus sent out His 12 disciples they went with an anointing oil to perform great miracles.

*"They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them."*

*Mark 6:13*

## V. THROUGH THE ANOINTING OF OIL (Contd.)

The early church was given specific instruction on what do if someone is sick among them.

*"Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him **and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord.***

*15. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven."*

*James 5:14,15*

Without doubt, one of the most common truths behind all healing is faith. It may be **substitutionary faith** (Mark 2:5); **faith of the sufferer alone** (Matthew 9:22); **faith of the minister alone** (Matthew 9:25); **combined faith of the minister and the sufferer** (Matthew 9:28,29). **Faith is indispensable for divine healing.**

Everyone can be healed of every sickness. We will not give up on anyone who has any kind of sickness or disease. God is still God. He is able to do abundantly more than we could ever ask or even think about. Ask God for an increase in your faith and wait upon Him to answer your prayer for healing as He chooses and in His timing.

C:\Documents\WPWin(X9)\Sermons.2020\Gifts of the Holy Spirit\I Corinthians 12:9b.2

Date: July 19/20

Place: FCA

Time: 10:30 Am

Song: But I Have Trusted in Thy Mercy - D

## THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - PART V

### GIFTS OF HEALINGS (Part 2)

Text: I Corinthians 12:9b

**Key Word:** Healings

**Key Thought:** Understanding the Gifts of Healings

#### We Need to Ask How Does God?

**A. THROUGH PERSONAL PRAYER** - James 5:13; II Kings 20:1; II Kings 20:2,3; II Kings 20:5,6

**II. THROUGH THE LAYING ON OF HANDS** - Mark 16:17,18

**III. THROUGH THE SPOKEN WORD** - Matthew 8:6; Matthew 8:8; Matthew 8:13; Psalm 107:19,20

**IV. THROUGH AN ANOINTED CLOTH** - II Kings 13:21; Mark 5:28,29; Mark 6:56; Acts 19:11,12

**V. THROUGH THE ANOINTING OF OIL** - Mark 6:13; James 5:14,15