

Doctrine of Divine Healing

1. It is not wrong to pray for others to be healed. When the sister of Moses was stricken with leprosy Moses prayed for Miriam.
 - *Numbers 12:13 And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee.*

2. God takes upon Himself the prerogative of sovereignly controlling every facet of life. He is the one who causes death or gives life. He can wound and He can heal.
 - *Deuteronomy 32:39 See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.*

3. God hears the prayers for divine healing. He sees the tears. Sometimes He will move in mercy to grant longer life as in the case of Hezekiah.
 - *2 Kings 20:5 Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the Lord.*

4. Even after God gives assurance that divine healing will take place, some individuals are not convinced and want a sign.
 - *2 Kings 20:8 And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What shall be the sign that the Lord will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of the Lord the third day?*

5. God promised national Israel He would heal their land if they would do the following:
 - ❖ humble themselves,
 - ❖ pray,
 - ❖ seek His face,
 - ❖ and turn from their wicked ways.

 - *2 Chronicles 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.*

Special Note.

By way of interpretation the promises and provisions of 2 Chronicles 7:14 belong to national Israel. By way of application any nation, including America, can hope the Lord will show the same mercy as He did to Israel, provided the spiritual conditions are honored.

6. King David prayed for mercy and for healing in Psalm 6. Psalm 6 is the first of seven Penitential psalms or songs of confession and humility before God. It was a custom in the early church to sing these psalms on Ash Wednesday, the Wednesday before Easter.
 - *Psalms 6:2 Have mercy upon me, O Lord; for I am weak: O Lord, heal me; for my bones are vexed [hurting].*
7. Part of the provision for divine healing is an honest confession of all known sin against God. Ultimately every transgression is against the Lord and so should be acknowledged in that manner.
 - *Psalms 41:4 I said, Lord, be merciful unto me: heal my soul; for I have sinned against thee.*
8. In the divine economy there is a time to kill and a time to heal. That time is finally determined by God.
 - *Ecclesiastes 3:3 A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;*
9. The *Bible* reveals that God controls the affairs of the nations on earth. Concerning Egypt it was noted by the prophet Isaiah that God would judge Egypt and then He would heal or make the people and the land to prosper.
 - *Isaiah 19:22 And the Lord shall smite Egypt: he shall smite and heal it: and they shall return even to the Lord, and he shall be intreated of them, and shall heal them.*
10. It is possible to be viewed as a righteous person in the eyes of God. The righteous person is characterized by contriteness over sin and humility. The righteous person will be considered with favor by the Lord especially in matters of healing.
 - *Isaiah 57:15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones. ...18 I have seen his ways, and will heal him: I will lead him also, and restore comforts unto him and to his mourners.*
11. The Lord is inclined to show mercy and acts of healing even to those who are far off.
 - *Isaiah 57:19 I create the fruit of the lips; Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near, saith the Lord; and I will heal him.*
 - *Jeremiah 3:22 Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings. Behold, we come unto thee; for thou art the Lord our God.*

12. However, it is also to be noted that God's anger can be manifested in such a way that no special healing takes place. People look for peace and for healing and there is none.
- *Jeremiah 14:19 Hast thou utterly rejected Judah? Hath thy soul lothed Zion? Why hast thou smitten us, and there is no healing for us? We looked for peace, and there is no good; and for the time of healing, and behold trouble!*
 - *Jeremiah 30:13 There is none to plead thy cause, that thou mayest be bound up: thou hast no healing medicines.*
 - *Nahum 3:19 There is no healing of thy bruise; thy wound is grievous: all that hear the bruit of thee shall clap the hands over thee: for upon whom hath not thy wickedness passed continually?*
13. The best form of healing is divine.
- *Jeremiah 17:14 Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise.*
14. Sometimes in mercy God will move against the enemies of His chosen people and heal them, not because of who and what they are but because of who and what He is.
- *Jeremiah 30:16 Therefore all they that devour thee shall be devoured; and all thine adversaries, every one of them, shall go into captivity; and they that spoil thee shall be a spoil, and all that prey upon thee will I give for a prey. 17 For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord; because they called thee an Outcast, saying, This is Zion, whom no man seeketh after.*
15. There are some forms of healing needed that cannot be cured by any known human remedy, person or nation.
- *Lamentations 2:13 What thing shall I take to witness for thee? What thing shall I liken to thee, O daughter of Jerusalem? What shall I equal to thee, that I may comfort thee, O virgin daughter of Zion? For thy breach is great like the sea: who can heal thee?*
 - *Hosea 5:13 When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah saw his wound, then went Ephraim to the Assyrian, and sent to king Jareb: yet could he not heal you, nor cure you of your wound.*
16. Believers should exhort one another to repent of sin and return to God with hope in the heart for healing and comfort.
- *Hosea 6:1 Come, and let us return unto the Lord: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.*
17. Sometimes the Lord will use the voice of His prophets to convey afresh to a particular generation His love and mercy.

- *Hosea 14:4 I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him.*
18. Sometimes God will raise up a bad shepherd to discipline His people.
- *Zechariah 11:16 For, lo, I will raise up a shepherd in the land, which shall not visit those that be cut off, neither shall seek the young one, nor heal that that is broken, nor feed that that standeth still: but he shall eat the flesh of the fat, and tear their claws in pieces.*
19. During the days of His earthly ministry Jesus never refused to heal anyone that called upon Him for mercy.
- *Matthew 8:5 And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeking him, 6 And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented. 7 And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.*
 - *John 4:46 So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum. 47 When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death.*
20. It is not surprising to find healing to be a large part of the Lord's earthly ministry for it was predicted by the prophet Isaiah.
- *Luke 4:16 And he [Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read. 17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, 18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,*
21. In order to validate the ministry of His disciples Jesus gave them power to heal all manner of sickness.
- *Matthew 10:1 And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.*
 - *Matthew 10:8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.*

Special Note.

The fact that Jesus gave authority to the twelve disciples does not mean that ministers of the gospel today can arrogate the same authority and power unto themselves, which is often done.

22. It is surprising to discover there are some people who do not want others to be healed for a variety of reasons, jealousy being one.
 - *Matthew 12:10 And, behold, there was a man which had his hand withered. And they asked him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath days? That they might accuse him.*
23. Unwillingness and an inability to believe in the miracle working power of God can be in itself a form of divine judgment lest God should heal them.
 - *Matthew 13:15 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.*
24. Prior to engaging in acts of healing Jesus prayed. During acts of healing the power of the Lord was present.
 - *Luke 5:16 And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed. 17 And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was present to heal them.*
25. By way of present practical application these same two conditions should be expected to guide any healing, prayer and the presence of the power of the Lord. Only in this way will modern acts of healing emulate the spiritual dynamics which surrounded both Jesus and the apostles as per Acts 4:29-31.
 - Prayer. “29 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, 30 By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus”.
 - Presence of the power of the Lord. “31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness”.
26. A third facet that must be present for divine healing to take place is fear of the Lord.
 - *Malachi 4:2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.*

26. Some believers, but not all, are given the gift of healing by the Holy Spirit.

- *1 Corinthians 12:9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;*
- *1 Corinthians 12:30 Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?*

27. There is no physical, psychological or demonic sickness or disease to mankind that cannot be cured by the Lord if it is His sovereign will to cure.

- *Matthew 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.*
- *Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.*

28. Age is no barrier to acts of divine healing.

- *Acts 4:22 For the man was above forty years old, on whom this miracle of healing was shewed.*

29. In the new heavens and new earth there will be fruit for the healing of the nations.

- *Revelation 22:2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.*