

# God's Willingness to Deliver

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S108A 0702 23C

When Jesus spoke in the synagogue at Nazareth, He read from the 61st chapter of Isaiah, Verse 1:

*"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound."*

The real thought in our language would be, "He hath sent me to tell the people of this earth, most wonderful, good news. Glad tidings of great joy. Things that will make everybody happy. I am sent to deliver everybody out of their troubles and give everybody victory, blessing, prosperity and protection for time and eternity." That is what it means.

*"He hath sent me to bind up the broken-hearted."* That does not mean somebody "down and out" spiritually, because of something terrible has come over them. There is a provision for that, too, but it does not mean that in this case. It means, "He hath sent me to heal the bodies of people who have become contrite in heart, those who are remorseful and have really repented of their sins." Many people often wonder why Jesus healed so many people during His ministry, and yet there is no record of their repentance. But John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus Christ by preaching repentance and remission of sins. Furthermore, forgiveness of sin carries faith for healing with it.

Then we have an account of His message given in a different way in the 10th chapter of Acts, 38th

verse, *"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."*

That meant delivering them from every oppression of the devil. It did not only mean their bodies, but spiritually, financially, in the home, workplace, or wherever the devil was working.

This is brought out again in 1st John 3:8. *"For this purpose, the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."*

The things that Satan had done since he had charge of this earth. That is what Jesus Christ came for, to undo the works of the devil and to destroy all the things he had done, spiritually, physically and in everything. The Bible clearly teaches that in getting our deliverances here, our eternal interests will be safeguarded, because every plan of deliverance God has given us, has our eternal interests in view, which makes this subject very important.

Another very valuable thing that we have learned is, God is no respecter of persons, and He has never changed. It makes the Bible an entirely new book to us. The average professing Christian reads the Bible as they would read a history book, things that happened years ago, but are gone forever. What few of them who do read the Bible, have read that God loved people in the Bible enough to be interested in the welfare of their everyday lives, and to send His own Son to deliver them out of their troubles and take them to Heaven, but Satan and their ministers have convinced them that this is all past history and will never happen again. They say, "It sure would be wonderful to have lived in Jesus' day and to have gotten my deliverance, but I have been told that the Lord has stopped doing those things. His ears are closed, eyes shut, hands folded, and He does not care at all how we get along down here. But after we have passed on, He is going to take us to Heaven."

A father like that would be entirely out of his mind. And yet that is the kind of a God the average Christian has—He will not do a thing for them while they are living but will do wonderful things for them

after they have passed on. But the serious part of it all is that a God who cannot help us while we are living, cannot help us after we are gone, and if we cannot get the victories we need from such a loving and willing God as we have, here in this life, we will never go one step toward Heaven, but instead will go straight to that Lake that burns forever with fire and brimstone.

We have found that God is not only able to deliver us out of every trouble and difficulty, but He is so-ever willing, and He has not changed and is no respecter of persons, but is just as willing to deliver us today as He was in Bible times, and when we meet the simple conditions, take the easy and simple attitude to God that they took, we will enjoy the same deliverance, the same answers to prayer, healing, protection and deliverances out of every kind of trouble.

When we read about God's ability and willingness to deliver people in Bible times, we can be very happy and rejoice in the knowledge that we can have the very same experience today and for the rest of our lives. We can have the spiritual light and victory, the same physical healing, miracles, protection, the same peace, the same answers to prayer and financial blessings, the same blessings of every kind; in fact, it says we have inherited the very blessings Abraham was given.

Galatians 3:9, *"So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham."*

Anyone who realizes or believes in his heart that God did create Heaven and earth, the sea and all there is in them, can trust God for anything. If we do not have faith to trust Him, we do not believe the Bible story of creation. All the things we want done in comparison to what God did in creation, are already ours. If we ever believed that God created the sun, moon and stars, this earth and all that is in it, we would have to believe that God was able to do any job we had.

Paul was our example for spiritual deliverance, as he was a rather hard case that God handled quickly and saved him in a few minutes. And the Demoniac of Gadara for home troubles; the management and control of our loved ones by God's power. Jesus

Christ delivered that Demoniac of Gadara who had a legion of demons in him, and sent him home a model husband, a model citizen, and he began at once to tell what wonderful things God had done for him.

It is hard to understand how anyone who reads the Bible or professes to know anything about it, could ever doubt God's willingness and ability to heal sick bodies today. The reason is that they have such a power of Satan in their lives that it completely controls them and dominates everything they think, say or do concerning God's Word, and therefore they can only see from Satan's standpoint. They only go as far as Satan wants them to and can only do what he wants them to do in reference to God's Word. That is the reason Jesus said in Matthew 7:14, "*Because straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.*"

2nd Timothy 3:1-5 Paul says, "*This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.*"

Also in 2nd Timothy 4:3, Paul further says, "*For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears.*"

Paul also said in Acts 20:26,27, "*Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.*"

There is one encouraging thing about divine healing and that is, the Bible from Genesis to Revelation presents God as the only physician for His people. We must go outside of the Bible to find anything else. There is no teaching in the Bible that says God will ever be anything else but the Healer of His people; and there was not a saved person in the entire

Bible who ever had a doctor or trusted man for healing. Everyone trusted God and received their healing. The first healing in the Bible is found in the 20th chapter of Genesis, and the last healing in the 28th chapter of Acts.

Genesis 20:17, "*So Abraham prayed unto God: and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants; and they bare children.*"

Acts 28:8,9, "*And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him. So when this was done, others also, which had diseases in the island, came, and were healed.*"

All down through the ages, under the Law, before the Law, after the Law, during the Gospel, after Jesus went away to the close of Bible history, we find God as the ever ready, ever willing, ever able healer of His people. Not a saved person in the entire Bible ever took a dose of medicine or had a doctor.

Some religious teachers say that healing stopped when the Law was done away with, and they also say that Paul did not say very much on the subject of healing in his epistles. He tells us in his letter to the Romans that he was used of God to perform signs and wonders beyond any of the other apostles, and in the 8th chapter and 11th verse of Romans, he tells us that He would use the same power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead, to quicken, or renew the life of, our mortal bodies.

"*But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.*"

If God can get us rid of the human plans of healing which are Satan's, and shut ourselves up to God and His power alone, the most valuable results and great spiritual blessing, which is the most valuable of all, will come flowing in.

In the 53rd chapter of Isaiah, verses 4 to 6, it is written concerning the coming of Jesus Christ. This is from the Young's Literal Translation of the Bible.

*"Surely our sicknesses he hath borne, And our pains--he hath carried them, And we--we have esteemed him plagued, Smitten of God, and afflicted. And he is pierced for our transgressions, Bruised for our iniquities, The chastisement of our peace is on him, And by his bruise there is healing to us. All of us like sheep have wandered, Each to his own way we have turned, And Jehovah hath caused to meet on him, The punishment of us all."*

That means a deliverance from every kind of trouble—spiritual, physical, financial, family troubles, workshop troubles, neighborhood troubles, and every other kind of trouble--from a featherweight to a world of trouble. Jesus came primarily, and first of all, to deliver us out of the troubles of this present life. In other words, all the troubles of this life were nailed to the Cross with Jesus Christ, from a feather-weight to a world of trouble.

"*And by His stripes we are healed.*" In our present-day English, it would be written, "His body was broken, bruised and bleeding, that our bodies might always have perfect health and protection."

Verse 6, "*All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*"

When Jesus finished His work here, He told them if they remained faithful and lived up to the light they received, He was coming back to take them to Heaven.

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