

Forgiveness and Healing - the Divine Exchange of His Life for Ours

“He hath made Him to be sin for us, Who knew no sin; yea, the LORD hath laid upon Him the iniquities of us all and by His stripes we are healed !”

II Corinthians 5:21, Isaiah 53:1-12, Matthew 8:17 and I Peter 2:24

Quote -

“When the Saviour said, **“Go, . . . teach all nations,”** He said also, **“These signs shall follow them that believe . . . In My name** (My authority and power - Matthew 10:1-8 and Luke 9:1-6 and 10:1-19) shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.”

The Promise is as far-reaching as the commission. Not that all the gifts are imparted to each believer, *but* the Spirit divides “to every man severally as He will.” 1 Corinthians 12:11. But the gifts of the Spirit are promised to every believer according to his need for the Lord's work. **The Promise is just as strong** and trustworthy now as in the days of the apostles. **“These signs shall follow them that believe.”** ref: I Thessalonians 2:13 This is the privilege of God's children, and faith should lay hold on all that it is possible to have as an indorsement of *our* faith.

“They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.” **This world is a vast lazar house**, but Christ came to heal the sick, to proclaim deliverance to the captives of Satan. He was in Himself health and strength. **He imparted His Life to the sick**, the afflicted, those possessed of demons (**Colossians 3:3 and II Corinthians 4:10-11**).

He turned away none who came to receive His healing power. He knew that those who petitioned Him for help had brought disease upon themselves; **yet He did not refuse to heal them**. And when virtue from Christ entered into these poor souls, they were convicted of sin, and many were healed of their spiritual disease, **as well as** of their physical maladies.

The gospel (Glad Tidings) still possesses the same power, and why should we not today witness the same results?

Christ feels the woes of every sufferer. When evil spirits rend a human frame, Christ feels the curse. When fever is burning up the life current, He feels the agony. **And He is just as willing to heal the sick now** as when He was personally on earth. Christ's servants are His representatives, the channels for His working. He desires through them to exercise His healing power.” {DA 823.4}

Quote -

“When the poor, suffering paralytic was brought to the Saviour, Christ understood his condition perfectly. He knew that this wretched man had a disease of the soul far worse than bodily suffering. He knew that the greatest burden he had borne for months was on account of sin. The crowd of people around waited, in almost breathless silence, to see how Christ would treat this apparently hopeless case; and they were astonished to hear the Words fall from his lips, **“Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.”**

These were the most precious Words that could fall upon the ears of that sick sufferer; for the burden of sin had lain so heavily upon him that he could not find the least relief. Christ lifted the burden that had oppressed him: “**Be of good cheer,**” [I, your Saviour, came to forgive sins](#). How quickly the pallid countenance of the sufferer changes! Hope takes the place of dark despair, and peace and joy take the place of distressing doubt and gloom. The mind being restored to peace and happiness, the suffering body can now be reached.

Next comes from the divine lips the command: “**Arise, take up thy bed, and go to thine house.**” [In the effort to obey the will](#), those helpless, bloodless arms are quickened; a healthy current of blood flows through the veins; the leaden color of his flesh disappears, and the ruddy glow of health takes its place. The limbs, which [for long years have refused to obey the will](#), are now quickened to life; and the healed paralytic grasps his bed, and walks through the crowd to his home.

Christ was health and strength in Himself; and when sufferers were in His immediate presence, [disease was always rebuked](#) (for it had no rights to Him). It was for this reason that He did not go at once to Lazarus when the message came, “He whom thou lovest is sick.” He could not witness suffering, and not bring relief. He could not look upon disease or death [without combating the power of Satan](#). The death of Lazarus was permitted that, through his resurrection, the last and crowning evidence might be given to the Jews that Jesus was the Son of God !

Christ was strong to save the whole world. He wanted all. He could not endure the thought that one should be lost. He wept at the grave of Lazarus, [that He could not save*](#) (deliver, rescue, set free, heal and make whole again) every one whom Satan’s power had laid low in death. He had given Himself a ransom for many, even all who would avail themselves of the privilege of coming back to their loyalty to God. John, pointing to him, had said, “**Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away** the sin of the world.” [Daniel 9:24, Isaiah 53:1-12, II Corinthians 5:21 and I Peter 2:24](#)

And in all this conflict with the powers of evil, there was ever before Christ the darkened shadow into which He himself must enter. **Ever before Him** [was the price which He must pay for the ransom of these souls](#). As He witnessed the sufferings of the human race, He knew that He must bear a greater pain, mingled with mockery; [that He must suffer the greatest humiliation](#). **When He raised Lazarus from the dead**, He knew that for that life He must pay the ransom on the cross of Calvary. Every rescue made was to cause Him the deepest humiliation ([Matthew 27:42](#)). He was to taste death for every man. {YI, December 29, 1898 par. 9}

Quote -

“**The world’s Redeemer is still the world's Restorer** Today Christ is feeling the woes of every sufferer. When the evil spirit rends the suffering frame, the Saviour feels its curse. When fever is burning up the life-current, He experiences the agony as if it were His own. And He is strong to deliver . . .

Help has been laid on One that is mighty. He encircles man with His long human arm, while with His divine arm He lays hold of Omnipotence. He Who created man [knows just how](#) to rid the human machinery of the clogs that have weakened the action of nerve, brain, bone, and muscle, and poisoned the life-current of the body. He knows how to speak the Word, “**Be whole,**” and bid the sufferer, “**Go, and sin no more !**” **note:** “and every command is a promise !” *ref: Education, p126*

{YI, December 29, 1898 par. 12}