

J E R R Y S A V E L L E

*God's Provision
For*

HEALING

Every person alive today has a
right to be healed through the
provision of God the Father.

God's Provision For Healing

We can see from the Old and New Testaments alike that God has always provided healing for His people. Jesus was not the first to introduce healing to the world. God had already introduced it years before.

All Jesus did in His earthly ministry was honor the Abrahamic Covenant. He lived by it, preached it, taught it, performed it—and God backed it with signs following.

Man's Need For Healing

When God first created man, there was no provision for healing because there was no sickness. God's first man, Adam, lived and walked in divine health.

Then Adam committed high treason against God (Genesis 3:1-6), and Satan became the illegitimate stepfather of mankind.

The moment Satan took the reins, everything about the earth became cursed because Satan came to *steal, to kill, and to destroy* (John 10:10). Adam's nature was perverted. Sickness, disease, doom, and destruction spread.

God's Will To Heal

Some people say that God puts sickness and disease on us to teach us; but that's not in the Word of God.

Did Jesus of Nazareth go about breaking the will of God by healing people? No.

When a man cried out for mercy, did Jesus ever say, "I'd sure like to help you, brother, but God told me He is trying to teach you something." No.

Some say that God gets glory out of our being sick; but God is glorified when people are healed or delivered or raised from the dead.

Did Jesus say Lazarus was sick for the glory of God? No.

He said, "*This is not a sickness unto death, but for the glory of God.*" (John 11:4.) Then He said, "*My friend Lazarus is asleep, but I go to awaken him.*" (v. 11.) He wasn't giving Satan any place. He wasn't going to confess death. God got glory, not by Lazarus dying, but by Jesus raising him up.

When a man begged Jesus to have mercy and heal him, Jesus never said, "I'd like to heal you, but God is getting glory. He even told me to pray cancer on you, so He would get more glory."

In *Christ The Healer*¹, one of the best books written on the subject of divine healing, F. F. Bosworth suggests that if sickness is God's will, we owe it to ourselves as believers to stop medical science right now. If we Christians are to do the works of God, perhaps hospitals should be closed and doctors put in jail for breaking the will of God by trying to get people well. Of course, that's foolishness!

Some people think God is the author of sickness and disease because of all the Old Testament scriptures describing the diseases that came as a result of the curse. Here are two examples:

The Lord shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, until thou be destroyed, and until thou perish quickly; because of the wickedness of thy doings, whereby thou hast forsaken me.

The Lord shall make the pestilence cleave unto thee, until he have consumed thee from off the land, whither thou goest to possess it.

The Lord shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation, and with an extreme burning, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with mildew; and they shall pursue thee until thou perish.

Deuteronomy 28:20-22

If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee.

Exodus 15:26

The verbs used here in the *King James Version* are causative verbs, making it sound as though God were causing the sickness and disease. The original Hebrew reads an entirely different way because the verbs are permissive.

For example, Deuteronomy 28:22 in the *King James Version* reads, *The Lord shall smite thee*. In the original Hebrew that phrase says, “*The Lord shall allow you to be smitten.*”

In the *King James Version*, Exodus 15:26 says, *I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians*. The Hebrew text says, “I will not allow any of the diseases to come upon you that I allowed to come upon Egypt.”

The diseases were already there because of the curse. God allowed them to overtake Egypt because the Egyptians didn't have a covenant with Him.

God's Will To Heal ALL

Not only is it God's will to heal, it is God's will to heal all! Satan is the author of sickness and disease.

By the authority of His Word, God has made provision for our healing. It is not the will of God that anyone be sick with any sickness or disease or pain whatsoever—from hangnails to tuberculosis!

The Bible says that when multitudes of people came to Jesus, He had compassion on them and healed their sick. (Matthew 14:14.) If God heals only a few, how did Jesus know which ones to heal? Did some have red crosses on their heads so that He would spot them easier? Did He think, “That one with the red cross I'm supposed to heal, but that one with the white cross I'm not”?

The Bible says in Acts 10:38, *“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.”*

Not once in the entire New Testament did Jesus refuse to heal anybody. When a person said, “Master, I know you can heal me if you will,” not once did Jesus say, “I know I can, too, but I won't.” Throughout His ministry, Jesus expressed the perfect will of God which was, “I will, be thou whole.” (Mark 1:41.)

Some people may say, “But we learned from our pastor that everybody has to be sick sometime.” As long as that pastor keeps saying that, he will never be bothered with healing. Those people have learned wrong. They need to get in the Word and learn the truth!

The Word says, *“These signs shall follow the believer. They'll lay hands on the sick, and the sick shall recover.”* (Mark 16:18.)

After Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, God said, *I am the Lord that healeth thee* (Exodus 15:26)). He wasn't just talking to Moses; He was talking to about three million people in the camp. He meant that all of them would be healed!

The Psalmist said:

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalm 103:2-5

God not only forgives us of sin, but He includes the healing of all our diseases among the benefits of His blessing.

Healing Through God's Word

Throughout the Old and New Testaments, God's provision for healing has always been centered around His Word.

Healing was never needed until Adam failed to obey God's words and allowed sickness to come into existence. When Adam fell and Satan took over, the curse was introduced and mankind has been living under it ever since. By the time Abraham came along, sickness, disease, and poverty were already in the land. Spiritual death reigned.

The people needed a way to live out from under the curse, so God established a covenant, or contract, with Abraham through His Word. He introduced a way that Abraham and his seed could live above the curse. This way is revealed in Deuteronomy 28:

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, (the Word), to observe and to do all his commandments...all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee...

(vv. 1,2).

But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God (the Word)... these curses shall come upon thee...

(v.15).

God was saying He would build a hedge around His people through His Covenant and give them an umbrella of protection.

As long as they kept the Covenant, no disease could overtake them. But they repeatedly broke the Covenant, destroying their umbrella of protection. When the diseases came back on them, they would cry out to God, asking Him for forgiveness. Their cries for His mercy gave Him an avenue to stop the works of Satan and return His people to the protection of the Covenant.

The first time they broke the Covenant, they put themselves in bondage to Egypt. In answer to their cries for deliverance, God called Moses to lead them out of Egypt—and He even miraculously parted the Red Sea to get them to safety. (Exodus 14.)

But the people got mad at God and at

Moses and broke the Covenant again. When the diseases came back upon them, they cried out to God. He restored them by saying, *I am the Lord that healeth thee* (Exodus 15:26).

Whenever they would murmur against God, Satan—the killer, stealer, and destroyer of John 10:10—was able to move in and destroy some of them.

Once when they broke the Covenant, fiery serpents came upon them. (Numbers 1:6.) When they cried out for deliverance, God instructed Moses to put a brazen serpent on a pole. Anyone who was bitten by a serpent could be healed if they would look upon that brazen serpent.

From Exodus to Isaiah, God blessed His people with a universal state of health as long as they kept the Covenant. If they didn't obey Him, they broke the avenue He used to bless them and opened themselves to the attack of Satan. There was nothing God could do to stop it.

God Sends The Living Word

Even though the Israelites suffered terrible consequences, they refused to keep the Covenant. God's final provision for their healing and deliverance came when He sent the Living Word—Jesus.

Fools because of their transgression, and because of their iniquities, are afflicted... Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and he saveth them out of their distresses. He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.

Psalm 107:17,19,20

Isaiah prophesies of One to come Who would be offered as a substitutionary sacrifice:

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Isaiah 53:4,5

Jesus was to be offered as the sacrificial Lamb of God on the cross. The brazen serpent on the pole was a type of the atonement—the cleansing and remitting of sin, sickness, and disease that was to come through Christ.

I heard Brother Kenneth Copeland preach about this brazen serpent and explain why God put a snake on that pole, instead of a lamb, to represent Jesus. Jesus was the Lamb of God; but when He hung at Calvary, He was made to be sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:21.)

The reason Jesus cried out on the cross, “*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*” (Matthew 27:46) is because at that moment He had become sin. Sin is the nature of God’s enemy, Satan, and Satan is referred to as a serpent.

Jesus Bore It All!

God made the same provision for healing through Jesus that He made for His people during Moses’ time. All they had to do was look upon that brazen serpent. The word look meant more than just glance at. It meant to consider, attend to, accept with excitement, meditate on, and receive.

This is exactly what we do when we look at Calvary. We see Jesus of Nazareth doing what Isaiah said He would do: bearing our sin, our sickness, and our disease.

When you dwell on that, you receive. You can’t help but walk away from the cross seeing yourself healed and whole!

Some people think it will bring them closer to God if they suffer the same things Jesus did on the cross. But if that can bring them closer to God, there was no reason for Jesus to go to the cross.

Only the Son of the Living God could pay the price by leaving His tremendous position in heaven and coming to this sinful world. Only Jesus could bear every disease in His body at one time and still have enough strength to cry with a loud voice, *It is finished!* (John 19:30.) Only Jesus could finish the works of the devil.

Jesus became a curse for us. He bore every sickness and disease listed in Deuteronomy 28: incurable diseases (v. 27); madness and blindness (v. 28); oppression (v. 29); sickness in the legs and knees (v. 35); the botch, itch, and scab (v. 27); all the diseases of Egypt (v. 60).

After naming all kinds of sicknesses and diseases, it says, *Also every sickness, and every plague, which is not written in the book of this law* (v. 61). From the common cold to cancer—every sickness is under the curse! And we’ve been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb!

Regardless of whether your neighbor is sick or going broke, if you will hearken to God’s Word and keep the Covenant, the curse will not come upon you.

The Bible says you can have what you say and the redeemed of the Lord

should say so!

(Mark 11:23; Psalms 107:2.)

You should say, "I'll never go mad. I'll never go blind. I'm redeemed from the curse of the law by the blood of the Lamb!"

How to Receive the Healing God Wants You to Have

If it is God's will for all to be healed, how do we receive it?

Physicians

Some people say we are preaching against doctors when we preach on faith. No, we preach against sickness, disease, and the devil.

Brother Kenneth Hagin once said, "If it hadn't been for doctors, half the Christians would have died."

The physician is doing his best to get people well—and that's what God wants. God doesn't care whether you go to the physician or the minister to get healing as long as you put His Word first place in your life.

Besides, many doctors who believe in the Living God will pray for you in addition to giving you medical care.

God's best is for you to get your body well, so that you don't need the continual care of a physician. There was a time in my life when I desperately needed a physician. I didn't know any other way. I was taught that when you get sick, you go to the doctor. When I went, I got healed.

Then one day, I learned that God has a higher plan for His people.

Faith in God's Word

God wants His people to receive healing through faith in His Word.

God's best is for the Christian to confess the Word and be healed instantly. According to Proverbs 4:22, the Word is health to your flesh.

Someone may say, "This sounds like Christian Science." No, Christian Science denies the existence of disease. That's dangerous. Disease is real and it will kill you. We don't deny the existence of the disease; we deny the right of the disease to exist in our bodies.

God's best is for the believer to take His Word that says he is healed, put that word in his heart, confess it with his lips, and allow it to be medicine to his flesh.

Once when Satan attacked my body with a skin disease, it took me two and a half years to beat him. Jesus beat him 2,000 years ago—I just enforced it.

The moment the disease hit my body, I immediately rebelled against Satan by confessing what the Word of God said about healing. The symptoms left; but after a month, they came back. Again, I got rid of them with the Word; but two months later, they came back. I rebelled with the Word and they left; but six months later, they came back. A week later, they were still there. Two weeks, three weeks, then six months later, they were still there.

I have never had such torment in my life as the symptoms got worse and worse. Even though I knew I was healed by the stripes of Jesus, I got sloppy with my faith. After about six months of confessing the Word without seeing the symptoms leave, I accepted what I saw in the mirror.

Then one day I got fed up with it! The Spirit of God came on me and I realized I had become a spiritual sluggard; that I had been giving mental assent to the Word of God. When my Father God talks to me like that, I straighten up quickly!

Deciding never to get sloppy again, I started meditating on every scripture I could find about God's will to heal. I put those verses in my heart by confessing them as I never had before.

I read about Jesus bearing our sins (Isaiah 53), about the curse of the Law (Deuteronomy 28), and about His redeeming us from the curse of the Law (Galatians 3). I read these scriptures as though I had never seen them before.

As Joe Nay, a fellow minister of the Gospel, has said, “The scriptures exploded in my heart!”

You see, faith comes by hearing, and hearing comes by the Word of God. (Romans 10:17). I had to get my faith developed and activated at its highest level.

Then I came across a scripture I had never seen before, and it has put the devil on the run ever since! In Deuteronomy 28:59, I read this as part of the curse: *The Lord will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance.*

The two and a half years I had been fighting those symptoms were *long continuance!* I realized that I was redeemed from sicknesses of long continuance. I believed that I was redeemed, so I had to act like it. I had to act healed!

It doesn't matter if you feel worse after you confess the Word for healing. The Word doesn't change. I made up my mind to believe the Word of God which says I am healed—regardless of the way my body looked or felt.

Because of that skin disease, I had been unable to put water on my face without it turning blood red and breaking out in a rash. I took a washcloth and the strongest bar of soap I could find, got in the shower, and scrubbed my face over and over until it felt like somebody was holding burning matches against my face.

When I stepped out of the shower and looked in the mirror, my face was blood red. As I stood there with my skin irritated and red, the Word suddenly started flowing up inside me. Right then, I received the manifestation of my healing!

If you have been believing God for healing and haven't received the manifestation, many times you will find that it is your fault for accepting the symptoms.

Laying On of Hands

A way for the world to be healed is through the laying on of hands by believers.

Just before Jesus ascended to the Father, He said, *Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature... And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name... they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover* (Mark 16:15, 17, 18).

He didn't say anything about Christians laying hands on Christians, although God honors that. Instead of Christians always being the ones having hands laid on them, it is time for the Christians to become the hands! We are not “the world”. We are not “the sick”. In the eyes of God we are “the healed”—healed by the stripes of Jesus.

God calls the believer to lay hands on the sinner to get the attention of the world. Once healed, the sinner will be drawn to the Word and will get saved.

Mark 16:18 in the original Greek, clearly expresses the faith of God. It says, “Upon the infirm hands they shall lay, and well they shall be.”

You may ask, “But what if you lay your hands on someone and he dies?”

Brother Oral Roberts once said, “Everybody I lay hands on is going to die at some time or another.”

God's Word hasn't changed. I have been in the streets and in the barrooms

with it. I've seen what happens when you take the Word of God to where the sinners are and lay hands on the sick. God delivers the people and heals them.

Then while I have their hand, I clamp down on it so they can't get away, and I explain Romans 10:9 to them. Once you let God get their attention, they will gladly accept it. But if you criticize them for getting drunk, or call them crazy, or tell them they are going to hell, don't be surprised if they don't want to listen to you.

Spread the good news of the Gospel. Say, "Did you know that Jesus of Nazareth has already borne your sin, your sickness, and your disease? Did you know you don't have to live in misery? If you'll just give me a few moments, I'll introduce you to the Healer. I'll lay my hands on you and God will heal you."

Anointing With Oil

God has also made provision for healing the carnally-minded Christian. James 5:14-16 reads:

Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

This scripture concerns the spiritual baby —the person who knows what the Word says, but won't act on it. The statement, *Is there any sick among you?* implies that there shouldn't be.

The baby Christian has to have sense-knowledge evidence before he can believe he has received his healing. He won't allow the Word to be medicine to his flesh, saying he is healed, when his body feels bad.

God has made provision for healing the carnally-minded Christian by emphasizing the five physical senses. The sick person can hear the elders praying and *see* and *feel* the oil when it is applied to his body.

God provided the oil as the means by which the sick person can establish a point of contact.

The prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up. The healing virtue is not in the oil, but in the sick person's belief.

Soon after I found out about healing, my father-in-law came to my house and asked me to anoint him with oil and pray for his healing. At that time, I was scripturally illiterate and didn't know what "anoint" meant; so I looked up the definition in the dictionary. It meant, "to rub on, to smear, to pour on."

I had seen some ministers dab oil with their fingertip on people's foreheads after saying some healing verses, but I couldn't find a description of that in the dictionary.

I had no church training, but I wanted to follow instructions. My father-in-law was the sick; I was the elder, praying over him; and I was to anoint him with oil. As he sat with his eyes closed, I poured the whole bottle of oil on his head and prayed the prayer of faith to save the sick.

The oil ran through his hair, down his face, and onto his shirt. He was a mess, but he was healed!

Smith Wigglesworth always carried a bottle of oil. One day he and two other preachers, who didn't believe in anointing with oil, went to the home of a dying woman to pray for her. As they were praying for the missionaries around the world, Wigglesworth sneaked the bottle of oil out of his pocket and sprinkled it

over the woman, saying, "Heal her, Lord." She got up and was healed!

Healing for the Mature Christian

When we mature as Christians, we get off the milk of the Word and begin to feed on the strong meat. The moment sickness attacks the spiritually-minded Christian, he proclaims the Word of the Living God that says he is healed.

He doesn't have to see or feel any evidence. He simply says, "In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, God is the Lord that healeth me. I am redeemed from this sickness, and I'll not allow it to reside in my body. I am the redeemed of the Lord, and I'm saying so! In the name of Jesus, Satan, you must flee from me! I resist you with the Word of the Living God."

Jesus Christ is the High Priest of our confession, and He will back His Word. (Hebrews 3:1.)

God has made provision for healing every type of person: the sinner, the sense-ruled or carnally-minded Christian, and the mature Christian.

Every person alive today has a right to be healed through the provision of God the Father. We are the redeemed, and we are the healed!

Dr. Jerry Savelle is a noted author, evangelist, and teacher who travels extensively throughout the United States, Canada, and overseas. He is president of Jerry Savelle Ministries, a ministry of many outreaches devoted to meeting the needs of believers all over the world.

Well-known for his balanced Biblical teaching, Dr. Savelle has conducted seminars, crusades and conventions for over twenty years as well as holding meetings in local churches and fellowships. He is being used to help bridge the gap between the traveling ministry and the local church. In these meetings, he is able to encourage and assist pastors in perfecting the saints for the work of the ministry. He is in great demand today because of his inspiring message of victory and faith and his accurate and entertaining illustrations from the Bible. He teaches the uncompromising Word of God with a power and an authority that is exciting, but with a love that delivers the message directly to the spirit man.

When Dr. Savelle was 12 years old, God spoke to his heart as he was watching the healing ministry of Oral Roberts on television. God told him that He was calling him into the ministry. Some years later, Dr. Savelle made Jesus Christ the Lord of his life and since that time has been moving in the light of that calling.

Dr. Savelle is the founder of Overcoming Faith Churches of Kenya, and the missions outreach of his ministry extends to over 50 different countries around the world. His ministry also delivers the powerful message of God's Word across the United States through the JSM Prison Ministry Outreach.

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God Wants You Well!

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He made the same provision for healing through Jesus that He made for His people during Moses' time.

When multitudes of people came to Jesus, He had compassion on them and healed their sick.

¹ Bosworth, F. F., *Christ The Healer*, (Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1973, 8th Ed.) p. 59