

The Word Made Flesh

A Theology of Healing

Introduction

- Healing is a deeply personal and often misunderstood topic.
- Scripture, not experience or tradition, must shape our beliefs.
- John 9 introduces the subject of divine healing and God's purposes in suffering.

Three Common Views on Divine Healing

1. God Always Wills to Heal Physically

- Healing is guaranteed through the atonement.
- Lack of healing is attributed to lack of faith or sin.
- This view places the burden on the suffering person.

Why This View Falls Short

- Biblical language of "healing" often refers to spiritual restoration.
- Isaiah 53 and 1 Peter 2 focus on sin and righteousness, not guaranteed physical health.
- Jesus did not heal everyone He encountered.
- Paul, Timothy, and others remained sick despite faith and prayer.

2. God No Longer Heals Today

- Healing gifts were limited to Jesus and the apostles.
- Scripture now replaces the need for signs.

Why This View Falls Short

- Scripture commands believers to pray for healing.
- The apostles encouraged others to do what they did.
- Early church fathers testified to ongoing healings beyond the apostolic age.

3. God Still Heals, According to His Will

- God is able to heal and sometimes does.
- Healing is miraculous, not normative.



A Theology of Healing

- Suffering can serve God's purposes in sanctification.
- Our role is to pray with faith and trust God with the outcome.

Biblical Framework for Healing

- God can and does heal today.
- Suffering and trial are part of the Christian life.
- Lack of healing does not indicate lack of faith.
- God is always good and never on trial.
- Sickness will either be healed or redeemed.

How We Practice Healing at Legacy Church

- We pray earnestly and anoint with oil when appropriate.
- We encourage medical care as God's common grace.
- We pray with compassion, humility, and persistence.
- We never shame or blame the sick.
- We walk with people through suffering, not over them.

What We Reject

- The prosperity gospel and guaranteed healing.
- Faith formulas and manipulation of God.
- Demonizing medicine or doctors.
- Teaching that suffering equals spiritual failure.

Conclusion

- God is sovereign, good, and compassionate.
- Healing is a gift, not a demand.
- Whether God heals or redeems suffering, He is faithful.
- Our call is to pray, trust, and remain faithful.

