

# The Word Made Flesh

## A Theology of Healing

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### 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.
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### 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.
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#### 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.
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#### 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.
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### 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.
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### 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.
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### 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.
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### 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.

