Thank you for joining us today for "Take Ten."

Currently, we are on a journey to discover facts found in the Bible about sickness and healing. Today's focus is on:

Christ came to redeem from both sin and sickness.

Prophetically, it was declared about the Messiah, in

Isaiah 53:4-6, "Surely he has borne (nasa: to lift or carry away)

our grief (choli: suffering, disease, sick, sickness)

and carried our sorrows (pains physical and mental);

Yet we esteemed him stricken,

smitten of God, and afflicted. (God made Christ to be sin and sickness for us.)

5 But he was **wounded** (chalal: to harm, slay, or pierce. This refers to Christ's piercing of the hands, feet, and side, stripes by scourging, cuts by thorns.) for our transgressions, he was **bruised** (daka: to crumble, beat to

pieces, break, bruise, crush, destroy, or smite, and other bodily sufferings.)

for our **iniquities** (sin);

the chastisement of our peace was upon him, and by **his** stripes we are healed.

6 All of us like sheep have gone astray;
each of us has turned to his own way,
but the Lord has laid on **him** (Jesus)
the iniquity of us all."

Isaiah 53 is the staple scripture set that declares God's plan for Jesus. It expresses God's will. Atonement on the cross was not just remission from sin. Jesus was not a martyr so you could give it your best shot in life. He died for you to experience the righteousness of God and the repetition of God.

Jesus carried away our <u>sickness</u> on that cross.

Jesus carried away our <u>sins</u> on that cross.

God made Christ be sin for us, that we may be made the righteousness of God in Christ. We are the righteousness of God in Christ.

In the same manner, God made Christ be <u>sickness</u> for us, that we may be the wholeness of God in Christ. By His stripes, we are whole. It's a package deal together.

It's not a matter of if God will save me. It's receiving that He has saved me. In the same manner, it's not a matter of if God will heal me. It's accepting that He has healed me.

Matthew 8:17 confirms this declaration, "that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

"He Himself **took** (grasped, seized) our **infirmities** (weaknesses)

And **bore** (carried away) *our* sicknesses."

Sin and sickness are a package deal.

In **Matthew 9:5**, Jesus talks to the paralyzed man lying on the mat. He says something peculiar. The man was there for healing, yet Jesus tells

him, "your sins are forgiven." Why would Jesus say, "Be of good cheer - Your sins are forgiven you!"

Why would Jesus be talking about sins - the man needed healing? It's because atonement encompasses both healing and sickness. The Pharisees didn't like that answer; they could tolerate healing. What they couldn't accept was declaring forgiveness of sins. Only God could do that. They were right.

Jesus answered in **Matthew 9:5**, "For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are **forgiven** you' or to say, '**Arise and walk**'?"

Galatians 3:13, "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law by being made a curse for us—as it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree."

Romans 8:11 "But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit that lives in you."

1 Peter 2:24, "He Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. "By His wounds you were healed."

Sin and sickness are works of the devil. Jesus came to destroy the deeds of the devil. The cross is Jesus' final destruction of the devil's work. But even during Jesus' ministry, we see this in operation.

Isaiah 61, "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me,

Because the Lord has anointed **Me** (Jesus)

To preach good tidings to the poor;

He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,

To proclaim liberty to the captives,

And the **opening of the prison** to *those who are* bound;

2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord,

And the day of vengeance of our God;

To comfort all who mourn,"

This gets confirmed in **Luke 4**.

Acts 10:38, "how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."

1 John 3:8, "Whoever practices sin is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was revealed, that He might destroy the works of the devil."

I realize what I'm teaching is challenging. It's not commonly taught, even among Christian circles. We live in a time where we must understand the full depth of Christ's actions. We've looked at healing as optional. Primarily because here in America, we have options. We have too many options and too many distractions. It's time to rediscover the new creation realities found in Christ.

Something to remember: Receiving healing is no different from receiving forgiveness of sin. It's a package deal, and God is happy to fulfill His word.