

# Divine Healing for Today Part-6

Tonight let's finish the last session & explore methods of healing.

**Fred Francis Bosworth** was a 1920's era & Depression-era Pentecostal faith healer. He was saved at the age of 16 or 17 as a Methodist. A spontaneous healing from major lung issues occurred a few years later. He was a bridge to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century healing revival. He is quoted as saying, "God is more eager to heal than we are to be healed." In Mark 10:51 Jesus said to an obviously blind Bartimaeus, after he threw away his beggars garment, "*What do you want Me to do for you?*" *The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni (literally "My Great One"), that I may receive my sight."* **52.** *Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; **your faith has made you well** (lit. "your faith has saved you")." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.*" Our faith response to God's love for us moves Him to act on our behalf. As **Bosworth** has pointed out:

"Modern theology magnifies the power of God more than it magnifies compassion.... But the Bible reverses this, and magnifies His willingness to use His power more than it does the power itself. In no place does the Bible say that "God is power," but it does say that, "God is love." It is not faith in God's power that secures His blessings, but faith in His love and in His will. It is not what God can do, but what we know He yearns to do, that inspires faith. Hundreds needing healing have come or written to us, saying, concerning their need of deliverance, "The Lord is "able," but their teaching, as well as their lack of teaching, have kept them from knowing that the Lord is willing. How much faith does it take to say "The Lord is able?" The devil knows God is able, and he knows He is willing, but he has kept the people from knowing this latter fact (He's willing)."

5) The fifth & final reason for Jesus Christ to perform miracles: Jesus Performed Miracles Because of Faith – Not only in His Ability, but Also His Willingness

**a. Sometimes the faith of others rather than the sick person.**

1. The centurion's servant – Mt. 8:5-10, 13 TPT *"When Jesus entered the village of Capernaum, a captain (or "centurion") in the Roman army approached Him, asking for a miracle. "Lord," he said, "I have a son who is lying in my home, paralyzed & suffering Terribly." 7. Jesus responded, "I will go with you and heal him." 8-9. But the Roman officer interjected, "Lord, who am I to have you come into my house? I understand your authority, for I too am a man who walks under authority and have authority over soldiers who serve under me. I can tell one to go and he'll go, and another to come and he'll come. I command my servants and they'll do whatever I ask. So I know that all You need to do is to stand here and command healing over my son & he will be instantly healed." 10. Jesus was astonished when He heard this and said to those who were following Him, "He has greater faith than anyone I've encountered in Israel!" 13. Then Jesus turned to the Roman officer and said, "Go home. **All that you have believed for will be done for you!**" And his son was healed at that very moment."*

2. The nobleman's son – Jn. 4:46-53

3. The four who brought the palsied man – Mk. 2:1-12

4. The Syrophenician woman's daughter – Mt. 15:21-28

**b. Sometimes the faith of those who needed the healing.**

1. The woman with the issue of blood – Mk. 5:25-34 *"For she said, If I may touch but His clothes, I shall be whole."* She had no Scripture to guide her in this. The idea started in her own heart. The healing came entirely in response to her own faith. Jesus said, "...**thy faith hath made thee whole.**"

2. Two blind men – **Mt. 9:27-31 NKJV** “Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this? They said to Him, Yes, Lord. Then He touched their eyes, saying, “**According to your faith let it be to you.**” And their eyes were opened.”

3. A leper – **Mt. 8:2-4 NKJV** “And behold, a leper came and worshiped Him, saying, “Lord, if you are **willing\***, You can make me clean.” Then Jesus put out His hand & touched him, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” Immediately the leprosy was cleansed.” \*Theio; Strongs #2309: To wish, desire, will, take delight in. It carries the idea of being ready, preferring, & having in mind.” Jesus was **and is** willing to heal, for as **Heb. 13:8 TPT** says, “Jesus, the Anointed One, is always the same – yesterday, today, and forever.” Let’s open our hearts & minds to this fact!

**Nathaniel Van Cleave in SFLB KD “The Lord’s Willingness to Heal.”** “Here Jesus declares His willingness to heal the sick. Some insist that we must always preface our prayer for healing with, “If it is Your will.” How can one have positive faith who begins a request with an “if?” We do not pray for salvation with an “if.”

“The leper was certain that Jesus was able to heal him; he was not sure that it was His will. But Jesus’ response settled that question: “I am willing; be cleansed.” May we not be certain that it is the Lord’s will to do that for which He has made redemptive provision? At the same time, one cannot intentionally be living in violation of God’s will and expect His promises will be fulfilled. Where biblical conditions for participating in God’s processes are present, they must be met; but let us not avoid either God’s readiness or God’s remedies by reason of the question of His willingness. “If it is Your will” is more often an expression of fear, a proviso to “excuse God of blame” if our faith or His sovereign purposes do not bring healing. If His will is questioned, leave the issue to His sovereignty & remove it from your prayer. Our faith may be weak or incomplete in some regards. We, in fact, may not be healed at times, which should never be viewed as reason

for condemnation (Rom. 8:1). Nevertheless, in all things, let us praise Him for His faithfulness and compassion. This is a great environment for healing to be realized and is consistent with the Scriptures, which reveal Jesus as *willing* to heal.”

#### 4. Ten lepers – Lk. 17:11-19.

*In these cases, where the reason for the healing is plainly stated, the vast majority were healed either because of definite, positive faith or because of the Compassion of the Lord. There is not a word in the Bible to indicate that the Lord’s Compassion has ever lessened, or that God has ever ceased to respond to the faith of those who come.”*

### **Ways of Providing Divine Healing**

As God is a God of variety, there are numerous ways of administering divine healing. Here are six different ways to receive healing from the Lord:

#### 1. Pray for Yourself.

**James 5:13 TPT** says, “*Are there any believers in your fellowship suffering great hardship and distress? Encourage them to pray!*” Praying for yourself when afflicted is scriptural.

#### 2. Ask Somebody Else to Pray for You.

**James 5:16 TPT** teaches us: “*Confess and acknowledge how you have offended one another and then pray for one another to be instantly healed, for tremendous power is released through the passionate, heartfelt prayer of a godly believer!*” There are no limitations put on who can pray for another except it be a sincere Christian who believes. No gifts of the Spirit nor ministerial credentials are mentioned here.

#### 3. Call for the Elders of the Church.

**James 5:14-16 TPT** has often been described as the New Testament Healing Covenant. “*Are there any **sick** (Gk. *astheneo*) among you? Then ask the elders of the church to come and pray over the sick and anoint them with oil in the Name of our Lord. 15. And the prayer of faith (or “the claim of*

*faith*) will heal the **sick**\* and the Lord will raise them up, and if they have committed sins they will be forgiven. \*Gk. *kamno* **Vines Dict. of N.T. Words**: “The choice of this verb (to be weary from the effect of constant work) is suggestive of the common accompaniment of sickness, weariness of mind, which not infrequently hinders physical recovery; hence this special cause is here hinted in the general idea of sickness.” **TPT note**: “The word *kamno* can also mean “those who are weary and worn down,” and in the context could possibly refer to believers who have been arguing with each other, leaving them spiritually weak.” **James 5:16 AMPC** “Confess to one another therefore your faults (your slips, your false steps, your offenses, your sins) and pray [also] for one another, that you may be healed and restored [to a spiritual tone of mind and heart]. The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working].”

“Is **any** sick among you?” No discrimination whatsoever. It is God’s will to heal any and all who call.

“The prayer of faith” would be that prayer offered by the Elders. This is their responsibility. The sick person exercises their faith when they call for the Elders.

#### 4. By Laying On of Hands

**Mark 16:17-18 TPT** “And these miracle signs will accompany those who believe: They will drive out demons in the power of My name. They will speak in tongues. They will be supernaturally protected from snakes and from drinking anything poisonous. **And they will lay hands on the sick and they will heal them.**”

No mention here of using anointing oil or praying for the sick. Foundations of Pentecostal Theology: “Today, when the believing one lays his hands on the sick in the name of Jesus, it is as though the hands of Jesus were laid thereon.”

#### 5. Handkerchiefs & Aprons Used to Produce Special Miracles

**Acts 19:11-12 TPT** *“God kept releasing a flow of extraordinary miracles through the hands of Paul. 12. Because of this, people took Paul’s handkerchiefs and articles of clothing, even pieces of cloth that had touched his skin, laying them on the bodies of the sick, and diseases and demons left them and they were healed.”* These were “special miracles” because there were no formal instructions given regarding their use. Paul must have been led by the Holy Spirit. Today people will take small pieces of cloth, which have been prayed over, some anointed with oil as well, and some remarkable miracles have resulted. It is not the “prayer cloth” itself which heals, but provides the act of faith by which a person’s faith is directed toward the Lord Who is the Great Physician.

#### 6. Spiritual Gifts of Healing

**1 Cor. 12:9 TPT** *“And to another, the same Spirit gives gifts of faith. And to another, the same Spirit gives gifts of healing.”*

**1 Cor. 12:28 TPT** *“God has placed in the church the following: First apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then those with gifts of miracles, gifts of divine healing, gifts of revelation knowledge, gifts of leadership, & gifts of different kinds of tongues.”*

Noteworthy is the fact that this is the only gift that is in the plural. Also worthy of note is that of all the healings wrought by the Apostles in the Book of Acts, in no case did the apostles pray for the sick to be healed. Prayer **about** the sick person was made in several cases, however, the healing seemed to occur by the power which had been given to the Apostles for this ministry. This was probably the “gifts of healing” in operation.

Next time we meet: **Why Aren’t All Healed?**

If you need prayer tonight, come forward and we’ll pray for you with faith believing.

