

## 16 Declarations of faith of the Assemblies of God

### XII DIVINE HEALING

Divine healing is an integral part of the gospel. Deliverance from sickness is provided for in the atonement of Jesus and is the privilege of all believers.

One of the distinctive signs of the Gospel is divine healing

**Isaiah 35:5** Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.<sup>6</sup> Then the lame shall leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb sing.

**Isaiah 61**: “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, Because the Lord has anointed Me 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;

#### Why is there sickness

Why is there sickness? Because of sin.

**Romans 5:12** Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned—

- Sickness is a means of death
- Since the fall of man, humankind has been vulnerable to sickness and in need of healing
- The sacrifice of Jesus on the cross not only brings deliverance from sin but also healing

**Isaiah 53:4** Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our [h]sorrrows; Yet we [i]esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.<sup>5</sup> But He was wounded[k] for our transgressions, He was [i]bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

**Matthew 8:16** When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, **17** that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

**“He Himself took our infirmities  
And bore *our* sicknesses.”**

#### Miracles of healing in the Bible

##### Old Testament

- Elisha and Namaan **2 kings 5**
- King Hezekiah **Isaiah 38:21** Now Isaiah had said, “Let them take a lump **of figs**, and apply *it as a poultice on the boil, and he shall recover.*”
  - The use of figs as medicine was still a healing from God

##### New Testament: Jesus

- Jesus is the healer, there are 41 miracles of healing described in the gospels

- When John the Baptist sent a messenger to Jesus to ask if he was the Messiah Jesus answered

**Luke 7:22** Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John **the things you have** seen and heard: **that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the gospel preached to them.**

1. Authenticated that Jesus was the Messiah
2. This would be a sign of coming attractions in the Book of Acts and today

**Mark 16:17** And **these signs will follow** those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; **18** they[e] will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

- We should expect these signs as believers
- When we follow Jesus these signs will follow us

- The Bible encourages us to pray for the sick

**James 5:14** Is anyone among you sick? 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. **15** And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

- Believers can pray for those who are sick and expect them to be healed by the Lord

### The Lord is sovereign

**Revelation 21:6** Alpha and Omega

**Colossians 1:16** For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. **17** And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

All my days are numbered in your book **Psalms 139:16** You saw who you created me to be before I became me! Before I'd ever seen the light of day, the number of days you planned for me were already recorded in your book.

However, the Sovereignty of the Lord includes the prayer of the Saints.

- the Lord is sovereign He knows the ending from the beginning,
- But His sovereignty includes the prayers of His people

- We believe in divine healing, and that we can pray for healing
- When was the last time you prayed for someone who was sick?  
(Include a testimony)

### The significance of this doctrine

The spectacular spread of the Pentecostal message and the growth in the number of Spirit-filled believers can be attributed to a great degree to God's miraculous intervention in the lives of hurting people—those suffering from emotional, spiritual, and physical pain. Many have personally experienced God's healing touch. Some have been restored from near death to full health. However, despite this truth, we know that all are not healed.

The Bible teaches divine healing but also declares that death is an appointed experience for everyone **Hebrews 9:27** *And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment*, though we cannot explain why some are healed and some are not, God knows all and does all according to a purpose He only knows.

The fact that some are not healed does not destroy the fact that God can and does heal.

In every Pentecostal congregation, there are many who have experienced God's supernatural touch of healing