

OUR BETTER COVENANT STUDY GUIDE

Read Psalm 107.17-20. Last week we looked at how important it is to declare the Word. You have to read the Word and find things to declare. So, this is actually one of my most common declarations that I use: "He sent His Word and healed me". I often use that when I am declaring my healing.

Now when did Psalm 107 take place? The context is while the Israelites were wandering in the desert. They were in the wilderness, having left Egypt. And they ended up sick to the point of death, but when they cried out to God, He helped them, answered their prayers and sent His Word and healed them.

Now before setting off on that journey God made many promises to the Israelites. For example, read Exodus 23.25-26. Now those are powerful promises, and they are part of a covenant – a blood covenant – that God made to the Israelites. God promised them they would never be sick, never miscarry, never be barren, and never die of sickness, but just live a long life and wear out and go to be with Jesus.

Those words have the power to heal anyone in that covenant. But if you ignore those words like the Israelites did, you get sick! Now re-read the first word of Psalm 107,17 you will see it says "fool". Fool is the right word if you ignore your covenant rights! If you ignore God's Word and if you ignore God's principles and live below your covenant rights then you are a fool.

The Israelites could have listened to God and lived every day of their life in a place where there was no one sick among them. Not one sick person – not a sick person in their family, not a sick person in their tribe, not a sick person in their community, not a sick person in their city, not a sick person in their entire nation. Everyone healthy!

They could have lived with every single blessing – their fields have the biggest harvests, their flocks and herds healthy and blessed, everyone living into old age, the most exalted nation on the planet, healed, healthy, prosperous.

The reason they could have lived that blessed is that they had a covenant with God, a deal with God sealed in blood. But they ignored that covenant and failed to benefit from it, and therefore they were called fools by God.

The Israelites had a covenant. They ignored their covenant benefits. They were fools!

We have a better covenant. We ignore our covenant benefits, so we are bigger fools!

I do think most Christians have never read Hebrews 8.6, or if they do read it they misunderstand the word "better" and thought it meant worse. Read Hebrews 8.6. When you realize we have the better covenant – we have the better deal – that ends all the foolish talking that God wants us poor. We are not supposed to be living in the worst street in the worst town in the worst area.

Some people think we should be sick regularly, it's just life – we should be afflicted and down-trodden daily – and if we do that well enough, we just might just get into heaven.

That is not a funny place to be in – but I was taught that in church when I first started going. I was taught God wanted me poor, wanted my ministry to be small, wanted my life to be painful and insignificant, and most of all – God wanted me sick. But I found out we have a better covenant. I found out the New Covenant is better than the Old Covenant.

Now think about this: we have a better covenant and healing for all is in the Old Covenant. Therefore, the New Covenant has to have healing for all, or it is not better, it is worse!

Any Christian, any church, any pastor that says that God's will is not healing for all ACTUALLY BELIEVES THAT JESUS CHRIST CAME TO EARTH DIED ON THE CROSS SHEDDING HIS BLOOD FOR THE NEW COVENANT, but it is a worse covenant! That's what they believe – that THE NEW COVENANT IS WORSE. You will get yourself a lot of sense when you study the WORD if you understand once and for all OUR COVENANT IS BETTER THAN THEIR COVENANT!

The devil has conned the church and made our covenant look worse, and it is better! OUR COVENANT IS BETTER THAN THEIR COVENANT!

Poverty is a big issue for so many – Christians think the Jews are supposed to prosper and have the world's good in their WORSE COVENANT, but in the BETTER COVENANT we don't prosper! That's what a lot of Christians believe! But it is not the truth!

Now listen – GOD WANTS TO GIVE YOU STUFF, MONEY, GOODS. The world system is a mess, I agree – but the owning of STUFF is not wrong. GOD made gold and silver, GOD made the cattle on a thousand hills. GOD MADE IT ALL – ALL STUFF WAS MADE BY GOD – HE MADE ALL THE STUFF, then GAVE THE WHOLE PLANET TO ADAM. What a gift!

And Adam turned it OVER TO SATAN in total rebellion – it is certain SATAN does not want us to ever realize JESUS has got it back and brought it back to us – and really DOES NOT WANT US TO GET IT BACK OFF HIM! Christians think they are being humble and kind letting satan have all the stuff. They are not being humble, they are being FOOLS. They do not know their covenant and are living below their COVENANT LEVEL. And we have the better COVENANT. IT IS NOT OK FOR SATAN AND HIS SONS AND FOLLOWERS to have all the stuff. The church needs to have all the stuff. When the church gets the stuff we can use the stuff to change the world for the better. We can extend the TV ministry, reach more people, inspire more people to dream big and change the world!

But most Christians think we need to make it with our nose to the grindstone barely getting by. WE ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO GET BY BARELY – we are the head and not the tail, we are supposed to WIN. We are supposed to be rich, we are supposed to be helping others with our finances. We are supposed to be tithing, giving big to world mission, giving big to local church and changing the world!

WAS GOD wanting his people POOR in the OLD TESTAMENT? NO WAY. We all know that.

So, what about the better COVENANT? God's nature hasn't changed – there isn't even a shadow of change – HE STILL WANTS US TO PROSPER. WE ARE NOT AND SHOULD NEVER BE THE POVERTY PEOPLE – WE ARE SUPPOSED TO BE RICH. So much religion is in our minds we can struggle to accept that – YOUR HEART NEEDS TO LINE UP WITH GOD AND BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE A BETTER COVENANT AND GOD WANTS YOU TO PROSPER.

Let's not be the fools of Psalm 107.17! I know this is a reference to the JEWS – but it is us too – we are FOOLS because we cross the line, forget our covenant, and end up living an afflicted life because we forget GOD!

So many Christians are SICK and ILL because they do not know our COVENANT IS BETTER – we do not know what we have in JESUS. We do not know how to use our covenant and benefit from it. Others know the truth but just do not live under the power and wisdom of the NEW COVENANT.

Everyone needs to study the OLD AND NEW COVENANT. We need to all know what RIGHTS we have under the NEW COVENANT. What benefits we have. We need to find out and teach others. ALL OF US. And when people rise to that teaching, they then walk in the light of it and enjoy life!

ISRAEL KEPT DOING WRONG and they ended up SICK. They didn't have to die, God gave them the OLD COVENANT, He gave them principles to get healed by.

I love God so much, and the more I read the Bible the more I find out God is really merciful no matter what covenant we are under. God never says to someone dying "Haha, I told you not to do that, and you did it – over and over – so I am taking you down!" No, God is good, He is kind, He sends His Word and heals us.

God is a GOOD GOOD FATHER – He is God to the world, but to us HE IS FATHER. HE is our FATHER. Now they were fools, they messed up, but HE SAVED THEM!

Read Psalm 107.21-22. Notice we are supposed to praise God for His goodness. No matter how foolish you have been, God will always save you and heal you through His Word. Read Acts 10.38. Notice that healing is linked here to doing good. Healing all is good! Doing good and healing are the same. God is a God good, but His goodness is more than forgiving, it is also healing. God shows His goodness with healing! When we preach salvation people get saved, but if we preach healing people will get healed. God is good, but people need to hear and praise Him for His goodness in each area to receive that area manifest in their life.

Oral Roberts used to say that every message "GOD IS A GOOD GOD" – it upset people. Pastors would say "God is a good God but...." My question is "but what" – God is good but also a bit mean? Surely not? No – God is totally good, there is no "but". Healing is good and there is no "but" to that.

There I was in hospital, had been there 6 weeks. I was sick, I was weak, I was not sleeping properly at all. The doctors told me I would be in hospital 8 months, then 6 months every year for the rest of my life. Then I was healed through prayer from the elders of the church. I have been very sick, and now I am very healthy. I know which one is good! God is good, healing is good, God wants you healed, Jesus wants you well.

You should declare that right now "JESUS WANTS ME WELL"

If everyone who is sick would just walk a mile or two every day and say with every step, for 2000 steps, for 10000 steps, "JESUS WANTS ME WELL" – it would finally wake up their heart, and their heart would have no doubt in it and they would say it without doubt in their heart and their BODY WOULD LINE UP WITH THE WILL OF GOD! People think declaring the Word over and over is legalism, it is not! It is faith building.

There's still people saying to Christians "GOD WANTS YOU SICK" – oh, there's something inside me that wants to fight people who say that, wants to stand up so strong against it. IT IS A LIE that is killing people.

The truth is that your mind might be foolish, and you might think GOD WANTS YOU SICK, but your spirit is full of wisdom, and knows JESUS WANTS YOU WELL. Your born again spirit knows you should be healthy.

You know what amazes me – people who think God wants them sick then they go to the doctor, they go to hospital. IF YOU BELIEVE GOD WANTS YOU SICK, don't try and get well! STAY IN GOD'S WILL. But God's will is healing, GOD WANTS YOU WELL!

Read John 14.12. Not only are we supposed to receive these works and get healed, as Christians we are supposed to be doing the works! We are supposed to be healing the sick. All of us should have testimonies of people we have seen healed. And not one from five years ago when you did a short-term mission, I mean on an ongoing continual basis. We are supposed to be Jesus in Acts 10.38 going around doing good and healing all. You and me!

If you count the verses in the gospels where Jesus is doing something, as opposed to teaching something, you will find out that 75% of His doing is healing the sick. Jesus is always healing the sick. I got told by my denomination when I applied to JOIN THAT I TALK ABOUT HEALING TOO MUCH, that healing was just a side thing with JESUS. That kind of talk is just ignorance, healing is absolutely central to the good news. So I kept ministering healing, and kept seeing the sick healed, and still do today.

KEEP MINISTERING HEALING! Read Psalm 107.22. We have to declare His works. We have to declare that we are delivered, declare that we are healed.

Why were the ISRAELITES SICK IN THE WILDERNESS? They ignored the Word of God, they ignored their covenant, they hated God's wisdom and they were fools. Fools because of their transgression are afflicted. It was not GOD'S WILL FOR THEM TO BE SICK – GOD HAS NOT CHANGED, you are sick when you are foolish, but it is NOT GOD'S WILL. It is NEVER GOD'S WILL. GOD IS GOOD AND HEALS. And HE STILL DOES.

It is not the plan or desire or passion of the LORD that ANYONE IS EVER SICK. THE PLAN OF GOD – IS TO HEAL. THAT'S PART OF OUR BETTER COVENANT – HEALING IS PART OF OUR COVENANT. MOST PEOPLE DO NOT KNOW IT, that DO NOT KNOW IT – SO THEY DON'T BELIEVE IT BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW IT. Our covenant is better than their covenant!

WHEN YOU SAY THAT, when you say "GOD WANTS EVERYONE WELL" – they come after you. It is something else. They will attack you. Wonderful Spirit filled tongue talkers will attack you and criticise you. You need to not be thin-skinned when you preach and teach healing for all!

I get told regularly that God wanting to heal everyone is extremist! No – if you believe God is good to some and Jesus went around healing a few who were oppressed – they are extreme. I got a phone call and they wanted me to go on Christian TV and debate healing. They told me "we want a minister with the normal view of healing and you to give the extreme view". I told the man, the host of the show, "my view is not extreme it is Biblical".

He said “there is no Scripture that says God’s wants to heal everyone” – I gave him ten Scriptures and started teaching him the Word over the phone. He said “I didn’t think you would actually be able to defend your view, I don’t want you debating on my show”. That’s funny!

Now God wants the JEWS to all be healed – people go with that. God wanted them all well, people GO WITH THAT – BUT WE HAVE A BETTER COVENANT, so God wants us all well too. In their covenant they were God’s servants, but we are God’s sons (read I John 3.2). We are family with God. You think God wants His servants HEALED, and HIS SONS SICK? Is that what you think? That is not true.

No – God’s plan for His sons is to heal them, to take sickness away from the midst of them, to fulfil the number of their days! That is God’s will for servants, and it is certainly God’s will for His sons! It is so clear that it is the plan of God, the heart of the Father, that no believer is ever sick. We live long lives and one day we wear out and just fall asleep.

It is not God’s will you suffer with CANCER, it is not GOD’s will for you to have any disease that brings pain. It is not God’s will that your eyesight is not perfect. It is not God’s will that you struggle to hear or walk!

NOW they will come at you for saying that – they will call you a CULT, they will say “well I believe that God wants you sick sometimes” – you believe whatever you want, but I WILL KEEP BELIEVING THE BIBLE! Someone will then say “I think God uses sickness to teach us” – HE NEVER USED SICKNESS TO TEACH ISRAEL! He took sickness away from the midst of them! GOD TOLD PEOPLE THE BLESSINGS and the CURSES – BLESSINGS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT ARE FOR OBEDIENT, CURSES ARE WHAT YOU GET FOR DISOBEDIANCE. NOW IN THE NEW WE ARE BLESSED IN CHRIST THROUGH FAITH –

But even in the OLD – God did not use sickness to teach. AND OUR COVENANT IS BETTER, so God never uses it for us either!

The problem is that most people are carnal. They are moved by what they see. They see a Christian get sick and die, and maybe it’s a preacher or an elder. Now I hate it when that happens, it breaks my heart, because it is not the plan of God.

It is NOT GOD TEACHING SOMEONE A LESSON, it is US LIVING BELOW OUR COVENANT RIGHTS. IT IS US NOT HAVING FAITH IN OUR HEART AND TRUSTING GOD – it is some of these foolish ideas getting in people’s minds! God’s people are not destroyed because GOD is fed up with them and starts making them sick!

Hosea 4.6 says we are destroyed through a lack of knowledge. That is talking about God’s people, not sinners, not satan’s people, God’s people.

Christians are not normally sick because of sin though that can happen – they are sick because they DO NOT KNOW WHAT IS THEIRS through the BETTER COVENANT – or if they know HEALING IS THEIRS THEY DO NOT KNOW HOW TO RECEIVE IT. And then satan tries to kill them!

THE ISRAELITES GOT SICK THROUGH BROKEN LAWS – we get SICK THROUGH BROKEN BELIEVING! BUT IF THEY BEHAVED THEY NEVER GOT SICK, they never got diseased, they never GOT anything wrong with them! Now under grace we do not receive by law but by faith. AND IF WE BELIEVE, we can live in that realm too – total healing and health all the time!

FORGET ABOUT WHAT ANYONE ELSE SAYS RIGHT NOW _ you don't need to argue with them you can just say "I am healed, I have the victory".

We have to know what is ours, and we have to declare what is ours! Do that and you will enjoy the benefits of our better covenant, health, wealth, peace of mind, long life!



OUR BETTER COVENANT STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS

- I. 1. What did God send to heal the Israelites?
2. What is promised to everyone in the Old Covenant in Exodus 23.25-26?
3. Why can we assume these promises are also in the New Covenant?
4. What happens if you ignore your covenant benefits?
5. What did Jesus go around doing?
6. Why is it so important we prosper?
7. Why did God call the Israelites fools?
8. How can we be fools today under our better covenant?
9. We have to declare God's works and praise God for His works. What has Jesus worked in your life that you can declare to us today?
10. How can we get knowledge, so we are not destroyed?
- II. 11. What do you need to be declaring in your life?
12. What about this message inspired, challenged or encouraged you the most this week?

