September 30, 2018 | WONDERFUL MERCY CHURCH

- Jesus came to bring healing at every level of our being
- Acts 10:38 нсѕв

"[you know] how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who were under the tyranny of the Devil, because God was with Him."

"The full expression of Jesus' main ministry has, by and large, remained lost to the traditional centers of Christianity. ... We can rejoice that Christians today in different parts of the world are awakening to the glorious vision that Jesus had for His Church. But, amazingly, most of the body lies still and unresponsive to the powerful encounters of the Spirit that are sweeping into these 'nontraditional' meetings of believers....

"So stealthily did this poisoning happen that most churchgoers did not even realize that anything was wrong. They came to think of their moribund* state as normal. When you think about it, this near-destruction of divine healing is an extraordinary mystery, because miraculous healing—with its twin, the casting out of evil spirits—lay at the very heart of Jesus Christ's mission." [MacNutt, Francis. The Healing Reawakening: Reclaiming Our Lost Inheritance (Kindle Locations 129-130; 154-159). ©2005, Baker Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.]

*Moribund: at the point of death; in terminal decline; lacking vitality or vigor.

A House of Healing: The Biblical Basis

• Exodus 15:26 NIV

"I am the LORD, who heals you."

• 1 Corinthians 12:7-9 Voice Translation

"Each believer has received a gift that manifests the Spirit's power and presence. That gift is given for the good of the whole community. ⁸ The Spirit gives one person a word of wisdom, but to the next person the same Spirit gives a word of knowledge. ⁹ Another will receive the gift of faith by the same Spirit, and still another gifts of healing—all from the one Spirit."

A House of Healing: The Biblical Basis

• James 5:13-16 NLT

"Are any of you suffering hardships? You should pray. Are any of you happy? You should sing praises. ¹⁴ Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come and pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ Such a prayer offered in faith will heal the sick, and the Lord will make you well. And if you have committed any sins, you will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results."

Jesus' Ministry of Healing

- Jesus understood and conducted his ministry as one in which healing is a central component of the kingdom of God
- See Luke 4:18-19
- Jesus' words were a proclamation of the kingdom of God; his healings were a demonstration of the kingdom of God
- This wasn't circus sideshow stuff; Jesus wasn't performing supernatural stunts for higher ratings

Jesus' Ministry of Healing

- We are called to the words and works of Jesus
- John 14:12 PASSION

"I tell you this timeless truth: The person who follows me in faith, believing in me, will do the same mighty miracles that I do—even greater miracles than these because I go to be with my Father!"

 Jesus healed as a man anointed by the Holy Spirit, not as a result of His divine attributes

All Christians Are Called to Healing Ministry

- Matthew 28:20 Jesus commissions disciples to teach believers "to obey <u>everything</u> I have commanded you."
- Mark 16:17a-18b NLT

"These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, and they ... will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed."

James 5:14-16

- The responsibility for initiating healing prayer is with the sick person, not church leaders
- Greek verb is a command: "Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders" NAS
- Who administers the healing prayer and oil?
 - v. 14: elders, who pray and anoint
 - v. 16: whole body: "pray for each other so that you may be healed."

- In a church family of sons and daughters who know and enjoy the Father, one aspect of our impact will be healing
- The Father intends for this to be a normal part of our lives, not just a Sunday thing and certainly not just a leader thing



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