

The Healing Ministry of Jesus

I. PURPOSE OF JESUS' COMING – TO BRING SALVATION, HEALING, & DELIVERANCE

⁸ **...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.** (1 Jn. 3:8)

¹⁰ **The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.** (Jn. 10:10)

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.** (Ac 10:38)

A. Jesus came to destroy the very works of the devil – Satan attempts to blind man to the true knowledge of God. His works are evident in sin and sickness as a result of agreement with his ways.

B. Jesus' purpose was to bring life to fallen humanity – healing was a central focus of His ministry, which brought life to death in a limited sense. God desires for all to be saved, of which healing is a major tangible, factor in convincing men of God's realness, goodness, and love towards them.

³⁶ **Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.** (Jsa. 8:36)

¹ **It was for freedom that Christ set us free...**(Gal. 5:1)

C. Jesus came as the anointed one – He preached the good news (gospel) of the kingdom of God. When questioned if He was the messiah he referred to His works of power as a sign of His claim.

² **And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?"** ⁴ **Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: ⁵The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them.** (Mt 11:2-5)

D. Jesus only did what the Father showed Him – He walked in perfect harmony with God, thereby representing Him accurately by what He both said and did amongst the people.

³⁴ **Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.** (Jn 4:34)

¹⁹ **Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.** (Jn 5:19)

³⁸ **For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.** (Jn 6:38)

II. JESUS' HEALING MINISTRY WAS CENTRAL TO HIS MESSAGE

A. Jesus' role as healer is fulfillment of Is 53:4-5

¹⁶When 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, ¹⁷that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses." (Mt 8:16-17)

B. He was also the fulfillment of Is 61:1-2

¹⁸"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; (Lk 4:18)

C. Jesus' works were to validate His message and relationship with the Father.

³⁶But I have a greater witness than John's; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish—the very works that I do—bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me. (Jn. 5:36)

¹¹Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. (Jn. 14:11)

D. Healing was the "children's bread" to God's people (Syrophoenician Woman's daughter's healing).

²⁶But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." ²⁷And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour. (Mt 15:26-28)

III. JESUS RELATED THE KINGDOM AND THE DEMONSTRATIONS OF POWER TOGETHER

²³And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. ²⁴Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them. (Mt 4:23-24)

³⁵Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. (Mt 9:35)

²⁸But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. (Mt 12:28)

IV. JESUS PASSED ON HIS HEALING AUTHORITY AND POWER TO HIS FOLLOWERS

A. The twelve disciples sent out with authority and power.

¹And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease... ⁷And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' ⁸Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give. (Mt 10:1, 7-8)

¹Then He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. ²He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. (Lk. 9:1-2)

B. The seventy disciples sent out two by two with authority and power.

¹...the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two... ⁹...heal the sick there, and say... 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹⁹Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. (Lk 10:1, 9, 19)

C. All believers throughout Church history have access to Jesus' power.

¹²"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. (Jn. 14:12)

¹⁷And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸they 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." (Mk 16:17-18)

V. HOLY SPIRIT'S MINISTRY—PROMISE OF POWER

⁴⁹Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." (Lk. 24:49)

⁸But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Ac 1:8)

⁵...He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, ... (Gal. 3:5)

VI. APOSTOLIC WITNESS OF POWER

A. Apostolic prayer from the early church in Acts seeking healing and miraculous power.

²⁹Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, ³⁰by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus." (Ac 4:29-30)

B. Apostles move in power.

³³*And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all. (Ac 4:33)*

C. Stephen the deacon moved in the power of signs and wonders.

⁸*And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. (Ac 6:8)*

D. Paul's understanding that the word of God should be accompanied by power.

⁴*And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. (1 Co 2:4-5)*

¹⁸*Now some are puffed up...and I will know, not the word of those who are puffed up, but the power. ²⁰For the kingdom of God is not in word but in power. ... (1 Co 4:18-21)*

VII. OUR RESPONSE

A. Read the gospels afresh and get a renewed vision of Jesus' demonstrations of power as central to effective ministry. Begin to seek God for a personal baptism of power and settle for nothing less than what Jesus has promised us (Jn 14.12; Lk 24:49; Acts 1:5,8).

B. Make room in your time for real follow through. It's not enough to only desire healing, but to actually pray for the sick and expect results. Do not get discouraged at your lack of power; rather let it move you to ask and believe God for more.

C. You do not need to have a certain personality type to make something happen in the spirit. Neither your poetic words nor your yelling volume scare demons or a move angels. Your authority before God does! Simply speak the name of Christ over the situation.

D. Study about faith and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We are called to do our part and believe, and God will do His part and release power. Trust God for the outcome!