

HOW YOU CAN BE HEALED



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CHAPTER 1

The General Cause of Sickness

In seeking a cure for sickness and disease, which has so plagued mankind, it is important to learn something of the cause and origin. Where does sickness and disease come from or originate? Does God send them or are they from the enemy of God, Satan? Let us make the question even broader. Just what is the reason for so much pain and misery in the world?

The great tide of sickness and its attendant misery, despite all our human efforts, still overwhelms mankind, and at the present time, an effective method of combating it, has not been discovered. That is as far as the world is concerned.

The fact is, as we shall see, the cause of sickness is of a spiritual nature. Therefore, the best cure for an organic and mental disease is spiritual.

When the first man and woman, Adam and Eve, were created and placed in the Garden of Eden, they possessed perfect, though mortal bodies. They did not have eternal life—only mortal life. In the midst of the Garden, God planted the Tree of Life which symbolized immortality. Had Adam and Eve not rebelled against God, it is probable that in time they would have been permitted to partake of the fruit of that tree and become immortal. Their disobedience brought sin into the world, and with sin, death came upon them and their posterity (Romans 5:12). The day that our first parents disobeyed God was the first day they began to die.

Sin came into the world, therefore, it is directly or indirectly the cause of death and sickness. For example, the child of a drunkard suffers for the sin of his parent. A child of a mother with social disease may be born blind. Nevertheless, as Jesus said, many times the sickness may not be the result of the sin of either the afflicted person or his parents (John 9:3). The cause may still be further back. Obviously, if Adam and Eve had not sinned, there would be no sickness in the world.

Our bodies are made in such a way that normally they resist disease. If this were not so, the race would have soon been destroyed. However, if for any reason the natural defenses of the body are weakened, disease has a good chance to secure a foothold. Undue physical strain, failure to take care of the body properly or just plain sin may weaken its natural resistance. The result is disease may be able to get the upper hand. There is always a cause. Proverbs 26:2 declares: “A curse without cause shall not alight.” The indirect cause of all sickness in the human race is sin, although there may be other contributing factors.

This is plain from the Holy Scriptures in Deuteronomy 28:15, 22, 27-28:

“But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes . . . The LORD will strike you with consumption, with fever, with inflammation, with severe burning fever, with the sword, with scorching, and with mildew . . . The LORD will strike you with the boils of Egypt, with tumors, with the scab, and with the itch, from which you cannot be healed. The LORD will strike you with madness and blindness and confusion of heart.”

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, identified sickness with sin when He said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven you” (Mark 2:5). The Early Church recognized the connection between sin and sickness. In James 5:13-15, the command is given for the elders to pray for the sick, and we are told that “the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if, he has committed sins, they will be forgiven.” James urged in the verse that follows to “Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that you may be healed.”

SATAN, THE ORIGINATOR OF SICKNESS

The question may arise as to where disease itself came from. The answer the Bible gives is that Satan, the evil one, is the author of disease.

In the story of Job, we are told that God built an invisible hedge around him, so the devil could not touch him. For reasons we cannot go into here, one day God withdrew His protection, and permitted Satan to afflict him with painful boils. Notice, that although God gave the permission, it was actually Satan who laid the boils on Job.

“So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head” (Job 2:7).

It was God who answered Job’s cry and healed him. There is also the case of the woman with the infirmity whom Jesus healed. This woman had been oppressed for eighteen years with a spirit of infirmity. Jesus revealed the cause of her sickness in His conversation with the religious rulers. It was Satan who had bound the woman.

“So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound—think of it—for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?” (Luke 13:16).

Note again, when Peter was speaking of Christ, he connected the ministry of healing with deliverance from Satanic oppression:

“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” (Acts 10:38).

We see healing was in effect, liberating people from the oppression of the devil. We also see this verse isn't just poetic language. As we witness and study the miracles of our Lord, we often find that evil spirits were involved in the cause of the sickness. These had to be cast out before the person could get well. The Bible speaks of deaf spirits, dumb spirits, insane spirits, infirm spirits, deceiving spirits, seducing spirits, lying spirits, familiar spirits, a spirit of divination, perverse spirits, wicked spirits, unclean spirits and foul spirits. All of these have different ways of afflicting or deceiving people.

Satan's power over people varies with the individual. In many cases he merely oppresses them. Thousands of Christians are oppressed by the enemy simply because they have not learned to take their authority in Christ and rebuke him. The devil cannot actually possess a true Christian, but he can oppress him. Believers must learn to rise up in the Name of Jesus and take dominion over the oppressor.

On the other hand, unfortunately, there are more people than we like to believe who are actually demon-possessed. Some become completely controlled by Satan—one cause of insanity. Such persons have no power of their own to exercise faith for deliverance. They are as the demon-possessed man whom Jesus met in the tombs (Mark 5:1-19). Unless somebody exercises faith for them, they may never recover.

Some want deliverance from the sickness, but not from their sins. We must remember that the promise is a two-fold cure from a two-fold curse. “Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases” (Psalm 103:2-3). The promise calls for deliverance from sin first; then deliverance from sickness.

When Hezekiah, King of Israel, was sick unto death, he turned his face to the wall and prayed. God heard his prayer and said, “I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will heal you. On the third day you shall go up to the house of the LORD” (2 Kings 20:5). Some people, in seeking healing, have little thought of serving the Lord afterwards, but not Hezekiah. On the third day after his deliverance, he went up to the house of the Lord and worshiped God for his great deliverance.

Jesus healed an infirmed man who lay 38 years in an absolutely helpless condition at the pool of Bethesda. Afterwards, the Lord said to him, “See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you” (John

5:14). Certainly Jesus made it plain that continuance in sin might lead to a worse condition (see Luke 11:24-26). We can gather from this statement that this man's affliction was possibly caused by previous sin in his life.

A heathen woman came to Christ for the deliverance of her daughter who was possessed of a devil. The Lord pitied the poor woman and indeed had compassion on her, but He realized she was not yet ready. There are some who would have the minister pray at once for everybody and anybody who wants healing. Jesus did not always grant healing at the same moment in which it was asked.

The Lord did not answer the woman at once. She pleaded with Him to help, "but he answered not a word." Why? She had addressed Him as "O Lord, Son of David!" As the "Son of David," He could not help her. Being recognized only as a man, He could do nothing for her. Nevertheless, she tried again. "Lord, help me," she cried. This time Jesus spoke to her. Yet, His answer seemed a denial of her request. He said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw *it* to the little dogs" (Matthew 15:26). Could she bear such a test? She could and did. She determined her daughter would be healed. She would not take *no* for an answer. In deep humility she accepted the Lord's words and actually made it an argument for the deliverance of her daughter! She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." The Lord, marveling at her faith, then answered her prayer. He told her to go her way; her daughter was healed. Salvation had come to their home.

CHAPTER 2

Why Does God Heal?

CHRIST HEALS BECAUSE OF COMPASSION

If Christ heals the sick today, why does He heal, and on what terms does He do it? He heals because of His compassion. Matthew 14:14 declares that when the multitude brought their sick to Him, He “was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.” When the two blind men came to Him crying out for mercy, the Lord “had compassion and touched their eyes. And immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him” (Matt. 20:34).

HEALING IS THE CHILDREN’S BREAD

Notice again the words that Christ spoke to the heathen lady. He said, “Let the children be filled first, for it is not good to take the children’s bread and throw *it* to the little dogs” (Mark 7:27). The point is, when one becomes a child of God, he does not have to beg for deliverance ... for healing is “the children’s bread.”

Are you a child of God? Then you have the right to receive healing. If you are not, then you can become one this moment by asking Jesus Christ to come into your heart. Divine healing is not a luxury to be enjoyed by the favored few. All the children of the Lord, by virtue of their position in Christ, have the right to receive the blessing.

HEALING WAS PROPHESED IN THE ATONEMENT OF CHRIST

Why does Christ heal the sick and the afflicted? It is because healing is in the Atonement. Isaiah, the prophet, looking forward to the coming of the Messiah, declared, “Surely he hath borne our grief’s and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted” (Isaiah 53:4). The Spirit of prophecy interprets this Scripture in a remarkable way. Jesus had healed Peter’s mother-in-law to the people’s amazement. Then as evening came and the Sabbath was over, a multitude brought their sick to be delivered.

Jesus healed them all for the reason given in the following passage of Scripture:

“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, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: ‘*He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses*’” (Matthew 8:16, 17).

We are clearly told that Christ healed because *He at Calvary, bore the sicknesses as well as the sins of the human race*. This is not a human interpretation of Isaiah’s prophecy, but one given by the Spirit of God. The following verse in Isaiah carries out the thought even more fully. It says, “With his stripes we are healed” (Isaiah 53:5).

Therefore, since Divine healing is in the Atonement, it is as much a part of our inheritance as is our being pardoned from sin. Indeed, all spiritual blessings we receive, whether it be salvation, healing or whatever, are obtained through the Atonement of Christ and not through our personal merits.

CHRIST HEALS TO REVEAL THE FATHER’S GLORY

It has been supposed by many that God sends sickness on His children to reveal His glory. This is not true. In fact, it is just the opposite. Sickness and disease have caused many to question the providence of God. On the other hand, when healing took place, the people glorified God:

“... and He healed them. So the multitude marveled when they saw *the* mute speaking, *the* maimed made whole, *the* lame walking, and *the* blind seeing; and they glorified the God of Israel” (Matthew 15:30-31).

CHRIST HEALS TO PROVE HIS MISSION

Christ also heals, so He might prove His mission to the world. He said, to the Jews, “If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father *is* in Me, and I in Him” (John 10:37-38).

A widow in the town of Zarephath was persuaded the prophet Elijah was a true man of God after he revived and healed her child (1 King 17:24).

In the Great Commission, the healing of the sick in the Name of Jesus was to be one of the signs of true believers (Mark 16:17).

Some have inferred that Christ’s deity has been so fully proven that miracles are no longer needed today. As if the whole world now believed in

Christ! The sad fact is, there are hundreds of millions of people living today who do not know Jesus as their Savior. The power of the supernatural to confirm the claims of Christ is needed more now than ever before.

Why does Christ heal today? He heals because it is His nature to heal. He heals because it is His purpose to destroy the works of the devil (Acts 10:38 and 1 John 3:8). He heals, so that the sick one, who is made well, can serve Him in the joy of salvation. He heals, so the well one made whole may go out in the harvest field and work for Him.

CHAPTER 3

Is it God's Will to Heal You?

The question many people ask is not, "Can God heal?" If one believes that God created the human body, he must believe He is surely able to heal it. The question so many ask is, "Will He heal?" If so, what are the conditions upon which He does it? In answering this question, let us look to the Bible, for only the Scriptures can provide the true answer. We believe that it does give the answer, so clearly that no one should misunderstand it.

A leper came to Jesus not knowing for certain whether it was His will to cleanse him of his leprosy. In his ignorance he said, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean" (Matthew 8:2). At once, Jesus proved for all time that it was His will by reaching His hand out and touching the poor leper, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed."

Some people argue that God healed in the days of old, but it is not His will to heal today. Yet, those same persons, the moment they become ill, will call the doctor and ask him to cure them. They never say, "Doctor, I think it may not be the Lord's will for me to be well; just let me suffer." You see, although with their mouth they say it is not God's will to heal, in their heart they know it is. Otherwise, would one not be a hypocrite, claiming to be a Christian, and then, at the same time, try to get out of the will of God? The Scriptures teach them from the beginning it is God's will to heal. No sooner had God redeemed His people from Egypt than He gave them the covenant of healing. He actually made healing a law! "There He made a statute and an ordinance for them, and there He tested them" (Exodus 15:25). He even went further than that. He told them if they obeyed His statutes and His commandments, they would not get sick:

"and said, 'If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I *am* the LORD who heals you'" (Exodus 15:26).

The book of Psalms is the great inspirational book of the Bible. It tells us to not forget all of God's benefits:

"Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, *ble*ss His holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases" (Psalm 103:1-3).

Many people remember the benefit of salvation, but they overlook all the benefits of healing. As a result they may suffer sickness and pain, all because they have not known this great benefit. Another promise has been given to us in the Old Testament, saying of those who put their trust in God, "...nor shall any plague come near your tent" (Psalm 91:10).

Centuries later when Jesus began His ministry, He preached one of His first sermons in His home city of Nazareth, and this was the text He used:

"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; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD" (Luke 4:18-19).

Jesus not only healed the sick, but committed that same ministry and authority to His disciples.

"So they went out and preached that *people* should repent. And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed *them*" (Mark 6:12-13).

Later, when He gave them the Great Commission, He included the promise of healing to all believers in Mark 16:16-18:

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they 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."

This promise was not only for the apostles, but it is still valid today for those who believe. Notice the words of Christ in Matthew 28:19-20:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age."

THE ORDINANCE OF DIVINE HEALING GIVEN TO THE CHURCH

Just as God gave a statue and an ordinance of healing to the Church in the wilderness, so God gave a command authorizing the ministry of healing in the Church of the New Testament.

“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. 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. Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much” (James 5:14-16).

The remarkable thing is that there is not one place, not even the slightest hint in the Scriptures that God’s command in praying for the sick has ever been revoked. Also, in the fulfillment of His Word and promise, He is just the same today as He was yesterday.

What about doctors? We are not trying to reflect in any way against the medical profession, which has done a great work in alleviating the ills of humanity. After God gave Israel the covenant of healing, He also taught them health laws and appointed certain ones to administer those laws. The world needs specially trained men to teach people the proper care of their bodies. Christ did not criticize those who cared for the sick and wounded (Luke 10:34). He said that those who are sick have need of a physician (Matthew 9:12). Mothers, for example, need special care at the time of the birth of their children.

All thoughtful persons appreciate the value of help which trained personnel can give to the sick, but doctors can only go so far. Even they will confess, they can only assist nature.

In His graciousness, God has given us the assurance of a well body if we accept His word. An assurance no less definite than the promise He has given us of health for our soul.

CHAPTER 4

How You Can Be Healed

We all know there are those who hear the message of the Gospel and are saved, while others go away without salvation. Likewise, there are those who hear the glorious truths of Divine healing and deliverance, but they fail to get healed. Why is this?

Most of us know we receive the gift not because we merit it, but because Christ purchased it for us on Calvary. Nevertheless, we can do things or fail to do things that can hinder our faith. Let us take a look at a few of the more important steps to healing.

PREPARE YOUR HEART

A very common reason why people fail to receive deliverance is because they do not take the time to get the Word of God in their hearts. They insist on being prayed for before they know what it is all about. “Faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17).

Christ went to His home city, Nazareth, to teach and heal the sick, but the people looked at Him with skepticism and unbelief. To them, He was only a carpenter. As a result, there were very few healed in Nazareth. “Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed *them*” (Mark 6:5).

If you would be healed, take time to read and listen to the Word of God, so your heart may be prepared to understand, and so you will know the conditions by which deliverance is given.

BE SURE THAT YOU KNOW IT IS THE WILL OF GOD FOR YOU TO BE HEALED

Of course, one cannot receive healing if he has doubts as to whether it is God’s will to heal. Indeed, if God had not already revealed His will in the matter, none of us would have cause for faith. However, since He has made it so plain that it is His will, how can we by our attitude say, “Lord, I do not know whether you really mean what you have promised?” God does not deal lightly with the sufferings and misfortunes of His people. His word is *Yes and Amen*. Jesus said to the leper, “I am willing, be cleansed.” So today, the promise is still true. Jesus said, “They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover” (Mark 16:18). If you believe, then you shall surely recover and be healed from your sickness.

CONFESS ALL SIN IN YOUR LIFE

Included in the promise of healing, in James 5:13-16, there is a clause which is often overlooked. It reads, “Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed.” Sickness may be the result of some sin, and we must be willing to confess and forsake it. David said in the Psalms, “If I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear” (Psalm 66:18). If you have committed wrong against someone, go to them and confess your wrong-doing and be healed. Are you defiling your body with tobacco or are you overweight? Ask the Lord to help you with these problems that cause sickness and even death to so many.

AN UNFORGIVING SPIRIT CAN HINDER HEALING

We remember the case of a woman, who had a stubborn spirit and bitterness in her heart. She almost broke up a certain assembly that was struggling to survive. Then, sickness came upon her in the form of a serious oppression from the enemy. Because of the severity of the attack, it could have meant her death. However, she cried out to the Lord for mercy, and then called every member of the church to her bedside asking their forgiveness. The Lord raised her up. Afterwards, for as long as we knew her, she manifested a spirit that was characterized by sweetness and humility. She was healed because she was not only willing to confess her sin, but forsake it, too.

SET A TIME

Others never set a time for deliverance, but continually place it in the indefinite future. They always say, “God is *going* to heal me,” instead of, “God *has* healed me.” Jesus said, “Whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*” (Mark 11:24). There comes a time when we must take our stand, believing that God has already done the work. The results may not immediately or visibly manifest in that exact moment, but that does not matter. On one occasion, Christ saw a fig tree that was bearing no fruit. Symbolizing what would happen to lives that bear no “fruit,” He cursed it. The roots of the fig tree died the moment Jesus cursed the tree, but the results were not seen until later. One receives the answer to his prayer the moment he truly believes that the work is done, although the visible results may not manifest or be seen until later. As long as the physical symptoms last, we must not doubt, but rather rebuke Satan. Just as a sinner must set a time in which he believes God for salvation, so the sick person must set a time when he receives his healing.

DO NOT BE SPIRITUALLY LUKEWARM

Some do not have a sufficient or strong desire to get an answer from God. Jesus said, “Whatever things you ask, when you pray.” In the early days of King Asa’s reign in Judah, he served the Lord with all of his heart. In those days, all of Judah entered into a covenant to seek the Lord with their whole heart (2 Chronicles 15:12-13). The 15th verse declares that they “sought him with their whole desire; and he was found of them.”

Although there are people who let hindrances and difficulties discourage them from getting deliverance, there are others who are determined they will not be denied.

Yield yourself completely to God, so that He can show you and lead you in His perfect will. Put God first in your life, and He will take care of your needs. It is important to remember the Scriptures say “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you” (Matthew 6:33).

REMEMBER THAT HEALING MAY COME GRADUALLY

Though many healings are instantaneous, some of the greatest deliverances from affliction have not taken place immediately, anyway, not as far as the eye could see or tell. It is true that most of the miracles of Christ occurred as He spoke the word, yet, not all of them. When Jesus healed the ten lepers, He told them to go and show themselves to the priests. Apparently, there was no immediate evidence of healing. However, they obeyed the Lord’s command, and when they were some distance on their journey, they reported they were cleansed of their leprosy. Their faith to accept the Word of the Lord brought deliverance, although, at first, they could see no change. The only disappointing thing about this miracle, which is noted in another chapter, is that only one of them returned to the Lord to give thanks (Luke 17:15-18).

In the first miracle of healing which Christ performed, He taught the people a fundamental lesson on faith. Because of the unique anointing that rested upon Christ, most of the healings which took place in His ministry were instantaneous. But Christ did not want the people to get the impression this was the only way they could be healed. The Lord wanted faith built upon something stronger than just the “signs and wonders” that could be seen with the physical eye. He desired to establish in the hearts of His disciples a faith that rested upon the Word of God. He wanted to impress this upon them right at the beginning of His ministry when the very first healing took place. To the nobleman who had come to Him for the healing of this desperately ill child, He said, “Unless you *people* see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.” Paraphrased it meant, “Will you believe, even if your boy is not instantly made whole?” The nobleman first hesitated, but apparently he

accepted the lesson, for when the Lord said, “Go your way; your son lives,” he went his way trusting in the Word that had been spoken.

The nobleman understood from the Words of Jesus that no spectacular manifestation might take place, but even without it, the child would get well. When he arrived home, he asked when the child “*began to amend.*” They told him that at the same hour Jesus spoke the Word, the fever left him. Notice, too, although the healing to the outward eye was gradual, the Scripture speaks of the healing as a miracle (John 4:54).

CHAPTER 5

How to Keep Your Healing

From what has been written in the previous chapters, it is evident that in this world the Christian's walk will involve warfare against Satan's forces. These forces attack us in many areas, spiritually, mentally and physically. Never can the child of God relax his watchfulness or take for granted that all will go well because there is an unseen foe who contests his progress at every step. The weapons of our warfare are mighty, however, and through them we are more than victors. In Christ Jesus we can do all things, even to the breaking down of the strongholds of the enemy. Nonetheless, until Jesus comes, the price of continued victory involves being eternally alert. As the Lord, Himself, said, "Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man" (Luke 21:36).

Victory over an enemy depends in some measure upon the knowledge of the tricks or schemes of the adversary. To be forewarned is to be forearmed. We should know and realize that sin or carelessness will break down the border or hedge of protection God has placed about us. We have seen in Acts 10:38 and Luke 11:24-26 that sickness, in general, is caused by satanic oppression of one form or another, and once the devil is cast out of a man, "he goes through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.'" If the man continues his careless life and has not filled it with spiritual things, the devil will come back with reinforcements, inviting other demons to share the place with him and making his control over the man seven times stronger. Therefore, instruction in the Word of God and faithful obedience to it is imperative to those who have been delivered.

YOU WILL FACE TEMPTATION

Every Christian will testify that after he is saved the devil comes back to tempt him on the reality of his experience. This is to be expected. Even to Christ, the devil said, "If you are the Son of God." If Satan could question Christ's relationship as God's Son, we can be sure he will not spare us. Christ put the devil to flight by using the Word of God, as we are also instructed to do. However, the point we wish to make is this: just as Satan tempts men and casts doubt on the reality of their receiving salvation and the healing of their souls, he will also try to bring into question the reality of them receiving healing for their bodies. He will seek to produce symptoms in the body of the person who has been healed. If the individual accepts the evil suggestion,

the way or a door to sickness and injury is opened through doubt. Then, the affliction can and usually returns. However, if he rejects the devil's advances and stands upon God's Word of deliverance to him, he will banish both doubt and the symptoms. Let us now consider some of the things that cause people to lose their healing.

DO NOT CONTINUE IN SIN

As we have noted in the earlier chapters, sin is the direct cause of sickness in many cases. It is assumed, therefore, that the person who comes to God for healing has repented and turned from sin. There is no use in treating a man for arsenic poisoning, if he knowingly continues to take arsenic into his body. There is no purpose in trying to bring deliverance to a person who willfully continues to live a life of sin.

After you have received the answer to your prayer, continue to live for God. It is a sad thing that some people only come to God when they have an emergency. Then, after it is over, they forget all about God or the promises they voiced to him during their crisis. The law of sin and its penalty has never been revoked. One cannot expect to keep his healing if he does not live for Him.

TESTIFY OF YOUR DELIVERANCE

Many, after they have received a glorious healing, have failed to give God glory. The individual is under obligation, first of all, to tell others he was healed, and then, to give thanks to God. The nine lepers, who were healed as they went, failed to return and give glory to God. Christ mentioned that of the ten lepers who were healed, only one of them came back and gave thanks. The proportion is not much greater today. We find that many people who have been healed never bother to give their testimony, though they have solemnly promised to do so. The next time they are heard from is when they are sick again. Few people realize God's attitude toward ingratitude. It is the sin of the age. Man's first step in deserting their principles is described in Romans 1:21, "because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful." If an affliction should return after one has experienced deliverance, let him ask himself the question: "Did I give thanks to God?"

When the visible part of the disease has gone, public testimony should be made. To the man who was healed of lunacy, Jesus said, "Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you" (Mark 5:19).

FILL YOUR LIFE WITH SPIRITUAL THINGS

Jesus, in speaking of the man from whom the devil was cast out, noted that the demon eventually decided to return to the “house” from where he was cast. Upon returning, he found the “house swept and garnished.” In other words, the works of Satan had been cast out, but no effort had been made to replace them with the things of God. A spiritual vacuum was left in that part of his nature which must worship something, either God or the god of this world. The devil, seeing his advantage, made his entry secure by taking seven other spirits, more wicked than himself, so that the last state of the man was worse than the first.

There are those who do not covet or long for or desire spiritual things, but instead, give-in to a gratification of their carnal or selfish, fleshly nature. When we feed on the things of the world, we excite appetites that crowd-out or leave no room for the spiritual life. What misery awaits that person! When Satan finds re-entrance into this life and the individual discovers that his deliverance is gone, he has once more moved into the toils or plans of the enemy!

DO NOT OVERDO

When healed, one has a new-found strength, but this is not to be used in vain ways. We have witnessed those who have been gloriously healed, and then used little wisdom. Remember, even a well man, if he exhausts his strengths, may succumb to an affliction which takes advantage of his weakness. How much more at risk is a person whose strength has not been built up, yet, and needs to take good care of his body? This does not mean however, that one should pamper or baby himself. Indeed, day by day, he should take new ground from the enemy, and as he praises and serves God, his deliverance will be a marvelous testimony of the power of God to heal and to deliver. We cannot over-emphasize the fact that some will lose their healings. It is simply because they do not take proper care of their bodies once deliverance has come to them.

FAILURE TO RECOGNIZE HEALING

Some do not recognize their healing. For example, a cancer which has been killed must pass from the body. Sometimes, pain accompanies this. If the individual becomes afraid or fearful, it is possible for Satan to take advantage of that fear. One woman, after she had been prayed for, became so frightened that she decided to have an operation. The operation showed that the cancer was dead and was passing from the body. Sometimes after prayer, the diseased part will throw off the waste, and in doing so, the affliction may

appear temporarily to be worse than ever. If the individual is calm in his faith, the poison will pass, and the person will find that deliverance has come. The immediate visible manifestation of healing is not necessary. Indeed, some people put their faith in that, and then, when the slightest unfavorable symptoms develop, they lose all confidence. But if faith is based on the Word of God, symptoms may come and they may go, but the deliverance will be for sure because God's Word, when it is trusted, cannot fail.

KEEP YOUR EYES ON CHRIST, NOT YOUR SYMPTOMS

Above all, keep your eyes on the promise, not your symptoms. Watching and nursing your complaint will result in a wavering faith. Our prayer must be made in unwavering faith. "But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord" (James 1:6-7). Peter's walking on the water is an example of the manner in which a man may receive the benefit of a mighty miracle one moment, and then be in jeopardy the next. He walked on the waves, and as long as his eyes were upon Christ, he defied the laws of the sea. But the moment his eyes left Christ and he considered the winds and the waves, he began to sink. Our security in God, whether for body, soul or spirit, is not in past experiences, but in a continued trust in God. We may note in passing that Peter had at least the presence of mind to call on Christ to save him when he was sinking. And he was saved, not by his own faith, but by the faith of Jesus.

CHAPTER 6

How to Turn Faith Loose and Receive Your Healing

By Kenneth Hagin

When a child of God needs healing or deliverance, it is necessary that faith be released in order to receive, but many do not understand just how to do this. If you will follow faithfully and prayerfully the steps shown below, you can be sure of complete healing.

BE BORN AGAIN

1. The first thing is to know that you are born again and that you are living in all the light that He has put in your pathway. In order to be converted and become a child of God, you must believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Then ask Him to come and live in your heart so that He may direct and guide you and be the Lord of your life. If you ask Him to come in, Christ will surely live within you. For He has said, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me" (Revelation 3:20).

USE THE WORD OF GOD

2. From the Scriptures listed in this booklet, pick out two or three and memorize them thoroughly, saying them over and over again. In the same manner that Christ did when Satan tempted him, you will be able to protect yourself from the enemy who will come with doubts and unbelief. You must know and fully realize the integrity of the Word of God and know that this Word is actually what it declares itself to be. It is a revelation from God to us. We should know that it is God speaking to us NOW. It is not only a book of the past and a book of the future; it is a book of NOW. The Holy Bible is God-inspired message. Hebrew 4:12 says, "For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." *Quick* means it is alive, living. Therefore, the Word of God is a living thing. But it will come alive to you as you accept it and act upon it. An important step is to settle on the integrity of God's Word. Remember, that the Word is of foremost importance. It is God speaking to us. Always maintain that attitude and act upon the Word in that way.

It is as though the Lord Jesus Christ Himself were with you in person, speaking to you.

SET A TIME

3. Set a time to claim your healing. You may come to God alone, or you may agree with someone else, an elder, your pastor or another believer. Now you are ready to place your petition before Him. Ask God the Father in the Name of His Son Jesus, who died to save you from your sins and heal your body and mind from all sickness and disease, to heal you NOW. Then tell God that you have accepted what He is doing for you. Rebuke Satan and tell him to leave your body alone. Do this in the Name of Jesus. Tell Satan that you have authority over him according to Mark 16:17, and Luke 10:19.

PRAISE GOD

4. Praise the Father for healing you. Continue to praise Him daily and even hourly, for healing you, even if you do not feel any differently. Some healings come instantly. Others come gradually. Pay no attention to the symptoms. *You are not healed because you feel better, but because the Word of God says you are healed.* Let every man be a liar, but let God be true. (As we stated, some have been known to get violently sick even though they were being healed—for example, the dead tissues of a cancer when passing from the body.)

CONFESS YOUR HEALING

5. Tell others that you accepted your healing. If they ask you how you are, tell them you are healed according to the Word of God. Never confess to them that you feel badly or that nothing has happened. That is actually testifying to the works of Satan. Remember, you are seeing through the eyes of faith. You believe and say it because God said so. This bold confession will further strengthen your faith. A negative confession will weaken your faith and serve to neutralize your prayers.

This is the crucial time for your healing through Jesus Christ. If you will believe what Christ said, and not what you feel, there can be no failure. If you continue to believe God, Satan will see that he has to take his hold off of your body.

MEDITATE ON THE PROMISES OF GOD

6. Meanwhile, meditate constantly on the promises upon which you base your healing. See yourself with what you have asked for, and make plans accordingly, as if it were already a reality.

Let every thought and desire affirm that you have what you asked. “Never permit a mental picture of a failure to be in your mind.” Never

doubt for one minute that you have the answer. If doubts persist, rebuke them, and get your mind on the answer. Constantly affirm that the promises are true, and that prayer has been answered. *Eradicate every suggestion, image, vision, dream, impression, feeling; in fact, extirpate all thoughts that do not contribute to your faith that you have what you have asked.*

Thoughts are governed by observations, associations and teachings. Guard against every evil that comes into the mind. Stay away from all places and things that will not support your affirmation that God has answered prayer.

In your waking moments think on the greatness of God and His goodness. Count your blessings and faith will increase. Lift your heart to God constantly in gratitude and increasing praise for what He is doing for you now. Maintain that all things are possible to the believer.

DO NOT ASK GOD OVER AND OVER

7. Make every prayer relative to what you have asked—a statement of faith instead of unbelief. Do not ask God over and over again for the same things as if He had not heard you the first time. Rather, remind the Father that you are still claiming the promises and that you praise Him, and you know He has heard you and has answered you. In Isaiah 43:26, God does tell us to remind Him of what we have asked Him. “Put Me in remembrance; Let us contend together; State your *case*, that you may be acquitted.” Remind Satan that you have taken authority over his oppression in your body.

Constantly give praise to God for your healing. Then your spirit (the inner man) will rise up and take hold of the promises of God, and you shall see victory.

SAY ALOUD WHAT YOU BELIEVE

8. Confess your faith—that is, say aloud what you believe. “For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation” (Romans 10:10).

“For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says” (Mark 11:23).

Notice that the tenth chapter of Romans says “unto salvation,” but that is not only true concerning salvation. It is true concerning anything else that you receive from God. All that you receive from God comes the same way—through faith. It is with the heart that man believes for answered prayer, and with the mouth confession is made unto. It is with the heart that man believes when it comes to healing, and with the mouth

that confession is made unto. Whatsoever you receive from God will come in this way.

Notice again the text in Mark 11:23 says with the same thought involved, "For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes (that is, shall believe in his heart) that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says." Jesus in this text mentions believing *one time*, and He mentions saying *three times*. Many people believe, but they are not saying it. One has to say with his mouth what he believes if it is to work for him. No Scripture in the Bible teaches that if one just believes in his heart, that he will receive an answer. But the Bible does teach that if you believe with your heart and say it with your mouth, whatever you want shall come to pass. The 9th and 10th verses in Romans 10, say that, and we know that it is true.

Notice the 8th verse of Romans 10: "But what does it say? *"The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart"* (that is, the word of faith which we preach)." Again, the Word of faith must be in our mouths as well as our hearts to work for us. If it is just in our hearts, it will not work. But when it is in both our hearts and our mouths, thank God it will work. "With the mouth confession is made unto."

You can say, "I am healed," "I do have faith," or "I do believe that I have what I prayed for," just as easily as you can make statements of unbelief. You can think thoughts of faith just as easily as you can think thoughts of doubt and unbelief. It is thinking faith thoughts and speaking faith words that lead the heart out of defeat into victory. Do not accept "No" as an answer. Do not be denied. It is our family right as children of God, our redemption right, our gospel right, our creative right to have what God has promised. It will come. It is *yours* now, so accept it, and it will become a reality.

Our confession can be, "God is with me." "Greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world." You can fearlessly say, "God is in me now." You will find that your confession of faith will cause Him to work on your behalf. He will rise up in you and put you over. The Master of creation is in you. You can face life fearlessly because you know that He that is in you is greater than any forces that can be arrayed against you. This should be your continual confession. Hold fast to it.

Actually, there is no faith without confession. Confession is faith's way of expressing itself. Faith is of the heart, the spirit. Faith grows with your confession. You do not realize beyond what you say. If you say you cannot, then you cannot. You get nothing. But if you say you can, then you can. You can have what you say, whether unbelief or belief. It mightily affects your spirit or your inner man.

The reason the majority of Christians, though earnest, yet are weak,

is because they have never dared to make a confession of what they are in Christ. Boldly confess what the Word declares you are in Christ. As you do this, your faith will abound. The reason faith is throttled and held in bondage is because you have never dared to confess what God says you are. Remember that faith never grows beyond your confession. Your daily confession of what the Father is to you, of what Jesus is doing for you now at the right hand of the Father, and what His mighty Holy Spirit is doing in you, will build a solid, positive faith life. You will not be afraid of any circumstances. You will not be afraid of any disease. You will not be afraid of any condition. You will face life fearlessly, a conqueror. But you will never be a conqueror until you confess that you are one. If you are going to get to be a conqueror first, and then believe you are one, you are all wrong. You have to confess *first*, and then you become a conqueror. Faith's confessions create reality.

DO WHAT YOU COULD NOT DO BEFORE

9. Do the things you could not do before. If you could not bend over, do so. If you could not walk before, start walking. God has committed Himself to honor your faith. If you could not see before, start looking. "Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead" (James 2:17).

Remember the Scripture says, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1). When you see the answer, you will no longer need faith for it. **IT IS ONLY WHILE YOU DO NOT SEE THE ANSWER WITH YOUR PHYSICAL SENSES THAT YOU EXERCISE YOUR FAITH.**

DIVINE HEALTH

One last great truth about healing should be grasped by every Christian. Even though it is God's will to heal us every time we are sick, His perfect plan is not for us to be continually in need of more healings, but to live in divine health and strength as revealed in 3 John 2, "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." He will renew your strength as eagles. Just as it is not God's will that we be saved over and over again, but that we remain spiritually well, it is not really God's best that He heal us over and over again, but that we "be in health." Then, whenever Satan tries to put any weakness on our bodies, we should immediately take these same steps to force him to withdraw before he gets a stronghold on our physical being the same way we could rebuff an attack on our spiritual being.

Until now, we have been mainly concerned with the healing of those who are already sick. But God's best for you, His child, is actually something

more than healing. God has said that His will is that you should “prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers” (3 John 2). When God gave the covenant of healing to the children of Israel, He did not emphasize healing so much as He did divine health. He said that if Israel were obedient to the commandments of the Lord, disease and sickness, which had come on the Egyptians, would not come on the Israelites.

Should the people of Israel misunderstand the real meaning of the covenant of healing, the Lord repeated the promise in slightly different words in Exodus 23:25:

“So you shall serve the LORD your God, and He will bless your bread and your water. And I will take sickness away from the midst of you.”

The promise is repeated and the condition is repeated. The people were to serve the Lord, and he would bless them by taking “sickness away from the midst...”

In the book of Deuteronomy, the promise of Divine health and immunity from sickness is repeated again:

“And the LORD will take away from you all sickness, and will afflict you with none of the terrible diseases of Egypt which you have known, but will lay *them* on all those who hate you” (Deuteronomy 7:15).

It is interesting to note that the book of Deuteronomy concludes with the observation that if plagues and the sickness in Egypt should appear among the people of God, it would be a sign of their disobedience (Deuteronomy 28:15-28).

The remarkable thing is that the children of Israel did for a considerable period appropriate and live under the blessings of the promise. There were exceptions in which some of the people disobeyed God. There were jealousies, murmurings, lusts that resulted in bringing plagues upon themselves. But as a whole, over a long period of time, while the nations wandered in the wilderness, the people were immune to sickness. Therefore, the Psalmist could say: “He also brought them out with silver and gold, And *there was* none feeble among His tribes” (Psalm 105:37).

The Scripture gives us examples of those who enjoyed Divine health. One was Moses who had reached the advanced age of one hundred and twenty. In the natural, we might suppose he had become extremely feeble and senile, yet he retained the strength and energy of his youth until the day he died:

“Moses *was* one hundred and twenty years old when he died. His eyes were not dim nor his natural vigor diminished” (Deuteronomy 34:7).

Moses was not the only example of one enjoying the benefits of Divine health. There was Caleb, one of the twelve spies and one of the two who brought back “a good report.” Caleb had put in some strenuous years, and yet at eighty-five years of age, he had a remarkable testimony:

“And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as He said, these forty-five years, ever since the LORD spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, eighty-five years old. As yet I *am as* strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength *was* then, so now *is* my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in” (Joshua 14:10-11).

It is evident that the reason we have so much sickness in the church is that we have restricted God’s promise to repeated healing instead of the promise of health. Of course, there are conditions to the promise as the Scriptures plainly show. But, if we are obeying God’s commandments and living in fellowship with Him, then it is our absolute right to Divine health. Then, when Satan attempts (as he may do) to put sickness or disease upon our bodies, we should not wait until we are overcome with sickness. At the first sign of attack from Satan, we must rise up and rebuke him. “Resist the devil and he will flee from you” (James 4:7). We must continue to fight him until he sees we mean business and we are determined to defeat him.

The Bible teaches that it is God’s will that the believer should have a long and useful life, blessed with health and strength. The best medicine is the 91st Psalm which should be read over and over.

“He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, “*He is* my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust.” Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler *And* from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, *And* under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth *shall be your* shield and buckler. You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, *Nor* of the arrow *that* flies by day, *Nor* of the pestilence *that* walks in darkness, *Nor* of the destruction *that* lays waste at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, *And* ten thousand at your right hand; *But* it shall not come near you. Only with your eyes shall you look *And* see the reward of the

wicked. Because you have made the LORD, *who is* my refuge, *Even* the Most High, your dwelling place, No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways. In *their* hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone. You shall tread upon the lion and the cobra, The young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot. Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I *will be* with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him, And show him My salvation.”

Psalm 103:5 speaks even of the renewing of the believer’s youth:

“Who satisfies your mouth with good *things*, *So that* your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.”

Of course every promise has a condition. The condition, in this case, is that the individual will satisfy himself with the good things of Heaven and not the things of Earth. He must soar like the eagle up above the petty things of this world. He must learn to dwell in the heavenly place with Christ Jesus.

“And raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus” (Ephesians 2:6).

In closing, we would direct attention to the Word of the Proverbs which inform us that if we diligently give heed to the Word of God, then we can claim the promise of health.

“My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; For they *are* life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh” (Proverbs 4:20-22).

WHAT DOES CHRIST’S DEATH ON THE CROSS MEAN TO YOU PERSONALLY?

“Bless the LORD, O my soul; And all that is within me, *bless* His holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases” (Psalm 103:1-3).

Healing of the body and salvation of the soul go together. Physical healing will benefit a person very little if he continues to reject Christ as his eternal Savior. Christ said, “For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?” (Mark 8:36).

And so when Christ died for us in our stead, He took care of all our needs—both spiritual and physical.

Let us think back upon the day when Christ was crucified. There He hung between Earth and Heaven—a spectacle to men and angels with the tortures becoming more unendurable every moment. Death by crucifixion includes the sum total of all the suffering a body can experience: thirst, fever, open shame, long continual torment.

It was now the noon hour, ordinarily the brightest hour of the day. But instead, darkness began to descend upon the earth. Nature itself, unable to bear the scene, withdrew its light, and the heavens became black. This darkness had an immediate effect upon the onlookers. There were no more jeers and taunts. People began to slip away silently to leave Jesus alone to drink to the deepest depths the dregs of suffering and humiliation. Yet, a great horror was still to come. Instead of a joyful communion with God, there was a cry of distress. Jesus found himself utterly deserted by both man and God. His cry even today brings a shudder of terror. It was...

“My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?”

There was apparently one thing that God had held back from His Son Christ. The terrible truth came to Him only in the last hours of darkness. As the sun withdrew its shining, so the Presence of God was being withdrawn, also. Though sometimes forsaken of men, He could always turn in confidence to His Heavenly Father. But now, even God had forsaken Him.

God indeed had forsaken Him, though only for a moment; and the reason is clear. It was at that moment the sin of the world with all its hideousness rested upon Jesus. He became sin; “For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him” (2 Corinthians 5:21).

We have the answer to what happened. Christ was made sin for us. He took upon Himself the sin of the world, including yours and mine. Therefore, He had to receive the judgment that fell upon sin.

And now, at last, the end was drawing near. The loss of blood produces a thirst that is beyond description. Jesus cried, “I thirst.” The One who hung on the cross thirsted. He is the same One who now satisfies our souls’ thirst—“If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink” (John 7:37).

The final moment had come. Jesus bowed His head in death saying as He died, “It is finished!” Salvation had been completed. It was a salvation that couldn’t be earned by works or fasting, by penance or by a pilgrimage. Salvation is forever a finished work. We need not complete it by our own efforts. There is nothing more to do, but to accept it. There is no need to

struggle and to labor, but to take quietly what God has prepared, an infinite sacrifice.

Did Christ die for our salvation? Was He raised, after three days and nights, in glorious triumph to die no more? Yes, He was! Therefore, He says, "BECAUSE I LIVE, YOU SHALL LIVE ALSO" (John 14:19).

God has done all that is possible to bring you eternal life. He paid the full price of punishment for your sins. It is now your turn to accept Him. God sees your mind and soul. He knows all of your thoughts. If you sincerely want to accept Jesus Christ, the Son of God, into your life, you will be reborn. You will become a child of God, and God the Father will become your Father.

NECESSARY STEPS TO SALVATION

1. ACKNOWLEDGE: “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). “God, be merciful to me a sinner” (Luke 18:13). In the light of God’s Word, you must acknowledge that you are a sinner.

2. REPENT: “...but unless you repent you will all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3). “Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out...” (Acts 3:19). You must see the awfulness of sin, and then, repent of it.

3. CONFESS: “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). “With the mouth confession is made unto salvation” (Romans 10:10). Confess your sins to God.

4. FORSAKE: “Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord ... for He will abundantly pardon” (Isaiah 55:7). Sorrow for sin is not enough. We must be ready to quit doing it, once and for all.

5. BELIEVE: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). “That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation” (Romans 10:9). Believe in the finished work of Christ on the cross.

6. RECEIVE: “He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name” (John 1:11, 12). Christ must be received personally into your heart by faith, if the experience of the New Birth is to be yours.

(Full Gospel Business Men’s Fellowship, International)

If you wish to accept Jesus Christ into your soul and life, it will help you to pray this prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father,
I thank You that You love me.
I ask Your Son, Jesus Christ, to come into my life.
I know I have sinned and committed deeds displeasing to You.
I ask You now to forgive me of these sins and to cleanse my life.
Help me to follow You and Your teachings.
Protect me from Satan and evil.
Teach me to put You first in all my thoughts and actions.

Help me to love my fellow man as You have loved me.
And, Father, show me step by step the plan You made for my life.
I give You myself and my life.
I worship and praise You, my Creator and Lord.
I will continually thank You for sacrificing Your Son on the cross that I might have eternal life with You.
Help me to win others to Christ.
I await the return of Christ to take me to Heaven.
Come soon, Lord Jesus. Amen.

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