

BY HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED

Isaiah 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

1Peter 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Healing of the physical body in Jesus' name is a very important teaching in the scriptures. The human body has never been healthier and more robust than at the moment God breathed life unto Adam, looked at him and declared that it was very good. This was a body designed to live forever on earth. Just consider the earth from which our bodies have been made. The Spirit of God replenishes the earth so that it produces food in abundance. God heals nature every day; we can witness the principles of healing and reparation in nature. The God who heals and restores the soil of the earth is able to heal and restore our natural bodies which were created from the earth. When one looks at seeds of different kinds, it is not apparent what kind of plant, bush or tree it will turn out to be – God determines the physical proportions.

Mark 4:31 It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth:

Mark 4:32 But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it.

In other words, while all humans are made of the dust, not all humans share the same quality of health and physical prowess – God determines this just as he determines the size and strength of seeds. Adam lived for 930 years while Methuselah lived for 969. It was God who determined that humans will live no more than 120 years after the flood. “And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years” (Genesis 6:3). Can we have mustard seed-size faith to give us good health, strength, energy etc. through his stripes? When seeking faith for healing of your body, remind yourself that Jesus is the God of the soil of the earth from which your body is made. Hallelujah!

Num 12:11 And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and wherein we have sinned.

Num 12:12 Let her not be as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he cometh out of his mother's womb.

It is sin that has lacerated our bodies – sickness and disease have left their wounds on our bodies. Miriam’s sin was visible on her body. By the way, this was the sin of racism. Miriam clearly said ugly things about the dark skin of Moses’ Ethiopian wife. Now God attacked her body with the ugliness of racism. This does not mean that we become sick and suffer physical ailments because we committed some sin – even the blameless will become sick. The Original sin of Adam will always appear now and then upon our physical bodies as a reminder of our precarious condition. Just as the earth always needs the Spirit of God to renew it every day, our human bodies will cry out for the blood of Jesus to heal. A sick person cannot think of anything beside their sickness – it consumes their thoughts every second of the day. In the days of the Lord Jesus, every sick person heard about the Lord’s ministry and determined to pay him a visit. Isn’t it amazing how much effort one is willing to exert to come to Jesus for healing but how little is their interest in the Lord when they are whole?

Luke 17:15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,

Luke 17:16 And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.

Luke 17:17 And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?

Luke 17:18 There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.

May we return to glorify Jesus for his healing with a loud voice! This Samaritan must have cried many times with a loud voice. We cannot begin to imagine the agony of isolation and stigma that accompanied this disease. He must certainly have cried bitterly for years. Why then will he not glorify God with greater intensity? Did not our Lord also cry aloud when they whipped and nailed him to the Cross? “And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost” (Luke 23:46). Let us remember that the entire body of the Lord Jesus was bruised, cut and lacerated. His head, face, back, hands, legs and feet were beaten and perforated one way or the other.

Isaiah 52:13 Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high.

Isaiah 52:14 As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:

Jesus’ entire body was wounded – he truly paid the price for every kind of illness. Is it a splitting headache you suffer from? Jesus wore the crown of thorns for you! Is your back

causing you unbearable pain? See the lashes on the back of the Lord? Are your feet causing you agony? See the nails that were driven into the Lord's feet! The Lord's entire body was bruised and bleeding to demonstrate that the church, which is his body, has access to healing through his sacrifice. "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ" (I Corinthians 12:12).

1Corinthians 12:26 *And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.*

1Corinthians 12:27 *Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.*

- Jesus healed bodies before he was wounded for our sins; how much more will his stripes heal us after we believe in him!