



Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY
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THE Bible's View OF SICKNESS

Message preached on Sunday Morning, July 14, 2024

I have had a topic rolling inside of me for several months...I have opened up a couple times to minister on it and shifted slightly to cover areas of it...but not to just cover it.

Over the past several years we have seen too many of our family members...too many church members...too many friends deal with some sort of sickness or pain...too many of them dying.

QUICK HIT: It is hard to describe heaven as defeat...but I believe the Bible is clear that sickness, disease, pain and weakness is NOT God's best for His children.

Healing is even described by Jesus as, "the children's bread."

God wants His children healed: **spirit, soul and BODY.** Completely healed!

YET: I have watched God's kids increasingly learn to get used to sickness. Get used to diseases. Living with them. Managing them. Dealing with them.

BELOVED: Modern medicine and knowhow is awesome...but it is NOT God's best.

He did NOT send His only begotten son so that we could learn to live with sickness, disease and pain...but to eradicate it from our lives.

THEREFORE: We are going to take a few weeks (how many? Good question) and delve into the area of healing.

We should cover areas of tapping into your healing...but before we get to that we need to get a few things settled about sickness and healing.

WE have convinced ourselves that sickness and disease have it place in our lives. God will bring it to use it...you know he breaks sheep's legs (insert eye roll).

WE have even convinced ourselves that we don't deserve it...we've been bad...we've eaten bad...we made mistakes in health management.

NOTE: Jesus never asked habit questions to those He prayed for...He would just ask about their faith.

WE have convinced ourselves that family health issues are just a part of life.

WE have convinced ourselves that as long as it is manageable and not debilitating it is okay.

NOTE: Jesus was NOT okay with the man who went from blind to seeing men as trees walking.

BELOVED: If we saw sickness and disease the way God sees sickness and disease; if we saw pain the way God sees pain...we would not be so quick to think that God has a purpose, that it is okay to have just a little.

The Bible's View of Sickness

TODAY: I want to take a look at how God (through the Bible) views sickness and disease. What He says about it.

1.) Captivity.

One of the books of the Bible that causes people to accept sickness is the book of Job...after all God cooperated with the devil and took everything away from Job...right? No.

FIRST: It was the devil who initiated it...planned it...and carried it out.

Job 2:7 – “So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.”

SECOND: God didn't have to give the okay...Job had a hole in his life of fear (Job 3:25).

THIRD: God did NOT agree with much of what was discussed in the book of Job.

FINALLY: God gives an assessment of Job's sickness

Job 42:10 – “And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.”

God calls Job's sickness CAPTIVITY.

Yes, like a prisoner who is being held by an opposing force.

Job was being held captive by the enemy.

BELOVED: When you are sick...have a disease...have pain...you are being held captive by the enemy.

We often see sickness as an inconvenience...an annoyance...but if we viewed it the way God views it, we would see that we are being held in captivity.

NOTE: There are things you can't do...things you can't eat...etc.

Luke 4:17-19

17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,

18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, **to preach deliverance to the captives**, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

FIRST: “Acceptable year of the Lord” is the year of Jubilee. Literally the time when everything is made right.

SECOND: Jesus did not come to make sure the captives are comfortable in their captivity...but to declare deliverance to them. It is time to be set free.

In the Jubilee year not only would every debt be forgiven...but slaves and prisoners would be freed...hmmmmm.

Jesus came to remove us from captivity, not allow us to live in it.

2.) Bondage.

Luke 13:10-17

10 And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath.

11 And, behold, there was a woman which had a **spirit of infirmity** eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself.

12 And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, **thou art loosed from thine infirmity.**

13 And he laid his hands on her: and **immediately** she was made straight, and glorified God.

- 14 And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day.
- 15 The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering?
NOTE: How easy should healing be? Opening up a pen!
- 16 And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?
- 17 And when he had said these things, all his adversaries were ashamed: and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him.

FIRST: Spirit of infirmity tells us it is from the devil...and that it is a spirit on you.

SECOND: Jesus didn't say healed of your infirmity...but LOOSED. Hm.

THIRD: vs. 16 – "...whom satan hath BOUND..."

"Bound" – to bind in knots, bondage

BELOVED: The second way God views sickness and disease is as a BONDAGE that you need to be loosed from.

ILLUSTRATION: There was a commercial for digestive issues or stress...probably both...where they had a little cartoon stomach being tied in knots. The answer, of course, was their medication...it would untie their stomachs.

Isaiah 58:6 – "Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?"

(AMP) – "[Rather] is not this the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the bands of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every [enslaving] yoke?"

"Is not this the fast" – is basically a way that is saying this is right and proper. This is a way that I have chosen for you.

So, what is right and proper for us?

~ That the bonds of wickedness be loosed.

~ Heavy burdens be undone.

~ Release the yokes.

THINK ABOUT YOKES on oxen or any animals. It is a burden...a heaviness...it keeps them from wandering and enjoying life.

BELOVED: Bondage is NOT proper for a child of God.

John 8:32-36

32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth **shall make you free.**

33 They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?

34 Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.

(PASSION) – "I speak eternal truth," Jesus said. "When you sin you are not free. You've become a slave in bondage to your sin."

35 And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever.

36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

SIMPLE POINT: We are to be free...not under control of sin (anything contrary to God's law); or in bondage to anything.

You gotta know this truth to live in this truth!

3.) **Oppression.**

Acts 10:38 – “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and **healing all that were oppressed of the devil**; for God was with him.”

“**Oppressed**” – to exercise dominion over

THINK OF THIS: All that are sick are oppressed of the devil. His dominion is ruling over them. Whoa! That is not right! It is not how it is suppose to be!

WE have been given authority OVER sickness...NOT the other way around!

Matthew 8:5 – The GREATEST FAITH is to understand the authority in the Word over sickness and infirmity...and stand in it!

BELOVED: We have been given authority over sickness...what we've been given?

a.) **The BLOOD**

Revelation 12:11 – “And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.”

b.) **The NAME**

Philippians 2:10 – “That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;”

c.) **The WORD**

Mark 11:23 – “For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.”

The Word, indeed, will make you free...and when you get it in your mouth and start speaking it to your mountains...you are speaking in HIS authority.

Enough is Enough

One of the greatest examples we have of captivity, in the Bible, are the children of Israel. They were in captivity for 430 years.

They entered into captivity by their own will...because of Joseph.

While Joseph was around, things were cool.

HOWEVER: There will always be a time in captivity where it is no longer cool.

YET: You are so used to captivity that you just stay.

In Exodus 2...after over 400 years of captivity...they finally said ENOUGH is ENOUGH and cried out to God...regarding their covenant with Him.

UNDERSTAND: As long as you are comfortable living in captivity...God will allow you to live in captivity... but when the time comes that ENOUGH is ENOUGH...He will bring you the tools to take you out.

Psalms 105:37 – “He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes.”

When they had enough...they walked out of captivity totally healed, healthy, strong...and rich.

But we MUST get to the POINT of ENOUGH is ENOUGH.

I did a quick Google search on daring rescues...many of them came up...I even saw top 25 rescues of captives...all of them had different lists.

Why? Because anytime someone was in captivity...that was NOT acceptable...and they would come up with a plan to liberate them and bring them out.

There were major strikes to save ONE person from captivity. Twelve people. Hundreds of people.

BELOVED: We have already been given all things that pertain to life and godliness. God has already given us the tools...

HOWEVER: We must get the point of ENOUGH is ENOUGH and it is time to put those tools to work.

LOOKING FORWARD: We are going to delve into these things over the next several weeks.

But you must make up your mind RIGHT NOW that ENOUGH IS ENOUGH...I am NOT okay with captivity, bondage or oppression. ***It is time for it to GOOOO!***