Messages preached on Sunday Morning, August 25th and September 1st, 2024

<u>3 John 1:2</u> – "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

BELOVED: This is from the heart of God, through the heart of Paul to us!

It is God's GREATEST DESIRE for us to prosper and BE IN HEALTH (living in healing).

HOWEVER: If your mind isn't renewed to the Word of God (soul prospering), then you will never enjoy either. As long as your old ways of thinking are still directing you...you will fall short of enjoying God's greatest plan for your life.

That is why:

<u>Psalm 107:20</u> – "He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions." John 8:31.32

- Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, *If ye continue in my word*, then are ye my disciples indeed;
- 32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

We See Four Steps:

- 1.) God sent His Word for us to be healed.
- 2.) We must continue and live in His Word.
- 3.) Then we will KNOW it for a FACT (not just concept).
- 4.) FINALLY we will be exempt from the old way of living (sickness, disease and pain)

QUOTE: "Faith stops at the question marks."

<u>James 1:6</u> – "nothing wavering" – contending thoughts...question marks

James 1:7 – you will receive nothing

The Word MUST be more real to you than your symptoms or what the doctor says!

THEREFORE: According to Hebrews 11:6 the FOUNDATIONAL thing for your healing is to KNOW that God is ABLE and WILLING to heal you.

BELOVED: We have discussed it...read it...dug into the Word on it...and have seen time and time again that He is able and He is willing!

We must have it SET IN OUR MIND...we must KNOW it as TRUTH!

QUICKLY: If you are still doubting it...then go back and listen to those messages again and again, until it is set DEEP inside of you.

Tapping Into That Healing

TODAY: I want to shift slightly...because if you are set on Him being able AND willing, then we just need to tap into it to enjoy it.

ILLUSTRATION: I don't know how it works...but running throughout this city/county there are line/pipes that carry water to neighborhoods. Each house has a line/pipe that taps into the main line.

UNDERSTAND: You can build a million dollar house...pool in the back...marble floors...golden faucets, Jacuzzi, etc...but there is ONE KEY thing you MUST do to allow water to flow to the those faucets, pool, tubs, etc.

You must tap into the city's main line. If you don't do that, don't let that person think they will get any water to their house.

ESSENTIAL: You can believe in the main city line of water...you can even understand exactly how it all works (which I don't)...but if you don't tap into the line, everyone around you may be enjoying water, but you will absolutely not!

So, healing is provided by God...it is a done deal...He is able and willing...but you've got to tap into healing to en joy healing.

1.) Faith.

BELOVED: Faith is the ultimate connector to ALL of the blessings of God.

James 1:6,7 – Ask in faith!

Hebrews 11:33-35a

- Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,
- Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.
- Women received their dead raised to life again:

NOTICE: All the things that faith connected people to...faith will do the same for you!

Obviously, we have discussed faith quite a bit already in this series...but I would like to at least make a couple things clear about walking by faith and tapping into healing and health by faith.

REMEMBER: Faith is a substance (Hebrews 11:1), it is NOT an action.

HOWEVER: When the substance of FAITH takes up residence inside of you, there are things that will flow out of you automatically. If they are not flowing out of you...you need to increase your faith.

Let's remind ourselves of several of those things:

a.) Your words matter.

Quit speaking death, disease, weakness, etc.

Matthew 16:19 – 'And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Matthew 12:36,37

- But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof *in the day of judgment*.
- For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

<u>Joel 3:10</u> – "Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong."

b.) Your actions matter.

"I'm gonna stay home, because I feel bad."

BELOVED: It may be nice to get the extra rest or whatever...but it is NOT the outflow of faith. My favorite saying is, "A healed man would..." and then I do it.

James 2:17,18

- Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.
- Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

c.) Your consistency matters (patience).

James 1:3,4

- 3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.
- But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

ILLUSTRATION: Here is something you need to know about me. When I travel, I like to GO! Just keep driving. I mean, I will stop if we have to (gas or emergency bathroom), but I want to keep driving.

The worst thing about stopping is that when I get back on the interstate I have to watch as I pass people that I have already passed several miles back!

I have lost time...now we will get there later. Ugh!

WELL: I think the best example of faith is swimming upstream. When you decide to stop swimming, you are not just slowing down your arrival, but the current towards destruction is pulling you back downstream.

That is why whether it is standing for your healing, sowing, tithing, standing for the salvation of your loved ones...don't stop, don't step out of faith.

d.) Your joy matters.

Nehemiah 8:10 – "Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Joy is an essential part of faith.

OBVIOUSLY: Not happy that you are sick or hurting...but full of joy that you know the answer and how it is going to turn out.

IN OTHER WORDS: You are celebrating the outcome, before the outcome comes out.

Faith isn't just a "camp" in the Christian hierarchy...it is a way of life for the Christian. Am I a FAITH PREACHER! Absolutely! I am certainly not a doubt and unbelief preacher.

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."

2.) Anointing

Luke 4:17-19

- 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,
- 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,
- To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

The anointing is what breaks the yoke of captivity, bondage and oppression...sickness!

<u>Isaiah 10:27</u> – "And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed *because of the anointing*."

BELOVED: Healing comes to your body and your mind because of the anointing.

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."

Jesus healed because of the anointing that was on Him.

"Anointing"- to smear, like butter on bread

- **BELOVED:** When you are born-again the Holy Spirit comes into your life...but when you are baptized with the Holy Spriit, it consumes you and anoints you with power...to do greater things.
- <u>John 14:12</u> "Verily, Verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father."
- What I want you to see in this point is to make contact with the anointing. With the power! A point of contact for the anointing.
 - Acts 3 At the gate beautiful, Peter not only spoke words of faith over the man, but grabbed his hand as the point of contact.
 - Acts 5 Tells about people bringing their beds and lining them along the streets, so that Peter's shadow would hit them as the point of contact.

This is about the anointing coming upon you for healing.

Mark 5:25-34 - Woman With Issue of Blood

- 25 And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years,
- And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse,
- When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment.
- For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.
- And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague.
- And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes?
 - "Virtue" the power or anointing that He operated under.
 - "Knowing" fully aware of...very acquainted with

The healing anointing was released by Jesus for her healing.

- And his disciples said unto him, Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?
- 32 And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing.
- But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth.
- And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

UNDERSTAND #1: Her faith was the key element in the anointing being released.

UNDERSTAND #2: It was the anointing that turned her captivity.

Luke 6:17-19

- And he came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, *and to be healed of their diseases*;
- And they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and *they were healed*.
- And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all.

BELOVED: When you have sickness, faith will bring healing...but often finding the point of contact with the anointing (your man/woman of God, etc.) will quicken the healing flow.

3.) Name (Authority in the Name)

BELOVED: We often talk about the authority that we have as believers. However, there is a reason that we have that authority...or there is an authority behind that authority. The name of Jesus.

ILLUSTRATION: As a kid you would try to get your siblings to do things...obviously you had NO AUTHORITY over your siblings, so usually you would need to go to mom or dad first and then come back with a, "mom says..." and then you had authority.

When we pray, we are not just throwing a salutation on the end of a prayer, but showing our authority for all of heaven and earth to get behind that prayer.

John 14:8-14

- 8 Philip saith unto him, Lord, *shew us the Father*, and it sufficeth us.
- Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? *he that hath seen me hath seen the Father*; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?
- Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.
- Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.
- Verily, verily, (shut up and listen) I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
- And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
- 14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

Jesus is just like the Father. He only says and does what He hears the Father say and sees the Father do.

QUICK HIT: How many people did you see Jesus make sick?

ANSWER: None! So if the Father makes people sick...or doesn't want EVERYONE healed, then Jesus was NOT doing what that Father did or said.

"Ask" – aiteo – demand or require

OBVIOUSLY: We don't demand the Father...we demand sickness to go.

NOTE: You can request what is rightfully yours...and get it.

ILLUSTRATION: Our trip to the Ritz Carlton, we had paid the price at the beginning of our stay for valet parking. We would pull up to the front of the hotel and there would be someone waiting for us and we would get out and they would take our car and park it. When we were ready to go out for the evening, we just told them we wanted our car and we would get our car...we had been given a number that told them it was ours.

NOTE: We didn't have to BEG and PLEAD for our car...we didn't EVEN have to go down there are DEMAND in a LOUD manner. We just made a demand on what was paid for...what was done.

BELOVED: Jesus paid it all...all we have to do is make a demand (ask) for healing. What is our "number"? The name of Jesus (because of the blood).

ILLUSTRATION: If a king sends his son to do something...the son doesn't demand anything of the king, but of those who must yield to what the king has said.

John 15:16 – "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you."

"Give" – didomee – to give what is obligatory or due.

If the price has been paid...then just speak the name.

John 16:23,24

- And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, I say unto you, *Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.*
- 24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, *and ye shall receive*, that your joy may be full.

Acts 3:6 – "Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the *name of Jesus Christ* of *Nazareth* rise up and walk."

UNDERSTAND: As much as in point #2 there was faith in the anointing...there must be faith in the authority of His name.

4.) Forgiveness/Love

I know that this is not popular...or fun...to listen to.

We have been wronged by WAY too many people. But one of the easiest ways for sickness and disease to attach itself to you is through unforgiveness.

SCIENCE: The growing body of evidence indicates that forgiveness carries many potential health benefits, including lower blood pressure and heart rate, fewer episodes of depression and anxiety symptoms, im proved function of the immune system, and lower risk of substance abuse and a reduction in chronic pain. Forgiveness tends to support healthier relationships and an improved sense of well-being.

Mark 11:25,26

- And when ye stand praying, *forgive*, *if ye have ought against any*: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.
- But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

QUICK QUESTION: Which is easier to say, "sins be forgiven" or "rise up and walk"? Well....

"If ye have ought against any"

"Ought" - anything

GREEK set up, "If you have ONE THING against ONE PERSON..."

Forgiveness, doesn't mean to forget (that is scientifically impossible)...even in your sub-conscious there are thoughts of what people have done to you.

OFTEN you are acting out based on those sub-conscious thoughts.

Forgiveness doesn't even mean that you just trust that person or allow them the same access...it simply means that you remove the power behind their offense.

ILLUSTRATION: The thought of an evil done against you is a lot like a bomb with gunpowder inside of it. The bomb isn't a problem (thought), the gun powder (unforgiveness) is the problem.

When gunpowder is present...it can exploded even with the smallest of sparks.

HOWEVER: You take away the gunpowder and even when you think about it, it won't explode into bad feelings and sleeplessness, etc.

IN OTHER WORDS: You've let it go. (Rick Renner)

Matthew 18:21-22

- Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?
- Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.

Seventy times seven...every day!

YOU KNOW what that tells me? It is a process. You need to continue to forgive that person...every time the thought comes to your mind, decide to forgive them again.

1 Corinthians 11:28-30 – The Lords Supper

- But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.
- For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, *not discerning the Lord's body*.
- For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

"Discerning" - separate, withdraw from, oppose, contend

QUESTION: When you have unforgiveness in your heart, what is the first thing you do? Withdraw! Contend!

The enemy LOVES to get feelings hurt, so he can have access to your health.

A few things to help you in forgiveness:

* Acknowledge the pain...begin to pray.

Be honest with yourself over the hurt. You can't heal what you won't admit to having.

* Decide to forgive.

You have a choice to forgive or not to forgive!

We can know how important it is to forgive, but we really don't want to forgive.

Release revenge.

YOU KNOW...the getting even aspect.

<u>Romans 12:19 (NASB)</u> – "Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written: "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord."

* Be open to reconciliation if possible.

Matthew 5:23,24 (maybe)

* Avoid repeated thoughts...negative ones.

Forget those things that are behind...press forward.

Think on things that are good, pleasant, etc.

* Pray for the offender.

Matthew 5:44 – "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"

- * Pray for their peace, healing, etc.
- * Recommit to forgiveness.

Gonna have to stay committed to it.

Those stinkin' thoughts are annoying!