

Grace Fellowship of Morehead, KY

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Message preached on Sunday Morning, May 4, 2025

I heard the Spirit say to me that we've got to get an understanding of the BLESSING of God. We can't allow ourselves to settle for anything else.

If Jesus provided the BLESSING on the cross, then why would we STOP SHORT of enjoying all that He provided for us on it.

Galatians 3:13,14,29

- 13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:
- 14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.
- And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

On the cross, the curse was paid off.

"Redeemed" - to pay the price, to take ownership of

UNDERSTAND: If we be Christ's we no longer have ownership of anything that He took on the cross. It isn't ours! It just isn't!

It is called a *substitutionary work* on our behalf. He took the curse...so we could enjoy the BLESSING. Anything WON on the cross is under the BLESSING for us to enjoy.

2 Corinthians 5:17,21

- 17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
- 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*.

Genesis 3 tells us that we were born into sin.

But Jesus BOUGHT US out of sin (was made sin)...and made us righteous...on the cross.

So if we are IN CHRIST...we are NOT sinners, saved by grace...we are the RIGHTEOUSNESS of God in Christ saved by grace.

(**NOTE:** The previous phrase just gives us excuses to sin...or to not expect things from God)

<u>2 Corinthians 8:9</u> – "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, **though he was rich**, **yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich**."

FIRST: This is written in the context of money...of giving. Therefore, this has to do with earthly riches. **SECOND:** Jesus was rich in heaven AND on earth...He was STRIPPED of everything (on the cross), so that financially we would be made rich.

In Christ, our finances are secure.

(You can insert obedience and faith here)

The BLESSING and Healing

Isaiah 53:4,5

- Surely he hath borne our griefs (disease/malady), and carried our sorrows (pains): yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.
- 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**.

NOTICE: He took punishment (wounded) for all the bad we've done.

NOTICE: He took the chastisement for our peace.

FINALLY: He took the STRIPES so we could be healed.

What Jesus took on the cross...was so we would NOT have to allow sickness on our bodies.

Matthew 8:17 (Jesus just healed all that came to Him) – "That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself **took** our infirmities, and **bare** our sicknesses."

"Took" - violently seize, accept, catch, obtain

"Bare" - to take, transport, remove

JESUS had NO thoughts of those who were in HIM to carry sickness or pain on their bodies. On the cross, *He ripped them away from us*!

- <u>Isaiah 52:14</u> "As many were astonied at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:"
- (BBE) "As peoples were surprised at him, And his face was not beautiful, so as to be desired: *his face* was so changed by disease as to be unlike that of a man, and his form was no longer that of the sons of men."
- <u>1 Peter 2:24</u> "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."

NOTICE: The word usage in this passage.

Jesus took our sins...so we are dead to sins, we should be living righteous. Jesus also took our sicknesses...so we are dead to sickness, we should be living healed.

- <u>Psalm 91:4</u> "He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler."
- **OBVIOUSLY** this is a picture of the fact that we've been covered in regards to calamity...all calamity... vs. 16 tell us we can have long life.
- **ILLUSTRATION:** Obviously this is a picture of a mother hen, protecting her chicks. I read a couple stories of this:
- **ONE:** A lady who lived in the country and her mother hen had just hatched several chicks. One afternoon as they were scattered over the barnyard...a hawk began flying overhead, looking for lunch. The curious thing to this lady, was that she imagined the mother hen would dash around the barnyard collecting all the babies and rushing them to safety...but that was not what happened at all.
- She squatted down, spread out her wings and began to squawk. Without hesitation, those little chicks came running to her from every direction and ducked under those wings. Then she pulled those wings tight so there was no way the hawk could get to those chicks.

THOUGHTS: How often do we ignore the sound of our Father's voice?

TWO: A fire had burnt down a farmhouse. As the embers cooled, the farmer began walking through the ruins and noticed a burnt heap on the ground. He prodded it with a stick and noticed it was the mother hen, burned to death.

The farmer turned the hen over and to his surprise three chirping baby chicks came running out.

BELOVED: What Jesus did on the cross is what this mother hen did for her chicks...in regards to sickness, He took the sickness on him...so we wouldn't have to.

Sickness is a Curse

Deuteronomy 28:60,61

- Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of; and they shall cleave unto thee.
- Also every sickness, and every plague, which is not written in the book of this law, them will the LORD bring upon thee, until thou be destroyed.

QUESTION: What sickness or infirmity is NOT under the curse? None!

They all are under the curse...from a cold to cancer.

BUT PASTOR THAD: Isn't sickness sometimes a blessing in disguise?

ANSWER: No! It is always a curse.

Sickness is a manifestation of the curse (Genesis 3) and will always be the curse.

Exodus 23:25 – "And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee."

Can Sickness Teach us Something?

John 15:1-3

- 1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.
- Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, *he purgeth it*, that it may bring forth more fruit.
 - **THIS HAS BEEN ABUSED:** Purgeth it...brings sickness...poverty...etc. in order to teach them lessons.
- Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

UNDERSTAND: He teaches you with the WORD. Only!

Maybe discuss your child getting hurt because they did something you told them not to do...when they cry out do you help them? Do you make it worse to teach them a lesson? Nope!

NOW: Obviously, when you go through sickness...I would hope you would learn something...how to work your faith. But it is HIS WORD and SPIRIT that is the teacher.

The Word needs to renew our mind to what is ours....what is under the BLESSING...what is in the world is not ours.

That is hard!

How to Get Healed

Here is the real question...why am I not seeing my healing.

NOTE: This doesn't mean you are not going to heaven.

I think it is important to understand that there are three basic ways for healing to happen:

1.) Doctors

Yes, God can use doctors. Not the best way. But He can use them.

Doctor Luke was one of Jesus' followers. Limited.

2.) The Gifts of the Spirit

These gifts are given to men/women for the benefit of the body.

HOWEVER: These gifts come to those who have the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, that says that many people are not enjoying these because:

They can't tap into it.

And don't believe in it.

And don't go where they are flowing.

NOTE: You don't use the gifts for yourself...but for others.

UNDERSTAND: This is why all Christian need to earnestly seek the gifts.

3.) Faith.

<u>Galatians 3:14</u> – We receive the promise of the spirit through faith.

I will say this is the area that God has given to us to receive our healing.

The JUST shall live by faith.

It is our job to keep our faith increasing.

Your problem isn't that you don't have faith...you just need increase.

Matthew 17:20 – "And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to vonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you."

<u>Luke 17:6</u> – "And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you."

NOTE: Mark likens the kingdom of Heaven to the mustard seed.

BELOVED: If you want what the Kingdom provides...you must increase your faith.

(2 Timothy 4:8 – righteous judge)

Conclusion

Deuteronomy 30:19,20

- I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:
- That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.

NOTICE: BLESSING = life, long life

Cursing = death

2 Peter 1:3,4

- According as *his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life (the BLESSING) and godliness*, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:
- Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be par takers of the divine nature, *having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust*.

ON THE CROSS: Jesus took the curse...released the BLESSING, the BLESSING of health and healing! It is ours.

You have to CHOOSE IT! Get under His wings!

Through FAITH...through OBEDIENCE, we enjoy it.