



Keep Your **GARDEN** Clean

GRACE FELLOWSHIP OF MOREHEAD, KY
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Message preached as a series on Sunday Morning, July 5th and 12th, 2026

Mark 7:13 – “**Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition**, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.”

“**Traditions**” – traditions (like you would think); handing down; surrender or giving up (so it seems like experiences that went sound adds to this word).

BELOVED: It doesn't matter what you've heard.

◇ It doesn't matter what others have said (contrary to the Word).

◇ It doesn't matter your experience (that caused you to give up).

The ONLY THING that matters is what the Word of God says.

And time and time again...consistently...never changes...**God WANTS HIS PEOPLE WELL...HEALED!**

NOW: When I say He “wants” His people well...I mean He really, really wants them healed.

2 Peter 3:9 – “The Lord is **not slack concerning his promise**, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, **not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.**”

“**Willing**” – to have a purpose, to be minded (completely made up).

“**Perish**” – destroy, destroyed utterly, ruined, to be put to death.

“**Repentance**” – change of mind

UNDERSTAND: I will absolutely admit that this seems to lead us to salvation and being born-again.

But the first statement about HIS PROMISES tells me that it is more than JUST being born-again...it has to do with ALL HIS PROMISES (including healing).

It is NOT His will, in any way, that anyone should be destroyed from sickness, disease or pain...at all...but for all to change their mind and enjoy His promises.

BELOVED: If we REALLY knew how passionate God is about you being healed then we would be more irritated by sickness, disease and pain.

Not just the inconvenience of them...but the presence of them at all.

He wants us to be healed even more than we want to be healed.

He is Our Heavenly Father

We have made this fact more of a spiritual concept...where He can just tell us what to do and we have to obey Him or we get spanked...instead of a Truth.

He is our Abba Father.

Galatians 4:6 – “And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.”

Romans 8:15 – “For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.”

Abba Father is a relational Dad...not just a (in an English accent) “Father”! ***He is our Daddy!***

Matthew 7:11 – “If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?”

So take the BEST possible earthly daddy that you know...how much more is our Heavenly Father a good daddy.

HOW SO? He gives good things to them that ask (aiteo). This verse is in direct correlation to what He gives to us!

Take a look at the Syrophoenician woman.

Matthew 15:22-28

- 22 And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.
- 23 But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us.
- 24 But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
- 25 Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me.
- 26 ***But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs.***
- 27 And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.
- 28 Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

“Take the children’s bread” = Healing

Healing is meant for His children and it is healing from anything the enemy brings to you to destroy you. He is a good Daddy!

The Old vs. New Covenant

BELOVED: With the fact that He is our Heavenly Father...Israelites in the Old Covenant were considered His children (children of Israel)...then what does it mean for us?

Exodus 23:25-26

- 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.***
- 26 There shall nothing cast their young, nor be barren, in thy land: ***the number of thy days I will fulfil.***

Deuteronomy 7:14,15

- 14 Thou ***shalt be blessed above all people***: there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle.
- 15 And the ***LORD will take away from thee all sickness***, and ***will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee***; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee.

That is God’s plan under the Old Covenant...

If He provided that healing in the Old Covenant...then why wouldn’t the New Covenant be better (remember, it cannot be worse).

Hebrews 8:6,7

- 6 But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also ***he is the mediator of a better covenant***, which was ***established upon better promises.***
- 7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second.

3 John 1:2 – “Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”

ONE STEP HIGHER for the New Covenant:

Romans 8:11 – “But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”

- ◇ The Holy Spirit dwells inside of us...so how can sickness dwell inside of us!
- ◇ The Holy Spirit is alive in us...how can disease be alive in us!

Why are So Many Christians Sick?

If it is God's will for Christians to be well...then why doesn't He see to it that His will is done for all Christians?

FIRST AND UP FRONT: Why isn't everyone saved? He died for the world to be saved...but not everyone is born-again.

- ◇ Not everyone knows
- ◇ Not everyone accepts
- ◇ A bunch are raised differently.
- ◇ They just don't believe for it.

KEY POINT: Seeing to it that God's will is done in our lives is NOT HIS JOB...it is ours!
I know that goes against a lot of what we think...but it is Truth.
God has given US authority on the earth and if we want HIS WILL we must believe for it.

- ◇ Most Christians don't know His will (Hosea 4:6).
- ◇ We MUST find out what His will is and get ourselves into agreement with it.

Let's Look at the Garden

NOTE: There are two places in the Bible that show us exactly how God desires us to live: the Garden of Eden and Heaven (days of heaven on earth – Deut. 11:21).

We are in much the same situation that Adam and Eve faced in the Garden of Eden.

- ◇ God's will for them was to be blessed in every possible way.
- ◇ He wanted for them to be full of life and health and strength...abundance.
- ◇ There was NOTHING bad in the garden...no sickness, disease or pain.
WHY? Because it wasn't His will for them.
- ◇ Even though that's what God wanted, **He didn't force it on them.**
- ◇ He gave them authority and dominion on this earth and gave them a choice.
Just like Deuteronomy 30:19 – life or death.
If they do things God's way, they will enjoy His will for life.
NOTE: Many try to input how they may have eaten...but that was not ever talked about in Genesis.
If they disregard His will, they will experience sickness and death.
- ◇ They made the wrong choice! They sinned and surrendered authority to the devil.
- ◇ **AS A RESULT** God's will was NOT done in the garden.
- ◇ It wasn't His will for sickness or the curse to be on the earth...He didn't want for them to die spiritually...He didn't want sickness to corrupt their bodies. At all!

HERE IS THE KEY: If God forced His will upon mankind...things would have been much different!

- ◇ He would have grabbed Eve and said, "Do NOT talk to that snake! Who talks to snakes! Stop it! Walk away!"
- ◇ He would have slapped the apple out of her hand the second she touched it. Slapped her mouth.
- ◇ He would have declared, "I won't allow you to mess this up...to ruin what I have created."

But He didn't!

BELOVED: Although He loves us and we ARE His children, He won't RUN our lives for us. He won't barge in and take control when the enemy starts coming after us with sickness or some other part of the curse.

***Dealing with the enemy's attacks on our lives is OUR RESPONSIBILITY.
Jesus already did His part on the cross.***

James 4:7 – “Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”

Written to the twelve tribes scattered abroad because of persecution.

Do you think they were getting frustrated because things were not JUST happening for them? They must RESIST the devil.

UNDERSTAND: Two thousand years ago Jesus utterly destroyed satan through His work on the cross and His resurrection.

Colossians 2:15 – “And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.”

NOTE: The enemy can NEVER recover from this defeat...He is defeated forever.

And there is more...

1 Corinthians 2:8 – “Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.”

When Jesus died and rose again:

- ◇ We became joint heirs (Romans 8:17).
- ◇ He made room for the Holy Spirit to live in us.
- ◇ The works Jesus did we can now do...and greater (John 14:12).

Instead of one Jesus on the earth ruling over him, the devil is now faced with multiplied millions of believers in God's IMAGE that have authority over him and all of his tools.

Mark 16:15-18

- 15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
- 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
- 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
- 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

The devil is DEFEATED.

And he knows it...toothless lion.

Jesus took everything away from Him...satan doesn't own anything anymore...he has NO authority...he is a total loser.

HOWEVER: We are more than conquerors (Romans 8:37).

We have GOD'S nature...His authority...His image!

The devil isn't even in your league.

YOU SAY: Then why are we still having trouble with Him?

John 10:10 – “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”

He is identified as a thief...a killer...a destroyer.

Criminals do whatever they can get away with.

They keep doing those things until they get caught (then they will try again).

(The reels I watch when people get out of jail...they get right back into some scheme)

BELOVED: He does NOT have the legal right to steal your health (or anything).

He has NO legal right to make you sick or bring you pain.

HOWEVER: He will keep doing it until you stand up to Him and use your God-given authority, in the Word, against him.

YOU MUST enforce the Word in your life.

How to Enforce the Word?

Well, it starts with the Word and ends with the Word.

1.) Find out what the Word says about healing (and sickness).

Psalm 103:2-3

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

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.”

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.”

Psalm 107:20-21

20 He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.

21 Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!

Don't just read it...RECEIVE IT as written specifically to you.

Instead of reading it with skepticism (too good to be true), read it as a love letter to you from God!

2.) Meditate on that Word, daily...consistently.

Learn to think about healing like God does. His distaste for it. His passion for those who are in the middle of it...including you.

Joshua 1:8 – “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”

Keep these verses in your eyes until you believe EXACTLY like God does about healing and sickness.

REMEMBER: Faith comes by hearing the Word (Romans 10:17).

Proverbs 4:20-22

3.) When you are attacked by sickness...RESIST HIM with the Word.

You have the Word in you...now use it...speak it...command it.

Command Him out of your garden.

And refuse to back down.