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HEALING ATTITUDES AND RELATIONSHIPS

By John F. Dorsey

Published by
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De Funiak Springs, Fla. 32433

Printed Book: No Date -- No Copyright

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Digital Edition 08/06/99
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John F. Dorsey has donated some of his publications to HDM, among which was this booklet. Our thanks to him for these donations, and for the privilege of digitally republishing them on our CDs. Those who appreciate good, old-fashioned, second-blessing holiness books will recognize his works as among such. -- DVM

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INTRODUCTION

I have been well acquainted and closely associated with John F. Dorsey back across a good many years.

While serving in the Office of General Superintendent of the Churches of Christ in Christian Union, I sat in several of the early morning "Healing Services" at the Mt. of Praise Camp at Circleville, Ohio, when the author of this book was in charge. I listened to his preparatory remarks that not only lifted the faith of those who needed a healing touch from God but also brought the presence of God down upon the service until not only were there numbers healed as they knelt at the altar, but some while sitting in their seats were instantly healed.

I find many of those scriptural and logical remarks and instructions incorporated in this publication.

It is indeed a great book on a very important subject. I sincerely pray it will have a wide circulation.

G. C. Johnson
G. S. Emeritus

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INTRODUCTION

The healing services Brother Dorsey has conducted for the last several years at Hobe Sound Camp have been greatly blessed of God. The thirty chapters ("parts" in this edition) of this book are full of delightful and practical insights into healing as it relates to the atonement, to basic attitudes and to health practices.

He also offers suggestions for conducting healing services. Your faith will be challenged by the truth presented in these pages.

G. Robb French,
Pres. Florida Evangelistic Association

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FOREWORD

This does not attempt to be an exhaustive work on the subject. It is the purpose and prayer of the writer to so stir up people's curiosity on the subject of health and healing that they will awaken to the enormous research that has been done in the last fifty years and especially the last thirty and be no more willfully and woefully ignorant on the subject.

Every Christian needs to come to the solemn realization that he is not his own. His body is created and designed to be the temple of the Holy Ghost. Man was created for the glory of God to be a bride for His Son. Our bodies are not to be used simply for pleasure, especially the pleasures of eating and drinking just what thrills our taste-buds. But "Whatsoever ye eat or drink therefore or whatsoever ye do do all to the glory of God." I Cor. 10:31

So let us search the libraries for the knowledge we know is waiting for us in caring for God's temples. And search the Scriptures and do what God says to have healthy souls.

* * * * *

INTRODUCTION

Some Causes for Illness and Death

I Cor. 11:30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you and many sleep.

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.

1. A person may be ill or lose his life through ignorance.

A. Taking poison instead of medicine or vitamins for instance will kill an ignorant person or sicken him just the same as if he had done it intentionally. Running a stop sign or red light may maim or kill whether done ignorantly or deliberately.

B. The person who eats the Lord's supper as though it were any other meal will be chastened by the Lord, if he is His child that he should not be condemned with the world.

2. Blindly conforming to the unwise dietary and work habits of an industrialized society.

A. Stress in our modern cruel, crowded, competitive, complex culture is a crushing killing pressure for many people.

B. The common antidotes for it; sweets, amphetamines, and liquid stimulants such as tea, cokes and coffee merely strengthen the vicious cycle. Using such stimulants in the place of good nutrition is like whipping an underfed horse. The tragic difference is that we would whip a horse's hips but these things whip our hearts.

3. Too little or too much sleep can cause illness.

4. Too much, too little, or the wrong kind of exercise can cause illness.

5. Wrong mental attitudes can cause illness.

A. Many doctors insist that 90 to 95 per cent of human ailments are caused by the wrong type of thinking. But these sicknesses are real, not imaginary. They are called psycho-somatic diseases. The mind affecting the body.

6. Sickness from our forbears.

A. Many ailments or the predisposition toward them are inherited from our ancestors. All sins of fathers may be visited to the fourth generation.

7. Babies may be deformed and sick as a result of a host of harmful substances used by the parents. Recent research has shown that even caffeine from five cups of coffee a day ingested by pregnant mothers can cause the offspring to have deformities such as cleft palate, or missing

fingers and toes. And it has been known for years that alcohol and nicotine can cause serious deformities as can diseases like German measles. It has also been discovered that the later in the life of any ovum that fertilization takes place, the more likely deformity will result.

8. Sickness from our environment. While modern psychiatry makes no allowance for devil influence, the Scriptures and our modern contemporary devil worship contradict this unenlightened attitude. The devil and devils, oppressing or possessing can make people very ill indeed.

9. Diseases in old houses.

a. Viruses can live for enormous lengths of time in a crystalline form resembling a mineral when not in the human body.

b. The Old Testament tells us about leprosy being in the walls of a house.

c. Modern doctors have discovered "Cancer Houses" where there was an unusual incidence of this disease to people living there.

d. Certain molds and fungi growing in the residues left in houses where people have lived have been known to cause serious respiratory infections.

10. Sickness from poor sanitation.

A. Those who would long to go back to the horse and buggy days should consider that modern plumbing and the decimation of the number of horses have pretty well eliminated the house fly from our modern cities. The housefly was the carrier of some of our most devastating and deadly plagues and diseases.

11. Sickness from poor habits of cleanliness. While I was caring for sheep the then Governor of Ohio John W. Bricker sent me a volume "Diseases of Animals." Among many other things it stated that man gets more diseases from dogs than from any other animal. A dog loves to roll in his own excrement. With this on his fur he is then petted and made over by the family who will touch each other and handle their food without washing their hands. Ugh!

While in Israel we were cautioned about buying food from people of a certain culture who had no conception of sanitation. Dysentery was avoided by not doing so.

12. Sickness from fleshly loves.

A young woman I know went to the doctor for her nerves. He asked, "Do you drink coke?" When she said, "Yes," he asked how many. When she reported as high as a dozen a day he said, "It is a wonder you are not dead." Do you think it is incidental that the manufacturers put a habit forming drug in many soft drinks as well as sugar? They want you to become an addict, and are remarkably successful, so that a great many people buy it by the case and drink it all day long for the 'lift' of caffeine and sugar and wonder at their nerve troubles!

The vicious sugar cycle that enslaves many Americans is one of the most artificial and dangerous there is. The last thing a person needs in his pantry is the first one people will hoard in case of a threatened food shortage. Sugar! The body can manufacture sugar from any food we eat including protein. The whole system of a diet centered around sugar is artificial. The starch in our diet starts turning to sugar as soon as it touches our saliva. Eating too much starch and sugar lowers our blood sugar if our pancreas functions and cause sugar craving. This can lead to hyper-insulin and to diabetes. And the American Diabetic Institute recently warned that for every ten pounds overweight we double our chances of being diabetic.

Too much sugar robs our tissues of B Complex, and may lead to mouth sores, and ulcers anywhere along the alimentary canal which may become cancerous and cause us to become overweight as well. A nervous wreck of a woman was saved a few years ago while attending the church I pastored.

She was tall, about 5' 7', but weighed only eighty-seven pounds. Her doctor had tried without success to get her to gain weight. She was taking three kinds of nerve pills and was a heavy cigarette smoker. Impressed to stop one day when driving near her home, Sister Dorsey and I found her at the end of her rope. After we talked a few minutes I asked, "Sister M____ "What are you eating?" She answered, "I'm living on cigarettes, candy and nerve pills." She looked it. I said, "Sister, do you like beef liver?" She said, "I love it." I said, "Sister, let me suggest that you leave the candy alone for a few weeks, and start eating like you know you ought to eat." I did not mention her cigarettes or nerve pills. When we prayed my wife laid her hands on her and prayed and she was instantly delivered from her cigarette craving. In thirty days she had gained from 87 to 117 lbs. and looked like a human being. She no longer needed her nerve pills. When her doctor saw her he was incredulous. "How did you do it?" He asked. When she started telling him how the Lord had helped her, the doctor was not interested and cut her off. What a tragedy that a doctor would despise the power of the Greatest of all Physicians!

The sugar craving is enhanced by a pleasant taste to the tongue and by low blood sugar. It is a vicious cycle for it makes the blood sugar even lower. Adequate protein with the carbohydrates in a balanced diet will slow down the absorption of the sugar through the stomach walls to such a slow pace that it will not trigger the pancreas to pour insulin into the blood and the vicious cycle is broken.

Many other worldly and fleshy loves can cause or contribute to sickness. Many of the so-called beauty aids have been found to contain carcinogens, and cause cancer and some contain deadly poisons. It is frightening to know that no federal law or bureau has set any standards, exerts any control or does any policing of the ingredients of cosmetics. There have been many cases of permanent skin and eye damage from these poisonous ingredients.

13. Sickness from close association with uncongenial people.

"You make me sick" is not necessarily an exaggeration. It is literally true. A Catholic father I know said this one day to his son who was an out-and-out hippie. Then proceeded to prove it by going to the bathroom and tossing up his dinner. When the son later found Christ, and was filled

with the Spirit and turned from his hippie ways so radically, then his father was worried about him for a different reason.

People of different background, with different standards of ethics, mores, cleanliness, sanitation, propriety and good manners may all make us suffer.

Some, yea many missionaries, going from U.S.A. to pagan cultures have had tremendous stress and pain in adjusting, and some have not been able to do so and have been forced to come home to save their lives or sanity or both.

14. Sickness from a cruel tongue. Prov. 18:8 The words of a talebearer are as wounds.

15. Sickness and disregard of moral law.

Experts in social diseases say it is almost impossible for healthy husbands and wives to contract the social diseases without kissing or having sex with a diseased person.

And there is now a new venereal disease with no known cure plaguing homosexuals fulfilling Romans, chapter 1:27 "Receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was fitting."

16. Allergies of many kinds can make us ill.

Many allergies are symptoms of nutritional deficiencies. Many are more apparent during times of unusual stress, fatigue or hunger. Many types of allergies have been relieved and some eliminated by adequate nutrition.

17. The surface has barely been scratched as to the causes of illness. But this is to be a book on "Healing Attitudes and Relationships" so let's get on with our subject.

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Part 1

HEALING AND THE ATONEMENT

Some claim that healing was not in the atonement. Their argument is that if it were and a Christian became ill, he would be backslidden. To me this is both specious and fallacious reasoning. The same verse that tells us in Is. 53 that He was wounded for our transgression tells us also that by His stripes we are healed. (By His gashes we are stitched together.) Every good thing we have or look forward to is in the atonement. Include here the renewal of the earth and the glorifying of our bodies. The fact that we are not yet glorified in no wise discredits our present salvation. And neither does sickness. But sickness and its healing are a type of the resurrection and a foretaste of it. As Paul says in 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."

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Part 2

HEALING AND NATURAL LAW

1. The body's built-in healing system.
2. The law of natural faith
3. Proper nutrition
4. Proper sleep
5. Proper exercise
6. Physical recreation
7. Mental recreation
8. Cleanliness

Healing and Natural Law

If any automobile manufacturing company in the world could build a self-repairing auto as efficient as the human body, he would capture the world market in short order. Think of Adam's body that lasted more than 900 years.

The body has a marvelous healing system, that can fight off invading germs and viruses, neutralize foreign matter, heal cuts and bruises, mend broken bones, torn ligaments and muscles.

How the nerves act as the transmission system for the hurt member to send for help is certainly marvelous. This is why lepers sometimes have infection in a foot, hand, or face and instead of healing it rots. Not the leprosy itself is the cause, but the leprosy deadens the nerves, so that the hurt member cannot get a message to the body's healing system and receive the help it needs to resist infection. This is how sin causes so much damage to the soul; it cuts off our communication with God who would send healing to the soul like the body does to its wounded member. This is why leprosy is such a type of sin in the Scriptures.

2. The Law of Natural Faith

Scientists tell us that faith in anything will heal about thirty-five per cent of human ills especially anything wrong with the skin. This the area where the quacks prosper and the faith healers, who may because of personal sin be out of touch with God but if people have faith in them many people will be healed. A doctor knows how helpful this law of faith is and tries to keep the patient believing in him.

Recently it has been discovered that the body itself responds to faith by manufacturing a substance that helps in its healing.

3. Proper Nutrition. Many volumes have been and are being written on this subject. Good, poor and indifferent. I will neither attempt to go into the subject at any length nor tell you what to read. But great discoveries in research have been made in the last fifty years. Everyone's requirements are different. The literature is available in most libraries.

The contentions of the USDA that minerals lacking in the soil make no difference in food grown in that soil and makes no differences in the quality of the vegetables simply are not believable. It has been discovered in our part of Florida that pecan trees will not grow without zinc. My root crops of beets, carrots, parsnips and turnips did not do well until I used a trace mineral fertilizer. Vegetables can often produce their own vitamins but they cannot produce minerals. If they are not in the soil they cannot be in the crops.

It has been determined by controlled experiments that cattle grazed on grass grown on soil to which all trace minerals were added as needed, were so healthy that they would not contract any of the cattle diseases when inoculated with the live virus.

Some cures achieved in otherwise terminally ill patients by simply one missing nutrient is a fascinating study. Many people have testified that they have been able to check or avoid their usual bouts with cold and flu by taking large amounts of ascorbic acid. (Vitamin C)

4. Proper Sleep. Not only the proper length but, the proper depth and the right hours of the night. These will vary for different people, but most people find the hours before midnight the best for real rest in sleep.

5. Proper exercise. Manual labor does something for the body that nothing else can. But also there needs to be something which will speed up the pulse to a hundred or more and circulate the blood rapidly through the body. This seems to maintain a better state of health in the blood vessels than anything else can.

6. Physical recreation. Work does not provide the exhilaration or excitement that is so beneficial for the body. When I was pastoring near Cincinnati, I found workouts at the YMCA, (before the integration of the sexes) were very helpful.

7. Mental recreation. Reading only to acquire technical knowledge may produce a weariness that is difficult to relieve. Reading for pleasure may help.

8. Cleanliness. Some doctors insist that it is impossible to have disease where there is no dirt. As in most rules, there are exceptions of course, but clean health habits will often break the cycle of infection especially in parasites.

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Part 3

HEALING AND THE MORAL LAW

Numerous scriptures declare that the moral law is conducive to health.

"Health to thy navel and marrow to thy bones." O. T

"The wicked shall not live out half his days."

"Prosper and be in health even as thy soul prospereth." N. T.

"With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation." 91st Ps.

Dr. McMillan writes in considerable detail on this subject in his book "None of These Diseases." I recommend it for your perusal.

Do you think it is for His benefit and for others that God commands us to "Love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and our neighbor as ourselves? Nay verily, this is the only way we ourselves can enjoy emotional health. Anything other than this is subnormal and abnormal.

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Part 4

HEALTH AND OUR ANCESTORS

Some wit has well said "If you wish to live a long and healthy life be very careful of your choice of ancestors." It is worthy of note that Mother who lived into her ninetieth year had parents who both did.

It is a wonderful heritage to be born of healthy ancestors with a perfectly normal body with all systems functioning as intended by a wise Creator.

For instance a thyroid gland slightly under-active may cause fatigue, weight gain, weak voice, and a vague uneasiness difficult to differentiate from guilt. A great many users of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs and poisons are going to bring into this world progeny that were blighted from conception. And will be doomed to death or a drab existence by the sins or ignorance of their parents.

A minister friend reported to me that a doctor he knew called him aside one day while visiting the hospital. "I want to show you something Reverend". Taking him to a small basket containing an 18 day-old baby he explained "This baby's parents are both heavy cigarette smokers. The baby's heart is enlarged to the size of an adult's. We call it 'Tobacco Heart', and it will die in spite of anything we can do.

Consider the great thalidomide debacle. It was used as an anti-rejection drug given to mothers who could not bring their unborn to full term but were spontaneously aborting. But babies were born with horrible deformities. Hands attached to shoulders with no arms. Feet attached to hips with no legs. At first the thalidomide was blamed for causing, but further research decided that what had actually happened was that the thalidomide had not caused the deformity but had over-ridden the body's sensory system and - prevented the rejection of an abnormal fetus which would have been the body's normal way of dealing with it. Truly a little knowledge is a dangerous thing.

There seems to be considerable evidence that cosmic rays from the sun can affect the genes and chromosomes in human, animal and vegetable life causing what is known as 'sports' or mutations. And the result may well be a horrible freak which may be passed on to descendants. Some people blame God for these. But God never created a freak such as an aphrodite, a creature which is both male and female. God created male and female with marked lines of difference between them. And through His wise natural laws provided for the propagation of the species. But if human folly exposes the body to the sun, instead of wearing clothing, or absorbs radiation from television, or imbibes drugs that cause defective offspring, it is certainly not intelligent to blame God for it. God's way is perfect. Anything imperfect comes from men's sin or ignorance, missing God's perfect way.

For instance the person who sun-bathes hoping for health is both foolish and ignorant. Dermatologists tell us that that is the quickest way to ruin your skin. Eye specialists warn that a month on the beach without protecting the eyes will require more than eleven months to repair the damage.

The American Cancer Society reports 300,000 cases of skin cancer a year in this country, mostly from over exposure to the sun. Some are the quickly metastasizing type which quickly spread to lungs and brain and liver and bring horrible agony and death. They also report that fifty years ago skin cancer was eighty per cent men and twenty per cent women but today it is fifty-fifty since women have also stopped wearing hats. This foolish style brought in by the rebels against the establishment of going without hats has no Bible basis nor any in the laws of health. As long ago as the book of Daniel men were wearing hats. We noticed that the Arabs and Bedouins in the Middle East cover up well to protect themselves from the sun.

The American Cancer Society warns that people who live in warm climates should not expect one layer of white cloth to protect them from the cancer-causing violet rays. There needs to be something dark worn under it. Especially anyone who is blond or who has blue eyes. Black people do not have this problem. The Society also cautions those who work in the sun to stay indoors between 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M.

God laments in the Old Testament "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge". Today the knowledge is available, but it is being ignored.

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Part 5

HEALING AND THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS

There are many Scriptures that seem to indicate that God's will is for people to be forgiven at the same time they are healed. Or shortly afterwards. Jesus said "Which is easier to say, 'thy sins be forgiven thee or to say rise up and walk'? To the blind man He said "Sin no more lest a worse thing come upon thee."

And in James five, "And the prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up and if he have committed sins they shall be forgiven him."

In my early twenty's I was in a certain large city in revival. The pastor was about three times as old as I. He asked me to go with him to call on a sick woman. When we pulled into the driveway we heard her wailing, "Oh I'm lost I'm lost I've crossed the deadline." When we entered the house, we found another pastor there who was my senior by several years. We tried to pray for this woman's spiritual condition, but neither she nor we could pray. Like Job's three friends we sat and watched her. I had a strong and growing conviction that she should be anointed for healing, but hesitated to say anything because of my youth. Finally, I blurted out "Brethren, I believe she ought to be anointed for healing." She immediately and enthusiastically responded, "Yes, that's what I want." As soon as we stopped praying for her soul and started praying for her body, the Holy Spirit came upon us and helped us to pray.

In a short time her faith touched Him and she was shouting happy and praising God her unpardonable sin forgotten!

In Tucson, Arizona a man came to the altar to be anointed for healing, professing to be a Christian. No one could pray for his healing and he could not pray. I asked him gently but pointedly, "Brother, does His Spirit bear witness with your spirit that you are a child of God"? He thought a little and answered, "I can't say that He does." I answered, "Let's pray for that first, " and told him to confess his sins. He prayed through and his face began to shine as he trusted the blood. "Now," I said, "We'll pray for your healing." Then the Spirit helped us to pray and two days later I received a glowing letter from him that God had healed him of TB with considerable evidence that it was real and an expression of deep gratitude that I had emphasized the need of his soul above his body.

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Part 6

HEALING AND HOLINESS

Hebrews chapter 12 shows us that God chastens and scourges and chastises His children to bring them to that place where they can become partakers of His holiness. 'Lest that which is lame be turned out of the way but let it rather be healed'. 'Lest any man fail of or fall from the grace of God.' etc.

But holiness does not guarantee perfect health or a perfect body. Teeth will still decay and need to be filled, come out or be replaced with dentures, except in a few cases where people have inherited such good genes, or been on a diet where starch and sugar were minimal or absent, and have perfect teeth all their lives. And a few have had the third set come in.

But holiness does not preclude sickness from natural causes. For holiness does not guarantee perfect knowledge, which would be necessary even if a person had inherited a perfect body, in order to have perfect health; yes and the will and discipline, motivation and means to use that know edge to the full. But the best saints may be sick to the glory of God. After Daniel fasted for three weeks -- 'he was sick certain days.' Paul not only had a thorn in the flesh for his good and God's glory, but he testified 'Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick. ' Jesus said of Lazarus 'This

sickness is not unto death but for the glory of God.' And when the disciples asked 'Who did sin this man or his parents that he was born blind'? Jesus answered 'Neither, but for the glory of God that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.'

A lady in my congregation when I was pastoring near Cincinnati developed a knot on her clavicle (collar bone). The doctor put her in the hospital for surgery. But she was a woman of faith and prayer, and we had others who were also. When the doctor came in one day and found the knot gone before surgery, he dismissed her without surgery. Yes, she had some expense, but she also left a glowing testimony.

The ailments of the truly sanctified will be of a different nature and for different reasons than the carnal or unregenerate. For instance "Knees weak from fasting." Ps. 109:24

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Part 7

HEALING AND THE WILL OF GOD

Many people are troubled when considering praying for healing whether or not it is the will of God. One of the easiest ways to find out is to ask two godly people to pray with you. If the Holy Spirit helps you and them to pray, it is His will to heal. If He will not help, it is not His will. It is that simple.

Yes, it is His will to heal you eventually for He says, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." But to ascertain the time that He will heal is not always simple. Jesus said to one man, "I will come and heal him." Indicating that healing would come after while.

And in the case of Lazarus it was God's will for him to be sick even unto death that 'the Son of God might be glorified thereby.' It may be true that we may, yea, we shall have to wait for the resurrection or rapture to be healed of old age, afflictions, and senility etc. but it is coming, thank the Lord.

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Part 8

HEALING AND THE WORD OF GOD

Once when my companion was ailing I looked up to God and said, "Lord, if you'll give me a promise I'll believe it." He spoke to me from His Word, I instantly believed it, and the work was done. All in a matter of a few seconds.

Many good promises confront us. They must be quickened to the individual heart for that special occasion by the Holy Spirit however. We simply do not search through the scriptures either at random or systematically until we find something that sounds like it might cover the situation, and then say, "see it says so in the Bible so I'm going to start acting like it had already

happened." Are there any conditions attached? If we have not met His conditions, our supposed faith is presumption.

Dead Christians (?) may base de ad presumption on the Letter of the Word, but a live Christian has the living and ever-present Holy Spirit to quicken the Word to his heart.

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Part 9

HEALING AND THE FAITH OF THE SICK

To some folks seeking help from Jesus He said, "Thy faith hath saved thee. According to your faith be it unto you. Thy faith hath made thee whole." There are many people who have enormous faith for their own healing.

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Part 10

HEALING AND THE FAITH OF OTHERS

There are times when a sick person cannot believe for himself. For instance the demon possessed daughter for whom the Syrophenecian woman besought Jesus.

Jesus said to her "O woman great is thy faith" and her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

When the lame man was let down through the roof Jesus saw "Their faith" and the lame was healed.

He said of Jairus "I have not found so great faith no not in Israel and his servant was healed, at that time though not present.

James does not say "His prayer of faith" but "The prayer of faith shall save the sick."

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Part 11

HEALING AND OUR FAULTS

The Greek word for "fault" is "paraptoma," i.e. sideslip, deviation, fall, unintentional error or willful transgression. James 5:16

We may be afflicted for the fault of neglecting prayer. Is any afflicted let him pray. Confess your faults one to another and pray one for another that ye may be healed.

I knew a Sunday School Superintendent who confessed his fault of listening to off-color stories on the job, and was instantly healed of a lame foot without even asking.

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Part 12
HEALING AND PRAYING FOR OTHERS

And when Job prayed for his friends, the Lord turned the captivity of Job.

When James says "Pray one for another that ye may be healed, he may mean the ones doing the praying as well as the ones for whom prayer is offered.

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Part 13
HEALING AND THE INDWELLING SPIRIT

To have the Holy Spirit indwelling would be like having the man who built the automobile living in the auto observing every part. Or the man who built the house living in the house. He would know better than anyone else, how to correct a malfunction, or repair a failure. Paul mentions this in Romans 8:11.

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Part 14
HEALING AND HUMILITY

Nebuchadnezzar humbled himself and was healed, Herod did not and died.

Isaiah humbled himself and confessed when God revealed his uncleanness and God sent cleansing fire to correct his deficiency. King Uzziah did not and spent the rest of his life in a leprosarium.

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Part 15
HEALING AND FEELING

It is possible to be healed without feeling anything. I have laughed inwardly when I was given the faith for someone's healing and they did not have any evidence yet. But they became aware later that they had been healed. But there are people who have great feelings and think because they have that they are healed, but find out later that they were not.

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Part 16
HEALING AND FASTING

If a person's illness is the result of overeating, fasting would certainly be in order, but a person can be intemperate in fasting as well as in eating. To gorge oneself ahead of a fast is certainly deplorable, and to do so afterward is not to be condoned.

When the disciples asked Jesus why they could not heal the lunatic boy Jesus said "Because of your unbelief, howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

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Part 17
HEALING AND PRAISE

A missionary from India tells of a demon possessed boy there who was delivered when a group gathered around him and started praising the Lord and exalting the name of Jesus.

We are instructed to "Rejoice evermore, pray without ceasing, and in everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning us." To live in a state of praise is a healthful atmosphere.

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Part 18
HEALING AND SECONDARY MEANS

When Hezekiah was healed and fifteen years added to his life, the prophet was instructed to make a poultice of "A lump of figs." Jesus made mud of spittle and put on the blind man's eyes and told him to go wash in the pool of Siloam." Elisha casts meal into the pot to heal the pottage. He casts a stick into the water to make the iron to swim. He casts salt into the fountain at Jericho to heal the waters. Paul anoints handkerchiefs and aprons to be applied to the sick. James says "Let them anoint them with oil" and Jesus says "they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover." God could heal without any of these means or points of contact but He chose to do it this way.

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Part 19
HEALING AND HOSPITALS

When I broke my leg on the Mt. Carmel church construction I was delighted to have the Life Squad take me to a hospital. Not just any hospital however.

I insisted on Christ hospital. When I came out from under the anesthetic after the compound fracture had been reduced and a cast placed on my leg there was a feeling of rightness about it that

was a great satisfaction to me. Much prayer shortened my stay in bed by three weeks, to the surprise of doctors and X-ray technicians.

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Part 20

HEALING AND DOCTORS

When H. Robb French was with us in meetings, staying in their pick-up camper, he got chilled one night, and they came over to the room we had offered them in the parsonage. He complained of his chest and said he thought he had a collapsed lung. I called a born-again doctor who came and assured him that his lung was not collapsed, gave him some of the most helpful medicine he had had for a long time and won a high place in Brother French's esteem.

Some doctors are honest enough to admit that all healing is of God. They can only help remove some of the obstructions and help the patient's morale.

One honest old doctor in Chillicothe told me, "If you'll come to me with your cold or flu it will last only two weeks. If you don't it will hang on fourteen days.

I just worked in a camp meeting with Rev. Amos Hann, West Palm Beach, Fla. He told of a brick wall falling on him and fracturing his skull in eleven places. Yes, of course he went to the hospital, not expected to live. His speedy recovery amazed the doctors and drew forth testimonies that he had some good people praying for him.

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Part 21

HEALING AND THE STEP OF FAITH

Recently a friend, Mrs. Ina Shreve, Key West, Fla., related at Mt. Gilead Camp the account of her healing when the doctor told her that she had nine vertebra crumbled and had to walk with her head down to her knees, that there was no medication, no surgery that would ever make her well again. Her problem was malignant and her bones were in bad shape. She had gone to him she said to find out what it was the Lord was going to heal her of. But a little lady from Nicaragua, a young convert only ten months out of pagan worship was in Key West and the Spirit instructed her to go in and pray for Sister Shreve's healing. She prayed a short prayer and 'went right out'. Then the question 'Would I stand up or would I not stand up?' Here was the line of defeat or victory. Before, when I had tried to stand I was seized with such muscle spasms that my heart would be restricted. Would I now stand or wait for God to heal me? I slid to the edge of the bed and my arms started up. I said, "In the name of Jesus Christ I now stand." I stood up, went to the clothes press, dressed and walked to church and have been walking ever since.

Many years ago a missionary from India told of getting malaria while there. She had a home for orphan boys, the oldest of whom was eight years old. She was so sick she 'didn't care whether school kept or not.' As she looked out her open door while so sick one day, she saw a

strange procession. Six of the little boys, the one in front carrying a Bible, the one in the rear carrying a kerosene lantern were heading for her house.

The came into her room, three on each side of her bed. Samuel opened the Bible and read from James "Is any sick among you, let him call for the elders of the church and let them anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord and the prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up." Here were the 'elders' and they said, "We've come to anoint you for healing, Auntie." One unscrewed the cap from the tank of the lantern, dipped his finger in and placed it on her forehead, then they prayed. Then one brought her shoes and said, "Get up, Auntie, God has healed you." She said, "I did not feel that I was healed and did not feel like getting up, but I had to. I couldn't disappoint the faith of those boys. Sure enough God not only healed me, but did it so well that I never again had malaria though I spent many more years in India."

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Part 22

THE GIFT OF HEALING

This is one of the gifts of the Spirit. How to differentiate it from the gift of faith I am not sure. Many years ago when hundreds were being healed at my altars two older ministers said, "John Dorsey has the gift of healing." But I have never thought that I had. I do know that I have had the gift of faith many times. Possibly an old minister we lovingly called Daddy Ferneau did have the gift. He came to our home church when I was a young Christian for a week's meeting. A local preacher's wife had a swollen foot. The pastor took Daddy Ferneau out and he anointed her and she put her shoe on and came to church that night. When he gave the altar call her daughter, ten-year-old Ethel, came to be anointed. She was an epileptic. She had reasoned, "If God can heal my mother's foot He can heal me of epilepsy." I watched Brother Ferneau as he anointed the girl, prayed a little short prayer, laughed his holy laughter and went on down the altar. Her father told me three years later, "John, she hasn't had another seizure."

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Part 23

HEALING AND OBEDIENCE

Jesus said to one man "Sin no more lest a worse thing come upon thee." Obedience is the greater part of faith

In a meeting once, a man was attending with wads of cotton stuffed in his ears. He had serious ear trouble. God dealt with him about a certain woman he was courting whom he could not marry. He settled it in the meeting to give her up and when we anointed him God healed his ears. Later he went back to his forbidden love, and his ear trouble descended on him again.

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Part 24

HEALING AND SENILITY

Objectors to divine healing argue, "Well if it is true, then you will never die." That is not a logical argument. The body heals itself thousands of times during a normal three score years and ten lifetime. Why not God during that time also if the body has something too great for its wisdom and skill?

G. C. Bevington has a good answer to that objection. He compares the body to a house. When it needs the roof repaired it is done, when the window pane is broken it is replaced, other repairs are made as needed, but when the sills are rotten it is time for it to come down and be replaced. So there comes a time, when we may get closer to heaven than we are to earth and do not want to be healed.

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Part 25

HEALTH AND A BRIDLED TONGUE

I Peter 3:10 "He that will love life and see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil and his lips that they speak no guile." Our words certainly do affect the quality of our physical health.

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Part 26

HEALTH FROM WISE WORDS

A soft answer turneth away wrath. Prov. 15:1

Prov. 15:26 The words of the pure are pleasant words. Prov. 16:24 Pleasant words are as an honeycomb sweet to the soul and health to the bones.

Prov. 13:3 He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life.

Prov. 13:12 Hope deferred maketh the heart sick, but when the desire cometh it is a tree of life.

Prov. 13:14 The law of the wise is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death. Verse 17. A wicked messenger falleth into mischief but a faithful ambassador is health.

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Part 27

HEALTH IN A POLLUTED ENVIRONMENT

To maintain health in an environment polluted as is ours in America today is no small thing. It will no doubt take all the wisdom and knowledge we can muster plus frequent help from on high. Nowhere does the old proverb "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing," apply any more aptly than in modern industrial America. When DDT was discovered it was hailed as the end of the housefly and mosquito. They set about to spray them out of existence. They did not succeed. Some were resistant and they merely killed the weak ones and bred up a super race. But they did just about eliminate the bald eagle and the osprey. And they have polluted the earth with DDT. Even down to the south pole DDT has been identified in the fat of Penguins. As well as the crow and some other useful birds. Ever notice the huge flocks of all types of blackbirds that have been filling the sky, breaking the limbs off trees, eating the farmer's grain and making a general nuisance of themselves? What did DDT have to do with it? Along with other pesticides, herbicides, fungicides it has pretty terribly decimated the crows which had kept in check the blackbirds and other pests.

Even the dust from an asphalt road will cause cancer.

The horrible debacle in Michigan which it happened in the recent past when some dangerous chemical was mixed with cattle feed. Whole herds of cows sickened and died or had to be slaughtered. Barns and equipment were contaminated, people sickened and died, some farmers were shoved into bankruptcy, and the whole state polluted with the dangerous chemical.

Rachel Carson's book "Silent Spring" was hooted and derided by the chemical manufacturers but she is proving to have been quite prophetic in her forecasts.

How to maintain health in an environment of polluted air and water, and food is a real problem. Many of the food additives are carcinogens. Food coloring has been identified as causing hyper-activity in children. The bleaching agent in white flour some years ago was causing running fits in dogs. The American Cancer Society reports that 300,000 people a year are dying in this country from smoking cigarettes. And on and on and on.

A word of caution on water stills. It would have to be a very complicated and sophisticated and expensive still to really purify the water. Simply boiling and condensing the vapor, would collect the vapor of chlorine, benzene and kerosene, gasoline, alcohol, ammonia and every other volatile substance in the water. If a person would boil the water in an open vessel until half of it is gone it would probably be more healthful than from a simple still.

The only thing a simple still will take out of the water is the minerals. And some of the minerals are very necessary to health. For instance iodine in the water will prevent goiter. A certain fluoride will prevent tooth decay. Calcium has been found to lower the incidence of heart trouble in those communities that have it in their drinking water.

Being part smart is costly. When Key West, Fla. started running de-salinated distilled water through their city mains it ate up the pipes very quickly. They had to add minerals such as calcium and iron such as would be found in well or spring water to prevent it. Water is the most corrosive chemical known to man. Stronger than either Carbolic or sulfuric acid, it will dissolve more substances. Who has ever tested fully what distilled water will do to human plumbing?

When Israel was obeying God in the holy land they were one of the healthiest people who ever lived on earth. They drank water from wells, springs, mountain brooks and cisterns all of which would have been rich in minerals so conducive to good health. Iron and sulfur are both known to have beneficial effects on the human system.

Just as I do not accept the testimony of doctors who are in the pay of the tobacco companies, neither do I accept the claims of any salesman, whether he is selling stainless ware, water still, vitamins, or herb remedies. What are the facts? They are difficult to obtain from someone who is making a profit from the product.

Another word of warning about the poisons which settle in the fatty tissues of our bodies. Avoid any crash diets to lose weight. For you will be getting a large dose of those chemicals as your body burns up its fat. Better change your life style and eating habits and plan to lose ten pounds a year. It would be much safer.

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Part 28 HEALING AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

Just as people may be chastened with sickness for eating the Lord's supper unworthily, so they may be healed by observing it scripturally. Wesley reports many cases of people being healed who examining themselves, confessing their failures, and looking past the emblems to the broken body and shed blood of our Lord are able to lay hold of what He had purchased.

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Part 29 HEALING AND FATALISM

Many people labor under the idea that there is a set time for everyone to die. On the contrary there are many things we can do to prolong or shorten our lives. God says "The wicked shall not live out half his days." The will to live is very important.

When Mother's third child was born she developed 'milk leg' and was given up to die. When the neighbors gathered in and Mother realized they had come in to see her die, she ordered them out, crawled from her bed to the window, and said, "Lord, I'm not going to die, I'm going to live and raise my children." She felt led to ask for some cabbage juice. It was not known in those days, that that was a rich source of vitamin C. She recovered and not only raised her first three, but gave birth to and raised nine more; four of the last six became ordained ministers.

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Part 30 HOW I CONDUCT A HEALING SERVICE

Having had charge of healing services at Circleville Camp for several years in the '40's and at Hobe Sound Camp in the '70's I have some very definite do's and don't's for public healing services.

1. Don't do it in the big services when the big crowds are there. Jesus often put crowds out to perform his greatest miracles. I like an early morning time for a public healing service. The lazy, sleepy, indifferent, casual, and curiosity seekers will not be there.

2. Keep it short. People may be hurting. Have an appropriate song and someone who is gifted to pray. Speak briefly not over fifteen to twenty minutes.

3. Invite those who are able to kneel, to the altar or if not to sit on the front seats. If it is a large camp, be prepared by enlisting enough teams of fellow ministers so that they may go two by two and not have to anoint and pray for more than ten or fifteen people. This way no one has to wait long.

4. For this reason I am not in favor of a healing line.

5. Ask anyone who has faith for the healing of others to gather in to pray. Kindly, but firmly, insist that no one just sit and look on. This grieves the Spirit and hinders faith. Ask them to bow the head and pray.

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CONCLUSION

We have seen hundreds of people healed from a wide variety of ailments. Cancer, Bright's disease, T.B., pneumonia, high and low blood pressure, stomach ulcers and many other ailments.

There will be times, especially on foreign fields, when it will be necessary to hold the Bible over a seeker and rebuke a devil in the name of Jesus Christ and command them to come out.

Demon oppression and possession are a very real and terrible thing and is becoming more and more common in America as the occult flourishes. But the name of Jesus through faith in His name made the lame man strong in the first century and can do so in the twentieth.

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THE END