## **Jesus Christ Heals Today**

Jack Hartman

Let's briefly examine what we believe is incorrect teaching on divine healing. Some religious denominations teach that God does not heal today. Some pastors teach that God only heals selectively. It is vitally important to examine exactly what the Bible says in this area.

Unfortunately, tens of millions of Christians have not learned facts from the Word of God pertaining to divine healing. Errant religious beliefs about divine healing have been handed down from one generation to another. Some Christians have a difficult time believing that God will heal them because their parents, their grandparents and their church have taught them that divine healing is not available today.

Religious tradition says that healing was only for the early church. Jesus made a strong statement about religious tradition when He said, "...for the sake of your tradition (the rules handed down by your forefathers), you have set aside the Word of God [depriving it of force and authority and making it of no effect]" (Matthew 15:6).

Jesus made this statement to a group of Scribes and Pharisees, but these words also apply to you today. Some Christians are so indoctrinated in erroneous traditional teaching that has been handed down from generation to generation that they have "set aside the Word of God, depriving it of force and authority and making it of no effect."

## Religious tradition can cause the mighty supernatural power of the living Word of God to be ineffective.

Please do not make this mistake. If you are sick, you must be certain that your belief about divine healing lines up exactly with what the Word of God says about this vitally important subject.

If you have asked Jesus Christ to be your Savior, you have been set free from religious tradition. You have been given the ability to understand the facts that are presented in the Word of God. "...you were redeemed (ransomed) from the useless (fruitless) way of living inherited by tradition from [your] forefathers..." (1 Peter 1:18).

You must learn for yourself exactly what the Bible says about divine healing. You must not allow traditional religious beliefs to stop you from learning the truth from the Word of God. Jesus said, "...you will know the Truth, and the Truth will set you free" (John 8:32).

These words that Jesus spoke to His disciples more than two thousand years ago apply to you today. What was Jesus referring to when He spoke of the Truth? Jesus was speaking of the Word of God. At a later time He said, "...your Word is truth" (John 17:17).

You can be set free from error by learning exactly what the Word of God says about health and about healing. If you have any doubts about healing, allow the Word of God to be the final authority. Your Father does not want you to block Him with erroneous doctrine. He wants you to have a humble and teachable heart that will receive the wonderful truth of His healing promises.

Some people believe that the healing miracles that were recorded in the New Testament only lasted until the end of the apostolic age. The Word of God teaches that just the opposite is true.

"...the Lord is good; His mercy and loving-kindness are everlasting, His faithfulness and truth endure to all generations" (Psalm 100:5).

God did not place promises in the Bible that would only last for a short period of time. Divine healing did not end with the apostolic age. Divine healing dwindled and disappeared because of ignorance and unbelief caused by spiritual darkness during the Middle Ages and the Dark Ages. Your loving and merciful Father's magnificent healing promises "endure to all generations." God does not change His promises.

"My covenant will I not break or profane, nor alter the thing that has gone out of My lips" (Psalm 89:34).

When God promises that He will do something, He will do it forever. Your Father does not stop doing what His Word says He will do.

"...whatever God does, it endures forever, nothing can be added to it or anything taken from it..." (Eccl 3:14)

There is no question that Jesus healed multitudes of people during His earthly ministry. Jesus has not changed. He still heals multitudes of people today.

"Jesus Christ (the Messiah) is [always] the same, yesterday, today [yes] and forever (to the ages)" (Heb 13:8).

Jesus is "the same" today as He was during His earthly ministry. The gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John recount more than sixty instances where Jesus healed people from sickness. Jesus has not grown weaker. His healing power is just as great today.

If Jesus did not want you to be healed today, why would He have paid the tremendous price that He paid at the whipping post? Why would He have undergone that horrible mutilation? Why would He have taken upon Himself all of the sickness of all of the people who were alive then and all of the sickness of people who would live after them?

Jesus did not pay this horrible price so that only the people who lived in the next generation after He ascended into heaven could be healed.

I was blessed to be able to see a powerful and unforgettable manifestation of divine healing when I was a new Christian. A friend of mine asked if I would be interested in driving from New Hampshire where I lived at that time to Rhode Island to attend a Kathryn Kuhlman miracle healing service. He told me some very interesting facts he had read about her ministry. I agreed to go with him.

(Pages of detail describing the healings at the Kathryn Kuhlman conference – please let me know if you want this additional content and I will forward it to you - KH)

Anyone who does not believe that Jesus Christ heals today could not have explained everything I saw and heard that day. I am so thankful that I was able to see with my own eyes and hear with my own ears this tremendous documentation of the healing power of Jesus Christ.

As such, I developed a deep belief that divine healing is for today during my impressionable early days as a Christian. This belief has never changed. I have believed in divine healing for more than thirty years. As a result of writing this book, my faith for divine healing is at an all-time high.

Over the years, I have seen many sick people receive healing from God. I particularly remember a woman who had cancer. She came to one of the early Bible studies I taught in the cafeteria of a junior high school in Manchester, New Hampshire. Several of us prayed for her when she came to the front of the room after the Bible study. She received a miraculous healing. She went to her doctor for verification. The doctor gave her this verification.

The Bible is filled with numerous promises that contain words such as "all," "every" and "always." We will list just a

Jesus Christ Heals Today

few of these promises so that you can see for yourself that God's promises are all-inclusive. On one occasion Jesus said, "...whatever you ask for in prayer, having faith and [really] believing, you will receive" (Matthew 21:22).

If healing was not included in this promise, shouldn't there be an asterisk or a statement that the word "whatever" includes everything except healing? All of the promises in the Bible that tell us what God always will do for us would have to be eliminated if healing was not included in these all-inclusive promises from heaven. "...my God will liberally supply (fill to the full) your every need according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:19)

Please focus on the words "your every need" in this passage of Scripture. Personalize this promise. Put your name in this promise. Know that your loving Father Who promises to provide everything you need includes healing in this all-inclusive promise.

Your Father repeatedly promises to meet all of your needs. There is no qualifying statement in the Bible that says these promises do not include healing.

"...they who seek (inquire of and require) the Lord [by right of their need and on the authority of His Word], none of them shall lack any beneficial thing" (Psalm 34:10).

You are instructed to "seek" the Lord. Please note the emphasis that is placed on seeking the Lord when the word "require" is used in the amplification. When something is required, it is absolutely necessary. Your Father wants you to seek Him aggressively, fervently and unceasingly with your whole heart.

Why should you seek the Lord in this manner? You should seek Him aggressively because of your "need." When you are very sick, healing is not a nice to have. Healing is a have to have. How should you "seek the Lord?" You should seek Him "on the authority of His Word."

Please highlight or underline the words "any beneficial thing." Isn't healing of the sickness in your body a "beneficial thing?" These all-inclusive words must include divine healing.

There is no question that God has provided divine healing for you just as He has provided everything else you will need throughout your life.

"...His divine power has bestowed upon us <u>all things</u> that [are requisite and suited] to life and godliness, through the [full, personal] knowledge of Him Who called us by and to His own glory and excellence (virtue)" (II Peter 1:3).

Do you believe that the words "all things" include healing of the sickness in your body? Are you willing to do everything you can to walk in divine health? Are you willing to obey the scriptural instructions contained in God's Word to receive the healing that is included in the words "all things?"

If you believe that God gave up His only Son to take the sins of the entire world on Himself on a cross at Calvary, you also can be assured that your loving Father will provide everything else you need.

"He who did not withhold or spare [even] His own Son but gave Him up for us all, will He not also with Him freely and graciously give us all [other] things?" (Romans 8:32).

God gave His very best when He sent His only beloved Son to earth to die on the cross to pay the price for the sins of mankind. Because God gave us this greatest of all gifts, He also has "freely and graciously" promised to give us "all other things." These all-inclusive words definitely include healing. God did not say, "I will send My Son to earth to pay the price for your sins and I will meet all of your needs except for healing the sickness in your body."