

All Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.

November 25, 2010

GOD WANTS YOU WELL

Part 2

Printed for:

HANDS FOR JESUS

P.O. BOX 18655

MILWAUKEE, WI 53218-0655

For more information, visit our Web sites at:

www.handsforjesus.org

www.handsforjesus.cc

2010 by Merle E. Koepke

All rights reserved

Introduction

God wants everyone well and healthy. In Psalm 107:20 it says, **“He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.”** This is talking about the Children of Israel in the wilderness. When they cried out to the LORD, He healed them.

Satan is the author of sin, sickness, disease, and death. Christians are “Children of God in Christ Jesus” (2 Cor. 5:17). Christians are “one Spirit with the LORD” (1 Cor. 6:17). Christians are “born again of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God” (John 3:6, 1 Peter 1:23). Christians are “joint-heirs with Christ” (Rom. 8:17). Christians are “redeemed, sanctified, and justified,” by God in Christ Jesus (Gal. 3:13; Heb. 2:11; Rom. 3:24).

When we see all that God has done for us in Christ Jesus, we should know that God is Love (1 John 4:8). God loves us so much that He adopted us out of this world to be His very own in all eternity (Eph. 1:3-6).

In Joel 2:32 it says, **“And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered...”** In Acts 2:21 it says, **“And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”**

“Saved,” means **“delivered and protected.”** When we see all that God has done for us, and we need healing for our bodies, we should call upon the name of the LORD and be delivered and protected from all sicknesses and diseases.

The word **“whosoever”** includes anyone and everyone who will call upon the name of the LORD. That includes Christians who are already children of God in Christ Jesus.

In Hebrews 5:9 it says, **“And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.”** Obedience is necessary to receive salvation from whatsoever we have need of. God wants His children healed and healthy. That is God’s desire for all those who are born again in Christ Jesus.

God Wants You Well Part 2

Consider God and His love for His own Children in Christ Jesus. God had a plan before He created the earth and all that is upon the earth. Included in God's plan was the creation of mankind, "male and female" (Eph. 1:3-6, Gen. 1:26-28).

Mankind was created a living soul, with a physical body of flesh and bones, and a spirit within him. Genesis 2:7 says, "**And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.**"

First "**...the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground.**" By this, man had a physical body made of the elements of the earth. Every part of our physical bodies came from "**...the dust of the ground.**"

Then the LORD God "**...breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.**" It is important to stay with what is written in the Scriptures. For "**All scripture is given by inspiration of God...**" (2 Tim. 3:16). Much of the Scripture is prophecy, which means it is speaking of things past, present, and/or future. Being that Scripture is also prophecy, in 2 Peter 1:21 it says, "**...the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.**"

The original writings were in Hebrew, Chaldees, and Greek. These are known as "the inspired Word of God." Translations into other languages are not always the inspired Word of God. They are many times, translations by men. In many cases, these translation are made "**by the knowledge of good and evil,**" which came upon mankind in the garden of Eden (Gen. 3:6,17).

The knowledge of good and evil is man's thoughts, based upon what man receives in his mind. Most of these thoughts come from Satan, who is "**the god of this world**" (2 Cor. 4:4).

Being that most of man's thoughts come from "**the god of this world,**" God said in Isaiah 55:8,9, "**For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD...For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.**"

God knows every thought that comes to our minds. God knows if they came from Satan or the Holy Spirit. What comes from the Holy Spirit must be spiritually discerned by the Holy Spirit, not naturally discerned by men. Therefore, God tells us in 1 Corinthians 2:12-14, "**Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God...Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual...But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.**"

Unless our thoughts are spiritually discerned by the Holy Spirit, they could easily be a work of Satan in our minds. This is very important to understand, for many have taught the doctrines and theologies of man, and lead many into deception.

God's plan for mankind is not to be deceived by the enemy, but to believe the inspired Word of God and "**walk by faith, not by sight**" (2 Cor. 5:7). When the Scriptures use the phrase "**walk by faith, not by sight,**" they are speaking of "**living by faith.**" Therefore, it tells us in Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11, and Hebrews 10:38 that "**...the just shall live by faith.**" Walking by faith and living

by faith is the same thing.

Walking by faith is the opposite of **“walking by sight,”** or **“walking after the flesh.”** The thoughts of man became corrupted when Adam and Eve sinned in the garden of Eden. Therefore, God told us in His Word that our thoughts are not His thoughts (Isa. 55:8,9).

To walk by faith, we cannot walk according to our thoughts, we must bring our thoughts in agreement with the inspired Word of God, and live by faith in the inspired Word of God.

This is not easy to do, for everyday thoughts come to our minds that are not from God. Therefore, we are also told in Romans 8:1-7 to **“walk after the Spirit (Holy Spirit) and not after the flesh.”** For if we walk after the flesh, there is still condemnation. Even for “born again Christians,” there is still condemnation for those who walk after the flesh.

Because there is still condemnation for Christians who walk after the flesh, Galatians 5:25 says, **“If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”** Walking in the Spirit is the opposite of walking after the flesh. Sowing to the flesh is also the opposite of sowing to the Spirit. It tells us in Galatians 6:7,8, **“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap...For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.”**

Christians need the help of the Holy Spirit to overcome the works of the enemy in their lives. Man, of his own ability cannot overcome the works of the Devil.

Thoughts come to our minds constantly, day and night. We need the Holy Spirit working in our lives to overcome the thoughts that do not come from God.

Many have tried to out think the Devil. That is, they think they can overcome the works of the Devil by their own natural ability. It will not work. The more people try to do it by their own ability the more they fail, and Satan continues to blind their minds to the true Gospel of Christ, which can save them from the works of the Devil.

God has a plan for the salvation of mankind from the works of the Devil. God’s plan includes that we **“live by faith”** (Rom. 1:17, Gal. 3:11, Heb. 10:38).

If we “study the Scripture” as we are told to, the Holy Spirit will help us and teach us all things (2 Tim. 2:15, John 6:45, 16:13; 1 John 2:27). If we listen to the teachings of men we will easily be deceived by the enemy.

If Christians are to live by faith, then we need to understand what faith is? I have heard many Christians say, “just receive it by faith.” What are they talking about? Do they know what they are talking about? Sometimes we wonder, do they understand what faith is?

In Hebrews 11:1 it says, **“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”** Faith does have substance and faith does have evidence. To tell someone to receive it by faith, is very miss-leading to many. If they were to receive their healing by faith, they would not need anyone to pray for them. The reason many Christians need someone to pray for them, is because they do not know how to receive by faith themselves. Many times those Christians who need someone to pray for them, do not understand what faith is?

Faith has substance and faith has evidence. If we do not have any substance or evidence then we do not have faith. That kind of teaching is more like presumption, of just plain foolishness. To begin with, faith comes from God, not from man. Those who are not born again do not have faith, unless God gives them faith “as He did with some in the Old Testament.” Abel and Enoch had faith. Their faith was given to them because they believed God (Heb. 11:4,5). Abraham had faith, because

Abraham believed God (Heb. 11:8-10,17,18). Romans 4:3 says, **“For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.”** Romans 4:18 says, **“Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.”**

God gives faith to those who believed His Word. God gives Christians faith when they believe His Word and receive Jesus Christ as their LORD and Savior. Faith is a fruit of the Holy Spirit, which is given to everyone who is born again at the time of their new birth. All of the fruit of the Spirit comes with the new birth. Therefore, all Christians have faith, but must learn how to walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7).

Faith has substance and faith has evidence. The substance to faith is the written or spoken Word of God. The evidence is a witness in our spirit. It is an inward knowing, not head knowledge. It comes from the Holy Spirit within us giving us understanding.

Already in Job 32:8 it said, **“But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.”** It is from our spirit that we have evidence of what is in our heart. God looks at the hearts of people, not their minds and gives faith to those whose heart is right.

Faith is a heart and spirit operation, not a mind operation. Satan works through the minds of people. God works through the spirits of people. These are two different operations of spirits in mankind. This is seen all throughout the Scriptures.

In Matthew 12:34,35, Jesus said, **“O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh...A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.”** God is always looking at the hearts of people. Believing must be in our heart, not our mind, or head. God does not go according to our mind. God goes according to our heart.

There is a lot of confusion on this within the Churches today. Many are deceived by the teachings of men. Romans 10:10 says, **“For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation (soteria).”** The Greek word “soteria,” means “rescue or safety, or deliverance and/or protection.”

If a Christian needs healing for their body, they need deliverance from the works of the enemy. Deliverance brings health to our bodies, and protection from the works of the Devil.

When Christians get their minds renewed on the Word of God, and live by the Word of God rather than the world’s system they will not need healing for their bodies. Jesus never needed healing for His body, Satan had nothing on Him (John 14:30).

Experiencing Healing

Christians need to experience healing of their bodies according to the inspired written Word of God. The Word of God says, “By His Stripes we are healed” (Isa. 53:5; Matt. 8:17; 1 Peter 2:24). Satan tries our faith to see if we truly believe the Word of God (James 1:2-4). When pain comes, will we believe beyond all doubt that “By His Stripes we are healed”?

There was a time when I broke my toe on a Saturday afternoon in a downtown apartment building. I was on a television service call. I was leaving the apartment building, carrying the chassis of a television set in my arms. It was not easy to see where I was walking. As I was going through the door, I stubbed my foot on a concrete block in the doorway. I felt a sharp pain in my toe, I knew I had broken it. I drove home, took off my shoe and saw the swelling and the black and blue coloring of my foot. I felt the pain.

When this happened, my mind began to receive thoughts from the Devil. I knew it was broken. I had experienced a broken bone in my body years ago. The pain of a broken bone is different from that of a sprain or torn ligament.

The thought came to me, *“I had better go to the hospital and get it x-rayed, to be sure the bone was in the right place.”* The second thought that went through my head was, *“When I do that the doctor will cut out the front of my shoe and put a bandage on my toe, and I will go around like that for about six weeks.”*

Then the Spirit of God rose up within me and said, *“You don't have to do that, by His stripes you are healed, He bore your sickness and infirmities, tell the devil to take a jump.”* This I also received from my spirit in my mind. It came to my mind as a positive thought. But I knew it was from the Holy Spirit because it agreed completely with the inspired written Word of God. Immediately I said, *“Devil get out, I don't need this and you can't put this on me, by His stripes I am healed.”* *“Jesus, Himself took my infirmities and bore my sickness, so you can go take a jump. Thank You, Jesus.”*

All of this time I was alone in the house. I spoke words out-loud to the Devil and I confessed before God my healing. Then I took a shower, dressed up, and went out for lunch. The thought again came to me to go to the hospital and have an x-ray, but then I said within myself, *“Why should I spend God's money for something I didn't need. God's Word is true and I am healed.”*

That day my foot was very sore but I kept on going. The person I went to lunch with said to me, *“Merle, you should have stayed home, and not be walking around on that foot.”* I just said, *“Don't worry about it, it's Ok.”* When you know in your heart that you are healed you keep going, even though there is pain. Pain is an evil spirit, sent from the Devil, to try to get you to doubt the Word of God. When you walk by faith, you do not let pain stop you from doing what you would normally do when you do not have pain.

The next day the soreness left. All pain was gone. It was Sunday and I went to Church. On Monday evening I showed my foot to those at my house who were there for a share group meeting. All we could see was one red spot and a blue stripe mark where the break had been. Praise the Lord for His Word! By Tuesday all was back to normal, no pain, no red spot and no blue stripe.

On Friday, I showed my foot to a friend of mine who was a nurse. I told her what had happened the Saturday before and how the foot came back to normal in three days. She said, *“It had to be God, for in the natural it would take ten days to two weeks before the black and blue would be*

gone.”

What Christians do not understand is that pain is a spirit, sent by the Devil to try to stop you from receiving complete healing. When you know you are healed, you do not let the circumstances control what you do. You ignore the circumstances, and do what you would normally do when you are healed.

The reason most Christians do not receive their healing is because they go by the circumstances, not by faith. Faith works from our spirit, in agreement with our heart. When we know in our heart, and have a witness in our spirit, we ignore the circumstances and go about our lives the same way we do when there is nothing wrong in the natural.

Foolishness is when we try to force God to heal us, when we do not have a witness in our spirit, and do not believe in our heart. That is foolishness, not faith.

Presumption is when we listen to others instead of listening to the Holy Spirit within us. Presumption and foolishness are works of the flesh, and not of the Holy Spirit.

Most Christians do not know how to hear from their spirit. They do not spend time studying the inspired written Word of God, and they do not spend time praying in the Spirit. If they do not spend time with God, how can they expect God to heal them? God heals according to His Word, not according to foolishness or presumption.

Another time, on a Friday in 2004, my foot started to get sore between two toes. By Saturday morning, it started swelling and got so sore it was hard to walk on it.

About that time the thought came to me that, *“Maybe I should go to a drug store and get something to put on it to relieve the pain and help with healing.”* That is what I used to do before I learned that Jesus bore my sicknesses and diseases. Just as the thought came to my mind, I said out loud, *“Satan, you cannot put this on me, by Jesus’ stripes I am healed. Thank You, Jesus for healing me, Amen.”* Even though it was very sore, I decided I was going to walk on it, because I was healed, by Jesus’ stripes. I left my house and walked about a block away. As I was walking, the pain left; although some of the soreness was still there.

On Sunday morning there was still some indications of the sore, but no pain or soreness. By Tuesday morning there was not even a mark where the sore had been. We could say that, within three days from the time I prayed, there was no mark or indication that I ever had a sore on my foot.

If we do not ignore the circumstances and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit within us, we may not receive our healing. We must believe in our heart and do not lean unto our own natural understanding. Proverbs 3:5 says, **“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”** Our natural understanding will prevent us from receiving what the Word of God promises us.

Most of the Christians will not believe they are healed without seeing or feeling something in the natural. They want to go by the circumstances, rather than by the Word of God, and a witness in their spirit.

There is a difference between your faith and the faith of others. James said, **“Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing 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; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him”** (James 5:14,15).

The prayer of faith prayed by another will heal the sick. In that type of a situation it is not the faith of the person that is sick. It is the faith of the person doing the praying. At that time, it is ok to

ask the sick person to check and see if there has been a change. Or ask them to do something they could not do before they were prayed for.

The person who is sick and asks for an elder to pray for them may still be going according to the circumstances. That will not prevent them from receiving their healing. Their healing is not based upon their circumstances. It is based upon the faith of the elder who is doing the praying.

Yet, God will not be mocked. Therefore, some will not get healed by an elder praying for them. God still looks at the heart of the person needing healing. They may not be able to pray and receive their own healing. There could be a number of reasons why they could not receive their healing themselves.

Also, there are times when they have disobeyed the LORD, and the LORD is waiting for them to repent. Then they will be healed. We must be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit when we pray according to James 5:14,15. Remember, God will not be mocked, if we sow to the flesh we will of the flesh reap corruption (Gal. 6:7,8).

We are not the one that will do the healing. We can only do the praying, the LORD is the one that does the healing.

Sometimes the Holy Spirit will give an elder a word of knowledge as to what the person needing healing must do first, then they will receive their healing. But, in most cases, the reason the person does not get healed is because they have not obeyed the LORD.

In many cases, their disobedience is in not spending time in the Word and praying in the Spirit. If they would spend time studying the Word and praying in the Spirit, the Holy Spirit will help, guide, comfort, and teach them.

Many times a Christian does not receive healing when an elder prays for them because they have not obeyed the first commandment that LORD gave to Christians in the New Testament. Jesus said in Mark 12:30, **“And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.”**

It is the heart that God looks at first, then the soul and the mind. Where is our heart? Do we truly love the LORD our God with all our heart? Or, is the desires of our heart upon other things, and not on the will of God?

God will reveal to a Christian, what His desires are, if they will spend time everyday in the Word and in praying in the Spirit. If they do not have time to spend with God, they may not get healed. God is not a respecter of persons, but God does look at the hearts of those who come to God.

What is established in our heart is what we have put or permitted in our mind. If our mind is not on God, but the things of this world, we may not get healed by the prayer of faith. If Christians will keep their first commandment of the LORD they will surely get healed. God will keep His Word. God’s Word will not fail.

Many Christians have sickness or disease in their bodies because they did not examine their heart. In 1 Corinthians 11:23-31, the Apostle Paul wrote, **“For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread...And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me...After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me...For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come...Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and**

drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord...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...For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged."

Most Christians do not know what the Apostle Paul was speaking of when he wrote, **"For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."** This is not speaking of what many think it is speaking of.

The Apostle Paul is speaking of how Christians treat other Christians who are also a part of the same Body of Christ. You will see that when you start reading in 1 Corinthians, Chapter Nine, and then continue through Chapter Eleven.

When Christians think more highly of themselves than they do of other Christians, they are not rightly discerning the LORD's Body. When those who have much and refuse to help those who have little, they are not rightly discerning the LORD's Body.

Have you ever wondered why Ananias, with Sapphira died in Acts, Chapter Five? Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Spirit. They held back some of the money they received from selling some property, and implied they were given it all to the Body of Christ to help those in need. The Holy Spirit saw that in their heart they lied. That is why they died.

You cannot lie to the Holy Spirit and expect that God will heal you while you lying to God. God is not a respecter of persons, but God will not pervert judgment. Judgement will come to the house of the LORD. God will judge His people.

In Hebrews 10:30 it says, **"For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people."** In 1 Peter 4:17 it says, **"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?"**

If Christians will examine themselves according to the inspired written Word of God, and judge themselves, the LORD will heal them. But, the wrath of God will come upon Christians who hold the truth in unrighteousness (Rom. 1:18-32).

God has given us several different ways to receive healing for our bodies. We need to keep searching the Scriptures, and praying in the Spirit until we find the way God wants to use to heal those who are sick.

God cannot heal anyone against His Word. To receive healing, we must get into agreement with the inspired written Word of God and the Holy Spirit. It is the written Word that God goes by. When we come into agreement with the written Word the Holy Spirit will help us receive healing.

God and His Word are One. God cannot lie. God will do what He says in His Word, and the Holy Spirit will manifest the Word of God according to what He inspired to be written.

God is not obligated to manifest according to the miss-translations of the Bibles that men have written. Miss-translations are the works of men, not of God. Those who love their miss-translated Bibles more than the inspired written Word will not receive from God what He has promised in the inspired written Word. When Christians love the teachings of men more than the work of the Holy Spirit, they cause their own failure to receive healing.

We must not be ignorant of Satan's devices. Satan can heal the sick also. But, Christians should never go to a spiritual medium for healing. The LORD is our healer (Ex. 15:26). We cannot

blame God for not healing us. God has done all He can, so that we can receive our healing.

If we need healing for our bodies, we must do what the inspired written Word of God tells us to do. If we will obey the LORD, and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit we will receive our healing.

This is Part 2, in a series of Mini-books on **“GOD WANTS YOU WELL.”** For more information on this subject, get all of the parts to this series of Mini-books. For other help, you can also go to our Web sites on the Internet and download as many free books as you desire. Go to:

www.handsforjesus.cc

www.handsforjesus.org