

Healing for Whole Person

Mark 2:1-12

Summary: There are multiple levels of healing to the human person. The effects of sin in the world brings about brokenness on multiple levels of the human person. The Son of God become flesh, fully human in every way as we are, but without sin, has come to redeem the human person at multiple levels.

“The revelation is presented through intrinsically connected words and deeds. Just as deeds demonstrate and confirm doctrine, so words proclaim and explain deeds.” (Dei Verbum 2, Second Vatican Council).”

Is spiritual healing more important than physical healing? The word “Sozo” in the NT means “to save” and is used “to heal”. Salvation includes the action of healing. “Courage, my daughter, your faith has (saved) you.” And from that moment the woman was saved.” Mt. 9:22.

Jesus offers a salvation that embraces the whole person-body and soul.

I. Mk. 2:2-4

A. vv. 2-4

1. Jesus is preaching the word. The force of the word of effect what is spoken. In the OT, the word of the scripture often used is “davar”-a force let loose in the world. See Isa. 55:10-11.

2. The anointing of the Lord is in the word of God. Jesus, the Word of God incarnate, brings the anointing. This is the presence and power of the Lord to heal.

B. vv. 2-4

1. 4 men “interceded” for their friend. This notes the “intensity” of the their intercession. Prayer for healing is essentially our “intercession” for some one who is ill. It is going to the Lord on behalf of some one else.

2. This is a work of mercy, a work of love.

II. Mk. 2:5

A. Jesus “saw” their faith. It was visible to Jesus. He noticed the “cry” of their Heart for their friend.

1. “child your sins ...” one part of healing is forgiveness or the healing of the soul.

2. This is healing of the spirit or the soul. This can extend into our family generations where there may be present patterns of sin that are passed on from one generation to the other. A Christian can “intercede” for healing of that family line by seeking forgiveness on behalf of the family line.

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III. Mk. 2:6-8

A. Opposition to the Lord is an opposition to his mercy. We can expect the same within us.

1. Deism: cynicism; skepticism
2. Unworthiness

B. Healing is mercy. It is sign of the new creation (that is in progress).

1. How does Jesus know their hearts? Words of knowledge and discernment of spirits (two spiritual gifts, see 1Cor. 12).
2. Spiritual gifts are “tools” of the Lord given to us to help us in ministry to another.

IV. MK. 2:9-12

A. Physical and spiritual healing: two sides of the same event.

1. The key here is “authority”-the right to heal. Jesus says he as the Son of Man has the authority on earth to heal and forgive.
2. See Mk. 1:14-15: the rule and reign of God comes in Jesus. He has authority over sin, disease, demons, etc....The power of God is the presence and rule of God to set free, heal, deliver, forgive, bind up wounds.
3. “Rise” -language of resurrection. This is wholeness. In one sense, healing now points to the complete healing in the “resurrection of the body.”
4. The works of God manifest the reign of God in our midst. It calls attention to the King-Jesus. It is to lead to repentance and faith in Him and become His disciple.

Summary

1. Since Pentecost, the kingdom of God is in the world through the Church. The Church’s commission is to do the works of Jesus and go to the people He went too.
2. The “authority” to do this comes from being “baptized in Christ” and the anointing that flows from this gives us “authority” on earth using the name of Jesus.
3. Healing comes to us on many different levels:
 - a. Physical
 - b. Healing of past hurts
 - c. Healing of the soul or spirit for forgiveness
 - d. Relationships, including generational family healing
 - e. Freedom from oppression of evil spirits
4. The grace of baptism in the Holy Spirit empowers us in the anointing received in baptism to do as Jesus did in this world. (See Lk. 3:15ff).
5. The word of God in Scripture contains the anointing of the Lord’s presence. When spoken releases the anointing into the environment.
6. Noticed the crowd-they were hungry for more. Hungry and desire is key to seeing more of the Lord’s mighty deeds.

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7. Faith emerges as key in this process. Faith must be somewhere: in the sick person or the person praying for the ill, or in a group. "God will move over a thousand people to reach the person with faith." Smith Wigglesworth

"And to another faith, not meaning by this the faith of doctrines, but the faith of miracles; concerning which Christ says, 'If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there, and it will move Mt. 17:20. And the apostles too concerning this besought him saying, "increase our faith." Lk. 17:5. For this is the mother of the miracles.'" St. John Chrysostom.

St. Thomas Aquinas links charismatic activity with in-fillings of the Spirit. He says that with each new outpouring of the Spirit comes empowerment to do new things. "Such an invisible sending is especially to be seen in the kind of increase of grace whereby a person is moved forward into some new act or some new state of grace.."