Remnant Life Church

October 18, 2026

Healing

Pt 2

The Biblical Views

Psalm 103:2-4

The need for the healing of our spirits, minds, and bodies became necessary when sin entered the world

And so, the problem of sickness and disease is intertwined with the problem of sin and death

- IOW – they are the consequences of the fall of man
- Whereas medical science view sickness and disease as purely physiological aided by psychosomatic factors…
- …the Bible presents spiritual causes as the underlying components
    - The first being sin which impacts our physical, mental and emotional well-being and can bring about physical infirmities (John 5:14)
    - The second cause is satan who is the author of sin, can bring sickness, and desires all of those things that are contrary to God's plan and will for our lives (Acts 10:37-38; Luke 13:11; Mark 9:17,20,25)

The first consequence of sin is found in Genesis 3

- Gen 3:23 – *So, the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.*
    - It began with a spiritual corruption that forced a separation, this banishment, between us and God
        - So too our emotions and mental functions were corrupted
        - Then there also came physical imperfection
        - Our salvation renews our spirits, and atonement has been made that restored our relationship with God, but that did not change the ultimate impact of sin on our bodies

Yet God has provided a way to confront each of these consequences of the fall

- For sin, God provides forgiveness
- For death, God provides eternal and resurrection life
- And for sickness, God provides healing
    - Listen again to the words of the Psalmist
    - Psalm 103:1-4 - *Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits— who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,*

- Physical healing is a prominent topic in the Bible
    - In Ex 15:26 God Himself proclaims, *I am the Lord who heals you.*
    - And Scripture teaches that God heals all of man's diseases (Psa 103:3)

The Bible actually presents 2 basic and distinct views concerning healing and sickness

- Note that the emphasis changes from the Old to the New Testaments because of Jesus
    - It is not that one is right and the other is wrong
    - It is because Jesus fulfilled the focus of the Old Testament law and brought new commands for us to live by

In the OT, Yahweh (the Hebrew word for God) was the source of healing

- But He was also recognized as the one who allowed and even sent sickness and infirmities
    - And these were tied to the concept of consequence
        - God's punishments were well known by the Israelites
            - Most often (but not always) punishment came in the form of a plague
                - Sometimes it was a plague of nature as we read in Exodus
                - And other times it was a plague of sickness or disease
                - The word plague in TOL is *naw-GAF*
                - It means to smite, or to strike
        - And it wasn't just in Israel
- We read in Exodus 8-11 that the nation of Egypt suffered through 10 plagues because they refused to let the Israelites go
    - But the Israelites themselves dealt with it much more often…
        - In Num 11:38 – God struck the people of Israel with a plague who complained about the manna
        - In Num 31 the people followed the words of a false prophet and God sent a plague as punishment
        - In 2 Sam 24 David took a census or counted the number of his fighting man, a sign of his lack of faith in God, and a plague came on the people

Yet there was, in the OT, another side to this coin of Holy justice

- Just as disease and sickness were a punishment for sin in the OT, healing was the reward for obedience and repentance
    - Healing was a visible, physical manifestation of God's forgiveness, His mercy, and His love
        - This not only applied to individuals like we read in Gen 20:17 when Abraham prays for healing for his household…but to entire nations as well
        - Gen 23:25 – *Worship the Lord your God, and His blessing will be on your food and water, I will take away sickness from among you*
            - God made this promise to the entire nation of Israel
    - God allowed sickness and even death in the OT to punish sin and disobedience, but He was quick to bring healing when there was genuine repentance

The second view of healing is found in the NT and is what Jesus based His teachings on

- This view accepts sickness as a prominent result of the universal corrupt nature of man caused by the original sin of the Garden
    - IOW it is the permanent consequence
    - Something that will always be present in our lives
        - The question is then how do you respond when faced with that result?
        - How do you live each day within this weakened condition as a child of God?
- And so it is because of sin, through Adam, that mankind became naturally susceptible to disease, sickness and injury.
    - Now there are references where disease and satan are closely related in the Scripture…
        - In Matt 12 we read the account of the demon-possessed man who was both blind and mute
        - In Luke 13 Jesus heals a woman crippled for 18 years by an evil spirit
    - But Jesus also taught, and this is very important for every Christian to understand, that not all sickness is a divine punishment or the work of demonic influence
        - In John 9 the disciples ask about the blind man and which of his parents had sinned (implying the OT teaching of punishment)
            - Jesus answered neither sinned but that there was a divine purpose in the man's affliction
    - That can still be very much true today
        - God will work through sickness to assist in the growth of our faith
        - Teach us humility
        - And build our character as we are many times forced to wait on God's timing for healing
        - Or to be an instrument for a greater purpose in the accomplishment of God's divine purpose
            - We see that clearly demonstrated in both Job and Paul (Job 40:4, 42:6; 2 Cor 4:17)
            - And I saw it personally in the final 6 months of my mother's life
    - But sinful actions, thoughts, and beliefs can certainly also contribute to the weakening and even failing of the body
        - This is particularly true when there is unresolved anger or unforgiveness in a person's heart and mind
        - The body will often show the consequences of that ungodly way of living

While the Old and New Testament books differ in their views of disease and sickness, they are theologically compatible for us today in our efforts to understand how we should live with imperfect minds and bodies

- At the foundation of our faith and hope is the fact that Jesus paid the price for our sins and made atonement that we may have fellowship with God

- That atonement, received only by accepting Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, promises eternal life with God in the perfection of heaven
- Yet while our souls have been redeemed, our bodies continue to show the consequences of sin
  - But we can still live in victory
  - We can still live in health
  - God does and will bring healing to our bodies in a variety of ways according to His will

Sin and its consequences are at the root of all sickness and disease that plague our bodies today

- Now please do not hear something I did not say
- I did not say sin or demons cause all of our infirmities
  - There are laws and rules of the natural world that are constant save for God's supernatural intervention
    - Germs and bacteria cause the body to become sick
    - Our bodies are susceptible to injury when we damage them
  - But it was sin that first weakened and corrupted our bodies, our minds and our spirits
    - Removing us from the state of perfection that God intended, and caused a death sentence to be pronounced over us all
  - But for the love of God, we would be doomed to death of the body and death of the spirit
- But Jesus paid the price
  - He made atonement with God the Father and us His creation that we can call on Him to bring healing
  - Healing according to His perfect will and in His perfect timing

Of course, healing was demonstrated most powerfully by Jesus during His time on earth

- What was at the foundation of Jesus' healing ministry in the three years He traveled that earthly region encountering all manners of disease and sickness?
  - Why were the disciples commissioned to go and heal diseases and cast our demons? (NEXT WEEK)