

Sign Gifts – gifts of the Holy Spirit which are often obvious outward indications or signs of the working of God

Healings Miracles Tongues

Listed together only I Cor. 12:8-19

Not to be misused so that they become divisive or disrupt fellowship

HEALING – the gift of cures

OT and NT are full of instances

Throughout the history of the Christian Church, countless instances

Famous faith healers – Kathryn Kuhlman

Yet sickness and infirmity are a part of life – no one can escape them at last

Must distinguish **gift of healing** from healing from **gift of faith**

Healing through the gift of faith

Physical healing for the body comes from personal faith

Physical healing for disease is in the atonement of Jesus Christ

“And by His scourging, we are healed” (Isa. 53:5)

“And He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and to live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.” (I Peter 2:24)

- Billy Graham believes these Scriptures refer to spiritual healing, not physical
- PR accepts both with caution – what is God’s will?

Balance

1) Healing can and may come from God through the gift of healing

2) Healing can and may come from God through the gift of faith

Example – Billy Graham’s sister-in-law (pp. 209-210)

3) Healing can and may come from God through the use of medical means

(I Tim 5:23) Paul told Timothy to take some medicinal wine

Luke was a physician

Should not ignore medical means

It may not be the will of God for us to be cured of all our infirmities

Paul’s “thorn in the flesh” (2 Cor. 12:7-10)

Seek God-given wisdom to determine whether to seek the use of natural means

or rely solely on prayer or those with the genuine gift of healing

do not tempt God – ask God for His will

People suffer from both organic (physical) and functional (mental) diseases

A diseased mind can produce disease in the body

When the mind is made well, the physical manifestations stemming from this functional situation disappear

Jesus did not always heal people the same way

Spoke the Word – healing took place

Used different means

(Matt. 8:15) took the hand of Simon Peter's mother-in-law
(John 11:43) commanded Lazarus to come out of the tomb
(John 9:1) used clay and spit to heal blind man
(Matt. 8:5) was not even near the centurion's servant
(Matt 9:18) woman healed by touching Jesus' garment

Laying on of hands or the anointing with oil

Spiritual and psychological significance

Spiritual – healing comes from God, not the oil or hands
Psychological – comfort in the hands or oils – physical touch

But God does not always choose to heal us

No evidence in Scripture that it is the will of God to heal all people of all illnesses

True faith involves a complete surrender of our life to the will of God,
whatever it is, even when God does not choose to heal us.

God does not always give the gift of faith for healing

Pray "If it be Thy will."

(PR) importance of knowing God's will

through Bible, Prayer, and Holy Spirit

Job – afflicted with boils – Satan had to get God's permission

Book of Job – result of the situation – for us

***Every sickness every infirmity, and every wrong thing in our lives
can be traced back to original sin***

Does not mean that those of us who experience these difficulties do so because we have
been guilty of overt transgressions

some cases – misuse of drugs, sex, greed

(John 9:2,3) blindness not result of sin, but rather to glorify God

accidents, inherited defects can cause sickness

God never meant for us to get sick and die, but man's rebellion against God in the
Garden of Eden changed all that

Devil will try to use sickness to hinder our fellowship with God

Try to blame God, be angry at God

Promise of God that some day all the effects of sin on this creation will be destroyed,
including sickness (Rev. 21:4)

The Holy Spirit does help us in the midst of our sicknesses, infirmities, and weaknesses

(Rom. 8:26) "The Spirit also helps our infirmities."

"the divine Paraclete"

Helper (John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7)

Advocate (1 John 2:1) – "one who walks by our side as our counselor,
helper, defender, and guide.