

General Topics :: Healing

Healing - posted by DEADn (), on: 2013/7/18 19:08

This can be a controversial topic with some in the Church as to whether or not God heals whether it is all the time or just some time or none of the time.

Scripture points out that Jesus healed multitudes but in John 5 it shows that Jesus didn't heal everyone but it doesn't point that out either.

When a Christian comes to you and tells you that Jesus died so you can be healed and to claim your healing and so forth what should our reaction be? Amen Praise the Lord!? Should it be 'Wait a minute!' Or something else?

Re: Healing - posted by romanchog (), on: 2013/7/18 20:26

I was just discussing this someone. This is what I said:

"One thing I have learned about healing is that God nowhere promises that He will heal everybody. I know that Jesus healed everyone who asked, but other than that there is no promise of healing. God is definitely the Healer, so all healing comes from Him. But I have discovered that His concern is more with our eternity and His Glory than with our physical condition. He will use disease to achieve this aim.

Even the scripture that is often quoted about healing from Isaiah 53 ("by His stripes we are healed") is not about our physical bodies. If you read Peter's use of this scripture in 1 Peter 2:24-25, Peter attaches this to salvation (i.e. healing from sin) and not to bodily healing.

“He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Every time I see someone say that healing is already ours it makes me nervous. That is where a lot of people start doubting God because they do not see healing come to them. While I knew that God was perfectly capable of healing my husband, and I prayed for that, I also knew that I had to submit to His will in that. It is a hard line to walk when God asks you to believe that He can do something (we must believe to receive) but at the same time knowing that He may not give it. To be honest, I felt that God was a little cruel, because I held hope in Him that my husband would live (as I felt I was supposed to) which I think made the death all the more difficult. Still I know that God is good and it simply means that I do not understand Him."

Re: Healing - posted by Lysa (), on: 2013/7/18 21:22

///by DEADn

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I have a friend who I don't talk to much and this topic (name it and claim it is what I call it), is the very reason why we are

not close anymore. She was telling all about the benefits a few years ago of believing this way and I asked her why she had none of these benefits, she looked at me with a straight face and said, "I don't have enough faith."

I tried to talk to her but that is like to talking to any other type of person who believes what they believe is the only truth. You can't even reason with them. It's sad, really.

God bless,
Lisa

Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2013/7/18 21:41

Quote:

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Reminds me of the friend I had who passed away from cancer. I think the issue with this thinking is that they have their emotions whipped up by the church they attend and their faith ends up in their emotions and they tell you what God's Word supposedly says and then they want to seemingly condemn you for maybe not having enough faith to believe you are healed.

My wife recently had double lumbar fusion surgery. She is doing remarkable well for be out 2 weeks now. Even the doctor says so. An acquaintance online tells me to claim her healing and I told her I can do that but that doesn't mean she is going to be healed in an instance. She seemed to get mad and give me all kinds of scripture. I plan on showing her John 5 and asking why did Jesus focus on this one man and not heal all of them at the pool?

Anyway, my wife is somewhat fit but I would like to this this recovery is a God recovery. Beforehand she couldn't walk 2 blocks without pain. Today she walked 2.2 miles in 3 parts and she has noticed her pain level going down.

Re: Thoughts on healing - posted by Sidewalk (), on: 2013/7/18 23:24

In Mark 5, Jesus is summoned to the home of Jairus whose daughter lay near death. Jesus was willing to go to her with her father.

On the way He was delayed with the incident of the woman with a bleeding issue, and He took the time to honor her faith with the healing she sought. It shows how during His travels He seems to always be looking for faith.

"When the Son of Man comes, will He find faith in the earth?"

Approaching Jairus' home, the people come out to inform Jesus and Jairus that it is too late, the girl is dead.

What Jesus does here is critical. He dismisses the crowd, takes a couple disciples and Jairus into the house. The text says merely that He tells Jairus to continue to believe, but I suspect it was more dramatic than that. I believe he grabbed the man with firm desperation in His eyes and yelled into Jairus' face- "Hang on! Hold your faith! Don't stop believing!!

Because Jesus knew something very important, He could not do this work without the cooperation of Jairus' faith!

The little group led by Jesus goes into the room where the girl lay deathly still... actually dead as Jesus knew. But He who conquers death spoke to her and she sat up alive. Jairus knew she would, he was believing! The disciples probably knew too, operating in a faith that contributed in the room, confident in their friend and Master.

So that is Mark 5.

But in Mark 6 Jesus goes out near His hometown and begins hearing the criticism. Verse 5 says He could do no miracles there except for a few healings. His ability to do miracles was thwarted by the unbelief, and it grieved Him.

Healing is a very elusive gift, and as a result there have been great rifts and controversies in the church since the times of the apostles. Yet I can't find any scriptural evidence that there are times and occasions where Jesus does not want to heal his hurting sheep. And if there is any clue to "how it works," the believer's faith combines with the power of God to create the miracle.

I see the words, "I am willing." Always Jesus' attitude.

So I continue to pray for healing, and have seen some evidence that those prayers made a difference. I ask with the disciples, "God increase my faith!"

If truly the Lord Jesus needs my faith, feeble though it may be to effect a healing miracle, I don't want to have him hear me say "I was afraid to pray!"

Re: - posted by dohzman (), on: 2013/7/19 0:58

mark 6:5 And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed .v6 And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching

Their unbelief was them not going to Jesus.

When Jesus addresses Jairus in ch5 He in essence was saying nothing more than trust Me. I think Jesus asks all of us at times to trust Him beyond the grave, it is not easy, it is necessary though.

Re: Healing - posted by dohzman (), on: 2013/7/19 1:14

I think, rather than risk damaging what some call faith for healing, I just smile and keep those needing it in prayer. I have needed healings, salvations if you will since salvation also encompasses healings physically.

I Am not altogether sure we can just claim anything, because what I see in the gospel story is a progression in the walk with or following after Jesus. I think the closer you get to the Holy One the closer you get to wholeness, but that doesn't always mean healing physically in this life..it does mean yielding to the Love and foreknowledge of God. The lack of "thy will be done" is often times overshadowed by our desperate reach to continue living in this life, and that is not a bad thing, it is totally human, and we are humans. :/

Re: , on: 2013/7/19 7:28

And some are given a "thorn in the flesh". A gift, from God's perspective.

Re: - posted by Solomon101, on: 2013/7/19 8:34

Quote:

-----And some are given a "thorn in the flesh". A gift, from God's perspective.

I am planning to largely stay out of this discussion. However, this "thorn in the flesh" is such a common error that I felt it should be addressed.

The "thorn in the flesh" is never a sickness or disease in the scriptures. You will find it mentioned in the Old Testament describing the inhabitants of the Promised Land. Israel was told that if they did not destroy them all they would become thorns and pricks in their flesh and eyes. It was figurative (obviously). Biblical interpretive law of first occurrence means it will almost always be figurative.

I assume you are referencing Paul's "thorn in the flesh". It was no "gift from God". Paul said it came directly from satan. Specifically "a messenger of satan".

Greek is the word "angelos". It is the word we normally translate as "angel". This isn't God's angel such as Michael or Gabrielle. It is Satan's angel. Paul tells us so.

You also find it "buffets" or strikes repeated blows. Good study is to list every city in chronological order that Paul went to and then beside it list what happened to Paul there.

How Satan's angel (a demon) was striking Paul repeatedly is fairly apparent if you detail the story.

Much more to it than I have time for this morning. However, it is clear that there is zero chance Paul's "thorn in the flesh" was a sickness or a disease. It was not. It was a specific demon assigned to repeatedly strike at Paul. Paul said so himself.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2013/7/19 10:12

romanchog wrote:

"If you read Peter's use of this scripture in 1 Peter 2:24-25, Peter attaches this to salvation (i.e. healing from sin) and not to bodily healing."

True, but Matthew DOES apply Is 53 to physical healing:

"When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

“He took up our infirmities
and bore our diseases.” Mt 8:16-17

Re: continuing... - posted by Sidewalk (), on: 2013/7/19 11:48

Let's face it, we are reluctant to ask God for healing because we don't like feeling like the little child who asks for something and then is told "No."

How often have I heard the prayer for healing end with, "if it is your will." In other words, when there is no healing the prayer has a back door of escape.

As a former Calvinist, I recognize that idea that since we are so totally depraved we don't really deserve anything good anyway, so it is probably just an insult to ask God for something. Plus He might be in a bad mood.

I can't go there any more, I just don't believe that comports with the character of the God I have come to both love and trust. I can't conceive of someone asking God for healing and getting a response of "Nah, not you..."

My mother, living through the frailties of old age and declining physical strength, was one who deeply loved and trusted God. She took the passage that the Spirit will quicken our mortal bodies and believed that the healing influence of the Holy Spirit would tend to optimize her health. Whenever she was at a meeting where there was a call to come forward for healing, she would go.

When she died at age 94, it was from a fall where she cracked her head on the cement in a restaurant parking lot. Right after church...

But she was healthy, not on significant medications, alert and engaging right up to that point.

Living in personal humility is most pleasing to God. I will continue to ask God for healing for myself and others, regardless of what my eyes see on the other side. I do like the terse passage in James- "You don't receive because you do not ask."

Healing is good, it is from God, so much so that it is one of His names, Jehovah Rapha. (I Am the God Who heals you.)

Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2013/7/19 12:11

I have read all of these posts very carefully and there are 2 things that come to mind and it causes me to reflect on something in my past.

If we are praying for God to heal us and he doesn't then what does that mean?

If someone gives us all kinds of scriptures to show that it is God's Will to heal and we stand on those verses to ask God to heal us and it doesn't happen then what does that mean?

I have seen some Christians get frustrated and start telling their fellow Christian that they are not believing or they don't have enough faith. Almost as if they are pointing a finger at the person and it happens in the word of faith - name it and claim crowd. Is it right to make that charge or off base?

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2013/7/19 12:24

I think a person should exercise extreme caution in sharing your views on this subject.

One does not read in any list of sins that if a person dies from an illness it is because he sinned or is not holy.

Paul wrote Timothy in 1Timothy 5:23: "Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities." Here Paul refers to his infirmities that occurred with some regularity. If ISA 53 had been applicable I am sure he would have challenged him on this issue, but Paul obviously did not equate Timothy's infirmity with Jesus sacrificial death on the cross.

Personally, we depend on divine healing for our bodies. We rarely go to doctors...God has blessed us a lot but he still has not protected us from the ravages of ageing. God also does say "no" to our requests at times. Like Natalie's husband, our daughter died of a glioblastoma. Unlike Natalie, Regina did not leave behind a lot of children - she left behind a husband and two little ones. Many people prayed for Regina, she was anointed with oil but she still died. But you know what? She died without any pain; there were no drugs in her body when she died. God was VERY good, extremely GOOD - she did not suffer at all! Awesome! Even in times of infirmities God will show himself - if you submit to His will, even when he allows infirmities.

God is good...

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2013/7/19 14:26

Deadn--

I certainly empathize with your frustration over this topic. I tend to swing back and forth on the issue, from the end that God never puts sickness on anybody to the end that all sickness is from God because ultimately God is sovereign.

My "gut" belief based on the whole of scripture is that God does not necessarily put sickness on people, either it is directly from the Enemy or a result of our fallen world.

I think we must be satisfied that we can't really know why God heals sometimes and sometimes he doesn't... it is one of those mysteries. It must have something to do with faith, the Bible seems clear on this, but not everything. People with a lot of faith or whose loved ones have a lot of faith sometimes get sick and die.

I agree 100% with Sidewalk that throwing in the phrase "if it be Your will" at the end of a prayer for healing zaps all power out of the prayer. When children ask their loving parents for something to eat, they don't throw in "if it be your will" at the end. That would sound a tad weird. And a loving parent would be mortified if they found a stash of hoarded food in their young child's closet, as if they were fearful they would not be fed. A good parent wants to give good things to their children. And I think it is safe to say that God is the BEST parent. To suggest that God puts cancer on someone to "teach them a lesson" or to teach their spouse or family a lesson is something I cannot and will not accept. The devil might do it, and sometimes God chooses not to directly intervene, but God can work in the situation. This is not the same as saying that God causes it or refuses to prevent it. I believe it may be possible that He is unable to prevent it in some situation; however that is a theologically deep discussion and likely would not be fruitful.

Re: - posted by dohzman (), on: 2013/7/19 15:25

I read an old book written by a doctor that stated if we followed the Hebrew dietary laws our bodies would detox 3 or 4 times a year and medically he listed a whole bunch of benefits that would come to us...I'll try to find it and maybe post the author and book title. I think the processed foods we eat don't do us any good either. I think the fact that we can get sick by the working of our conscience and probably at times the devil, I know David was afflicted by the Lord that he might seek after Him, but all in all it really is a tough subject and one where I am not qualified to really teach on outside of my own experiences and limited understanding.

Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2013/7/19 22:15

Let me share scenario here with my wife. She underwent double lumbar disc fusion 7/1 and 7/3. Spent 7 days in the hospital and began taking tramadol and hydrocodone for the pain. Dr. Says she needs to be active and walk for her healing. She is doing very good for being 2.5 weeks post op. Even the doctor thought she was a month post op. He says because she is young (37), fit and skinny her activity will heal her faster. Her only issue is her bowels.

I see this and I ask inside - God, should she have had this back problem in the first place? Is her healing after the surgery your doing or just genetics and following doctors orders? Is her bowel issue a devil's lair or simply the drug she is using?

A person told me to 'claim her healing' and I just rolled my eyes inside. My thought is, maybe she should have been healed before surgery so we didn't need surgery. Yet she is healing very well to everyone's surprise so may this is the Healing hand of God?

Progressive healing, I suppose is a mystery to me. God or natural?

Re: Speaking honestly - posted by dohzman (), on: 2013/7/19 23:01

Healing is a mystery to me...I laid in a sick bed for 2 years, weight loss with 24/7 incredible pain..The doctors couldn't figure it out. I honestly figured it was time to go and be with the Lord..Stopped praying for healing...I know a lot of people were praying for me though so when the Lord delivered me last year from certain death and healed me supernaturally the day after some tests in the hospital, it came as a real surprise to me, and to be honest I didn't have the faith to believe God would heal me, I just wanted the pain gone, even if that meant checking out of this life. So I fully understand what you are saying DEADn, there is so much of God and His ways that are beyond me, I guess I've stopped trying to figure it all out.

Re: - posted by Lysa (), on: 2013/7/19 23:11

Quote:

-----ginnyrose wrote:

I think a person should exercise extreme caution in sharing your views on this subject.

I agree with ginny here. I believe in healing and I believe that healing is the children's bread but there is no blanket statement about healing that is for each and every one of us b/c not every person is in the same place spiritually and in their faith (and that includes the person doing the praying as well as the one needing prayer).

HERE IS A STORY... I make no judgments; I am just providing the events as I saw them being part of this church. Back in 2005, I used to go to church with two ladies and one became very sick, debilitatingly sick and we prayed and prayed for her for way OVER a year. It's like the church got tired of praying for her healing and I don't know the exact words but the sick lady told me that the other lady (the head prayer warrior of the church), essentially told her that she didn't have enough faith to get healed and that SHE should pray for more faith. I'm sure somewhere in this woman's mind, she thought she was doing the right thing telling her this.

Well, this totally devastated this young-in-the-faith 50 yr old woman, she never asked for prayer again, thought her sickness was all her fault. It was very sad to watch how that one statement has stunted this woman's growth in the Lord. I still see her every once in a while, she goes to church with her husband but nothing more.

Luke 17:2 ~ It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were thrown into the sea, than that he should offend one of these little ones.

God bless,
Lisa

Re: - posted by romanchog (), on: 2013/7/19 23:14

ALL healing is from God, even when the doctors have a hand in it. If God did not permit it, even their intervention would not work.

I used to believe in "name it and claim it." When my mother-in-law was diagnosed with cancer twelve years ago, I fasted and prayed and claimed all of the scriptures. I believed with all my heart that God would heal her. When she died I believed He would raise her. Neither of these things happened. It made me wonder what was wrong with my faith, which is the problem with the name it and claim it idea.

After many other things that my family endured, I learned to trust God and His ways, and to believe that even when He says "No" it is because He is good and He knows what is best, even if I and others feel like we are suffering. I learned that it is not always His will to free us from the suffering and is in fact very biblical for Him to leave us in the suffering so we can learn to be more like Christ. Note that I am not saying that He is the one who causes suffering.

When my husband was diagnosed with cancer, I believed with all my being that God would heal Him. I thought that this was the way that God was going to glorify Himself through this situation. So many were praying, my children were also believing in it. He was anointed with oil. We prayed for him unceasingly. Yet he got worse and worse. Unlike ginnyrose's daughter, he was in excruciating pain and had to take horrible narcotic medication just so that he could tolerate the pain (even with that the pain did not go away, it only got to a level that he could take it). The last four days of his life, he had trouble breathing so that I despaired and asked God to either heal him or take him.

I never stopped praying for him. I prayed the scriptures, as we are told to do. However, I always prayed "if this is your will." I had learned that even if something looks to me like it should be His will, I know nothing of the plans of God and His ways are higher than mine. Whatever God's choice, it would be good.

I knew that with a touch of His hand, my husband's pain and cancer would be gone. Yet God chose not to do this. Was it because I said, "thy will be done"? Would my heart of submission to His will really make God not answer my prayer? That seems to me an awful, as well as an unscriptural, thing to say but it is what is suggested by those who say this is not praying in faith. Many other great men of God have suffered and died despite much prayer (Denny Kenanston and Bob Jennings are two recent examples).

I know that God prepared me to accept His decision. And I know that regardless of how much pain it brings and how little I understand His decision to allow my husband to suffer so much and to let me have this pain, it does not take away the fact that God is good, even if I don't understand Him.

Why does God heal some and not others? What a wonderful testimony from Sidewalk of someone who never was ill! But that is a grace bestowed to his mother by God, and just because everyone does not live without illness does not mean that we are to judge them for supposed lack of faith.

The bottom line is that praying for healing is like praying for anything else. Yes, God is the God Who Heals, but it does not mean He heals everyone, or else no one would die. Christ told us to pray and ask and believe. He also taught to say, "Nevertheless, not my will but Yours be done." That is what God is seeking from us: totally submitted hearts, which also means hearts that pray.

As to your wife Deadn: rejoice in God's healing of Your wife. Continue to pray for her complete healing and that this never returns again. Seek to glorify Him in this. Remember, that all good gifts come from the Father.

In Christ's love,
Natalie

Re: Natalie, thank you! And some other thoughts. - posted by Sidewalk (), on: 2013/7/20 1:52

Natalie you have so eloquently brought a wonderful perspective to this conversation. You have paid a dear price for the faith you have, and I for one appreciate that you have shared it here.

Because the bottom line here is not trying to figure out formulas, or blame God for inconsistencies. It is the sharing of our own sometimes painful stories that build faith in ourselves and others.

That God must endure watching His beloved yet corrupted creation grind its way to redemption is a burden He carries. And he knows the pain of every person who lives before Him.

Jesus said, "Jerusalem, how often I wanted to gather you as a hen gathers her chicks- but you would not!"

I can't help but think that He grieves over our human suffering just as much or more than we do. Is it fair to think that if he did not hold to the hope of our redemption His own grief would be too much for Him to bear?

My handicapped daughter, 34 years old, is mentally around 12. But she and I attend a local church service here in the San Diego area designed specifically for mentally and physically challenged adults. I look around, and while it is grievous to see the chains that restrict the minds and bodies of these people, I also see an incredible outpouring of God's love- some from those with a wonderful gift of ministry, but some is just the way these "kids" minister love to one another!

The stories could melt a heart of iron. Many have conditions from birth, some from accidents- a couple men were run over by cars when they were toddlers! Some are bound by demons with no ability to understand or engage in spiritual warfare. They have the same sin problems, with rude and selfish behavior that they don't hide very well.

In the service they have very short attention spans, most all of them watching the door in the back to see if anyone is coming in. They wander about the church sanctuary, up on the stage to lead the singing- then they just stop and stare at the audience! Nearly every week a crude conga line forms during the worship time, they love to be active and moving.

This is no ordinary service!

Would that a sweet hand of healing might pass through and clear out all the maladies and calamitous misfortune! But that is not to be. For me, I just tell God I am so glad to be there, that He might use me for a moment, an issue, a soul to touch with His love, to be a part of whatever good He is doing in there!

Perhaps the larger perspective on healing is the hope of the coming Kingdom of God. We see a little healing here, a story of someone being healed a couple states away, stories of the great healings in the tent meetings of the '50's and '60's. We see "through a glass darkly" as we deal with the fact that we possess only a measure of the Spirit of God, not yet the fullness.

Perhaps one day we will be carried in the Spirit to see how prayers and healing worked out in our lives, along with a host of other events shaped by the way we either prayed or did not pray.

Which is why I will push myself to stay in prayer as much as I can, trusting that the sweet aroma of that will be useful to God.

Re: - posted by brothagary, on: 2013/7/20 4:38

I often wonder about Paul's letters to the Corinthians

how he goes on to write that there are so many sick and have died in their church due to the chastisement of the Lord, for taking the bread and wine of the Lord in an unworthy manner, these verses obviously go against the idea that God doesn't bring sickness due to a certain sin

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2013/7/20 9:48

While Regina was still living many prayers were offered on her behalf. She was anointed with oil three times because the tumor was kept returning. The day came when she was paralyzed from her waist down and she was swollen tight like a balloon. The doctor had her on steroids to slow swelling on the inside but stopped them a week before she died, seeing she was terminal. Anyhow, as I saw her lying there I said, "God you either heal her or take her!" And I meant it, every word of it.

God took my word and He took her. In the days following the Holy Spirit so kindly asked me how I am going to react when I hear of testimonies by people who prayed for healing and the person was healed, was restored? What will my attitude be towards these testimonies? Towards these people? I thought about this seriously. As I thought about it I was reminded how so many times we saw God working during this entire time. He helped us, He comforted me, he was there in supernatural ways. Am I going to get angry with Him because He told us "NO!"? To get angry with God would have been tantamount to blaspheming, I cannot get angry with God: he was wonderful to us during this time. I learned so much about Him because of it, I cannot turn my back on Him just because he told us 'no'. Since then, I have heard of testimonies of people who were healed supernaturally and I from the depths of my heart rejoice for that miracle.

But you know what? Not everyone who has lost a loved one is able to say this - yet - hence my warning of being very careful in this type of discussion - saying that lack of faith will result in death.

God bless.

And Natalie, God bless you double!

ginnyrose

Re: Praying if it is your will.... - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2013/7/20 10:16

I would like to comment on this phrase "If it is your will".

This concept is a Biblical one. It is first found in the NT in the LORD's Prayer as in Mat 6:10: "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven." Later this sentiment is shared in James 4:15 "For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that."

The difference between the two is that the one in the LORD's prayer is general, encompassing all of life. The verse in James refers to plans we make for the future. In both it is acknowledging our limitations in understanding what is best and what the LORD's will actually is in this particular situation.

In praying it is vital that we are in tune with the Holy Spirit in how we pray. Let us be honest with ourselves: we do not always sense the Holy Spirit when we pray for - you name it. But we have this deep urge, need, so we pray for it anyways. Unless there is a humble spirit making this request it soon can become demanding, demanding that God performs as we want him to. And sometimes God does. There have been people healed supernaturally. But in time you learn that it had been much better if they had died earlier...Let me tell you a true story.

There was a young girl who was deathly ill, terminal. The mother prayed, many others did, too. But the mother DEMANDED the girl to be healed. God granted this request. The girl grew up, entered puberty, became very rebellious, took to drug abuse and eventually committed suicide after she reached her twenties. How much better would it have been if the mother would have been submissive to the LORD's divine will in the life of her daughter when she was a young girl.

I also know of two other young children who were at death's door. One allegedly saw into heaven. But they survived, are now adults. The girl is very religious but is apostatizing; the boy is living for the flesh, how much better it would have been if the LORD would have taken them in their innocence...

These incidents have taught me a lot how one needs to be so careful what we pray for and why and how. Let God be God, always. It will serve us and others well when this is operative in our hearts and minds.

God bless.

Re: - posted by Sidewalk (), on: 2013/7/20 12:40

Good words Sandra- as usual! Your posts convey the wisdom God has given you over many years, they bless me!

There were so many ways Jesus healed people, almost every encounter took different forms and the message in each is to trust God rather than to learn a formula.

Even Paul, who was able to minister healing a number of times to others had a different attitude toward himself. From the "thorn in his flesh" to his fear of personal arrogance and need for painful discipline- to where he doesn't really care whether he lives or dies, seeing advantages in either outcome.

All the people Jesus healed eventually died, as far as we know. Poor Lazarus- "Here we go again...!"

All in all, healing is wonderful, but it is surpassed in greatness by knowing Him, in the fellowship of His sufferings (yeah, that's in there!) and the glory of His resurrection.