

**News and Current Events :: Faith Healing****Faith Healing - posted by robbyk (), on: 2009/7/31 15:28**

As a personal recipient of two recent occurrences of instantaneous healings after the laying on of hands or prayer from the church, let's just say, "I believe in the power of prayer to heal miraculously".

Near my home town of Madison, a trial is ongoing regarding a girl who fell into a diabetic coma and died over about a two week period. The parents and the Bible study group apparently felt the girl had a serious flu. The father is now on trial and the mother is facing 25 years.

Details at <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,535861,00.html?test=latestnews> (I'm not sure I got this link to work)

A couple of caveats. First I do not habitually listen to the news in any way, far too busy to waste time on that, I'll catch a quick update online using RSS feeds, but this is local and the scuttlebutt caught my attention. Second I cannot vouch for any details of this news account since I have not really read the story in earnest.

My question is what all of you who have sincerely earned my respect as learned Bible scholars, think of this in general. Should the government be allowed to come in and sentence these parents, if indeed, they believed the daughter had the flu?

I should add, I horribly injured my foot again this winter and refused to go to the doctor, but trusted in prayer alone. I and the Church prayed for healing but it didn't occur...yet.

I'll also add I have ALWAYS sought medical counsel for my wife and son. I have dropped my health coverage on myself, though. I am also in excellent health as a vegetarian health nut that hasn't had even a serious flu since 1995 or so.

Re: Faith Healing, on: 2009/7/31 17:27

A better link here, (<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,535861,00.html>) Father prayed for daughter that died

It's people like this that make us look stupid. Pray yes, but at the same time take them to the hospital. We have Christians everywhere that won't go to a Dr because they think that is a sign that their faith is weak. Poppycock! He could have taken her to a Natural path Doctor if he was against conventional medicine.

Then again, that child may have had to die for him to go to jail so that a greater good could be accomplished, the will of God. Only God knows. :-o

Re: - posted by robbyk (), on: 2009/7/31 21:43

Thanks Deep Thinker for the link that actually works, I'd better stick to what I know how to do from now on!

Anyway, you think then 25 years is a good and fitting punishment for the mother. Probably Waupan for violent offenders.

Of course, apart from praying, here in Madison everyone is a victim of their circumstances so even the most heinous crimes are undeserving of jail, just treatment, maybe 2-3 years at most, electronic monitoring.

But mistakenly believe along with others the child has the flu, and pray and off you go for 25 years. She'll probably live a couple of years in prison, eh? At least then she can join her daughter.

Mind you, my wife and son agree with you and I just wanted to see how other scholars felt.

I guess I don't buy that.

Re: .., on: 2009/7/31 22:15

Quote:

-----Anyway, you think then 25 years is a good and fitting punishment for the mother?

25 years is a long time. The name of Jesus is blasphemed among the gentiles because of situations like this. This has brought a great reproach on God. This has just solidified the Atheist claims that God is dead seeing that He doesn't answer prayer even when someone is at death's door and supposedly a prayer coming from His own children. As we see more and more ministers either coming out of the closet or bowing to immorality. Now we have this foolish people that have no common sense to do what's right, and further having no discernment. We are becoming more and more crazy in the sight of the world not because we are associated with Jesus Christ (which would be a lot better) but because our association with not being able to care for our children. This is very grievous. Paul's admonishment to us gentiles is to live a quiet and peaceable life while we journey this side of eternity.

My heart is heavy.

Re: - posted by robbyk (), on: 2009/8/1 0:49

My heart is heavy as well.

But I feel the "world" no longer needs any such examples to serve as a "reproach" in their attack on Christianity and it matters not to them if there is a scapegoat. If not this then that. Here in Madison, the politicians and the public school officials and the cops and the university elite need only roll their eyes and the politically correct know to nod in amusement. "Crazy Christians, none of them have any sense and they are so hateful and offensive."

There are far deeper issues here, I believe. There is a spiritual fight in this.

You are right in that we keep losing the battles the Lord has chosen us to fight in.

But then on the human side:

In Waupan where this woman may end up, the prison chaplain is a Wiccan because Madison elitists found the evangelical pastor offensive as he might say something about God to the inmates. So they had him fired and installed the Wiccan. How well the Wiccan will console this poor woman now separated from her husband to whom she was obedient.

I will not berate Paul's admonishment as you point out. Oh that I could continue to live a quiet life in my garden, with my music and my loving family and my daily study of the Word and the P&W and my Fellowship with the saints.

But my heart is heavy as well. My friend, I fear the world is soon coming for all of us. I'm not sure (whether we choose to or not) life will be all that quiet for any of us much longer.

Thank you for the kind reply. I was happy to hear another viewpoint.

Re: - posted by HeartSong, on: 2009/8/1 3:19

Matthew 9:29 - According to your faith be it unto you.

It matters not what the world thinks. To be concerned with the actions, or reactions, of the world is to enslave ourselves to it such for this is exactly how we have come to that which we are now facing. Lines are being drawn in the sand and we are now choosing where we will stand. To choose the world, or the ways of the world, is choosing to subject oneself to the rules, or the law, of same. We are choosing this day whom we will serve.

Re: - posted by robbyk (), on: 2009/8/1 14:20

Amen, yes indeed.

Heartsong wrote:

Quote:

-----We are chosing this day whom we will serve.

And may I add only:

Romans 8:14-18 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Re: , on: 2009/8/1 22:45

Quote:

-----It matters not what the world thinks. To be concerned with the actions, or reactions, of the world is to enslave ourselves to such for this is exactly how we have come to that which we are now facing. Lines are being drawn in the sand and we are now choosing where we will stand. To chose the world, or the ways of the world, is choosing to subject oneself to the rules, or the law, of same. We are choosing this day whom we will serve.

It is important what the world thinks. If you sin against your neighbour or you do something that looks wrong in the public eye, we are being watched by this world, and whilst you think that it doesn't matter what the world thinks of how this Dad didn't do what any normal Dad would have done by taken his child to the hospital, that tells the world that serving Jesus Christ is not good at all if His own children are forbidden to see a Doctor.

This Dad testified in court that the bible forbade him to take his daughter to a Doctor. I don't know what bible he was reading but there is no such commands given. Now that is not drawing the line in whom I choose to serve this day, this is stupidity of the nth degree from a man who does not know God at all who inserts foolish commands in the bible or interprets them to mean something else.

A child is dead because of stupidity, a disease that was treatable. And you say that the world's opinion doesn't matter? It's important to have a reputation in this world, NOT COMPROMISING with it, but your reputation can be that of a just man. There is nothing wrong with having that reputation. Your reputation could be that your a great giver to the poor but others hate you because you speak the truth, that too is having a reputation. But let us not have a reputation as an evil doer.

Jesus paid His taxes one day because He didn't want to offend the world. The last thing He wanted was a scandal on the 6 o'clock news stating that Jesus defrauded the IRS. That is not what He came for, thus it was necessary to obey the laws of the land as long as it didn't interfere with His mission.

Re: - posted by robbyk (), on: 2009/8/2 2:54

I suspect the passion which you make your point Deep Thinker is evidence of your strong love for our Saviour and for His precious Holy Name. God bless you!

Know that in many areas of my city you are no longer allowed to voice those convictions as you are a Christian. We have religion free zones to protect the people from the intolerant hatred and bigoted homophobic onslaughts of hurtful divisive Christians.

So thank God for forums such as this! However I think we have begun to bifurcate in our discussionÂ...

My original query being how do we feel about being thrown in jail for bearing our convictions as Christians, in this case,

miraculous healings of which I am a delighted recipient. I really didn't know the exact specifics as I mentioned.

25 years? My God! That is just to teach us to stay in our place. This severity of sentencing wouldn't happen in the GLBT community I am sure. The Moslem community? I don't know, thus my query.

I would once again concur with HeartSong and add:

Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

Re: Faith Healing - posted by AbideinHim (), on: 2009/8/2 9:43

I don't believe that we can tell another Christian whether or not they should be going to a doctor. That is between them and God. What is God telling them to do that is the important thing.

There are only a few Christians that I know of personally that do not believe in going to doctors. There are a lot of Christians that don't believe that God heals anymore, so they go to a doctor at the drop of the hat, and take any medication that the doctor recommends. Most Christians that I know trust God for healing but don't have a problem with going to a doctor.

The world is not going to understand a believer that trust in the Lord for their healing and doesn't believe in going to doctors. I have known of many people that have been healed yet I never saw it on the front page of the newspaper.

On the other hand much harm has been done from Christians walking in presumption and not faith. We cannot just presume that God is going to heal us.

The doctors are losing a lot of people also, but you very rarely see this in the newspaper. There are countless people that die in hospitals everyday from staff infections, from the wrong medication being given or too much of it. Doctors are looked upon in our society as some kind of God, and many of them are not believers and do not give the glory to God when one of their patients miraculously recovers.

I was talking to a Pentecostal brother sometime back about healing and he was telling me that the old time Pentecostals never went to the doctors. Most of them lived healthy, long lives just because they trusted the Lord to be their physician.

I would never tell anyone not to go to a doctor. That is a decision that they have to make for themselves. In the 70 and 80'S there was a man named Hobart Freeman that ministered somewhere in Indiana. He taught that Christians should trust in God alone for their healing. Many of his church members were healed, and some died. The ones that died were used as examples in the papers and his ministry came under a lot of fire. I believe that he had a very strong position concerning healing, but that is the way that he was in every thing concerning the Word of God. There was no compromise in the man. If he would still be alive today, he would be in prison along with most of his congregation.

We have to be sensitive to the voice of God and the leading of the Holy Spirit and do what God is telling us to do in the matter of healing. We cannot get out in an area of presumption and believe that God is going to heal us because he healed brother so and so. God does heal today, and I can testify to being healed and praying for people that were healed as well as being a witness of numerous healings.

Mike

Re: Presumption - posted by crsschk (), on: 2009/8/2 10:42

Quote:
-----... as well as complete healing from a broken foot one day after the fact

Quote:
-----, let's just say, "I believe in the power of prayer to heal miraculously".

I should add, I horribly injured my foot again this winter and refused to go to the doctor, but trusted in prayer alone. I and the Church prayed for healing but it didn't occur...yet.

Might want to get that x-rayed, doesn't sound like that foot got all that well healed the first time there brother. Generally, if you break a bone and it is set correctly it will actually become *stronger*. And, I might add, what will happen to your family in the event your canceled health coverage and presumption upon God's will if it one day leaves you disabled or an invalid and a burden upon your family?

This is really the gist of the whole situation, including the sad, heart breaking situation now with this family. Reading the article my first instinct was something along the lines of '*and where did he assimilate this idea in the first place?*' regarding;

"Neumann, who once studied to be a Pentecostal minister, testified Thursday that he believed God would heal his daughter and he never expected her to die. God promises in the Bible to heal, he said.

"If I go to the doctor, I am putting the doctor before God," Neumann testified. "I am not believing what he said he would do."

There is no end to these shenanigans and the *teaching* that runs along the lines of '*It's always Gods will to heal*'. There is no promise anywhere explicitly that is not tortured away from the whole of scripture and that cannot be at a minimum dismissed as contradictory by Paul's admonishen to Timothy in 1Ti 5:23 as one example.

The word is presumption. Another example given to the Benny Hinn's of the world that will go by the wayside or be put down as a lack of faith article so they can continue to sell their wares and their *version* of interpretation, the verse;

Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" Joh 18:34

Comes to mind. That is, did this man come to his own conclusions or was it aped by '*others say it to you about me?*' If he was studying to be a Pentecostal minister as stated the possibility seems strong enough even though that may be a presumption on my part. It's a clever twist on their part to not have faith in their version of faith, not faith in God which need not presume upon Him.

But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel. 1Ti 5:8

All that the word *provide* obligates us to and even to overlook the context in wonder of what made these women widows in the first place, especially if;

Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day. 1Ti 5:5

Certainly this is not to suggest there was no trusting God prior and yet for all this, how is it that this gets thrown to the dogs;

he hath denied the faith

Not a *lack* of faith but faith *denied*, it's actually a violation of faith. I didn't intend to start down this road and draw out verses to dispute or haggle over the nuances of them - This is one area where we have covered miles of ground in the past and I for one would like to see some accountability from these so called 'teachers' who put these notions in peoples heads in the first place. The long redundant rant has been that there are serious **ramifications** from this nonsense, that which I was at one time even slightly caught up in with the whole WOF camp though it doesn't end with them either, the JW's to each similarly and the alterations and variations are numerous. As far as I am concerned these people are accessories to this tragedy and to many that have come before it and will continue to come long after it.

25 years for ignorance ... I can only shake my head and grieve, too bad there isn't more said as to where he got all this in the first place - Maybe he did derive it all on his own. But hold this tragic example as fire to the feet of the so called "Faith healers" and dealers of this hour and they will only seek to worm their way out of it. They don't care one iota about the fallout, ruined lives and unnecessary suffering of their hearers and 'believers'. There should be justice even in this present world by the 'word-lings' - What else is this admonishen for;

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you. Heb 13:17

Even Jesus would not offend them nor disobey the 'worldly' powers that be. The pseudo, puppet gov. of the Jews and the Sanhedrin being something else entirely. And Paul as a Roman citizen sought justice with the same powers that be. This is where Deep Thinker is dead on in his assessment, I concur whole heartedly.

Robby;

Quote:
-----Know that in many areas of my city you are no longer allowed to voice those convictions as you are a Christian. We have religion free zones to protect the people from the intolerant hatred and bigoted homophobic onslaughts of hurtful divisive Christians.

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slem community? I don't know, thus my query.

I would once again concur with HeartSong and add:

Joshua 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

I respect what you have stated here in regards to the misconstrued notions of Christian convictions but feel this is a mixing of wrong metaphors so to speak. We shouldn't craft a complex that makes us 'martyrs' due to our own stupidity or breaking the laws of the land. Using Joshua 24:15 as a defense is akin to abusing it against;

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. Joh 4:24

And the truth is no healing is promised upon presumption and serving the Lord has nothing to do with believing someones else misguided version, 'conviction' of faith or faith healing. Even one's own.* This and others like it is too often used as a scapegoat for good old fashioned common sense. How many times must we hear a defensive posture taken for that which we are responsible for? "*I am serving the Lord*" - Are you? Truly? Or are you serving your self ultimately, back-peddling and dismissing your obligation and pining it on the Lord? (I am using the word 'you' in a generative manner).

**Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2Ti 2:15*

Re: - posted by robbyk (), on: 2009/8/3 0:08

Many words of wisdom which I was intent on searching out at this forum as I have been steeped in my own discernment o'er the past many months. Thanks!!!

Quote:
-----Might want to get that x-rayed, doesn't sound like that foot got all that well healed the first time there brother. Generally, if you break a bone and it is reset correctly it will actually become stronger.

I should add I refused to go to the doctor upon the injury, whatever that was but at the behest of my church I consented to go in for a foot x-ray at a later date.

Here's the rub:

2 years ago I broke my foot, went into emergency at midnight, had x-rays, shown the break on the side of the foot and to ld to wear a leg "boot" for 6 - 8 weeks. The next day I couldn't walk out of bed and my wife made an appt with the special ist to get a boot.

The next day, I woke up and was heavily preoccupied with a free concert with my band that evening for a local large food pantry. 3-4 hours after bible study and morning devotionals, I was fixing my oatmeal and I realized I WAS WALKING!

I testified that evening to all the recipients of the meal to the Glory of God my foot had been healed and even stomped out an exaggerated beat to the music !

Well this year just before Easter, I was cutting down dead elms on a slippery hillside out back and I somehow injured my foot . By evening I couldn't walk but taped up my toes, put an ace bandage on the foot, wore the boot from the previous year which I never needed and my foot slowly improved...but...all these months later I still cannot walk well so I went in for the x-ray. I also think I have stretched out my Achilles tendon which has slowed the healing.

There is NO evidence of break!

Not even evidence of the certified break from the previous year. All is healed without any evidence of having ever been broken.

So what to do now? The doctors want to do an estimated \$10,000 of tests up to an including MRI's etc. They suspect all kinds of stuff. Too bad.

No can do. Besides doctors are largely drug pushers and that is how they diagnose. I don't "do" that very well and I don't have time to be a guinea pig.

The Lord continues to lead. On August 12th I am heading out to discuss missions work with the Lakota Sioux nation in S D. If I can't walk, then so be it. When I come back I will be discussing the same with the Ojibwa up north.

Time to be about my Father's business.

All prayers are appreciated and thanks in advance.

Re: - posted by robbyk (), on: 2009/8/3 0:33

GLORY TO GOD!

This morning in our Fellowship, our wonderful sister Kim who has had increasing health problems over the past many months and finally was diagnosed with breast cancer announced today the doctors can NO LONGER find the cancer and ALL plans for her surgery have been cancelled! She has been trusting for her healing and our Pastor and Fellowship has been laying hands on her.

Quote:
-----The world is not going to understand a believer that trust in the Lord for their healing and doesn't believe in going to doctors. I have known of many people that have been healed yet I never saw it on the front page of the newspaper.

Yes! We call it a healing!

I just want to add I am very thankful for all the above discussion in this thread. As I say I have been somewhat obsessed with this having been and then not been a recipient of healing in my life...

Today as the Lord would have it, my pastor touched off an incredible sermon tying together much of what has been eluded to above...the evil in this city, the strength of the church, healing, prayer... His sermon from Acts was magnificent!

I have decided to post his sermon on my youtube site in it's entirety . It should be up in a day or two if anyone is interested!

God bless you all, He is good all the time!

Re: - posted by passerby, on: 2009/8/3 1:33

What he did seemed very foolish, but I really don't know this man_ how he really walks before God and before his neighbors, if he is really that foul and offensive or is simply suffering from 'obsessive-compulsive disorder'.

This is very painful, but lot of believers more especially in the pentecostal groups seem to suffer from this malady as the secular world will describe it. From my experience, these individuals maybe are misguided, but they are sincere and kind .

I once asked myself about their eternal condition being very bothered from what I saw.

Well, what is impressed upon me is that we are saved by grace alone, at times we also suffer from 'obsessive compulsive behavior', that God remembers them whose trust is in Him although they don't received the answer to their prayers and faith in this present life:

"These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth" (Heb 11:13)

I am also rather humbled on how they suffer for their beliefs even for its foolishness and I came to examine myself on how am I really willing to be a fool for God, to forsake the wisdom of this world and follow Christ.

I am rather overwhelmed by pity to that man at the moment, I know God does not overlook a sincere faith, and that God is sovereign and loves that girl more than than I can imagine:

Luk 12:6 Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God?

Luk 12:7 But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.

Re: - posted by broclint (), on: 2009/8/3 6:49

Quote:
----- Mike: "Comes to mind. That is, did this man come to his own conclusions or was it aped by ' others say it to you about me? If he was studying to be a Pentecostal minister as stated the possibility seems strong enough even though that may be a presumption on my part. It's a clever twist on their part to not have faith in their version of faith, not faith in God which need not presume upon Him."

Quote:
----- Passerby: "What he did seemed very foolish, but I really don't know this man_ how he really walks before God and before his neighbors, if he is really that foul and offensive or is simply suffering from 'obsessive-compulsive disorder'."

Procter and Gambelites thread comes to mind here... do we know all the facts?

Are we so quick to jump to the world's judgment regarding this man who may or may not be as "ignorant" or filled with "stupidity" as the world has judged him in a climate as our brother who introduced the subject described, where the government seems (notice I said seems from his quote) to be rather demonic.

Not at all taking up for presumption substituted for faith. I have made my comments many times on the forums against such "faith" and the fact that it requires much more faith to be a Job or a Paul in prison, or an Amy Carmichael suffering till the death than what is called faith for healing... those heroes as a friend recently pointed out in Hebrews 11 "not accepting deliverance"... such as the many martyrs and sufferers world wide for the name of Christ... but then that begs the question about "authorities" also. China, North Korea, the Muslim nations, and etc. are filled with Christians imprisoned for "breaking the law".

Just trying to look at something other than a one sided picture... and looking at who painted the one we have information from.

Other food for thought are the remarks at the Q & A last year regarding the days coming when Christians in the U.S. (<http://media.sermonindex.net/17/SID17658.mp3>) here will be arrested and charged with all kinds of crimes in order to smear not only them but Christians in general.

Another quote comes to mind and that from the Lord Himself Matthew 5:21-22 (NASB)
"You have heard that the ancients were told, 'You shall not commit murder' and 'Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.'
"But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, 'You good-for-nothing,' shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, 'You fool,' shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.

Respectfully submitted for thought.

Clint

Re: - posted by robbyk (), on: 2009/8/3 14:10

The previous couple of comments are so intensely beautiful, well thought out and scriptural that I am overwhelmed with the strength, devotion and maturity of this community. It give me much food and encouragement in my daily walk, a man tor as it were and courage.

Re: - posted by sonofthunder (), on: 2009/8/3 19:25

Let me add also, there have been not a FEW radical groups that have come and gone - and in particular in the great ole (USA)! That HAVE refused any kind of medical treatment for ailments and serious afflictions ... thinking OF COURSE TH AT this is contrary to the (faith and divine healing message) !!! The ensuing result of course is many have died of ailment s which in MANY instances could have been easily fixed by the hands and treatment of medical science. But the recipie nts of such a message continued to refuse any kind of medical treatment (in spite of how bad the situation got, deteriorat ed, or how things worsened) as this was construed and seen (as compromise) to their absolute message of total faith! (f ull stop)

Of course over an extensive period of time (what happens is) the death toll of people in these radical groups continues t o climb and escalate upon them that have allayed or joined themselves to such a group. Until of course the authorities st ep in (and/or laws) are changed to close the loopholes to irresponsibility and sheer lack of common sense!!!

Usually by then however: The death toll in these radical groups has risen to dozens and dozens of needless and uneces sary premature deaths! Yeah even hundreds of people! As parents and adults alike - continue to refuse any kind of medi cal treatment whatsoever ... and again they behave in this fashion: Because this is seen as a contradiction to walking by faith!!!

Interesting thought though: Jesus never chided or scalded the woman with (the issue of blood) that had been constantly seeking relief from her ailment> However when divine supernatural healing occurs ... or takes place in the bible (98.9%) of the time - it was instantaneously (being instant) and there was none of this none this walking it out business (that fait h people) talk about?! Hmmm.

Even the ten lepors "still recieved" as they walked! they weren't made to wait ten hours, or ten days, or even ten months ... for the manifestation of their healing - to come.

I don't follow (word of faith) modern faith preachers for these self same reasons i bring to you now. Paul said it well i thin k: You will suffer if a man - bring you into bondage: !!!!!

There is a lot of deception and winds of doctrine out there -- so be careful, beloved!

Re: - posted by sonofthunder (), on: 2009/8/3 19:41

Oh by the way - stay tuned, as God willing the (12) most debated topics in all the bible ... is a post i am currently working on. Which God willing i hope to deliver to you all - one day, soon!! hopefully!

Re: , on: 2009/8/3 21:34

Quote:
-----This is very painful, but lot of believers more especially in the pentecostal groups seem to suffer from this malady as the secular wor ld will describe it. From my experience, these individuals maybe are misguided, but they are sincere and kind.

Having a Pentecostal background, I concur with your analysis. It's the extreme legalism in certain off shoots of the Pente costal movement that adhere to a strict moral code which includes not going to the General Practitioner. The word of fait h is another extreme off shoot as well. It's generally the person who is the Pastor of these flocks that gets messed up, no t every Pastor adheres to these stupid rules, others will actually have a good and wholesome balance. But we are going to find that in all denominations, not every Pastor has been called to be a Pastor.

Re: - posted by HeartSong, on: 2009/8/4 0:39

For what it is worth, the Lord has gotten me to a place that I do not intend to seek medical help unless He leads me to it.

Recently He has seen fit to allow me to have a severe rash on my face. It looks really bad and has been a huge blow to my ego. I asked the Lord to take it away, but His response was that His grace was sufficient. In addition to the rash, He has required that I be seen by many people - whereas I would typically hide away in a situation such as this.

I have never had such a disfiguring thing happen to me. There are blotchy red spots covering most of my face. They are puffy and scabby and very ugly - one of my eyes was even half closed when I woke up this morning. When people ask me what it is I tell them that the Lord is dealing with some vanity issues. Yesterday in church a lady asked me if it hurt and I told her "no, just my pride." People have been avoiding me, and little children have been pointing at me. I must say that my empathy level for disfigured people has risen significantly.

Several people have told me I should see a doctor, but as far as I can see, for the most part, people are not actually healed of their illnesses by doctors. Additionally the Lord has shown me that my choices dictate where my help comes from - and I choose Him. If, and when, He chooses to heal me I know that my healing will not only be complete, but that there will be many blessings connected to it.

I have asked the Lord not to heal me until the vanity issue is resolved. I would rather have a red blotchy face than a dark heart and if I die from it I will have gained everything, for I will then have all of Him.

Re: - posted by passerby, on: 2009/8/4 5:52

I hope that the higher courts will have a more benevolent treatment of the couple. 25 years is unthinkable, the case is very much more complicated than it appears. I don't know how many children do this couple has, how difficult is the ordeal they are passing right now.

I don't know what is in the minds of the leaders of these groups regarding his case, but I wish that their ranks will be better protected from extrabiblical leaps of faith. I know that this is rather a very complicated belief issue to tackle especially if one perceives that his eternal destiny is at stake.

Perhaps by prayers, patience, kindness, diligent study of related issues, and with sincere efforts we will be able to reach our brethren who are suffering from extremism and from their very weak and oppressive conscience.

Basing on medical science, it will take years to repair a pathologically tender conscience if they will ever be, patience is really needed in rehabilitating these people.

Re: - posted by sonofthunder (), on: 2009/8/4 6:04

It comes down to personal conviction and/or choice when it comes to the "trust God" (or) go the doctor route (for healing)...Liberty or legalism. As No one can tell others what to do in their situation! It is between them and God! As to Whether they trust God implicitly for Divine healing (OR) TRUST TO THE PHYSICIAN. (King Asa chose to trust the physicians for his own foot ailment and consequently he died) But as for us 21st century folks - and Where we go wrong in this whole schmozzle of God and doctors is we often try to tell people what they should be doing! And thus we interfere with their faith, as such! If a man has FAITH let him have it to HIMSELF (Paul said to the Romans) And IF HE doesn't have faith to trust God implicitly for his ailment. And chooses to go the doctor route instead. That is still their choice, to make! And such people also in no way deserve to be censored, or belittled for not trusting in God, to heal them! Job said though he slay me, yet will I trust him! Job just resigned himself to God (so to speak) and if God healed him, he healed him! But if not. Then I will still place all of my trust in him. But that was his choice! Without peer pressure or conformity - pressing in on him! (from the crowd or group) so-to-speak!!!!

Re: - posted by passerby, on: 2009/8/4 6:31

In relation to the last post by 'sonofthunder' these verses came to my mind:

Rom 14:13 Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.

Rom 14:21 It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.

Rom 14:22 Hast thou faith? have it to thyself before God. Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth.

Rom 14:23 And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

1Co 8:11 And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died?

1Co 8:12 But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ.

Re: - posted by AbideinHim (), on: 2009/8/4 7:38

I agree brother that many have gone to the extreme on this issue, but what I would consider to be extreme is that many Christians are putting their lives in the hands of physicians without praying about it. This definitely is a extreme position for a Christian because it is trusting in the arm of the flesh.

Whatever we do, as Christians we need to be trusting God in every realm of our lives, and this includes the physical. If Obama and Nancy Pelosi get their way with this government run health care plan, the time could come when it might not be so easy to even see a doctor, and you might not have a choice of which doctor you see.

Mike

Re: Faith Healing - posted by Lysa (), on: 2009/8/4 13:33

Hey everyone,

I do not know what makes a person go to such an extreme but I know that I (we) are not called to hop on the bandwagon of condemnation against these people but to pray for God's will to be done.

I did want to pose a question to some... if Obama's health bill passes we'll all be living by **EXTREME** faith. So who is to really say what is extreme now will not be the norm when you can't get anyone to look at you?

Listen to this video, (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?vWmmiwHw8bNg>) Betsy McCaughey Exposes Obama Healthcare Lies. This is what I got from it...

They will use "comparative effectiveness research" for denying care. How? The average cost of treatment divided by the number of years the patient is likely to benefit from the treatment. The elderly has a denominator problem = AGE!

There is so much more that they've lied to us about in this bill. Only if you meet strict guidelines can you keep your medical insurance which means, hardly anyone will be able to!

Oh yeah, read page 425 of the bill, cause if this bill passes they will have to erect a statue to Dr. Kevorkian. God help us all.

Re: - posted by Miccah (), on: 2009/8/4 13:50

HeartSong wrote:

Quote:

I have asked the Lord not to heal me until the vanity issue is resolved. I would rather have a red blotchy face than a dark heart and if I die from it I will have gained everything, for I will then have all of Him.

Praise the Lord. May your heart be set straight. Blessings my friend. :-)

Re: , on: 2009/8/4 16:53

Quote:

-----For what it is worth, the Lord has gotten me to a place that I do not intend to seek medical help unless He leads me to it.

It's easy to say that about your face, but if you've ever had a kidney stone, you don't wait around for God to do something, you get help immediately. The pain is unbelievably excruciating, and I thank God for pain killers. If someone stabbed you with a knife or shot you in the leg, would you run to your prayer closet and bleed to death while your waiting for God to stop the bleeding?

There have been rare cases that God instantly will intervene, but in most cases He has placed the skill of Doctoring in the world to be used. Where do you think the idea for Penicillin originated from? Do you think the devil would try to help the world by saving some people by offering a formula to a scientist? The devils business is to Rob, Kill and Destroy. He hates humanity in which Christ died for and paid for with His precious blood.

Quote:
-----9 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. 30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

There is a lot of uses you can do with Herbs. Tonics, elixirs, bitters.

We view the Dandelion as a weed, yet we can practically consume the whole plant, even the root. It acts as a natural blood thinner, lowers high blood pressure and gives the sense of overall well being and the flowers are made into an elixir that aids in digestion.

God has given us a pharmacy right in our back yards. There is even an herbal remedy for your condition.

"Whatsoever a woman thinketh so is she"

Re: - posted by sonofthunder (), on: 2009/8/4 20:33

Always remember in true "biblical times" of old! The people got help for there ailment straight away! (generally speaking) healing was as much an act of mercy as it was (Having faith in who - Jesus was) You always have to look at the context of the time the people lived in - and the setting of that day! In order to be scripturally contextual!

For EXAMPLE: JESUS WAS A MINISTER (OF) AND (TO) THE CIRCUMCISION, TO CONFIRM THE PROMISES ORIGINALLY MADE TO THE FATHERS! NOW THAT MAKES LITTLE SENSE UNTIL YOU REALIZE (CONTEXTUALLY SPEAKING) THAT ORIGINALLY Jesus turned down the syrophynecian's request for deliverance of her sick daughter (WHO HAD A Devil) REMEMBERING Jesus was not sent BUT to the lost sheep of the house of Israel (the circumcision, JEWS) AND SO Jesus said "No" to her request! AND WHY? he was sent ONLY TO IsraelAND this by the way jettison the whole DEBATE OF THE SEPTUAGINT (YOU SAY WHY, AND HOW SO) ??

IT IS Easy to answer that: the syrophenician woman was excluded until the gentiles were grafted In. Salvation was of the jews (first) (not Greeks) later the gentiles were to be -- grafted in, as we know, along with the new testament!! So Of what purpose, and to what purpose then is the septaugint to greeks who really didn't care - nor could it help them anyway (salvation wise) Salvation came to the WORLD by Jesus christ and his cross(And not before) Therefore playing around

d with a septuagint, would have been just exactly that, just playing around, as it could not save or avail them, until the gentiles were grafted into the vine!!! For God so loved the WORLD. Now THAT MIGHT SEEM LIKE IM CHASING RABBITS, BUT NONETHELESS IT IS IMPORTANT TO PUT EVERYTHING INTO CONTEXT, AND THIS IS -- WHY I SAID IT!

Re: - posted by HeartSong, on: 2009/8/5 1:14

This morning when I woke up, my face was all but healed. I have been praising the Lord all day long. Thank you, everyone who prayed - may He bless you greatly.

DeepThinker, I do not have all of the answers, all that I know is what the Lord has shown me. After my accident one doctor said that my wrist was crushed - by the time I got to the next doctor all that was necessary was to pull my wrist back into place and put a cast on it. The only pain that I felt was the shot they insisted on giving me for the pain that I did not have and the pain that resulted from my circulation being cut off by the cast.

When I have a charlie horse in my leg or foot I pray and it goes away. When I ask the Lord to show me what the cause is for this, or that, He usually shows me and I make the adjustment.

Quote:

-----"Whatsoever a woman thinketh so is she"

I do not know what you are saying here, but what I do know is that I love my Lord - and He loves me.

Re: - posted by robbyk (), on: 2009/8/5 4:12

Praise God!

Quote:

-----This morning when I woke up, my face was all but healed. I have been praising the Lord all day long. Thank you, everyone who prayed - may He bless you greatly.

As I mentioned, I would include a link to my pastor's Sunday sermon when I got it posted . He talks of fashioning our Fellowship after the Acts model of church as well as a wonderful loving response to the depravity of Madison and finally talks about the healing of one of our saints .

Blessings to you all! Robby

Called To Be Saints (2:39) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a9vrmS5vhSQ>

The Acts Model Of Church (9:16) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xhcaocZhcDo>

Re: Reputation... - posted by Stampe (), on: 2009/8/11 2:50

I agree with you deep thinker, that we should strive to have a good reputation with the world, but having said that, a few things need to be well-defined.

If we say we strive to have a good reputation with the world, it means that they see and acknowledge the love we as Christians have for one another as well as for our fellow neighbour. In other words, they do not hate us because we do that which is wrong.

If the world are to hate us, believe me they will, it is to be because we bear witness to the truth, because we testify of Jesus Christ, and because our righteousness reflects on their corruption. Let them hate us because we preach the truth and because we do good, let them hate us because they are convicted by the message we preach and live, but not because we are lawbreakers or act as irresponsible parents.

We should be asking ourselves whose great name we should be protecting? Oh, may it never be that we should bring shame to the matchless name of Christ. People who will not take their children to the doctor, are very self-centered people

e who care more about the performance of their own faith, than they care about the name of Christ, I'm sorry to say...

Re: Faith Healing - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2009/8/14 11:23

Quote:
-----Should the government be allowed to come in and sentence these parents, if indeed, they believed the daughter had the flu?

My answer to this question is : "NO!". Whether one chooses to seek medical help should be left to the individual. The gov has no business telling a citizen how they need to treat their illnesses.

Having said this, I suspect folks will be sent into prison for not yielding to this gov mandate. If this is the case, it just may be that God will use this kind of situation to take his children into a place where they can minister that would otherwise be closed.

Let us work to look at these situations from God's perspective and see what happens. Instead of crying and pitying ourselves for freedoms that are taken away they may in fact be opportunities God is providing for his children to minister to others. At the very least it could bring more Glory to God then if it did not happen.

ginnyrose