

Gifts of Healings

Biblical

I Corinthians 12:7

Healings -iama (ἰάμα, 2386), akin to A, No. 2, formerly signified “a means of healing”; in the NT, “a healing” (the result of the act), used in the plural, in 1 Cor. 12:9, 28, 30, rv, “healings”; of divinely imparted gifts in the churches in apostolic times¹ Note healings is plural.

Derek Prince on Gifts of Healings

Notice in the original it's all plural. Gifts of healings. I personally am inclined to believe that every healing is a gift. And it generally works out that you find certain ministers have certain faith for certain types of healing. Like, I have faith for back problems. I have faith for colitis. I have faith for asthma. I have faith for arthritis. But until recently, as far as people's eyes were concerned, I didn't have much faith.

I say until recently because recently in Pakistan we saw maybe ten blind people receive their sight. But that's a new development that I'm not quite sure what the next phase of that will be. But for years now I have prayed for people with back problems and most of them get healed. So, there's two ways of understanding gifts of healing. Each healing is a distinct gift. And also, some people get gifts of healings for, let's say, arthritis or epilepsy. Others get gifts of healings for deafness or blindness or intestinal complaints. There's many different ways this thing can operate. We have to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit.

Now in essence, the gift of healing or a gift of healing is God's supernatural power against sickness. Okay? Healing relates to sickness. The only kind of people that can get healed are sick people. Okay. There's a statement in Luke 5:17, speaking about a period in the ministry of Jesus. Luke 5:17 It happened on a certain day as he was teaching that there were Pharisees and teachers of the Law sitting by who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was present to heal them. Alternative translation: The power of the Lord was present with him to heal them.

Notice the power of the Lord was present to heal. So, God's healing power drives out sickness and replaces it with health. It's a supernatural power granted by the Holy Spirit released often through the laying on of hands, sometimes through anointing with oil, in various different ways. But healing relates to sickness.

¹ Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W., Jr. (1996). In [Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words](#) (Vol. 2, p. 295). T. Nelson.



Peter Wagner on Gifts of Healing

The gift of healing is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to serve as human intermediaries through whom it pleases God to cure illness and restore health apart from the use of natural means.

In one sense the gift of healing can be understood as a specialized manifestation of the gift of miracles, but the two are mentioned separately in the Bible, so we separate them also. Obviously, healing has to do with human illness specifically, although it includes all kinds of human illness. The biblical reference to the gift in 1 Cor 12:28 is literally gifts (plural) of healings (plural). This seems to imply that there are many varieties of the gift for different kinds of illnesses.

To restrict the gift of healing just to physical diseases is not proper. The gift can also be used to cure mental, emotional and spiritual illnesses. Agnes Sanford, a contemporary with the gift of healing, has the gift of healing the memory". Another, Ruth Carter Stapleton, deals with "inner healing". There may be many more varieties.

The gift of healing does not give a person supernatural power over disease. He or she is simply a channel through whom God works when He desires to heal. People with the gift of healing have no power to empty hospitals unless God decides to do that through them. No one fully understand God's position on sickness and health. Sometimes, as we know from Job, sickness is part of the total plan of God and he permits it. The apostle Paul had a "thorn in the flesh" which in all probability was a physical problem of some kind, but God chose not to remove it. And furthermore, healing is not permanent. As far as we know, all the people whom Jesus Himself, healed eventually died.

The gift of healing does not make doctors and nurses obsolete. In many cases God is pleased to use modern medical means of healing, although this should not be confused with gifts of healing. Christians doctors by and large are using natural talents, not a spiritual gift. Part of the definition of the gift is "apart from the use of natural means." When Timothy had a stomach ailment Paul did not send him a handkerchief that he had touches so that Timothy could be healed through it. Paul had used the handkerchiefs in Ephesus to good effect (Act 19:12), but he recommended wine to Timothy in this case (1 Tim 5:23). Sometimes natural mean is in order, sometimes God chooses to heal miraculously. The person with the gift cannot manipulate God. He or she is simply a frequently-used channel.

God has healed me personally in both ways. Most of my sickness have been cured by doctors or known remedies. On time, however, He cured me directly. Then E. Stanely Josphe came to town and some of us missionaries went to hear him. His meeting turned out to be healing service. During the service I knew I had been healed. When I got home I took the bandage off, and it was still full of pus, but I thanked the Lord, went to bed, and the next morning it was perfectly well.

Thoughts

1. Connection between deliverance and healing. I can always discern evil behind an illness but the deliverance does not necessarily result in healing



2. Dare to practice
3. Sometimes the gift has been denied or misused in past and there is a generational issue
4. I have discerned the gift just outside of the person's hands.

Discernment

Bibliography

- [1] S. Wigglesworth, "Gifts of Healings, and Miracles." <http://www.smithwigglesworth.com/index.php/smith-wigglesworth-sermons/ever-increasing-faith/gifts-of-healings-and-miracles> (accessed Nov. 14, 2021).
- [2] "Derek Prince - The Gift of Healings," *Watch 2021 online sermons*. <https://sermons.love/derek-prince/7272-derek-prince-the-gift-of-healings.html> (accessed Nov. 06, 2021).
- [3] C. P. Wagner, *Your spiritual gifts can help your church grow*. Ventura, Calif. : Regal Books, 1979. Accessed: Nov. 08, 2021. [Online]. Available: <http://archive.org/details/yourspiritualgif00wagn>

