Overview of This Series: The following issues will be addressed in this series.

1. Sickness and Disease is a Reality We Must Contend With in Faith
2. It is God’s Will that we live in Good Health
3. The Promise of Health and Healing Must be Possessed and Appropriated
4. God’s Nature as Healer Must be Understood and Experienced
5. Why would God Heal Us? What Aspects Unique to His Person are Revealed every time He Heals?
6. What Aspects about God’s Person or Nature Does He employ to Heal Us?
7. Why do we, as sons of God, get sick at times?
8. Why do some people not get healed?
9. What dispositions, attitudes and actions in us facilitate our Healing?
12. God’s Ultimate agenda behind healing.

Context
Currently (Jan 2021), the COVID-19 Virus is running rampant. The second variant of the virus is far greatly more transmissible and aggressive in its internal intent to affect the efficient working of our lungs for breathing, and can also result in blood clots, leading to blockages (clots) in blood vessels which may result in fatal heart failure or a stroke.

Many have died. Many have also recovered and have a testimony of God’s miraculous healing grace. Many have ‘WALKED THROUGH THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH” and come through, having eaten at the table furnished by the Lord in the presence of our enemies. Death is an enemy - our final enemy that will be overcome by the Church. Even those who died, have suffered no loss, for Christ has conquered the spirit of death, such that when we die we are with the Lord in His immediate presence.

Death has no victory or sting. It has been rendered powerless in respect to its capacity to separate us from God and His love.
Rom. 8:28  For I am convinced that neither DEATH, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 Cor. 15:55  O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom. 14:8  for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s.

We will not die prematurely! We will not die, until we have fulfilled the will of the Lord for our lives.

Psalm 27:13  I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Psalm 27:13  Yet I am CONFIDENT I will SEE the Lord’s GOODNESS while I am HERE in the LAND of the LIVING. (NLT)

Our Objectives as we Embark upon this Series of BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES OF HEALING

- Understand God’s person and nature as Healer
- Appropriate healing for ourselves when we get sick
- Be used as agents of healing for others who are sick
- Understand the broader purposes and principles of God attached to healing and miracles.

HEALTH AND HEALING IN ZION

1. SONS OF GOD CAN GET SICK BY GOD’S PERMITTANCE FOR VERY SPECIFIC REASONS

Sons of God, although promised health, may at times become sick. The most spiritually mature, sincerest and purest of saints will at times experience sickness, by God’s permittance, for very specific reasons. These reasons will be dealt with in a future session.

James wrote to believers when he said “Is any among you sick”.

Healing Principles Part 1 © Randolph Barnwell 2021
**James 5:14**  Is anyone **among you sick?** Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord;

Paul was greatly used in miracles of all kinds, including healing.

**Acts 5:12**  All the people kept silent, and they were listening to **Barnabas and Paul** as they were relating what **signs and wonders God had done through them** among the Gentiles.

At Ephesus in particular, Paul was mightily used by God in performing mighty miracles.

**Acts 19:11,12**  God was performing **extraordinary miracles** by the hands of Paul, so that handkerchiefs or aprons were even carried from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out.

May our desire be: “Lord, by Your power, enable us to perform some unusual, extraordinary, special and uncommon miracles of healing. We have the faith for it - to the glory of Your Name.”

**Acts 19:11**

- **NLT:**  God gave Paul the power to perform **UNUSUAL** miracles.
- **NASB:**  God was performing **EXTRAORDINARY** miracles by the hands of Paul.
- **NIRV:**  God did **AMAZING** miracles through Paul.
- **KJV:**  And God wrought **SPECIAL** miracles by the hands of Paul.
- **WUEST:**  And God kept on performing miracles by the hand of Paul, miracles **DEMONSTRATING THE POWER OF GOD, NOT THE ORDINARY KIND** known to the apostles and **COMPLETELY DIFFERENT** from the deeds of the Jewish exorcists, but **UNCOMMON, EXTRAORDINARY** ones.

Although used by God in miracles of uncommon healings, Paul **LEFT** Trophimus, an Ephesian, **SICK** at Miletus.

**2 Tim. 4:20b**  **Trophimus I LEFT SICK at Miletus.**

Paul probably prayed for his healing but left him sick. Here, Paul deferred to the sovereignty and wisdom of a transcendent God in not healing Trophimus immediately at that time, or through him. I believe Trophimus recovered from sickness eventually.

**Miletus = Pure white fine wool; Cared for.**
We could paraphrase the verse like this, “I left him sick, but well cared for”. At times, in our **sustained sickness**, we must celebrate the fact that we are still **well cared for**. While sick, yet being cared for and in relative comfort, is a blessing from God, for which we must be thankful.

There are some who are sick, yet not cared for. These are sick and simultaneously in terribly discomforting, uncaring and uncompassionate contexts. They are sick and suffering. If you are such a one, may the Lord provide you the necessary care and comfort from His graceful and providential hand.

**Trophimus = Master of the house; nourishing; well educated.**

**Acts 21:29** For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian in the city with him, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple.

Trophimus seems to be a leader of some kind ('Master of the house'), well-developed spiritually (nourishing) and mature (the Ephesian – ‘Ephesus’ generally denotes a mature context). So a person of his spiritual standing and calibre got sick. The most spiritual, mature, sincere and purest of saints get sick from time to time by God’s permittance, to accomplish specific outcomes in us. Sickness does not necessarily indicate a lack of spiritual commitment or devotion to God. God allows sickness, for reasons only known and unique to Him. Whilst you go through your sickness toward healing, TRUST God implicitly. He knows what He is doing.

Your sickness does not in any way detract from your spirituality. It does not disparage against you, so long as you are consistently committed and devoted to God and His Word.

God allows sickness in us to accomplish specific aspects His purposes for us. Whilst at times, sickness may be a sign of God’s judgement because of disobedience (an issue we address in a later session), we must not make the serious error of perceiving that everyone who gets sick is incurring God’s wrath, anger or judgement.

**Job** was a righteous man, yet suffered severe physical illness and disease.

**Job 1:1** There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job; and that man was blameless, upright, fearing God and turning away from evil

There were unseen issues at play in Job’s experience, having very little to do with Job himself. Righteous men are at times, by God’s permittance, submerged into great trials, inclusive of sickness,
for reasons not at all referable or related to them, but which may have to do with certain unseen realities taking place within the realm of spirit.

Job’s sufferings and sickness was initiated by a boast of God to satan, concerning Job’s purity of motivation in serving Him – that he was not doing it for blessings or protection, but because Job loved Him. God wanted to prove this to satan.

**Job 1:18-12** The Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil.” Then Satan answered the Lord, “Does Job fear God for nothing? Have You not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. But put forth Your hand now and touch all that he has; he will surely curse You to Your face.” Then the Lord said to Satan, “Behold, all that he has is in your power, only do not put forth your hand on him.” So Satan departed from the presence of the Lord.

In spite of his severe ordeal, Job still blessed the Lord. His worship of God was not based on his material blessing.

**Job 1:20-22** Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head, and he fell to the ground and worshiped. He said, “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, And naked I shall return there. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.” Through all this Job did not sin nor did he blame God.

No matter what we experience in reference to trials and sufferings, keep your worship of God consistent. If your sickness or trial is not understandable to you, trust God, your Faithful Father. He knows what He is up to.

Leave room for the sovereignty of God.

**1 Cor. 13:12** For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known.

We don’t know everything. We do not understand everything. We know and understand IN PART. Defer to the wisdom and sovereignty of God every time you fail to comprehended the negative experiences of your life. At times, surrender your perceived right to know and understand everything that God permits to happen in your life. Through the process, trust Him. We are to …
Prov 3:5-8

5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding.
6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.
7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and turn away from evil.
8 It will be HEALING TO YOUR BODY And refreshment to your bones.

Note verse 8  The disposition of not relying on our own capacity to understanding everything, but rather to express trust in God, is itself is a Divine methodology to heal your body. Some are not experiencing healing in their bodies because they are trying too much to make mental sense of what they are going through. Stop trying to work things out in your own limited, logical mind – things you may never understand. Surrendering your right to understand (v.6), trusting in the Lord (v.5), acknowledging Him in all your ways (v.6), fearing Him in reverence and turning away from evil (v.7), is the pathway to your healing.

When your mind becomes unsteady and assailed by various thoughts contrary to God’s principles, then God can lead you to a ROCK that is HIGHER than yourself.

Psalm 62:1,2  Hear my cry, O God; Attend to my prayer. From the end of the earth I will cry to You, When my heart is overwhelmed; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.
(NKJV)

This Rock is CHRIST, our Rock that gives STABILITY, SOLIDITY and FIXED-NESS to our beings. You will not be unseated nor destabilised in Christ, the Rock. He is HIGHER THAN US. His ways and thoughts are also HIGHER than ours. Trust HIM.

Isaiah 55:8,9  “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” declares the Lord. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts.

2. GOD’S WILL FOR HEALTH FOR HIS SONS - HIS DESIRE TO HEAL

God’s has clearly stated His intent to HEAL in His Word. HE IS WILLING TO HEAL. He is inclined to heal. He wants to heal. God is not disinclined to heal. God does not distance Himself from our sickness, disease and its associated sorrow, pain and grief.
Jesus is our High Priest, who is touched with the feelings of our infirmities. He feels what we feel and is able to fully identify with our trial, suffering and sickness. Thus, HE IS ABLE TO HEAL and SAVE us.

**Heb. 4:15,16** For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. (KJV)

**Matt 8:1-3** When Jesus came down from the mountain, large crowds followed Him. And a leper came to Him and bowed down before Him, and said, “Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.” Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, “I AM WILLING; be cleansed.” And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

**Isaiah 30:26** The light of the moon will be as the light of the sun, and the light of the sun will be seven times brighter, like the light of seven days, on the day the Lord binds up the fracture of His people and heals the bruise He has inflicted.

**Jer. 33:6** Behold, I will bring to it health and healing, and I will heal them; and I will reveal to them an abundance of peace and truth.

Total healing will take place when we cross over from mortality to immortality, when death is finally conquered. In this state, sickness and disease will be an impossibility.

**Hos. 6:1-3**

1. “Come, let us return to the Lord. For He has torn us, but He will heal us; He has wounded us, but He will bandage us.
2. “He will revive us after two days; He will raise us up on the third day, That we may live before Him.
3. “So let us know, let us press on to know the Lord. His going forth is as certain as the dawn; And He will come to us like the rain, Like the spring rain watering the earth.”

Healing on the third day speaks of resurrective activity. Jesus was raised on the third day after He died. The third day denotes the coming out from potential life-threatening circumstances into newness of life, with new and heightened possibilities, just like Jesus experienced in His resurrected body. May you rise up from your sick bed in Jesus’ Name and experience third day resurrection power.
3 John 1:2  Beloved, I pray that in **ALL RESPECTS** you may **prosper and be in GOOD HEALTH**, just as your soul prospers

**Good Health = hugiainō; = To be healthy, sound, physically well.**

GOOD HEALTH is a clear intent of God for His sons. We must believe this and appropriate it by faith.

3. **SONS OF GOD ARE ENCOURAGED TO BELIEVE GOD FOR HEALTH AND HEALING – FOR THIS IS GOD’S WILL**

We must press into trusting God for the absence of all sickness in ‘Zion’, the church of the living God. As we press into this, if we do get sick, believe and trust God for complete healing.

**Jer. 8:22**  Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has not the health of the daughter of my people been restored?

We must live in the realm of the supernatural and rely on God for Divine health and healing. “ We need more MIRACLE AID, than MEDICAL AID” (Dr Sagie Govender)

**Psalm 23:4**  Even though I walk through **the valley of the shadow of death**, I fear no evil, for You Are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

The shadow of death indicates that death itself is near. Proximity of death must not breed fear in us. We must WALK ON through that valley of death’s shadow. Do not camp in the valley of death’s shadow; walk through it in faith. Do not abide under the fear and anxiety of possible death. Keep your faith strong. Keep on walking … by faith.

Here is a great prophetic promise of a restored mature Church (Zion).

**Isaiah 33:24**  And no resident will say, “I AM SICK”; The people who dwell there will be forgiven their iniquity.
4. **GOD IS THE HEALER**

As sons of God, our **personal experience of God is often determined by our perception of Him.** The moment a portal in our understanding is illuminated by the Spirit of God as to a specific aspect of His nature, that dimension becomes ours to possess and experience. The moment you see a thing in God, it is yours to possess. You possess what you see of the Lord. You become that which you are able to see in God and of God. Whatever specific dimensions of God you see, you become.

Our **revelation or sight of God is meant to enhance our understanding of Him**, to …

1. **become that facet of God** of which we behold - so that
2. **we may be imparters or transmitters of** that same reality to others.

2 Cor. 3:18  But we all, with unveiled face, **behold**ing as in a mirror the **glory** of the Lord, are being **transformed** into the same image from **glory to glory**, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

As we **BEHOLD**, we are **TRANSFORMED**.

‘**Sight**’ is God’s methodology to activate and facilitate personal transformation. IF you cannot **SEE** it, you cannot be **TRANSFORMED**. You cannot be transformed by what you cannot see. What you see transforms you. We are changed by what we see of God. Revelation is God’s methodology for transformation.

In Judges 6, **Gideon had a view of God as Jehovah Shalom.** This transformed him internally to be a man of peace. He became the embodiment of peace, because he **SAW** this dimension of peace in God. This peace then flowed authoritatively through his life, to destroy the Midianites - who represented strife. You cannot destroy strife with strife; you destroy strife with peace.

**God shows you Himself, to change you to be like Him, so that He can use you to communicate that same revelation and its attendant power to others who desperately need that grace.**

We see with the eyes of understanding – our minds.

Eph. 1:18  I pray that the **EYES** of your **heart** may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.
Hence, we are transformed by the renewing of our minds.

Rom. 12:2  
And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

The man or woman who SEES God’s nature is changed by what they see. They will never be the same again. Inward and internal adjustment takes place, establishing new levels of faith. Faith is sight into the eternal realm. We walk by faith and not by sight.

Your healing from sickness may be dependent on your revelation of God as Healer. The more your understanding and sight of God as HEALER is enlarged, the easier this dynamic of His being becomes operative within you.

Once you fully understand and know God as HEALER, His healing grace and capacity is released TO you and THROUGH you.

JEHOVAH RAPHA is one of the REDEMPTIVE or JEHOVAH-RISTIC NAMES OF GOD

Sickness and disease must bow to the power of the revelation of God as HEALER TO and IN you.

Exod. 15:26  
And He said, “If you will give earnest heed to the voice of the Lord your God, and do what is right in His sight, and give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have put on the Egyptians; for I, the Lord, am your healer.”

God is full of benefits for His sons. One of these is ‘healing’.

Psalm 103:2-3
1  Bless the Lord, O my soul, And all that is within me, bless His holy name.
2  Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget none of His BENEFITS;
3  Who pardons all your iniquities, Who heals ALL your diseases.

Bless the Lord and appropriate by faith the benefit of HEALING. This is part of our inheritance in Christ. When we pray for healing, we are not praying for something God is disinclined to do. His inclination is to heal. God is your Jehovah Rapha. Believe it - See it - Experience it and Transmit it to a lost, sick and dying world.
Deut. 32:39  See now that I, I am He, And there is no god besides Me; It is I who put to death and give life. I have wounded and IT IS I WHO HEAL, And there is no one who can deliver from My hand.

Mal. 4:2  “But for you who fear My name, THE SUN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS will RISE with HEALING IN ITS WINGS ; and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall.

The sun of Righteousness refers to Christ. We must reverence and fear Him. When we do, He rises with healing in His wings. Under His wings, with which He wants to surround and envelop you, is healing. Healing serves as a protective guard over our flesh. The result will be like calves skipping about with ecstatic joy as the stall gate is opened. As God heals you, it will be LIBERATING, breaking the confinement and restructre which your sickness can at times impose upon you. As God heals you, you enter into a new internal and external environment of liberty and joy. The SUN of Righteousness breaks the NIGHT or DARKNESS and GLOOM that may be surrounding you because of your sickness/disease.

Some sick need saving – not just healing per se. The prayer of faith SAVES THE SICK – not heals the sick.

James 5:15  And the prayer of faith will SAVE THE SICK and the Lord will RAISE HIM UP. (NKJV)

If you are sick and potentially at death’s door, may Jesus Christ SAVE YOU NOW by RAISING YOU UP.

CASE STUDY FOR THE LORD’S SUPPER

THE HEALING OF PETER’S MOTHER-IN-LAW AND OTHERS TO FULFILL ISAIAH 53:4

Matt. 8:14-17

14 When Jesus came into Peter’s home, He saw his mother-in-law lying sick in bed with a fever.
15 He touched her hand, and the fever left her; and she got up and waited on Him.
16 When evening came, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed; and He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were ill.
17 This was to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet: “He Himself took our infirmities and carried away our diseases.”
The healing of Peter’s mother-in-law demonstrates Jesus’ keen interest in healing our family members who may be ill.

There are three or four words in the Greek translated as ‘touch’, but this one used in Matt. 8:15, is one of the most powerful and forceful in meaning.

TOUCHED = háptomai = To apply oneself to, to touch.

Refers to such handling of an object as to exert a modifying influence upon it or upon oneself.

We receive a modifying influence on our sickness, when Jesus touches us to heal us. God is reaching out to you and your family members and friends to heal all. Even if you are well, stand proxy in prayer for someone who is sick, who may need healing.

It is one thing for us to reach out to touch Jesus and receive healing, like the woman with the issue of blood. But here and right now, God Himself is reaching out to you to TOUCH you. Be healed in Jesus’ Name!

As a result of healing Peter’s mother-in-law, many others flocked to the house and were also healed. Peter’s mother-in-law’s sickness was used by Jesus as the context, venue or stage to host the flow of His miraculous healing power to hundreds of other sick people. May God use your sickness and the healing therefore as a catalyst to ignite the faith of many others to believe God for their own healing. Your personal sickness can be the spur for the healing of many corporately.

Matthew indicates that this healing was specifically to fulfill Isaiah 53:4, which he quotes as …

\textbf{Matt 8:17b} “He Himself took our infirmities and carried away our diseases.”

\textbf{Isaiah 53:4} 
Surely our griefs He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted.

Compare these two verses:

\textbf{Matt 8:17a} He Himself took our infirmities \hspace{1cm} \textbf{Is. 53:4a} Surely our griefs He Himself bore

Infirmities and sickness can result in depression and grief. God wants to heal both. God wants to heal you physically in body and psychologically in your soul.
Compare these two verses:

**Matt. 8:17b** He carried away our diseases  
**Is. 53:4b** And our sorrows He carried

God does not just want to heal your body. He also wants to relieve you of the grief and sorrow associated with your infirmity and disease. God wants to heal us physically and psychologically.

In the widespread sickness caused by pandemics like Covid-19, there is not only the physical illness to contend with and overcome, but also an associated psychological healing that must take place too.

Isaiah 53:4 coupled with Matt 8:17, indicates God’s intention to heal both dynamics. People are succumbing, not just to the attack of the virus on their bodies, but to the grief, sorrows, depression, anxiety, fear and discouragement that results as subsidiary effects. Do not give into the gloom and doom of negativity that might pervade because of your personal illness, or what subsists corporately around the world. God heals physically and psychologically. Trust God for your healing in both dimensions.

Keep your faith and HOPE alive. Hope is a mental attitude of a biblically rooted, positive expectation regarding the future. Hope is God-given. God is able to restore your hope. Be healed of your sickness and look forward with hope toward your future.

(Consult my website for my teaching on HOPE to encourage you: On this link listen to Parts 6, 7,8 and 9: http://randolphbarnwell.com/faith.html)

To be Continued
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Email: randolph@gatedc.co.za  
Website : www.randolphbarnwell.com  
Skype : randolph.barnwell2  
Facebook :  
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