

Booklet 6 - **DIVINE HEALING**

The deliverance of your sufferings within your reach...

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JESUS' ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE SICK

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, illuminates every page of the Gospel. He is the reason for being and the center of the biblical message. Around Him revolve all the miracles, all the healings, all the acts of power having their source in the divine mercy.

I have read and reread the Gospels many times and I have seen **that Jesus never denied healing** to the sick who came to Him. He never said "no" to a sick person who begged Him in faith.

The Gospels reveal that Jesus always wanted to heal. Could he have changed? Far from it! For "He is the same yesterday, today and forever" says the Bible. (Hebrews 13:8) It is written, "The crowd sought to touch Him because **power came out of Him** and healed them all."

This power has not diminished, it is the same today as it was yesterday.

The extraordinary and glorious ministry of Jesus Christ to all the sick is summarized in this beautiful text of the Bible: "Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in the synagogues, preaching the Good News of the Kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people." (Matthew 4:23)

At the sight of these miraculous healings, the people of Israel were amazed and "glorified God saying, 'We have never seen anything like this.'" (Mark 2:12) Sometimes whole crowds came to Him, "having with them the lame, the blind, the mute, the crippled, and many other sick. They were laid at His feet and He healed them." (Matthew 15: 30-31)

THE WILL OF JESUS

At the exit of a village, a leper prostrates himself before Jesus. He makes this heartfelt plea to him:

"If you are willing, you can make me clean."

He is not unaware of the power of Christ. But he doubts His willingness to heal him. His cry of distress expresses the ultimate hope he places in Jesus. For him, there is no question of resignation to suffering. He throws himself to the ground to ask for healing, not to say, "I consent to remain a leper if that is your will." And we could not conceive, in the face of this great human misery, of Jesus saying to him, "No, I do not want to make you clean." Jesus' answer can be none other than, "I do, be clean." For He came to save and heal the whole man.

As soon as he touches the leper, the leprosy disappears completely.

In the town of Nazareth where Jesus grew up, he did not encounter the same faith. The evangelist Mark reports this:

"He could do no miracle there, except that he laid his hands on some sick people and healed them. And He marveled at their unbelief." (Mark 6: 5-6)

Jesus wanted to heal all the sick people of Nazareth, but not everyone wanted to believe in Him. Many despised Him and said, "Is this not the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, Joses, Jude and Simon?" (Mark 6:3) **As a result, He could not do the miracles He would have wanted to do, because of their unbelief.**

THE COMPASSION OF JESUS

The Lord was not insensitive to human suffering. His attitude towards the sick was the very expression of his unfathomable love for the human creature. The merciful feeling in his heart moved him to heal:

"Jesus saw a great crowd, and was **moved with compassion** for them, and He healed the sick." (Matthew 14:14) The Greek word, translated by this expression, expresses a violent emotion, which "takes hold of the bowels."

The Lord's mercy is infinite. It is still the same today.

"Two blind men sitting by the roadside heard Jesus passing by, and cried out: Have mercy on us, Lord, Son of David! And Jesus, **moved with compassion**, touched their eyes; and immediately they received their sight, and followed him." (Matthew 20:30-40)

Jesus stopped to help these poor blind people and asked them this question, "What do you want me to do to you?" They could have asked for some money to relieve their misery, for they were beggars. As everyone knows, health is worth more than all the gold in the world. And they said to the Lord, "Let our eyes be opened."

The Lord is always willing to help the sick. This saying is still true today as it was in those days: When the afflicted cry out, the Lord hears." (Psalm 34:7)

In Lebanon, in the region of Tyre and Sidon, along the Mediterranean, a mother whose daughter was incurable came to Jesus. She appeals to his compassion with this heart-rending prayer: "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is cruelly tormented by the devil." (Matthew 15:21)

This mother, afflicted since the disease lodged itself in her home, knows that Jesus can heal. Her prayer is a cry of pain that explodes without considering those around her. Jesus remains silent, but she does not tire of crying out, while the disciples suggest that Jesus send her away. Her perseverance is rewarded when Jesus decides to stop and answer her prayer.

After testing her faith, Jesus says to her, "Your faith is great; let it be done to you as you wish. And, in that very hour, her daughter was healed." (Matthew 15:28)

Jesus' feelings are happily better than those of men. If Jesus had sent her away, which is inconceivable, the hope of the sick would have been dashed.

THE TRUST OF THE SICK IN JESUS

"If only I could touch his garment."

This is what a woman afflicted with an incurable disease for twelve years says to herself. Jesus has just arrived in her village square. He is surrounded by a large crowd. This woman knows that in Him is the healing virtue. Slipping through the crowd, she reaches Jesus and, with a quick gesture, touches the hem of Jesus' garment. At the same time, the sickness disappears. She feels in her body that she is completely healed of her illness. Jesus immediately knows that a power has come out of Him, and He asks the crowd:

- "Who touched my clothes?"

- "You see the crowd pressing in on you, and you say, 'Who touched me?'" his disciples point out to him.

Seeing that Jesus was looking for her, she came and threw herself at his feet, frightened and trembling, and told him the whole truth. The crowd watches the scene. What will Jesus do? Will he rebuke her, tell her that she should have asked his permission to touch him? Certainly not, because He came to do good. He encourages her and says, "Daughter, your faith has saved you; go in peace and be healed of your evil." (Mark 5:25-34)

Before touching Jesus' garment, she did not ask herself if it was Jesus' will to heal her. She knew that in Jesus was the power of healing. She showed her TRUST. She made AN ACT OF FAITH. She grasped the healing she knew was in Jesus, God's messenger. Her faith was real

assurance, complete trust without the word "maybe." There was not a shadow of a doubt. She said, I WILL BE HEALED." What certainty! What confidence!

Her case is not unique. The Gospel tells us: "A great multitude, hearing all that Jesus did, came to Him. He instructed his disciples to keep a small boat at his disposal at all times, so that he would not be rushed by the crowd. For as He healed MANY PEOPLE, ALL THOSE WHO HAD DISEASES THREW THEMSELVES ON HIM TO TOUCH HIM." (Mark 3:7-10) What a moving and beautiful picture: the sick THREW THEMSELVES ON HIM to touch him! What a rush it must have been! They did not ask themselves if it was God's will: they went towards Him WITHOUT HESITATION to touch Him. They were absolutely sure that Jesus had the power to heal all who believed in Him.

How overwhelming it must have been to witness the healing of the sick in the towns and villages of the region of Gennesaret, near the Lake of Galilee, according to Mark's account (6:53-56):

"When Jesus and his disciples got out of the boat after they had landed at Gennesaret, the people immediately RECOGNIZED HIM and went around, bringing THE SICK to the beds wherever they heard that he was. Wherever He came, in villages, towns, or country places, they put THE SICK in the public squares, and BEGGED HIM TO ALLOW THEM only to touch the hem of His garment, AND ALL WHO TOUCHED HIM WERE HEALED."

Seeing all these sick people in the squares of the towns and villages must have been moving. What misery, what suffering gathered in the presence of Christ! One had to really trust in Him to bring all these unfortunate people to their beds of pain. All eyes were fixed on Him. Each sick person was waiting for the blessed moment of contact with the garment of the One who came to them with compassion and power to heal them all.

What a wonderful thing to see the sick healed one after the other after having touched Jesus! What shouts of joy, what songs of gladness, what praises there must have been in the mouths of all on the way home! What acclamations for Jesus whose fame was spreading throughout Galilee and beyond.

Jesus' will was always to heal the sick. Whether these sick people touched him without his knowledge or with his permission, whether they cried out to him or remained silent, Jesus did not demand anything other than TRUST in him.

Therefore, you too should trust in Him, He is risen. He is alive. He is near you. He is with those who believe in Him and He wants to heal you. During His earthly ministry, He never denied healing to those who trusted in Him. So take courage!

But, you may say, today we can no longer touch Him as we used to. This is true, but there are other possibilities that are offered to us to obtain from Him the healing of our sufferings. They are indicated to us in the Word of God.

HOW IS IT POSSIBLE TO BE MIRACULOUSLY HEALED TODAY ?

Divine healing has a very specific biblical foundation that allows us to turn to Christ with absolute confidence.

For biblical revelation sheds light on the Work of Christ on the cross for our salvation and healing.

First, "HE BORE OUR SINS IN HIS BODY ON THE TREE." (1 Peter 2:24) Jesus did not ATONE FOR DISEASE, but FOR SIN. He was sent by God as "an ATONING victim **FOR OUR SINS.**" (1 John 3:10) He bore our sins to forgive us.

Second, "IT WAS OUR SUFFERINGS THAT HE BORE." (Isaiah 53:4) He bore our diseases to heal us of them.

The prophet Isaiah foretold this and the evangelist Matthew recalled this prophecy when Jesus healed the sick in Capernaum, Galilee:

"In the evening, several demon-possessed people were brought to Jesus. He drove out the spirits with his word, and HEALED ALL THE SICK, so that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying, 'HE HAS TAKEN OUR INFIRMITIES AND CARRIED OUR DISEASES'" (Matthew 8:16-17).

Since He has taken on our sufferings, our pains, our ills, this means: If we believe, we no longer have to bear them ourselves. Our deliverance is assured. It is already accomplished in Christ.

Divine healing is not a probability, it is a certainty, a reality certified by these biblical affirmations:

"BY HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED." (Isaiah 53:5)

"HIM (JESUS), BY WHOSE STRIPES YOU WERE HEALED." (1 Peter 2:24)

Jesus having taken on our sickness, having carried it to Calvary in his stripes, we can confidently expect deliverance.

He took your illness upon HIMSELF. He was bruised to heal you personally. Believe that this message of healing is for you and say, "By His bruises I AM healed."

Make God's Word your own. Since He BORE your disease, there is no reason for you to suffer any longer.

Christ's sacrifice gives you the grace to be **saved**, forgiven of ALL YOUR SINS, and HIS WOUNDS give you the right to share in DIVINE HEALING.

Your healing is yours from the moment you believe in Jesus, for it is PURCHASED for you in his wounds.

Thank Jesus that out of love for you he was willing to BEAR your sickness and was BRUISED to deliver you from it.

THE ROLE OF FAITH

Jesus insisted on the necessity of personal faith. He taught that faith is the essential condition for entering into the possession of the grace asked for. Didn't He tell the sick people He healed?

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- Let it be done to you according to **your faith**. (Matthew 8:13)
- **Your faith** has healed you. (Matthew 9:22)
- Woman, **your faith** is great. (Matthew 15:28)
- Jesus seeing **their faith**. (Mark 2:5)

Faith is not granted to a privileged few. EVERYONE has the opportunity to believe.

THE SIMPLICITY OF FAITH

Some people say, "I don't have faith." They figure they don't have it because they don't know exactly what faith is to get healing.

So what is faith?

One day a Sunday school teacher stood before his students holding a beautiful watch.

- This watch," he said, "I give it to the one who takes it.

And he went through the ranks, offering it to one and then to another.

- No, Sir," said Peter, "it is not possible that it is for me.

- Thank you, said Rene, but it is too beautiful, I do not dare to take it.

And each one finds a reason to refuse it.

Then he gets to the smallest one who gets up in his place and, smiling, grabs the watch and clutches it in his hands, never ceasing to repeat:

- Thank you sir, thank you.

- It's yours," says the instructor.

- If we had known..., say the others, we would have taken it!

So the little boy's gesture was a gesture of faith. He trusted the word of his instructor.

Faith is a deep conviction that what God says is TRUE.

It is not a persuasive effort to say "I will be healed!" or "I am healed!" without any foundation, without reason. Such a confession by self-suggestion has nothing to do with the biblical confession of faith.

The faith that obtains divine healing is based on the Word of God. "Faith comes when we hear the Word of God." (Romans 10:17)

The Gospel tells the story of a man who had a servant to whom he was very attached and who was sick, about to die.

Having heard about Jesus, he sent some friends to Him to beg Him to come and heal his servant, with this message:

I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but say a word, and my servant will be healed. For I, who am subject to superiors, have soldiers under my command; and I say to one, Go! And he goes. To the other: Come! And he comes. And to my servant: Do this! And he does it." (Luke 7:1-10)

When Jesus heard these words, He said, "Not even in Israel have I found such great faith." And the sick servant was healed.

Taking Jesus at His word is the simplicity of faith. To believe is to silence our own negative ideas and listen to what God tells us in the Bible.

THE AFFIRMATIONS OF FAITH

To believe is to affirm what God says in his Word.

Faith excludes all our doubts, all our reasoning like these:

- I am too seriously ill to be healed.
- I have been praying for so long and I get nothing.
- I am so old. It is no longer possible for me to be healed.
- And so on.

Let's learn to speak the language of the Bible, the language of God, to say what God says.

It is written:

"It is the Lord who forgives all your iniquities and HEALS ALL YOUR DISEASES." (Psalm 103:3)

Affirm this truth. Make it your own and say:

"It is the Lord who heals MY diseases."

Place yourself in an atmosphere of faith by boldly proclaiming the truths of the gospel and making them your own since they are also for you.

Faith does not place conditions on God, as some sick people do who say, "If you heal me Lord, I will follow you. If you heal me, I will do this or that, I will give you this, I will follow you..."

Let us remember the condition that Jesus put to Martha, sister of Lazarus:

"IF YOU BELIEVE, you will see the glory of God." (John 11:40)

THE DIVINE PROMISES

Learn to base your faith on God's promises.

The Gospels mention 147 promises made by Jesus. Many of them concern answers to prayer. Here are some of them:

- "The prayer of faith **will save** the sick." (James 5:15)

This promise is simple and it contains an absolute certainty: The sick person must be saved in answer to prayer.

- "The Lord **will raise up** the sick man." (James 5:15)

The text leaves no room for doubt. It is definite: The Lord WILL RAISE UP. There is no word "perhaps."

- "Pray for one another **so that you may be HEALED.**" (James 5:16) It does not say, "that we may see if PERHAPS it would be God's will to heal." The text is unequivocal. It does say, "that YOU MAY BE HEALED." The purpose of the prayer is specific, positive. The prayer must result in healing. The promise is certain.

- "If therefore, being evil, you know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give **GOOD GIFTS to those who ask him.**" (Matthew 7:11)

What a wonderful encouragement to pray. Jesus insists on the goodness of God. He assures us that God will give GOOD THINGS. And healing is of course a GOOD THING. Why shouldn't we receive it? The promise is not open to discussion: "It is written," GOD WILL GIVE. Believe this firmly because Jesus always speaks the truth.

The promise is for those who address God DIRECTLY through JESUS.

"No one comes to the Father except through me," Jesus said. (John 14:6) Because of Jesus, God in His goodness will give you the good thing you ask of Him. What grace!

- "To you who fear My name," says God, "the Sun of Righteousness shall arise and HEALING SHALL BE UNDER HIS WINGS." (Malachi 4:2)

This Sun of Righteousness announced by the prophet is Jesus who, "coming into the world, enlightens every man" who believes in Him. (John 1:9)

This prophecy was fulfilled when Jesus healed thousands of sick people by going from village to village and from town to town in the Holy Land. It is still relevant today. HEALING IS STILL UNDER HIS WINGS because "Jesus is THE SAME, yesterday, **today**, forever." (Hebrews 13:8)

- "Whatever you ask **IN MY NAME**, I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son."
(John 14:13)

- "Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and you will see it fulfilled."
(Mark 11:24)

Jesus uses the verb "to receive" which, according to the original text, means:

- To take into one's hands.
- To take possession of something.
- To seize it.
- To take something from someone's hands and take it with you, just as you would receive a gift from a friend.

In this way, Jesus highlighted the fact that the prayer of faith consists IN TAKING the thing ASKED FOR. It would be possible to translate this promise like this, "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you receive it, TAKE POSSESSION OF IT, it is yours."

We know that healing is ours in the wounds of Jesus. The promise of Jesus encourages us to pray, that is, to reach out and grasp the gift of healing.

Jesus says, "WHATEVER you ask for," This word "whatever" joins that of Psalm 103:3: "It is the Lord who heals ALL your diseases."

Cast out of your heart all thoughts that tend to limit God's power and take away from God's Word some of its value.

In the Garden of Eden, the devil tempted Eve with the phrase, "Did God really say?" Do not listen to this voice of doubt but say with Jesus, "IT IS WRITTEN!" Resist the devil who tries to make you doubt. Believe in the Word of God.

"**WHATEVER** you ask for..." including the healing of **ALL YOUR DISEASES**.

"...you shall see it fulfilled." That's the BIBLE says so and the Bible says TRUE.

When you want to recommend someone to one of your friends, you tell him, "go see him from me." So Jesus invites us to go directly to God by putting his Name forward.

It is through Jesus that "we have access to God." (Ephesians 2:18)

It is **Faith in the NAME of JESUS** that brings healing. (Acts 3:16)

Therefore, approach God with confidence as you believe in Jesus his Son.

"We have through faith in Jesus the freedom to approach God with confidence." (Ephesians 3:12)

Faith is not based on our merits, our pious acts, our sacrifices, but on the promise of Jesus.

He said, "**I WILL DO IT !**" What magnificent certainty given by Jesus to those who pray to God the Father by vindicating his Name, his Person, his Work, his bruises!

Therefore, pray with confidence, hope, joy, since JESUS promises to DO whatever you ask the Father in his Name. Deliverance is promised to you by Him. Use the NAME OF JESUS in your prayers. The power of healing is in FAITH IN HIS NAME.

"Whatever you ask the Father, He will give you **IN MY NAME.**" (John 16:23)

The Apostles addressed God by mentioning JESUS' NAME in their prayers. They are an example to us:

"Now, Lord, give your servants to proclaim your Word with full assurance, stretching out your hand that **HEALINGS, MIRACLES and WONDERS** may be done, **THROUGH THE NAME OF YOUR HOLY SERVANT JESUS.**" (Acts 4:29-30)

After learning about God's promises, put your faith in them. Remain in the firm assurance that God IS FAITHFUL to fulfill them.

Give importance to GOD'S WORDS and not to your own. Always use the language of faith. Affirm what the Bible says.

"**HE WHO MADE THE PROMISE IS FAITHFUL.**" (Hebrews 10:23) God's promises are for you who believe. Thank God for giving them to you.

THREE WAYS TO PUT OUR FAITH INTO ACTION AND GET HEALING

1 - THE PRAYER

Many people think they don't know how to pray. Sometimes, some patients ask me to provide them with prayers to recite, thinking that there are more effective prayer models than others.

However, there is nothing more simple than prayer. It cannot be learned from religious manuals or catechisms.

To pray is simply to ASK God. It is the cry of the heart going up to God.

- "Son of David, Jesus, have mercy on me." (Mark 10:47)

This is the prayer of the blind Bartimaeus who, sitting by the side of the road, hears Jesus passing by.

It is a cry for help. It springs naturally from a heart that expects divine help.

The leper formulates his prayer differently and begs Jesus saying, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." (Mark 1:40)

Prayer is asking with confidence, as Jairus did:

"He threw himself at the feet of Jesus and prayed to him urgently, 'My little daughter is at the end of the line. Come, lay hands on her, that she may be saved and live.'" (Mark 5:23)

"Let us therefore draw near WITH CONFIDENCE to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace, that we may be helped in our needs." (Hebrews 4:16)

You have noticed the distinct difference between a beggar's request and a child's request. The beggar comes to the door, expresses his distress, and asks for a piece of bread without being assured of getting it.

The child, when he is at the table, holds his plate towards the soup tureen, he knows that his father will give him the soup.

Do not come before God with a whimper, with a plaintive prayer of despair and doubt. But, like the child, address your prayer to God with the conviction that God loves you and wants to heal you. Let your prayer express your faith that Jesus Christ bore your sickness and that in his wounds you are healed.

To pray is to enter into a relationship with God. Jesus himself emphasized THE REQUEST addressed with confidence to God. He promised that it would be answered: "Whatever you ASK in faith THROUGH PRAYER, you will receive." (Matthew 21:22)

He further said:

"ASK, and it will be given to you. Everyone WHO ASKS receives." (Matthew 7:7-8)

The prayer of faith is the affirmative, positive prayer, the one that confesses, attests as true the words and promises of God.

Here is some advice from Jesus:

"In praying, do not multiply vain words, as the pagans do, who imagine that by dint of words they will be heard, for your Father knows what you need, before you ask him." (Matthew 6:7-8)

When you pray, go into your room, shut your door, and pray to your Father who is there in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you." (Matthew 6:6)

If you feel the need to pray with others, here is a promise from the Lord, "If two of you agree on earth to ask for anything, it will be granted to them by my Father in heaven." (Matthew 18:19)

And don't forget that Jesus certified this:

"Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20)

After prayer, expect to receive deliverance from your sickness since the answer is promised. Remain firm in this assurance.

One day, a gypsy named Tchiquète is worried because his daughter has just fallen ill. She is in bed and feverish. He has heard that Jesus heals the sick and he knows that near him there is a Christian named Pascal. So he goes to find him and asks him to pray for his child. Pascal is not a pastor, but simply a genuine follower of Jesus, and he tells Tchiquète, "We will pray together and you will see, Jesus will come and He will heal your daughter." They kneel at the foot of the sick woman's bed and Pascal makes the request for healing to God in his usual language. After this moment of recollection, the little girl feels that she is healed and she gets up. In his naivety, Tchiquète says to himself: "How did Jesus come to my caravan? I didn't see Him and yet He healed my daughter." Jesus is invisible but truly present when two come together to pray in His Name.

I could multiply the examples of answers. What is important is that we address our requests to God very simply and with faith.

2 - THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

To manifest itself, the patient's faith needs to be helped. We need only look at the way Jesus himself healed the sick. He used various methods, but most often he used THE LAYING ON OF HANDS.

"After sunset, all those who had SICK PEOPLE with VARIOUS DISEASES brought them to him. **HE LAID HIS HANDS** on each of them and healed them. (Luke 4:40)

"In Nazareth, **HE LAID HIS HANDS** on some of THE SICK and healed them." (Mark 6:5)

"**Jesus stretched out HIS HAND** and touched the leper and said, 'I will, be clean.'" (Luke 5:13)

"Jesus said, Woman, you are delivered from your infirmity; and **HE LAID HIS HANDS ON HER**. Immediately she straightened up and glorified God." (Luke 13:12-13)

What Jesus did, He commanded His disciples to do in His Name: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature... These are the miracles that will accompany those who believe: In my name they will cast out demons, **THEY WILL LAY HANDS ON THE SICK**, and the sick will be healed." (Mark 16:16-18)

This promise of healing the sick by the laying on of hands in the name of Jesus is without limit of time, except that of the existence on earth of those WHO WILL BELIEVE.

As long as the dispensation of grace lasts, the benefits that flow from it will extend to all who trust in the Lord.

Obedying the command of their Master, the apostles practiced THE LAYING ON OF HANDS:

"Many miracles and wonders were done among the people **BY THE HANDS** of the apostles. The multitude came from the neighboring towns to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those tormented by unclean spirits; and ALL WERE HEALED." (Acts 5:12 and 16)

"Ananias **LAI D HANDS** on Saul. And immediately Saul received his sight." (Acts 9:12,17,18)

"Paul prayed and **LAI D HANDS** on Publius' father and healed him." (Acts 28:8)

It is therefore normal and biblical to lay hands on the sick.

So don't hesitate to have hands laid on you by a servant of God who believes in divine healing.

It is not the servant who heals, but JESUS CHRIST. However, the hand of Christ accompanies that of the servant of God. As he lays his hands on you, grasp by faith this promise: "The sick will be healed." It is Jesus who has promised this. The word "perhaps" does not exist in the language of Jesus.

Rejoice and thank Jesus because the promise of healing is certain.

At a gospel meeting, after proclaiming the message of salvation in Jesus Christ, I invited the sick to come and have hands laid on them for healing. Among them was a woman whose arm was covered with ulcers. The disease had eaten away at her flesh to the bone. It was a terrible sight. She gathered herself together and I laid hands on her in the name of Jesus Christ, praying to God to heal her. Eight days later, I passed by her neighborhood and saw her gardening near her house. She came to me and I asked her how her health was. She showed me her arm. It was completely healed, the flesh had returned and it looked like a newborn arm! When Christ heals, He heals perfectly.

Another time, some parents called me. One of their children was seriously ill with meningitis. When I arrived at the house, the parents were no longer there; they had gone to town to get an ambulance to take the child to the hospital. However, there was the grandmother standing by the crib. The child had vomited, he was pale and it was a pity to see him. With the grandmother, I knelt down at the foot of the bed and prayed. I laid my hands on the child in the name of Jesus and then I left. The parents came back with the ambulance and went to the hospital to take the child. When the doctors examined him, there was no trace of the disease; the Lord had healed him.

Jesus Christ loves you and He also wants to heal you. Trust in what He has promised in His Word, and say like the woman who touched the hem of Jesus' garment, "I will be healed." Through the laying on of hands, you make like that woman, an act of faith to touch Jesus who accompanies the servant of God.

3 - THE ANOINTING WITH OIL

When Jesus sent his apostles two by two to preach in the villages, it is written "**that they anointed** many sick people **with oil** and healed them." (Mark 6:13)

Later, the apostle James gave instructions about anointing the sick with oil for healing, not to prepare "the dying" for the afterlife. This is not EXTREME UNCTION, but ANOINTING for **healing!**

"Is anyone among you sick? Let him call the elders of the church and let them PRAY for him, ANOINTING HIM WITH OIL in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick person. the Lord will raise him up." (James 5:14-15)

This practice was done within the framework of the Christian community called the Church, or the Assembly. This is why it is said to call upon the "elders," that is, the pastors, the leaders of the Church.

When I was pastoring a church, a Christian man came to wake me up at night and beg me to come and anoint his wife with oil, who had suddenly had a severe pain in her heart. When I arrived at the house, she was in the midst of a crisis and in great pain. I knelt at the foot of the bed with her husband and we prayed, then I anointed the sick woman with oil in the name of the Lord. Immediately the pain disappeared and she was completely healed. After that, the pain did not return anymore. The promise is certain: "The Lord will raise the sick!" Have confidence.

If faith needs to be expressed by an act, it is conceivable that any external act not accompanied by faith is vain.

The "means" do not heal, but help to make the act of faith, to manifest faith, to grasp the healing promised by the Lord.

Pray, have yourself anointed with oil, with the assurance that your healing acquired in the wounds of Jesus is yours.

Believe now and you will receive now

INSTANT HEALING THROUGH THE MANIFESTATION OF FAITH

You know four things:

- 1 - Jesus' will is to heal.
- 2 - You have healing in his wounds.
- 3 - Jesus promised to heal you, for HIS NAME's sake.
- 4 - The prayer of faith will save the sick.

Now you must practically come into possession of the deliverance and act according to what you believe.

Sometimes Jesus asked the sick to act:

- "Stretch out your hand," he said to the man who had a dry hand, and the hand was healed. (Mark 3:5)

- "Get up, take up your bed and walk," he said to the paralytic, and immediately the man was healed. (John 5:1-9)

As soon as you have prayed, received the laying on of hands or the anointing with oil, thank God for your healing and put your faith into action as Jesus once asked the sick to do.

Do now what you were unable to do before you believed.

If you had rheumatism, stir up the aching limbs by praising the Lord Jesus and believing that He bore your pain.

If your eyes hurt or you can't see well, take off your glasses. Read without them, look around you. Realize that the Lord Jesus bore EVERY DISEASE, including yours, in his wounds.

If one of your limbs is paralyzed, use it now. Make it work NOW, in the NAME of Jesus, believing that the infirmity has been borne by Jesus and therefore overcome.

If your ears are deaf, drop something to the ground, listen.

If your lungs are sick, take a deep breath now in Jesus' name. Praise God for his promises of healing.

Act on God's Word. Show your faith. Take possession of the promised healing. Instant healing is within your reach.

Don't listen to the voice of the devil who would have you believe otherwise. Didn't Jesus say to two blind men, "LET IT BE DONE TO YOU ACCORDING TO YOUR FAITH." (Matthew 9:29) And their eyes were opened.

Their faith was simple. Jesus had asked them, "Do you believe that I can do this?" And they answered, "YES, LORD."

Like them, say to the Lord, "YES, LORD, I BELIEVE YOU CAN HEAL ME NOW!"

A DISEASE OF THE CENTURY: THE NERVOUS BREAKDOWN

This disease is becoming more and more common in our hectic world. If you are depressed, know that there is a message of hope for you in the Bible.

When your heart feels crushed under such a weight that existence becomes impossible, when you seem to be caught in a vice that grips you so tightly that you can no longer see a way out of your torment, know that divine healing is possible.

You feel as if you are hanging over a bottomless abyss and sinking, with nothing to hold on to. You feel such an immense emptiness in your heart that you despair of getting out of your dark situation.

Anxiety grips you. However, deliverance is within your reach.

Jesus Christ experienced anguish in Gethsemane (Mark 14:33). He bore your anguish to free you from it, and He gives you this urgent invitation:

"Come TO ME, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

We are not destined to fatigue. Through Jesus we can be vigorous and strong. To those who are without strength, exhausted, weary of life, He offers "rest," "inner peace," "courage to live." There is in Him a generating principle that removes moral and physical decrepitude. He says well, "Come UNTO ME." He is near you, willing to help you. All you have to do is to get down at His feet, listen to His words and believe them.

To Martha who was welcoming him into her home, Jesus said, "Martha, you are restless and worried about many things..." (Luke 10:41). And He advised her to do as her sister did, that is, to sit at His feet and listen to His Word for a moment.

Jesus is near you, eager to help you. I recommend you to read and learn some biblical texts of encouragement, to underline them in red in your Bible, to reread them because you need to occupy your mind with the comforting words of the Bible.

I will mention only three of them, but by reading your Bible, you will discover many others.

Isaiah 41:10:

"Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be anxious, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I uphold you with my triumphant right hand."

Hebrews 13:5:

"God himself has said, 'I will not fail you, nor forsake you.'"

1 Peter 5:7:

"Cast ALL YOUR CARES upon God, for he himself cares for you."

These words are for you personally.

They are for everyone who believes in Jesus Christ.

Eliminate the negative thoughts that undermine the stamina of your heart, that most powerful muscle in your body, and replace them with the biblical words.

Avoid complaining, weary reactions like "I'm too tired, I have too much to do, I can't take it anymore...". Let yourself be carried away by the current of God's love and grace. And when it seems that there is no way out of your problems, and you are beset by fears, irritations, resentments, anxieties, tensions, let God act:

The Bible says, "Cast all your cares upon Him." Really do it. Don't look around with worrying eyes anymore. (As in 1 Peter 5:7; Hebrews 12:2)

"SET YOUR EYES ON JESUS."

VICTORY OF JESUS CHRIST OVER THE WORKS OF THE DEVIL

Jesus Christ was sent to accomplish the will of God. Entering the world, he said, "Behold, I come to do, O God, your will." (Hebrews 10:7 and John 6:38) When He healed a blind man who had been born, He declared, "It is that the works of God may be made manifest in him. I must do the works of Him who sent me." (John 9:3-4)

The healing works he did testified that God had sent him. "He went from place to place **healing** all who were oppressed by the devil, **for God was with him.**" (Acts 10:38)

Sickness, then, is not in the will of God. If the sick person believes that it is of divine origin, it is normal for him to hesitate to ask God for deliverance from an evil sent by Him! How many times have we not heard very distressed people on the bed of sickness say, "What could I have done to the Good Lord that He should make me suffer so?"

A good God could not indeed cause suffering. Yet some people believe that sickness is a punishment from God and do not think it absurd to say to their sick friend, "If you are suffering so much, it is proof that God loves you because He chastises the one He loves." To such a foolish word a sick man replied, "God would do better to love me a little less."

Jesus proves His love for us by HEALING, not by SICKNESS.

When Lazarus' sisters sent to Jesus to say, "Lord, behold, the one you love is sick." It simply meant, "Since you love Lazarus, come and heal him because he is sick." Not, "He is sick because you love him!"

At the beginning of creation, Adam had a body of unparalleled beauty and perfection. He knew neither disease nor infirmity. As soon as he transgressed the divine command, the consequences of disobedience appeared: "Suffering, pain, curse, sorrow." (Genesis 3:16-18)

Does this mean that God wanted to punish Adam with disease? Far from it, God simply announced to Adam and Eve that by opposing their will to his, they had broken the harmony of their whole beings.

The transgression of divine law is the basis of human suffering. The imbalance on the moral plane (disorder called sin), resulted in the physical disorder called disease.

"The devil sins from the beginning." (1 John 3:8) He insinuated sin into the heart of man and, "through one man sin entered the world, and through sin death." (Romans 5:12) It follows that the disease has spread to all men, even to those who have not sinned by a transgression like that of Adam. (Romans 5:14)

Therefore "the whole world is under the power of the evil one." (1 John 5:19)

The devil's will is to make people suffer, to oppress them with disease, while God's will is to relieve, to deliver, to HEAL man.

Scientifically it will be explained that the disease is caused by such and such a microbe, such and such a virus, such and such a lesion, such and such a heredity, such and such a contagion, etc. It is obvious that Satan is not always the DIRECT agent of all the illnesses of individuals, but he is the general architect of them.

Our body is a marvel. It fights a gigantic battle at all times against the invasion and establishment of disease. God has placed in it an organization of self-defense and reconstruction which fills with astonishment those who have penetrated its secrets. Suffice it to mention the ten million nerves which are constantly mobilized to signal any disturbance, and the eight hundred ganglia distributed throughout the body at strategic points to act as barriers to infection. We could talk about all the work done by the marvelous organs with which God has constituted our body, and rave about their functioning. Let's just say that these laws of defense and healing are proof of God's interest in our health.

God has given man the intelligence to discover the marvelous physical organization of his being and it is therefore legitimate for the physician to be a servant of the law of nature and to treat. It is indeed normal that if we hurt ourselves, we will not let the dirty wound get infected. The art of healing is therefore a noble art. Neither Jesus nor the apostles speak against doctors. Didn't Jesus say? "It is the sick who need a doctor." (Matthew 9:12) In the parable of the Good Samaritan, He indicated how the wounds were healed.

To heal the wound is to help this healing by natural means. It is man's duty to follow this law. How can we not think of the great French physician of the 16th century, Ambroise Paré, who modestly said when someone was saved from death, "I bandaged him, God healed him." Sometimes medicine proves to be powerless, as in the case of the woman who went to Jesus as a last resort, because "she had suffered much at the hands of many doctors. She had spent all that she had, and she had experienced no relief, but had grown worse." (Mark 5:26)

If this is your case, know that there is someone above the doctors, and the Good News of the Bible is that even today, JESUS CHRIST, RESURRECTED, HEALS EVERY DISEASE.

Above the science of men, however admirable, and beyond the limits of that science, there is a possibility of healing, for, "TO GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE."

THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

"Is anyone among you sick?" (James 5:14)

In writing this, the apostle James acknowledges that Christians are susceptible to illness. We are all affected.

Paul had to leave his companion Trophimus sick in Miletus. Yet God had worked many miracles through Paul's hands! We can assume that Trophimus was healed afterwards, as was Epaphroditus, who had been sick and near death. He was also a partner of Paul. "God had mercy on him and healed him." (Philippians 2:25-27)

Being a Christian does not make us immune to disease. Sickness is the lot of the human race.

Sometimes there are mysteries in GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY.

We don't know why God didn't heal Paul's companions right away, and why the prophet Elisha "died of the disease with which he was afflicted." (2 Kings 13:14)

These special cases do not detract from the value of God's promises to heal. On the contrary, by their exceptions, they confirm the biblical principle that Jesus Christ came to do the will of God by healing the sick, and that this will has not changed.

If our healing is slow in coming, let us not automatically classify ourselves as exceptions due to God's sovereignty. If there is no healing, continue to wait with confidence for your deliverance. The apostle Paul bowed down because of this revelation God gave him, "My grace is sufficient for you." He received it after praying three times. (2 Corinthians 12:9)

If we don't have a specific revelation, we must persevere in prayer and faith, relying on God's promises to heal you. Christian faith leads us to believe. It is the opposite of resignation.

"If he has committed sins, he will be forgiven." (James 5:15) The apostle James put the confession of sins in connection with sickness, using the conditional. This means that we must be careful not to judge others. To automatically attribute the person's illness to personal sin is an attitude disavowed by the Word of God. It is up to the person to confess it. The lack of healing is not necessarily caused by sin. Sometimes Christians are afflicted by illness in spite of a blameless Christian life.

Nevertheless, the biblical truth remains that it is normally God's will to heal.

This is clearly shown by this text:

"THE LORD WILL RAISE UP THE SICK." (James 5:15)

So now expect the MIRACLE OF YOUR DIVINE HEALING

FRAGILITY OF THE BODY IMPORTANCE OF THE SOUL

Once healed, let us not forget that it is only for a time. Our body, even if it is healthy, is not guaranteed to last forever on earth. The healed body is not imperishable. It wears out, it is "destroyed," as the apostle Paul reminds us. (2 Corinthians 4:16 and 5:9)

Another body will succeed it at the time of Christ's return. It is written: "The body is sown corruptible, it rises incorruptible. It is sown contemptible, it rises glorious. It is sown infirm, it rises full of strength." (1 Corinthians 15:42-43)

"We are waiting for the Lord Jesus Christ from heaven, who will transform the body of our humiliation by making it like the body of his glory..." (Philippians 3:20-21)

This is the hope of the followers of Jesus Christ.

Beyond the visible, there is the invisible world. That is why I invite you to base your faith on Jesus Christ, receiving Him not only as the One who heals your body, but also as the SAVIOR of your soul.

After you have been healed, **be thankful** like the leper who saw himself healed and fell on his face at Jesus' feet, thanking and glorifying God with a loud voice. (Luke 17:15-16)

Just as you believe that in his wounds you have healing, believe that he bore your sins in his body on the cross to atone for them and forgive you.

Cling to Jesus Christ. Love Him and follow Him by faith. He will be with you all the days according to His promise, and will watch over you. (Matthew 28:20; John 10:28)

Here is an address where you will find Preachers
who pray for the sick and lay hands on them
in the name of Jesus Christ for their healing:

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Jesus' attitude towards the sick.

The will of Jesus.

The compassion of Jesus.

The trust of the sick in Jesus.

How is it possible to be miraculously healed today?

The role of faith.

The simplicity of faith.

The affirmations of faith.

The divine promises.

Three ways to put our faith into action and obtain healing:

— Prayer.

— Laying on of hands.

— Anointing with oil.

Instant healing.

Nervous breakdown.

Victory of Jesus Christ over the works of the devil.

The sovereignty of God.

Fragility of the body. Importance of the soul.

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