

Healing Through the Word – Session 2 – Snakes on a plane

Remember our beginning verses, *Romans 12:1, 2* – Presenting our bodies as a living sacrifice & having our minds transformed.

Luke 13:10-16 - Infirmary ought not be so even under the Abrahamic Covenant. But wait! We have a better Covenant with better promises – *Hebrews 7:22*; *Hebrews 8:6*. Could it be a better Covenant and leave out healing?

Matthew 28:18-20 - Was Matthew 28 only for those present? – The Great Commission.

Our basis for receiving healing is God’s love, that the Father loves us the same as He loves Jesus and Jesus loves us as the Father has loved Him – *John 15:9* and *John 17:23*.

My Ulterior Motive – Beyond our own walking in divine healing and health, that then you would be able to minister healing, teach people healing, and pray with people that they would be healed.

My Job: *Ephesians 4:11-13*, “¹¹ And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

My job as part of the 5-fold ministry is to equip **you** for the work of the ministry.

(Of the thousands of ancient Greek and Latin [5800 ancient Greek and 10,000 Latin] manuscripts only 2 don’t contain verses *Mark 16:9-20*, but all others do.)

Mark 16:14-18, “Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. ¹⁵ And He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷ And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.’”

The last recorded words of Christ before His ascension –

He who believes, not just pastors or apostles, all who believe.

(...About the serpents part – not snake handling but Greek word “aero” as in airplane, to take up and remove.)

Again, “those who believe” confirms and supports my ulterior motive for each of you. Don’t settle for less.

Remember, that our ability to receive anything from God is faith. Without faith it is impossible to please God, faith is accounted to us as righteousness and faith only works by love.

Perspective:

Remember that sickness & disease entered through the fall and sin and that Christ took care of the sin problem.

If we see ourselves wrongly as miserable sinners rather than as righteous, as the very righteousness of God in Christ, we will self-disqualify ourselves from every promise of God, not just, but especially healing. Yes, we’re miserable, yes we don’t deserve God’s love or forgiveness, but Christ has qualified us, and it would be a mockery of His passion, it would be really taking His Name in vain to look at ourselves through sin conscious eyes rather than righteousness conscious eyes as the Father sees us. Christ’s forgiveness will always take us to righteousness if we let it.

*2 Corinthians 5:21, ”²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin **to be** sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”* Now back up to the words of Christ.

John 3:14, “And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up,”

To fully embrace and walk in this, that Jesus literally became sin for us that we would become the righteousness of God in Him, we must look at the O.T.

Why a serpent?

Murmuring against God & Moses: *Numbers 21:8, 9, “Then the Lord said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live.”* ⁹ *So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.”*

Going back to the garden and the law of first mention, a serpent literally is the emblem of sin. We were all “bitten” by sin, but when Christ became sin, He redeemed us from sin and from the wages of sin. Remember how disease and sickness entered. Snake bite.

Jesus pointed forward to what would happen to Him as the “archetype” by comparing and pointing back to the “type” of what God had Moses do in prophetically pointing forward to Christ. This is the picture of Jesus literally becoming sin, the emblem of sin as He states that, “...*as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up.*” ... “as,” and “*even so.*” Meditate on that picture to understand 2 Corinthians 5:21. He became sin we became His righteousness.

In covenant we have an exchange of identity. Look at the marriage covenant for illustration.

An exchange of identity - Christ became sin we became the righteousness of God in Christ. The bride takes the husband’s name.

Shedding of Blood – Christ’s Passion. God’s intention for virginity until marriage as blood is shed on the marital bed.

Covenant meal – Communion table. Wedding reception and cake cutting.

The title of the following epistle is enlightening especially in so far as to whom it was directed – a letter to the Hebrews.

Hebrews 13;8 – “⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”

John 1:1-4, 14 – “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

In the beginning Jesus was with God, Jesus was God, all things were made by Him, and nothing was made without Him. In Him was life and that life was the light of men. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us...

Philippians 2:5-11 – “⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with

God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. ⁹ Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

So, the Father highly exalted Christ and gave Him a Name above every name. Is Christ's name above cancer? ...heart disease? ...COVID? Diabetes? Chronic Kidney Disease? At the Name of Jesus every knee above, on and under the earth must bow to that Name and its Lordship... every thing with a name. Everything.

Not only was Jesus with God and was God but He and the Father are One.

John 10:30 – “³⁰ I and My Father are one.”

Jesus is One with the Father.

A Hamlet diversion - “To be or not to be...” Being versus Doing.

God can heal, but is God's will to heal? Sometimes? Always?

God's nature, Who He **is** reveals His will.

The Name of God - Jehovah: Smith's Bible Dictionary - "...the name Jehovah designates his nature as he stands in relation to man, as the only almighty, true, personal, holy **Being**, a spirit and "the father of spirits,"

O.T. compound redemptive Names of God – Jehovah... Jehovah Shalom, Jehovah Nissi, Jehovah Tsidkenu, Jehovah Jireh... the relational God, the Almighty God.

Looking at God relationally to Moses – *Genesis 3:14, 15* “*And God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM.’ And He said, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, I AM has sent me to you.’ ¹⁵ Moreover God said to Moses, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.’”*

“I Am Who I Am...This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.”

-Being versus doing:

Change our perspective so as not to wait on God to **do**, for at His most elemental relational level to us His Name is not I do, But **I AM**. One can do or not do but one always is – **I AM**. “To be or not to be, that is the question.”

Biblical names meant something.

I am – the present tense of the verb “to be.” The verb “to be” holds the entire English language together. “I am” is the present tense of “to be” as in Psalm 46:1b
“A very present help in trouble.”

If we are eternal beings, let’s look eternally - **I am the healed of the Lord!**

Jehovah Rapha - Compound Redemptive Name - God relationally, the Father of spirits – **I AM** the Lord Who Heals You.