

A FAITH THAT CAN HEAL ILLNESSES

A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't
Rick Warren

"Jesus went everywhere, teaching . . . preaching . . . and healing people who had all kinds of disease and sickness." Matthew 4:23

3 MISTAKEN VIEWS ABOUT DIVINE HEALING

ERROR 1: I CAN BUY _____

A magician named Simon: Acts 8:9-12, 18-22

ERROR 2: IT'S NEVER GOD'S WILL _____

"...those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good." 1 Peter 4:19 (NIV)

See also: John 16:33, Philipians 1:29, Colossians 1:24, 1 Thessalonians 3:3

ERROR 3: MIRACLES ENDED WITH _____

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Hebrews 13:8 (NIV)

"Are you HURTING? Then you should PRAY. Are you happy? Then you should sing songs of praise. Are you SICK? Then you should call the church elders to PRAY over you and anoint you with oil in the name of the Lord. And the PRAYER offered in faith will heal the SICK PERSON; the Lord will raise him up. And if you've sinned, you'll be forgiven. Therefore CONFESS your faults to each other and PRAY for each other so that you may be HEALED. The earnest PRAYER of a believing person is powerful and effective. For example, Elijah was a human being just like us. Yet when he PRAYED earnestly that no rain would fall, so there was no rain three and a half years! Then, he PRAYED that it would rain, and it poured down and everything began to grow again!"

James 5:13-18

I. WHEN SHOULD I PRAY FOR HEALING?

"Are you hurting?"	(kakopatheo)	= having trouble, suffering
"Are you sick?"	(ästheneo)	= feeling weak or sick
"The sick person"	(kamno)	= weary and feel like giving up
"No rain for 3 ½ years"		= a drought or dry spell in your life

ANYTIME I'M _____

II. WHY AREN'T PEOPLE HEALED EVERY TIME?

- We don't know God's will!
- God uses illness in many ways:

1. TO _____

"It was good for me to be afflicted so that I might learn your decrees."

Psalm 119:71 (NIV)

"Sometimes it takes a painful experience to make us change our ways."

Proverbs 20:30 (GNT)

2. TO _____

"I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has helped spread the Good News." Philipians 1:12 (NCV)

Jesus: "This sickness will not end in death. It is an illness for the glory of God, to bring glory to the Son of God." John 11:4 (NCV)

3. TO _____

"God has already appointed a time that each of us will die and then our lives will be judged by God." Hebrews 9:27

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us." 1 John 5:14 (NIV)

III. WHO CAN PRAY FOR HEALING? _____

"The earnest prayer of a believing person is powerful and effective! For example, Elijah was a human being just like us. Yet when he prayed earnestly . . . (miracles happened)." James 5:16-17

Jesus: "I tell you the truth, ANYONE who has FAITH IN ME will do what I've been doing. He will do even greater miracles than these, because I'm going to the Father. And I'll do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father." John 14:12-13 (NIV)

IV. HOW DO I PRAY FOR HEALING FOR MYSELF & OTHERS?

1. MAKE SURE _____

"CONFESS your faults to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed." James 5:16

2. _____

"You do not have, because you do not ask God." James 4:2

3. _____

"When you ask, you must believe and not doubt." James 1:6

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