

Pushing Back the Darkness! Part 5: "Prayer and Healing!"

"People whose minds are made up to advance the kingdom of God take their objectives by force..." – Jesus, Mt 11.12

"For this purpose was the Son of God manifest, to destroy the works of the devil..." 1John 3.8

"And Jesus, anointed with the Holy Ghost and power, went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. Acts 10.38

There's a Moment... "When four friends lowered their sick friend down thru the roof where Jesus was. And when He saw their faith He said to the sick man, "Your sins are forgiven!" "Get up and go home, and, take your bed with you!" Mark 2.2ff

This is sickness that resulted from "sin," "offenses," or "missing the mark," that only requires forgiveness for healing!

Sickening sins... Physical abuse from bad choices... Drug/alcohol use... Fear/stress/anxiety... Regret/sadness/grieving... Anger/resentment/bitterness... Unforgiveness! Others/self...

Inner vows! "I'm paying for the sins of my youth!" "This stress is going to kill me!" "This anger/fear is going to eat me up!"

Can you hear Him, "Your sins are forgiven!"

James 5.14-16 Are you sick? Call on the elders of the church and let them pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, *and the Lord will raise him up*. And if you have committed sins, you will be forgiven. *Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*

There's a Moment... "When Jesus encountered a leper and he came and worshipped saying, "If you want to You can make me clean!" And Jesus reached out and touched him saying, "I want to, be clean! And immediately his leprosy was cleansed..." Mark 1.40ff

Chronic, infectious, terminal disease w/o intervention!

Can you hear Jesus saying, "I want you clean!" Can you see Him reaching to you?

There's a Moment... "When Jesus came walking into Peter's house and saw Peter's mother in law laying down, sick with a fever. And He touched her hand and the fever left her and she got up and ministered to them!" Matt 8.14ff

This was an illness of inconvenience/a dis-ease!

Can you see Him touching you to make you well?

There's a Moment... "When they brought a blind man to Jesus, and when He took him aside, He spit on his eyes, placed His hands on him and asked, 'do you see?' 'I see men, as trees walking.' And He put His hands on him again and he was restored!" Mark 8.22ff (cp John 9.1ff Mk7.31ff)

Sickness w/treatment!

See Jesus bringing about the final, full, healing!

There's a Moment... "When Jesus heard a voice calling for Him He stopped and called for the man to come. He asked, "what is it that you want Me to do for you?" "That I might receive my sight!" And Jesus said, 'your faith has saved you,' and instantly he received his sight!" Mt 20.30ff

See the Son of God standing still, calling for you, brimming with love, asking what it is you want! See Him touching your pain!

There's a Moment... "When Jesus was approached by a man whose son was at home at the point of death! 'Please sir, come down before my child dies.' And Jesus said, 'Go back home. Your son lives!' And the man believed Jesus and left. When he got home he found his son healed..." John 4.46ff (cp Mt 8.5ff)

See/hear Jesus speaking His word over your loved one! Master of space, healing long distance!

There's a Moment... "When Jesus came walking by a pool where there was a man who had been sick for 38 years. 'Do you want to be healed?' 'Yes, but I have no one to help me!' 'Rise, pick up your bed and walk away!' And immediately he was made whole and walked away!" John 5.1ff (cp Mk 5.25ff)

See Jesus locating you, with all the reasons why you can't be...And see Him as the One who shows up to help and heal you!

There's a Moment... "When Jesus saw a man which had the dropsy. And He took and healed him and let him go, and it was the Sabbath day!" Luke 14.1ff

Udropikos: watery-look, water retention: edema... Excess fluid retention: congestive heart failure, leg, lung, abdomen edemas resulting from blood clots, traumas, burns, infections.

See Jesus, the Healer, and hear Him, "every day is a time to do good!"

There's a Moment... "When Jesus was teaching the word, and, there was a woman there who had a *spirit of infirmity* 18 years and was bowed together and couldn't unbend herself! And Jesus called her to come and said, "Woman, you are freed, divorced, and pardoned from your malady, frailty. And He laid His hands on her and immediately she was made straight!" Luke 13.10ff

Can you see Him as the liberator of spirit, soul and body infirmity?