



### **HEALING IN THE GOSPELS - ANSWERING OUR QUESTIONS**

"And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people." Matthew 9:35 KJV

Most people have questions about healing. The first question people ask is this: "Is healing available for us today?" And secondly, "Does God want to heal me?" The healing journey is seldom an expressway, but rather a rough road obstructed by many barriers and pitfalls. We must first fight through religious thinking and human theories surrounding healing. A common religious deception is that the age of healing passed away with the twelve apostles. Hebrews 13:8 states that "Jesus is the same, yesterday, today and forever". If Jesus healed in the past, but not today, then He's not the same. This would make the Bible obsolete and unreliable. In the Book of Acts, we can clearly see that the healing ministry of Jesus continued strong through the early church. Healing didn't "pass away" or "become obsolete" and it is still available to anyone who will believe!

### **JESUS' HEALING MINISTRY**

Jesus' ministry consisted of three areas:
1) Teaching 2) Preaching 3) and Healing (Matthew 9:35). I believe these are listed in this order for a reason. For people to receive healing, they must first hear that it is available to them. There are many Scriptures that state people came to Jesus to "hear and to be healed." (See Luke 5:15; 6:17) Romans 10:17 says "faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word

of God." Jesus gave teaching first priority. We must also give God's Word first place in our lives. Jesus ministered healing in two ways. First, He taught the Word so people could have faith to believe. Second, he ministered by the anointing of the Holy Spirit, or what we call "gifts of the Spirit." We can also minister to people through these methods, but we need to prepare ourselves by studying the Word of God and spending time in prayer. Ministering healing is an essential part of the Great Commission given to the Church. Before Jesus departed to heaven, He commanded the disciples to "lay hands on the sick and they shall recover" (Mark 16:15-18).

#### 19 HEALING CASES

there multitudes were healings in the ministry of Jesus, there are only 19 individual cases recorded in detail in the four gospels. By studying these cases, we can learn how to receive healing for ourselves and minister healing to others. It is significant to note that in 12 out of 19 cases, faith is specifically mentioned. In the other cases, the use of faith is inferred. Statistically speaking then, most people will receive healing by using their own faith rather than receiving through the gifts of the spirit. Even when the gifts of the spirit are in manifestation, the recipient's faith is still required. In most cases, Jesus required action from a person. For example, he commanded the man with the withered hand to "Stretch out your hand." When the man responded, his hand "was restored, healthy like the other" (Matt. 12:13 ESV). Our action

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- NETWORKING with First Nations Communities
- HOSTING conferences, workshops and seminars to educate and inspire
- CONNECTING
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   Viewers through
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demonstrates our faith. Faith is demonstrated through what we say or do.

### **FAITH REQUIRES ACTION**

Every individual case recorded in the gospels can teach us something to help us receive healing or minister healing. The healing of the Nobleman's Son is one of the 19 cases in the gospels. This healing was only recorded by John. (See John 4:46-54) A royal official came to Jesus seeking healing for his son who was "at the point of death" (v. 47). Jesus told him, "Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way"(v50). The nobleman's action demonstrated his faith that his son was healed. He received the answer to his request without any physical sign or evidence. That's faith! This account also shows us that Jesus does not have to be physically present to heal. It is faith in His Word that produces healing. Also, we see in this account that supernatural healing can be instant or gradual. The father asked when the boy "began to improve" and was told by his servants, "Yesterday, at the seventh hour the fever left him" (v. 52). This boy's healing was a process, but it began when the father believed the word of Jesus. We also learn from this case that we have the authority to claim healing on behalf of others, especially dependents, such as our children. We can exercise faith on behalf of our own household. There is so much we can learn from each case of healing!

#### RECEIVE YOUR HEALING

- 1. Make a decision to believe healing is available for you.
- 2. Find a point of contact to release your faith in God's healing power.
- 3. Focus on God; not the sickness.
- 4. Make a faith confession in the Word of God and begin to amend.

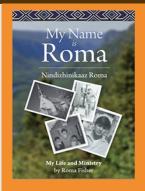
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Dr. Roma Fisher, Director
Spirit Alive

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