

God's Word Is Fail proof!

Numbers 23:19 - God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?

1. Many believe healing has been done away with, that it was only for the early church and not for us today. This is probably the most wide spread belief.
2. Many believe God does heal as He sees fit, or by some special divine act, or some special faith.
3. The last basic group believes healing belongs to us as part of the atonement of Christ in the redemptive plan of God, along with the remission of sins. And it is ALWAYS God's will to heal those in covenant with Him!

F. F. Bosworth – "Before people can have a steadfast faith for the healing of their body, they must be rid of all uncertainty concerning God's will in the matter. Appropriating faith cannot go beyond one's knowledge of the revealed will of God. Before attempting to exercise faith for healing, one needs to know what the Scriptures plainly teach, that it is just as much God's will to heal the body as it is to heal the soul."

God in His sovereignty sometimes heals some who don't have faith for it, but He never in His sovereignty chooses not to heal those who have faith for it!

Psalms 103:1-6

1. Bless the Lord, O my soul; And all that is within me, bless His holy name!
2. Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits:
3. Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases,
4. Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,
5. Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
6. The Lord executes righteousness And justice for all who are oppressed.

My question is, has God changed in His attitude toward healing the sick?

Malachi 3:6a - "I the LORD do not change..."

Exodus 15:26 - "If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the Lord who heals you."

Exodus 23:25 - "So you shall serve the Lord your God, and He will bless your bread and your water. And I will take sickness away from the midst of you."

If the attitude God had towards healing was for the children of Israel to be whole in the Old Testament, how much more now?

Our faith can only be based on what the Word of God says.

We cannot have true faith outside of the Word of God.

Faith starts where we know and understand the Word of God.

1. They can be out of God's perfect will for their life.
2. Not judging themselves as the Word makes it clear we should.
3. Weak in faith.
4. Ignorance of what the His Word says. If you don't know the truth, you can't be made free, can you?

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge:

God's people are destroyed, not because God doesn't care, (If he didn't care Jesus would never have come) but because we don't understand.

Sickness and disease originally came from spiritual death, spiritual death came as a result of sin.

Until the person seeking healing is sure from God's Word that it is God's will to heal him/her, he is trying to reap a harvest where there is no seed planted.

God does nothing without His Word!

Psalm 107:20a - "He sent forth his word and healed them..."

No sinner can become a Christian until he knows that it is God's will to save him.

God can't save a man before the man himself knows God's will in the matter!

Because salvation is by faith... by trusting the known will of God, being healed is being saved in a physical sense!

Acts 10:38 - "how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and HEALING ALL who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

Luke 13:16 - "Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom

Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?"

You will not find a single instance in the New Testament where God was glorified by one of His people being sick, Not One!

He was glorified when His people were healed and set free from satanic oppressions and healed from all kinds of sickness and disease!

1 John 3:8b - For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

As we have seen oppression is of the devil, and Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil!

John 10:10 - The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Just as we have to receive and acknowledge that Jesus shed His blood for us so that we can have eternal life,

We must receive and acknowledge that Jesus body was beaten, bruised and bloodied as the cords of that whip came down across His body so that we now have healing provided for our bodies!

Faith comes from knowing and accepting the Word of God.

Mt. 26:26-28 - And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed it and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "TAKE, EAT; this is My body." Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "DRINK from it, all of you. "For this is My blood of the NEW COVENANT, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

He told them to partake...

It is God's will that we partake...

That is something He will not do for us!

1 Peter 2:24 - who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness by whose stripes you were HEALED.

Peter was quoting Isaiah the 53:5.

The Hebrew word for "healed" there is the word, "rapha" which refers to physical healing... It means to heal or cure.

Romans 6:14 - For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

James 4:6-7 - But He gives MORE GRACE. THEREFORE He says: "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." THEREFORE submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

When we are submitted to God, He gives us the grace to resist the devil.

But we have to do the resisting!

God will not do that for us!

It is not the will of God the Father that any one of HIS CHILDREN to have sickness or disease--None!

Remember Psalm 103:3a - Who forgives ALL YOUR INIQUITIES, who heals ALL YOUR DISEASES.

Matthew 9:6-8

6. "But THAT YOU MAY KNOW that the Son of Man has power on earth to FORGIVE SINS" then He said to the paralytic, "ARISE, TAKE UP YOUR BED, AND GO TO YOUR HOUSE."

7. And he arose and departed to his house.

8. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and GLORIFIED GOD who had given such power to men.

Jesus forgave the man's sins...

And then to prove it, He Healed him!

You will notice the result was that people glorified God!

Psalm 107:20 – "He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions."

We need to acknowledge Jesus as our savior and the forgiver of all our sins but we also need to acknowledge Him as the healer of our bodies!

2 Cor. 11:12-33 (ESV)

12 And what I am doing I will continue to do, in order to undermine the claim of those who would like to claim that in their boasted mission they work on the same terms as we do.

13 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.

14 And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

15 So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. Their end will correspond to their deeds.

16 I repeat, let no one think me foolish. But even if you do, accept me as a fool, so that I too may boast a little.

17 What I am saying with this boastful confidence, I say not as the Lord would but as a fool.

18 Since many boast according to the flesh, I too will boast.

19 For you gladly bear with fools, being wise yourselves!

20 For you bear it if someone makes slaves of you, or devours you, or takes advantage of you, or puts on airs, or strikes you in the face.

21 To my shame, I must say, we were too weak for that! But whatever anyone else dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that.

22 Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they offspring of Abraham? So am I.

23 Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one—I am talking like a madman—with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death.

24 Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one.

25 Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea;

26 on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers;

27 in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.

28 And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches.

29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?

30 If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.

31 The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying.

32 At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me,

33 but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.

2 Cor. 12:1-10 (ESV)

1 I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.

2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows.

3 And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—

4 and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter.

5 On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses—

6 though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me.

7 So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a THORN WAS GIVEN ME IN THE FLESH, A MESSENGER OF SATAN TO HARASS ME, to keep me from becoming conceited.

8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.

9 But he said to me, "MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

10 For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

The SUFFICIENCY of grace is not a bare minimum but an overflowing adequacy that turns weakness into a stage for divine power that will never be exhausted!

Sufficient = to ward off, (by implication) to avail, be enough

Grace is not passive...

Grace is empowerment to prevail!

Phil. 3:4-9

4 though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:

5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee;

6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish (KJV-dung), in order that I may gain Christ

9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith

James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

Now, what is the thorn in the flesh?

I don't believe it's a physical sickness or disease!

Some believe that Paul had eye trouble because of when he was blinded when he met Jesus on the road to Damascus...

Acts 9:17-18

17 So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

18 And immediately something like SCALES FELL FROM HIS EYES, and he REGAINED HIS SIGHT. Then he rose and was baptized;

Gal. 6:11 - See with what LARGE LETTERS I am writing to you with my own hand.

2 Timothy 4:20-21

20 Erastus remained at Corinth, and I left TROPHIMUS, WHO WAS ILL, at Miletus.

21 Do your best to come before winter. Eubulus sends greetings to you, as do Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brothers.

FF Bosworth - "Paul differentiated between miracles and healing. He did not believe in every person being instantly made whole, because he left Trophimus at Miletum sick. Epaphroditus was "sick nigh unto death" for the Gospel's sake (or from overwork), and from such he did not recover instantaneously. Paul was not a fanatic

concerning the natural laws of health, which are as divine as God's miracles. He did not hesitate to recommend "the fruit of the vine" in the place of water alone for Timothy's stomach trouble. Paul believed in the sick themselves having faith for healing. He did not say to the cripple "stand upright on thy feet," until he perceived that "he had faith to be healed." Jesus, Himself, could not do miracles in Nazareth because of community unbelief."

So, I ask again... What is the thorn in the flesh?

2 Cor. 12:7 - So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a THORN WAS GIVEN ME IN THE FLESH, A MESSENGER OF SATAN TO HARASS ME, to keep me from becoming conceited.

Answer... A MESSENGER OF SATAN TO HARASS ME!

Numbers 33:55 - But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then those of them whom you let remain shall be as barbs in your eyes and THORNS IN YOUR SIDES, and they shall trouble you in the land where you dwell.

Joshua 23:13 - know for certain that the Lord your God will no longer drive out these nations before you, but they shall be a snare and a trap for you, a whip on your sides and THORNS IN YOUR EYES, until you perish from off this good ground that the Lord your God has given you.

Judges 2:3 - So now I say, I will not drive them out before you, but they shall become THORNS IN YOUR SIDES, and their gods shall be a snare to you."

"God would rather have us doubt His ability than His willingness!"

"Praying for healing with the faith-destroying words, 'if it be Thy will,' is not planting the 'seed'; it is destroying the seed!"

"I have seen faith rise 'mountain high' when the truth of God's present love and compassion begins to dawn upon the minds and hearts of the people. It

is not what God can do, but what we know He yearns to do, that inspires faith!"

"(When it comes to God's Word) Believe your beliefs and doubt your doubts!"

"Real faith rejoices in the promise of God as if it saw the deliverance and was enjoying it."

"Some people wonder why they can't have faith for healing. They feed their body three hot meals a day, and their spirit one cold snack a week."

"When your eyes are upon your symptoms and your mind is occupied with them more than with God's Word, you have in the ground the wrong kind of seed for the harvest that you desire. You have in the ground seeds of doubt. You are trying to raise one kind of crop from another kind of seed. It is impossible to sow tares and reap wheat. Your symptoms may point you to death, but God's Word points you to life."

"Don't doubt your faith; doubt your doubts, for they are unreliable!"

"When we steadfastly believe and act our faith in God's Word, nothing can keep the power in the Word from making all things to become exactly as the Word says!"