

Recently a friend asked me about healing.

Hi Charles,

I have been thinking about healing and have a question for you.

Do you believe God 'wants' to heal us? Or just 'sometimes'? I do not understand how we can walk in REAL faith and truly believe for healing if we also believe that God doesn't want to heal everyone.

This has been on my mind for a few weeks and at church last Sunday I heard someone say "If He wants to heal me." That really bothered me. It is not the first time I have heard it. So now I need to know what you believe.

The old testament says sickness is under the curse, but the new says we are free from the curse. Is there something more I am missing?

There is no hurry to get right back to me as I am not in a situation where I need to know right now.

Thank you ahead of time!

Jesus love,

Dear Friend

The answer to your question has many levels.

1. If healing means, does God want to end the curse of death that destroys everyone?

The answer is emphatically yes!!! Furthermore he has begun it at the cross and will finish it when the last enemy death is put under his feet. 1 Cor 15

2. Did Jesus heal everyone who came to him?

The answer is yes. However over and over he would tell people not to tell about their healing. In other words that is not what he wanted emphasized though of course that is what so often drew people to Him.

3. Did he sometimes reluctantly heal? Consider the case of the woman from Canaan Mt.15.22

Matthew 15:22-28 (NASB)

²² And a Canaanite woman from that region came out and *began* to cry out, saying, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is cruelly demon-possessed."

²³ But He did not answer her a word. And His disciples came and implored Him, saying, "Send her away, because she keeps shouting at us."

²⁴ But He answered and said, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

²⁵ But she came and *began* to bow down before Him, saying, "Lord, help me!"

²⁶ And He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."

²⁷ But she said, "Yes, Lord; but even the dogs feed on the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."

²⁸ Then Jesus said to her, "O woman, **your faith is great; it shall be done for you as you wish.**" And her daughter was healed at once.

What is it that caused him to answer the woman and heal her daughter when at first he would not even speak to her?

Consider Jesus coming down from the mountain after being transfigured Mt.17. He finds a demonized boy at the bottom and his disciples unable to heal him. "How long must I put up with you", he says.

Matthew 17:17-20 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Then Jesus answered and said, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him here to Me."

¹⁸ And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour.

¹⁹ Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?"

²⁰ So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.

Sometimes we want to see healing but the faith of the healers does not measure up to the task.

4. Now let's examine what effect does unbelief have on Jesus ability to heal?

Mark 6:1-6 (NKJV)

¹ Then He went out from there and came to His own country, and His disciples followed Him.

² And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue. And many hearing *Him* were astonished, saying, "Where *did* this Man *get* these things? And what wisdom *is* this which is given to Him, that such mighty works are performed by His hands!

³ Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" And they were offended at Him.

⁴ But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house."

⁵ **Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed *them*.**

⁶ **And He marveled because of their unbelief.** Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.

Hebrews 3:12 (NKJV)

¹² Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God;

Hebrews 3:18-19 (NKJV)

¹⁸ And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey?

¹⁹ So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

What we can see is that healing is a two way street. It's not only God's desire to heal but our faith to receive.

5. Now we come to a really sticky wicket. What is God's will in each individual life? Since death and decay are still active on this planet what is the extent of God's will to heal?

Consider John Wimber, a man who healed or participated in the healing of many but had to watch his son die. It was not long after that he died. Does God have the right to call someone home? Does it seem unjust that such a valuable servant departs the earth so soon after so many prayers for healing by those he loved? Does that mean John had unbelief?

Could it be that Jesus is truly Lord over the lives of each one of us and knows our destiny in terms of life span and time of departure?

6. Are the gifts for everyone? Are we all called to heal others all the time

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 (NKJV)

⁴ There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

⁵ There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord.

⁶ And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.

⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit *of all*:

⁸ for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,

⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, **to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,**

¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another *different* kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, **distributing to each one individually as He wills.**

In the last analysis God is Sovereign. HE IS IN CHARGE. He often limits himself to work through men. There is so much in any situation that we cannot see or comprehend. To the degree that we have faith we get to look into the Kingdom of God and peoples hearts and lives. This faith level varies from person to person depending on gifting, experience, and many other factors.

My answer therefore is, Yes God is the healer. He expresses himself in healing. It is his nature to restore and make whole. This will not be fully expressed until the Resurrection that occurs when death comes to an end. When I pray for the sick I pray expectantly because he has said

Mark 16:18 (NKJV)

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."

James 5:14-16 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

¹⁶ 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.

Book Description

Context

NKJV Mt 10:8 Chapter 10 **8 Heal the sick**, cleanse **the** lepers, raise **the** dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

NKJV Lk 9:2 Chapter 9 **2** He sent them to preach **the** kingdom of God and to **heal the sick**.

NKJV Lk 10:9 Chapter 10 **9** And **heal the sick** there, and say to them, '**The** kingdom of God has come near to you.'

If we walk in the Kingdom of God we are to expect healing and to be healed. It is part of our ministry. Who gets healed and how is the Lord's decision and I must leave it there.

When the person said, "If he wants' to heal me" you understand the level of frustration that person is experiencing and you pray for that person's faith to grow. I am not of the persuasion that that person should be rebuked. I feel that person needs to be loved.

I hope this helps
May the Lord richly bless you
Charles