

# HEALING

**But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given...the gifts of healing by the same Spirit. (I Corinthians 12:7-9)**

A believer with the gifts of healing has the ability to let God's power flow through him to restore health apart from the use of natural methods. "Healing" means to make well.

This type of healing is called "divine healing" because it is done by the divine power of God rather than through natural means.

The healings recorded in the Bible were all immediate and complete recoveries of normal bodily functions. Physical healing is one of the spiritual signs that is to follow the ministry of all believers:

**And these signs shall follow them that believe...they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover... (Mark 16:17-18)**

The elders of the church are also used of God to bring physical healing:

**Is any sick among you? 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;**

**And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. (James 5:14-15)**

All believers can pray for the sick. Elders in the church can also pray for the sick. But a believer with a gift of healing is used specifically and consistently by God in this area of ministry.

The name of this gift is plural. It is the "gifts" of healing. This is because there are various healing gifts, different ways healing comes, and various methods of using the gift of healing. God uses some believers in the healing of specific illnesses. For example, the Bible records that Paul was used in special miracles of healing (Acts 19:11-12). Some believers may have a special anointing to pray for the blind or deaf. Others are used in a more general healing ministry to pray for all types of sickness.

In addition to curing physical affliction, healing can also include the casting out of unclean spirits [demons]:

**There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits; and they were healed every one. (Acts 5:16)**

Faith in God is a key to receiving healing. Divine healing can come through the faith of the one ministering with this gift. Jesus raised a girl from the dead and healed her:

**But when the people were put forth, He went in, and took her by the hand, and the maid arose. (Matthew 9:25)**

Since the girl was dead, she could not have faith for healing. Healing came through the ministry and faith of Jesus.

Healing can also come because of the faith of the person who is sick:

**But Jesus turned Him about and when He saw her, He said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour. (Matthew 9:22)**

Healing also comes through the combined faith of the one who is sick and the one who is ministering:

**And when He was come into the house, the blind men came to Him: and Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto Him Yea, Lord.**

**Then touched He their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you. (Matthew 9:28-29)**

Jesus had the ability to perform this healing. He knew He was able to heal. This was combined with the faith of the blind men to bring healing.

The plural "gifts" of healing is also used because healing comes through various Biblical methods. For example, healing can come through the spoken word:

**The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. (Matthew 8:8)**

**He sent His word, and healed them... (Psalms 107:20)**

Healing comes by the laying on of hands:

**Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto Him; and He laid His hands on every one of them, and healed them. (Luke 4:40)**

**...they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover... (Mark 16:18)**

**And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul. (Acts 19:11)**

Healing comes through the anointing of oil in the name of the Lord:

**Is any sick among you? 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;**

**And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. (James 5:14-15)**

Healing has even come through the shadow of one with this gift:

**Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.**

**There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits; and they were healed every one. (Acts 5:15-16)**

We can have divine healing because Jesus suffered and took upon Himself our infirmities:

**But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed. (Isaiah 53:5)**

Jesus suffered at Calvary not only to free us from sin, but also to free us from sickness. He was beaten and received stripes on His back for the healing of sickness. He suffered so we can be healed as well as saved.

When ministering with the gifts of healing it is important to understand that everyone to whom we minister may not be healed. Paul spoke of fellow workers who were sick and apparently had not received healing through his ministry:

**...Trophimus have I left at Miletum sick. (II Timothy 4:20)**

Paul had the gifts of healing and special miracles, yet for some reason Trophimus was not healed through his ministry. Paul wrote to Timothy regarding a chronic illness:

**Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine often infirmities. (I Timothy 5:23)**

Paul did not stop using his gift of healing just because everyone to whom he ministered did not get healed. This would be like an evangelist ceasing to minister because everyone to whom he preached did not respond to the Gospel. Everyone Paul preached to did not respond positively to the Gospel message. Everyone he prayed for was not healed. But he kept on doing what God had called him to do. He preached the Gospel and prayed for the sick and left the results in the hands of God.