

Does  
Jesus



Heal  
the Sick  
Today?

It is clear that Jesus devoted a large part of His ministry on earth to the healing of the sick. His primary motive in healing the afflicted was not merely to demonstrate His power and deity; Matthew tells us that "He was moved with compassion for them" (Matthew 9:35,36).

Jesus prophesied that His disciples would continue healing the sick, "They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover" (Mark 16:18). In the ministries of all the apostles recorded in the Book of Acts, there were miracles of divine healing—Acts 3:6-8, 9:32-41; 5:15,16; 19:11,12. James instructed the sick of the church to call for the elders (pastors) who would pray for them to be healed.

Does Jesus heal the sick today? The author of the Book of Hebrews writes: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). Today we hear and read of countless testimonies of miracles of healing in answer to the prayer of faith.

Are you thinking that it may not be God's will to heal you? The Bible tells us about a leper who thought that way. He said to Jesus, "Lord, if you are willing you can make me clean." Jesus answered, "I am willing, be cleansed." From this we can see that Jesus is willing to heal the sick today and always. Yes, divine healing of the sick is a blessing and provision for the Christian's life. Now, how can one receive this blessing?

**The following are four ways to receive the blessing of**

## **divine healing.**

### **(1)** The Prayer of faith offered by the elders of the church.

James writes: "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. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up" (James 5:14,15). When we utilize this means, there is the advantage that the faith of the elders is added to that of the sick person. This is the means most frequently used by the members of churches.

### **(2)** Another means is to join together in agreement with another believer to pray for healing. Matthew says, "If two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven" (Matthew 18:19). This kind of agreement in prayer demonstrates the love that ought to be manifested in the body of believers. When prayer is motivated by the love of God, it is very powerful and effective.

### **(3)** A similar means is the mutual prayer one for another by Christian brethren. James exhorts as follows: "Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed." Apparently, he refers to a certain number of sick that could pray one for another to be healed. Sometimes it is easier for persons in the same circumstances to respond to one another and to have compassion one for another. Besides, if there is need to confess faults that hinder faith, it is easier among those who share the same need. Mutual faith is very effective.

**(4)** Private prayer in the name of Jesus is a way with much promise. Jesus said to His followers: "And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it" (John 14:13,14). When we pray for divine healing in the name of Jesus with the result that God heals us and sets us free, it brings glory to the Father. The Father is glorified by the redeeming and healing power of the Son, Jesus. Again Jesus said, "Whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, (literally) and you will have them" (Mark 11:24). When we pray with faith, we believe that our prayer has been answered while we pray and we accept the blessing as an immediate gift of God's compassion. If you are alone, stand on the above promise and trust that the Lord will be faithful to His promise.

We have mentioned four ways to receive healing, and, no doubt, there are more. God is merciful in providing many different ways of approaching the Great Physician. I am certain that, in the time of need, the Holy Spirit will show each of us the best way to take. Avail yourself, my friend, of the blessed means our merciful Lord has provided for our complete redemption of the total person, for the body as well as for the soul and spirit.

Dear friend, if you have not yet accepted Christ as your personal Savior, call upon Him now in simple faith. Healing often comes with forgiveness of sin.