



WHY ?

On earth they say:

“Laid aside by illness.”

In heaven they say:

“Called aside for stillness.”

WHY AM I SUFFERING THIS SICKNESS?

This is the question we so often ask when sickness comes, or when an accident happens or trouble comes.

1. GOD SAYS, "STOP AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD." Ps. 46:10

In the activities of our busy lives we rarely give God an opportunity to speak to us. Our lives become so "full" that there is no place for God.

In an hour of loneliness and trouble God spoke to Jacob. He woke up and said, "The Lord is here! He is in this place, and I didn't know it." Gen. 28:16. In the time of distress and suffering GOD IS PRESENT to speak to us.

2. SICKNESS MAY BE GOD'S DISCIPLINE TO US

"HAPPY IS THE PERSON WHOM GOD CORRECTS. DO NOT RESENT IT WHEN HE REBUKES YOU." Job 5:17.

"And this small and temporary trouble we suffer will bring us a tremendous and eternal glory, much greater than the trouble." 2 Cor. 4:17. So we are told to "Consider ourselves fortunate when all kinds of trials come our way (or trouble)." James 1:2. "Even in my suffering I was comforted because your promise gave me life." Ps. 119:50. "I am filled with trouble and anxiety, but your commandments bring me joy." Ps. 119:143.

3. SICKNESS PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE GOD'S POWER AT WORK

When disciples of Jesus asked about a man's blindness, "Teacher, whose sin caused him to be born blind? Was it his own or his parents' sin?" Jesus answered, "His blindness has nothing to do with his sins or his parents' sins. He is blind so that **GOD'S POWER MIGHT BE SEEN AT WORK IN HIM.**" John 9:2-3. So then, this very sickness or trial provides an opportunity to see how God answers prayer.

ALL OF GOD'S PROMISES ARE TRUE. We can come to God in prayer. He is our Helper and Friend. He hears our cry and is able to give us His help. All He asks is that we BELIEVE. "Everything is possible for the person who has faith." Mark 9:23.

WHAT, THEN, IS GOD'S WILL FOR ME IN THIS SICKNESS?

1. MAKE SURE OF A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Confess and put away all sin.



"But if we confess our sins to God, He will keep His promise and do what is right: He will forgive us our sins and purify us from all our wrongdoing." 1 John 1:9.

FIND PEACE WITH GOD in knowing your sins are forgiven. "Now that we have been put right with God through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Rom. 5:1.

HAVE PEACE OF MIND. "Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give you. I do not give it as the world does. Do not be worried and upset; do not be afraid." John 14:27.

2. YOU CAN PRAY TO GOD IN YOUR HOUR OF NEED.

He says: "Call to me when trouble comes; I will save you, and you will praise me." Ps. 50:15. "Let us have confidence, then, and approach God's throne, where there is grace. There we will receive mercy and find grace to help us just when we need it." Heb. 4:16.

3. YOU CAN RELY ON GOD'S PROMISES THAT NEVER FAIL

He has said, "I will never leave you; I will never abandon you." Heb. 13:5. "Do not be afraid – I will save you. I have called you by name – you are mine. When you pass through deep waters, I will be with you; your troubles will not overwhelm you. The hard trials that come will not hurt you." Isa. 43:1-2.

"The good man suffers many troubles, but the Lord saves him from them all." Ps. 34:19. "Give yourselves to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will help you." Ps. 37:5. "You, Lord, give perfect peace to those who keep their purpose firm and put their trust in you." Is. 26:3.

4. DO NOT DESPAIR

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. And they shall never die. No one can snatch them away from me." John 10:27-29. "The Lord is my shepherd; I have everything I need. Even if I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, Lord, FOR YOU ARE WITH ME." Ps. 23:1-4



CAN I ASK GOD TO HEAL ME?

THE BIBLE ENCOURAGES US TO ASK FOR HEALING

"Large crowds came to Him, bringing with them the lame, the blind, the crippled, the dumb, and many other sick people, whom they placed at Jesus' feet; and He healed them." Matt. 15:30. "He forgives all my sins and heals all my diseases." Ps. 103:3.

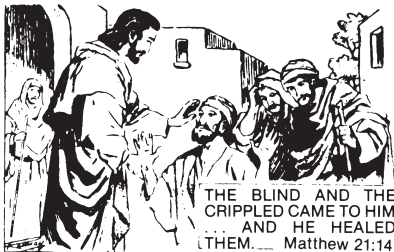
THE WORK OF JESUS SHOWED GOD'S WILL TO HEAL

"Jesus went round visiting all the towns and villages. He taught in the synagogues, preached the Good News about the Kingdom, and healed people with every kind of disease and sickness." Matt. 9:35. Read Matt. 4:23-24; Matt. 8:16-17; 11:5; Luke 10:9.

THE SUFFERING AND DEATH OF CHRIST PROVIDED HEALING FOR MANKIND

"But because of our sins He was wounded, beaten because of the evil we did. We are healed by the punishment He suffered, and made whole by the blows He received." Is. 53:5. "Jesus drove out the evil spirits with a word and healed all who were sick. He did this to make what the prophet Isaiah had said come true, "He Himself took our sickness and carried away our diseases." Matt. 8:16-17.

His resurrection means that He is a living Saviour, able to continue His healing ministry. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." Heb. 13:8. "Jesus Christ makes you well." Act 9:34. Read also Acts 3:16; Acts 5:16.



Healing through
Jesus' life;

Healing through
Jesus' death.

**FEAR NOT,
ONLY BELIEVE.**



"EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE FOR THE PERSON WHO HAS FAITH"

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