

Chapter 2

God Loves to Heal

It should not be a surprise to us as believers to hear that God loves to heal. I am afraid many believers have the opposite view. They believe God is reluctant to heal. Throughout the Old Testament, we see many instances of God healing and promising healing to those who love Him.

In the New Testament, healing was a central theme of Jesus' life and ministry. He healed everyone who came to him for healing. Healing is still part of the Gospel. The Gospel of Jesus Christ has not changed. God has called it the "*children's bread.*" (Matthew 15:26, Mark 7:27) It is one benefit of being a child of God. God provides for our help and healing. He daily loads us with benefits. His provisions for our lives are gracious and merciful. He abounds in love and mercy.

Psalm 103:1-3 says, "Forget not all His Benefits."

"Bless the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. 2 Bless the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—3 who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, 4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, 5 who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's."

Psalm 68:19-21 says, "He daily loads us with benefits."

Blessed be the Lord, Who daily loads us with benefits, The God of our salvation! Selah. Our God is the God of salvation; And to GOD, the Lord, belong escapes from death.

Matthew 6:25-27 says, "God watches the sparrows."

God is constantly watching His children even more than the sparrows, for we are more valuable than them.

Therefore, I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you, by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?

Luke 12:32 assures us, “God wants to give us the Kingdom.”

*Do not be afraid and anxious, little flock,
for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.*

Just as God does not always provide for us in the same way every day, so too, He does not always provide for our healing in the same way. We would all like God to do amazing miracles for us every day. We would all like Him to open the Red Sea so we can cross over on dry ground. We would like Him to calm the wind and the sea immediately with His word. We want Him to send us manna every morning. We'd like to walk on water whenever the need arises. But reality is those mighty miracles are not daily occurrences.

Oh, yes, He can open the sea for you, but He also could provide a boat for you to cross, or enable you to swim across, or show you where the rocks are so you can walk across, or teach you how to build a bridge over troubled water. God has many ways of healing and they aren't always spectacular miracles. His gifts and blessings are for every child of God. He loves variety. He likes surprises.

The God of miracles is also the God of nature, the God of nurture, and the God of normal. When you stop to think about it, there are many ways that God provides healing and help for His children. The ways that God provides healing and help for His children are as varied as the different sizes and shapes of snowflakes. He is the God of infinite variety.

He's been around the block a couple of times. He is not new to your situation. Your ill health is no surprise to Him. He is not stumped by it. It is not too hard for Him. He has a million ways to answer your prayer for healing.

When you know you are a child of the King, then you can rest in His care, knowing that He calls you by name and holds you in the palm of His hand. Psalm 46:1-3 offers us comfort,

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. ² Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; ³ Though its waters roar and be troubled, Though the mountains shake with its swelling.”

He will guide you through every crisis or sickness. We are human. Human life is a frail thing. Every day germs, bacteria, infections, and diseases bombard us. Eventually, we are all going to succumb to some disease, even if it is just old age. At the end of your story, God will take you home, and we've got to be okay with that. It is a fact of life.

God Works in Mysterious Ways

Our Father in heaven has many ways of answering our prayer for healing. I have taken the time to look through the Scriptures for passages and promises of healing. Below I have listed 30 ways the Lord has promised to heal you or carry you through. His ways are not our ways and His thoughts are not our thoughts. Let God do his healing his way.

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. ⁹ “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰ As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, ¹¹ so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. ¹² You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. ¹³ Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper, and instead of briers the myrtle will grow. This will be for the Lord’s renown, for an everlasting sign, that will endure forever.” – Isaiah 55:8-13

God's Healing Scriptures

Healing is mentioned in the Bible more than 170 times. Many of those references are testimonies of healing or promises for healing. It is important that our faith stands on the solid foundation of the word of God and not on our own ideas.

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.*

Psalm 6:2 *Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am languishing; heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled.*

Psalm 41:3 *The Lord sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness you restore him to full health.*

Psalm 91:10 *No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling;*

Psalm 91:16 *With long life I will satisfy him, And show him My salvation.*

Psalm 103:2-3 *Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases.*

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

Psalm 118:17 *I shall not die, but live, And declare the works of the Lord.*

Psalm 147:3 *He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.*

Proverbs 4:20-22 *For they are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh.*

Proverbs 17:22 *A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.*

Isaiah 53:5 *But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.*

Jeremiah 17:14 *Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved, for you are my praise.*

Jeremiah 30:17 *But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds," declares the LORD, "because you are called an outcast, Zion for whom no one cares.*

Jeremiah 33:6 *Behold, I will bring to it health and healing, and I will heal them and reveal to them abundance of prosperity and security.*

Malachi 4:2 *But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves.*

Romans 8:11 *But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.*

James 5:15 *And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.*

1 Peter 2:24 *He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed.*

3 John 1:2 *Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul.*

Unique Ways God Works His Healing

My Healer will not do it my way, but His way. God has mentioned 30 ways He helps us in our infirmities. Let God be God. Trust Him for great and surprising things. When you pray for healing, expect God to do it in His unique way. It may come as a miracle instantaneously or overnight. It may come through any of several of the ways He has told us in His Word.

1. He Binds up wounds – Psalm 147:3
2. He Cares – 1 Peter 5:7
3. He Carries – Isaiah 53:4
4. He Comforts – 2 Corinthians 1:4
5. He Cradles in his arms – Isaiah 40:11
6. He Delivers from suffering – Job 36:15
7. He Delivers from troubles – Psalm 34:4
8. He Delivers from fears – Psalm 34:19
9. He Exchanges ashes for beauty – Isaiah 61:3
10. He Gives sleep – Psalm 127:2, Proverbs 3:24
11. He Has mercy on – Philippians 2:27
12. He Heals- Psalm 147:3, Psalm 103:2-3
13. He Hears – Psalm 34:17
14. He Helps – Psalm 30:2, Jeremiah 17:14,
15. He Lifts us up – Psalm 40:1-2
16. He Looses from affliction – Luke 13:12
17. He Preserves life – Psalm 41:2
18. He Renews – Isaiah 40:31
19. He Raises up – James 5:15
20. He Redeems from destruction – Psalm 103:4
21. He Rescues – Isaiah 51:11
22. He Restores – Psalm 41:3, Jeremiah 30:17
23. He Removes sickness – Exodus 23:25
24. He Satisfies with long life – Psalm 91:16
25. He Sets free from infirmity – Luke 13:12
26. He Shields from plagues – Psalm 91:4-11
27. He Strengthens – Isaiah 40:29-31
28. He Sustains – Psalm 41:3
29. He Sympathizes – Hebrews 4:15
30. He Upholds with his hand – Psalm 37:23-24

When you pray for healing remember He hears, heals, helps, sustains, strengthens, sympathizes, comforts, cuddles, carries, cares, restores, renews, He raises up, He redeems, exchanges, rescues, delivers, has mercy, binds up, removes, looses, sets free, preserves, sustains, lifts up, upholds, carries us, cradles us, shields us and spreads His wings over us, just to name a few of the ways God brings healing to us.

He's been around the block a couple of times. He's not new to your situation. Your ill health is no surprise to Him, so trust Him in it. He will guide you through it.

Think About It

Chapter 2: Delight of God to Heal

Do you really believe God loves to heal?

Do you agree there are benefits to sickness?

What are some benefits of healing?

If God loves to heal, why doesn't He heal more often?