

Matthew 14:34-36: And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. ³⁵ And when the men of that place recognized him, they sent around to all that region and brought to him all who were sick ³⁶ and implored him that they might only touch the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.

Intro: In the last two weeks, we've seen Jesus feed the 5,000 (10-20K total) & 12 baskets were left over! Jesus is the Bread of Life Who more than satisfies! Jesus shows us that He is the true God Who can meet all our needs! We've seen that Jesus is so big, so strong, & so mighty: He's the God-Man Who walks upon the sea. He terrifies His disciples! But if you fear Jesus, you have nothing else to ever fear! Today, we see Jesus again as the healer of all sickness and disease: He loves; He cares; He acts; He reverses the curse & shows He's the Savior of the world!

1. Jesus Came To Heal People Of Their Sicknesses And Diseases

Matthew 14:34-35: And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. ³⁵ And when the men of that place recognized him, they sent around to all that region and brought to him all who were sick

a. The people recognize Jesus: Jesus is available to everyone. Jesus was so available that people knew Who He was: they could recognize Him. He was out among the people preaching & teaching & doing good. He went everywhere (villages, cities, countryside), & He went to everyone: to all types of places & to all types of sick & needy people. He didn't discriminate! **(May we be like this at Olney Baptist Church!)** Jesus also came to save every kind of sinner: the smallest to the biggest, even the worst of sinners in our eyes!

b. People bring to Jesus all the sick from around the region: Just like in every place, there are sick people. We live in a broken, sin-filled, fallen, sick world.

c. Sickness is in the world because of sin: This world is cursed. Genesis 3; **Romans 8:20:** For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope

d. Not all people who get sick are sick because of their own personal sin: Job; John 9:1-3: As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. & his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him.

e. Some people who get sick are sick because of their own personal sin: John 5:14: Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you."

1 Corinthians 11:28-30: Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹ For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. ³⁰ That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died.

f. Jesus is the Suffering Servant (Matt. 8:17: This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: "He took our illnesses and bore our diseases.") **: Isaiah 53:4-11:** Surely he has borne our griefs & carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, & afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, & with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; & the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, & he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, & like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression & judgment he was taken away; & as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? & they made his grave with the wicked & with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, & there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see & be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, & he shall bear their iniquities.

g. Jesus came to take illnesses and diseases by healing them: Jesus is a healer of physical diseases! Jesus is a miracle worker like no other miracle worker! **Daniel Doriani:** A miracle is a direct act of God in the external world, in which he works outside (not against) the common course of events to reveal Himself, authenticate His servants, and manifest His nature and redemptive purposes. By this definition, childbirth is not a miracle because it is not a direct act of God and it does follow the common course of events . . . amazing events are not, by themselves, miracles. Amazing events are miracles when they fulfill God's Word and accomplish His purposes.

Jesus heals with a word, raises dead people, shows He is God, loves the least, despised, & outcasts of society.

h. Jesus came to finally deal with the root of all illnesses and diseases, which is sin: Sickness is in the world because of sin. Not that everyone who is sick is sick because of their own personal sin. But generally, sickness is here because of sin. Jesus came to fully, finally, and totally deal with sin! **GOSPEL!**

i. Jesus will fully and finally take away all of our illnesses and diseases, but not necessarily all of them now in this age: Jesus' death on the cross does guarantee our full and complete healing from all sicknesses and diseases! But not necessarily right now in this age. He can do that, but He may choose not to do that for His own good purposes. And we must trust Him about this and say: "Your will be done!"

D. A. Carson: It should be stated that this discussion cannot be used to justify healing on demand. This text and others clearly teach that there is healing in the Atonement; but similarly there is the promise of a resurrection body in the Atonement, even if believers do not inherit it until the Parousia [Jesus' second coming]. From the perspective of the NT writers, the Cross is the basis for all the benefits that accrue to believers, but this does not mean that all such benefits can be secured at the present time on demand, any more than we have the right and power to demand our resurrection bodies. The availability of any specific blessing can be determined only by appealing to the overall teaching of Scripture. Modern Christians should avoid the principal danger of Corinth, viz., an over-realized eschatology [study of the end of the age], which demands blessings that may not be ours till the end of the age.

Did Jesus fully defeat death at the cross and resurrection? Yes, but we still die!

Did Jesus fully defeat sin at the cross? Yes, but we still struggle with and fight sin!

Did Jesus fully defeat disease at the cross? Yes, but we still get sick!

All these blessings will be fully realized in the age to come! And yet there can be great deliverance's now!

2. Jesus And Sickness

Costi Hinn: Is It Always God's Will To Heal Now?

a. God doesn't heal everyone all the time: Hinn: Jesus healed just one man out of a multitude of sick people at the Pool of Bethesda (John 5:3-8). Jesus didn't heal people in His hometown of Nazareth (Matthew 13:58). After a healing-spree in the district of Galilee, Jesus plainly decided to go somewhere else to preach even though desperately sick and hurting people were looking for Him (Mark 1:38). His reasoning was simple: "Let us go somewhere else to the towns nearby, so that I may preach there also; for that is what I came for."

1Tim 5:23: No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach & your frequent ailments

2 Timothy 4:20: Erastus remained at Corinth, and I left Trophimus, who was ill, at Miletus.

b. God doesn't heal based solely on faith: John 5:13: Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place.

- **Mark 9:24:** Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!"

- **Matt. 8:2:** behold, a leper came to him & knelt before him, saying, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean."

c. God doesn't heal based on giving money: Hinn: No Apostle, no New Testament writer, and not even Jesus

Himself, ever told someone to give a financial seed of faith for a healing, a breakthrough, or protection from sickness. It is not God's will that you give money to be healed.

d. God doesn't heal b/c you claim it: Hinn: Growing up I experienced this belief system first hand & was often scolded if I woke up with a runny nose & said, "I'm sick." A parent would quickly remark, "Don't confess that! You are well! You are the head & not the tail! You are healed in Jesus Name: now get ready for school."

e. God sovereignly healed then, and He can still sovereignly heal today: We've seen this in our text today. Pray for healing! **James 5:14:** 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.

f. God's will guarantees that every one of God's children will be healed in heaven: Romans 8:22-23: For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

Revelation 21:3-4: And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

And we have all of this because Jesus bore our sins, the root cause of every sickness, in His body on the tree! He suffered and died so that we might never suffer and die again! And He rose up!

3. Jesus Is The Sun Of Righteousness With Healing In His Wings (Outer Garment)

Matthew 14:35-36: [they] brought to him all who were sick and implored him that they might only touch the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.

Matthew 9:20-21: behold, a woman who had suffered from a discharge of blood for twelve years came up behind him & touched the fringe of his garment, for she said to herself, "If I only touch his garment, I will be made well."

What is the significance of people touching Jesus' garment? First, Jesus could have gotten really mad – "You made me unclean!" But not Jesus! He loves! He helps! He serves! Secondly:

a. The Jews' garments were to remind them of their commitment to God and His commandments and identify them as God's people: Numbers 15:37-41: The LORD said to Moses,³⁸ "Speak to the people of Israel, and tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a cord of blue on the tassel of each corner.³⁹ And it shall be a tassel for you to look at and remember all the commandments of the LORD, to do them, not to follow after your own heart and your own eyes, which you are inclined to whore after.⁴⁰ So you shall remember and do all my commandments, and be holy to your God.⁴¹ I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God: I am the LORD your God."

b. Covering another with your garment was a sign of ownership, identifying you with the person who owned the garment: Ezekiel 16:8: When I passed by you again and saw you, behold, you were at the age for love, and I spread the corner of my garment over you and covered your nakedness; I made my vow to you and entered into a covenant with you, declares the Lord GOD, and you became mine.

Ruth 3:9: He said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings [corners of your garment] over your servant, for you are a redeemer."

c. Touching Jesus' garment was not weak or superstitious (Jesus commended the woman's faith in Matthew

9; Jesus touched the little girl), but grounded in God's promises: Malachi 4:2: But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings [outer garment] (Story from Israel, Magdala)

Article: The Jews in Jesus' day were familiar with this Old Testament background. Indeed, the Pharisees wore elaborate tassels on the corners of their garments so that people would regard them as closely identified with God (Matthew 23:5). As a devout Jew, Jesus may well have worn tassels, though His would not have been elaborate showpieces like those of the Pharisees. When people reached for the corners of Jesus' garment, it was in many cases more than a grab for the most accessible part of His person. It was a sign that they wanted to identify with Him. There was nothing magical about the cloth that brought healing. It came by faith as people publicly aligned themselves with Jesus. As He told the woman with a discharge of blood, "Your faith has made you well" (Matthew 9:22). Perhaps Malachi 4:2 was even in her mind as she reached out and thought, "This is finally the one with healing in His wings." Though Gentile believers today don't afford the same significance to garment corners, knowing this detail adds a layer of richness to the Gospels. And it calls us to imitate the faith of those who reached for Christ's clothing – faith that He brings blessing and help to those who identify with Him as Lord and Savior.

d. Identifying with Christ is described as putting Him on like clothes: Galatians 3:27: For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

e. These people were touching the clothes of God Himself, Who possesses all glory, splendor, and majesty: Isaiah 6:1: In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train [hem, fringe, outer edge] of his robe filled the temple.

- **John Calvin:** Almost all the commentators understand by this the fringes of his robe

- **John 12:41:** Isaiah said these things because he saw His [Jesus'] glory and spoke of Him [Jesus].

4. Jesus Heals And Saves Because He Is So Unfathomably Loving And Merciful

Jesus is the God Who is love! Not only is He the source and fountain of all love, but He is able to sympathize, empathize, and understand what we are going through like no other!

- Are you suffering from some rejection for failure? Jesus knows the greatest rejection in the universe: the cross!
- Are you suffering from a dream that's been totally shattered? Jesus' greatest dream was stripped from Him: cross!
- Are you suffering from some sickness or disease? Jesus took our sickness and bore our diseases!
- Are you tempted and tired of fighting sin? Jesus knows the pain of fighting sin more than you ever could!

Jesus knows what we are going through: Hebrews 4:15: For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Whatever suffering or hardship you have endured, Jesus has endured worse! And therefore He loves you deeply!

Jesus Is The Healer Of All, Reversed The Fall, And Conquers Every Sickness Big Or Small!

The people recognized Him when He got to the shore
He's the miracle worker they'd come to adore
For signs and wonders they'd beg for more
But His identity as God they seemed to ignore
Yet to be reconciled to God He's the only Door
At that cross His precious life-blood He'd pour
On His bloodied back your sins He bore
And then rose from the dead to win the war
All beauty and good to perfectly restore
And grant us fullness of joy and pleasures forevermore!

Jesus is the center of attention
He's amazing and extraordinary in every dimension
Though He's eternal God, He made a lowly condescension
To save sinners from Hell and every contention
His beauty and love are without comprehension
And after He made His glorious ascension
He calls us to go and His Gospel to mention
In all of our lives it demands utter submission
And to every nation further extension
For the fame of His name in every dimension!

Jesus is available to all who see their need
He's quick to accomplish every good deed
For every repentant sinner He came to bleed
And in them plant His everlasting seed
So that they would believe His creed
And follow His lead to be fully freed!

Jesus came showing mercy and love
He's gentle and tender, just like a dove
He's the God Who is love that's come down from above!

When Adam fell into sin the whole world was lost
But at great personal cost
Jesus came to reverse the loss
And do even more at the cross!

There's nothing on earth that Jesus can't heal
No matter what's wrong or how bad you feel
If to Him by faith you make your appeal
He'll always work His perfect will
And give you what's best – that's the ideal
So don't go to Him to make a deal
But pour out your heart and before Him be real
And His perfect plan for your life He'll reveal!

Because of sin we get sick and die
But when it comes to specifics we don't know why
Sometimes if you lie, you may get pinkeye
But others like Job don't sin or defy
Yet sickness they get no matter how hard they try
So for righteousness aim high
On your own understanding don't rely
Trust in our God's endless supply
Of love that never runs dry
And into His fatherly arms always fly
For His mercy never cease to cry
And He'll make all things beautiful in the great by and by!

We long for a day of no more sickness, death, and pain
When the curse will be gone and nothing will be vain
To win this new day Jesus came to be slain
He had to suffer and die and be counted profane
Then rise from the grave, paradise to regain
He started everything we'll finally attain
But there's more to come so don't complain
The "already – not yet" theologians try to explain
When Jesus comes back there'll be a whole new domain
Where a new earth and new bodies this world will contain
Then all sin and death will have no more reign
Again the world will be sane
Over all the earth God's glory will forever remain
So believe Jesus Christ is worthy to obtain!

All Who Were Sick King Jesus Healed
He's The Sun Of Righteousness Our Shield
With Healing In His Wings Appealed
He'd Rise To Be All God Revealed
The Father's Sword Of Wrath Was Wield
To Crush His Son Who'd Die And Yield
To His Father's Will Unsealed
No Love Held Back Or Hid Concealed
And Then He Rose So Death Has Kneeled
To The God-Man Who Has Sealed
Our Saving Pardon All Things Healed
By Faith Alone Please To Him Yield
He Is All Joy And Hope Revealed!