

Matthew 8:14-17: And when Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever. ¹⁵ He touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she rose and began to serve him. ¹⁶ That evening they brought to him many who were oppressed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick. ¹⁷ This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: "He took our illnesses and bore our diseases."

Intro: More Than A Healer (Costi Hinn): Our hearts, our bodies, and our world are desperate for healing. Whether we are experiencing physical, emotional, or financial brokenness, we rightfully look to Jesus to perform a masterful restoration. But how does healing fit into God's will, especially when God doesn't heal? And how do we catch ourselves from slipping into the trap of seeking God for what he can do for us, and not for who he really is?

Author, pastor, and frequently sought speaker Costi Hinn provides clarity through thoughtful answers and biblical truths about Jesus and his healing ministry. Growing up immersed in one of the world's leading faith-healing dynasties, Costi witnessed the tragedy of people chasing after healing more than the Healer. And now he shares with others the true power and hope that comes from a genuine relationship with God.

With captivating stories – beginning with the vivid memory of the night he discovered his son's cancer diagnosis – Costi empathetically unpacks the layered feelings and questions we have about God and his healing power and provides practical principles for growing close to Jesus. With gentle clarity and biblical wisdom, Costi explains how to pray for healing while submitting to God's sovereignty, navigate tough conversations about the topic, and hold on to faith even in the most painful trials. More than chasing after the Jesus we want, this hopeful and encouraging book will guide us to discovering the Jesus we truly need.

Extreme #1: It's always God's will to heal right now; Extreme #2: Jesus doesn't heal at all

Costi Hinn: Both of these views fall terribly short of what God has made clear in the Bible. Worst of all, they put words in Jesus' mouth. Jesus can and does heal today. But that doesn't mean he is obligated to do so. Still, do not ever give ear to someone who claims God does not heal today. One of his names in the Bible is Yahweh-rophe ("The LORD, your healer"), which is used in Exodus 15:26 to identify God as one who heals the sick.

Psalm 103:1-5: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! ² Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, ³ who forgives all your iniquity, **who heals all your diseases,** ⁴ who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, ⁵ who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

1. Peter Had A Mother-In-Law

Matthew 8:14: And when Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever.

Roman Catholic Church: Teaches that clergy should not be married: **Synod of Elvira (305) (Canon 33):** It is decided that marriage be altogether prohibited to bishops, priests, and deacons, or to all clerics placed in the ministry, and that they keep away from their wives and not beget children; whoever does this shall be deprived of the honor of the clerical office. (RC's: Peter's wife died before he was called to be an apostle).

1 Corinthians 9:5: Do we not have the right to take along a believing wife, as do the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas?

1 Timothy 4:1-3: Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, ² through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, ³ who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

2. Jesus Heals Peter's Mother-In-Law Of Her Fever

Matthew 8:15: He touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she rose and began to serve him.

Jesus touches her! Immediately the fever was gone! And she was so transformed that she was able to get up and serve! This testifies to the power, authority, effectiveness and instantaneous nature of Jesus miracle! He is God!

3. Jesus Cast Out Demons And Healed All Who Were Sick

Matthew 8:16: That evening they brought to him many who were oppressed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and **healed all who were sick.**

a. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil: He set those oppressed by demons free and cast out evil spirits!

1 John 3:8: The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

b. Jesus healed all who were sick: He healed them all! Not like at one of those phony healing services! **JMac:** Jesus banished disease in Palestine!

c. Jesus healed them with a word: Hebrews 11:3: By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God

Hebrews 1:3: He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

4. Jesus Fulfilled Prophecy

Matthew 8:17: This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: "He took our illnesses and bore our diseases."

a. Jesus is the Suffering Servant of Isaiah 53: Isaiah 53:4-11: Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed. ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. ⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. ⁸ By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and 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? ⁹ And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. **GOSPEL!**

b. 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, shows He is God, loves the least, despised, & outcasts of society (leper, Gentile, woman).

c. 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: **Romans 8:20:** For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope

Daniel Doriani: Matthew wants us to see the concepts of grief and disease almost interchangeably. We may not think that way, but the Bible says grief and sickness are related, directly or indirectly, to sin. Sin, grief, and sickness are a complex; God would deliver us from all three. Some disease is directly related to sin. For example, alcoholics suffer cirrhosis of the liver. Yet most illness is indirectly caused by sin. Congenital diseases are ordinarily a result of the fall and the curse; only in rare occasions do they directly result from the sins of the parents. If Adam and Eve had never sinned, there would be no disease or death. Likewise, some sorrows are directly caused by sin. Habitual liars find that no one believes them. When they say they repent of their lies, no one believes that either, even if they have truly repented. Liars bring that sorrow on themselves. But many sorrows are indirect results of sin—the sins of others. For example, the people of all totalitarian regimes suffer indirectly, due to the sins of their leaders. Sadly, almost everyone suffers grief this way. The sin of a teacher, a boss, a political leader, or a relative causes us sorrow. We suffer when a friend or even a spouse betrays or abandons us. The Bible stresses that Jesus bears our sins. It also says he bore our griefs and diseases because they are all connected. Sin is the root of all grief, disease, and brokenness. Therefore, when Jesus bore our sin, he granted us complete healing, in principle. The way Christ defeated death and disease was by taking them on Himself and carrying them with him to the grave. God’s judgment on the sin that brought disease was endured by Jesus when He suffered and died.

d. 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.

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!

5. 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!"

Matthew 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 based on positive confessions: 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 still sovereignly heals today: We've seen this in our text today. Our friend, Joseph J., was healed of cancer. 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!

Christ Jesus Came To Save And Heal
His Word Casts Spirits Out With Zeal
The Fevers Leave Without Appeal
He Bore Our Illnesses For Real
But Even More Than This He'd Seal
Our Redemption Bruised His Heel
He Took God's Wrath In Fullness Feel
And Died Upon That Gruesome Hill
Then Rose His Power's Full Reveal
So Trust The Son His Perfect Skill
His Loving, Good, And Sovereign Will
To Heal Or Not We Trust Him Still
For He Knows Best For Us Until
All Our Wants In Him Fulfill
For He's Our Joy And Greatest Thrill!