

Katherine Hilditch
LifeinJesus.net

'God Wants You To Be Well' by Katherine Hilditch

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Cover photo by Saptarshi Ghosh

GOD WANTS YOU TO BE WELL

I doubt if there's anyone who has never been ill in some way. Maybe sickness and/or disability has been huge in your life, either because of your own suffering or that of someone you love. It's a big issue. And God has the answer. In <u>Psalm 103:2-3</u> the Bible says – 'Praise the LORD ... who heals all your diseases.' The Bible makes it very clear that God wants you to be well.

Before Jesus, God had to use physical ways to punish people. He gave them rules to live by, called the law, with blessings if they obeyed them and curses if they didn't. No sickness is listed in the blessings, but there are many listed in the curses. The Bible then says in <u>Galatians 3:13</u> that Jesus – 'redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us.' Jesus took the curse of the law on Himself, so we can be set free from sickness.

God's Will

Jesus taught His followers to pray saying in Matthew 6:10 – 'Let your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.' 'Your will' means the way God wants things to be. There's no sickness in heaven, so Jesus is praying that it will be the same on earth. This is proof positive that God does not want you sick. People often say that their illness must be God's will, but the Bible says it's His will for you to be well – that's the way He wants it to be.

Many Christians think that because God doesn't stop bad things happening, they must be His will. When people started to sin, that is to think, say and do wrong things, God didn't step in and put everything right. He made people with free will so they could choose how to live and He won't go back on that. You can read

more about this in my booklet, 'What About Suffering?' God doesn't want you to be sick and He has done something about it. Sickness can never be a blessing sent from God, but He can bring good out of it for you if you let Him. Romans 8:28 says – 'We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose.' This is a wonderful promise, but never think that God sends the bad stuff in order to bring good out of it.

Look at Jesus

To see what God's attitude to sickness is, look at Jesus. He spent a huge part of His time healing people and never put sickness on anyone. On the contrary, He healed every single person who asked. He never told anyone the time wasn't right. He often healed every sick person in huge crowds. He wasn't assessing whether healing was appropriate in any individual case - whether the person deserved it or was ready for it or they had to learn a lesson first. Healing is God's will for everyone.

Jesus trained His followers to heal people in His name. When He sent them out to heal, He simply told them to heal the sick. He didn't tell them to ask the person what was going on in their life to assess whether healing was appropriate for them or they deserved it or whether they needed to learn a lesson first or if it was the right time for them to be healed. He just told them to command sickness to go in the name of Jesus. And they did.

Already Done

God is just. He hates sin and it has to be punished. But He loves people so much that He doesn't want to punish them. So He sent Jesus, His Son, to die on a Cross as punishment for everyone's

sin, including yours, so you are forgiven and free to live in a love relationship with God. Jesus died for you. Wonderful news!

But He won even more for you. The Bible says in <u>1 Peter 2:24</u> – *'You were healed by his wounds.'* As Jesus suffered, He was taking on Himself all sickness. He carried it so that you should not have to suffer it yourself. It doesn't automatically mean that you'll never get sick again. It means that sickness is defeated and through faith in Jesus you can be healed and you can live in health. Notice the past tense in the verse above – *'you were healed'*. It's done! The job's done spiritually and God wants you to receive it in your physical body. Jesus died for your healing. He has saved you from the curse of the law.

Blame the Devil, Not God

Ill health can be the result of sin; it can be simply the result of living in our messed-up world; it can be a failure to look after yourself or a direct attack from the devil. In the end all causes go back to him because it was him who messed the world up.

Do you refer to an illness as yours? You might say, "My headache is getting worse." But it doesn't belong to you and you don't belong to it. When you have to speak about it, call it "the headache". Start to talk about how healing belongs to you. It's not because you've earned it or deserve it — no-one can and no-one does. It's because Jesus carried the sickness for you that healing can be yours. It's all about what Jesus has done, not about what you do. That's good news. It's not your sickness, it's not God's sickness, it is the devil's sickness and because he has been defeated on the Cross born-again Christians have the authority to command it to go in Jesus's name. (To read about being born-again, go to the end of this booklet.)

So many people blame God for their sickness. They think He is punishing them. Or they think He doesn't care or that He is testing them or wanting to teach them something. Do you recognise any of that thinking? Leave it all behind. Simply accept that God loves you and that He wants you well, and start looking at how to move forward in faith.

Faith

Jesus often said that a person's faith was the significant thing in their healing. He said to the father of a very sick girl in <u>Luke 8:50</u> – 'Only believe, and she will be healed.' It is actually very simple, but people, including Christians, can make it very complicated.

So if someone has a serious illness which the doctors say they will never fully recover from, the person needs to choose to believe the Bible truth that they are already healed spiritually and have faith that the healing will come into their body, rather than believe the doctors' prognosis. I'm not saying have nothing to do with doctors or stop taking medication. Doctors should be speaking the truth from a medical viewpoint. I'm saying when they speak negatively in any way, refuse to believe it. Believe God instead. God has given doctors the skill to help people to get better, but they cannot heal. A surgeon may put the two ends of a broken bone together, but he cannot make them fuse. God does that – He made your body to heal.

Faith is not about feelings; it is about a decision to believe and trust. Jesus often commanded people to have faith. He never commands you to do something that's impossible. It is something you have to make your mind up to do. The feelings will often follow after you act on the decision to believe.

Unbelief

Jesus said you only need faith the size of a mustard seed. So, presuming you do have some faith, the question is not so much, 'Do I have enough faith?' but rather, 'Do I doubt at the same time?' In Matthew 21:21 Jesus said – 'if you have faith, and don't doubt ... even if you told this mountain, "Be taken up and cast into the sea," it would be done. 'There are two things to do – believe and don't doubt. It is possible to believe and doubt at the same time, but the doubt, or unbelief, can cancel out the belief.

There is one account in the Bible when Jesus couldn't heal many people. It was in His home town of Nazareth where the people had known Him from a child. The people wouldn't believe who He was and so had no faith in Him. Mark 6:5-6 says — 'He could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people, and healed them. He marvelled because of their unbelief.'

Unbelief can come from not knowing that God wants you well, or as a result of focussing on what you can see and feel instead of on what God has won for you. When doubts come into your mind, recognise them for what they are straightaway and refuse to listen to them. Turn to God's truth instead.

Take Action

There's nothing you can do to earn your healing, but you do need to co-operate with God in it. Keep telling yourself the truth that God wants you well. Read the verses in this booklet out loud. They will build your faith up and knock unbelief on the head. Sing praise songs about God and all He has done for you. Choose to think faith-filled thoughts even when all the evidence

around you and what you feel is crying out the opposite. Don't give up, however difficult it may seem. It is essential to stand on God's Word – believing it and trusting it, rather than focusing on how you feel. Don't try and change God's Word to fit your experience. Decide to expect your experience to fit God's Word.

These are the three verses I've stood on for healing -

- 'The thief (the devil) only comes to steal, kill, and destroy. I (Jesus) came that they may have life, and may have it abundantly.' John 10:10
- 'Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us.' Galatians 3:13
- 'You were healed by his wounds.' 1 Peter 2:24

Command in the Name of Jesus

Don't ask God to heal you or to heal someone else, and don't ask others to pray that He'll heal you. Do what Jesus said to do — talk to the mountain. Instead of talking to God about the sickness, talk to the sickness about God. Address it out loud by name, e.g. 'cancer'. Speak with authority. Tell it you belong to Jesus and it has no right to be in your body, because you have been redeemed from the curse of the law and by Jesus's wounds you have been healed. Command it to leave in Jesus's name. Or you could ask one or two Christians who you know have faith for healing to command it to go. There's no need for lots of time or people, just faith-filled direct action. When you use the name of Jesus, you are using the very power of God.

Now stand on God's Word and expect the healing to manifest however long it takes. Refuse to be budged. As far as possible don't talk to other people about the sickness, but thank God for your healing, even before you see or feel it.

My Healing

I have had four instant, miraculous healings on three separate occasions as someone commanded healing in Jesus's name. I've suffered with M.E. for over 20 years, and was healed from a major debilitating aspect of it and my arm muscles redeveloped overnight. My singing voice was instantly restored after a loss of some months. And the severe pain I'd had for years from endometriosis stopped, never to return.

I stood on God's Word for complete healing of the remaining symptoms of M.E. for many years. As of 2020, I have been symptom free for over a year and I can declare that I am healed. If I am tempted to doubt it, I don't command healing all over again; instead, I declare the truths in this booklet over myself and stand in faith on the truth that Jesus has won my healing for me. I know that God wants me to be well and to stay well and nothing can make me think differently.

Jesus defeated sickness on the Cross for you personally. Don't think that God would heal me but not you. In the past I've thought that God would heal others but not me. But I realised that it's just not true. I turned my thinking round and started to thank Him for defeating sickness for me. I am not special as a human being, but I am special because God loves me and I am His child. You are just as special too, no matter what's going on in your life, because God loves you and you are His child. Be encouraged by what God has done for me and determine to keep going in faith even when nothing seems to be improving.

Well

Refuse to believe that God makes you ill, that He's trying to teach you something or punishing you, or that this isn't the right time for your healing. Rejoice because God wants you to be well and has done all that's needed. Decide to believe it no matter how you feel and no matter what anyone else says. Refuse to budge or be budged. By Jesus's wounds you were healed.

Being Born-Again

When you acknowledge Jesus as God and decide to follow Him, you make Him your Lord. When you accept His sacrifice on the Cross for yourself personally, you make Him your Saviour. You are then born-again and have a new perfect spirit. God becomes your Father and you His child, and you can start to enjoy your personal love relationship with Him.

Romans 10:9 says — 'If you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.' Tell God you are sorry for the wrong things you do, say and think. Choose to believe that Jesus is Lord, that He died for you and is now alive. Accept Him as your Lord and Saviour. Say it with your voice and believe it in your heart.

If you've done that sincerely, you are now born-again and Jesus has come to live in you. Everything you've ever done wrong or ever will do wrong is forgiven, and after this life is over, you'll live in peace and joy with your loving Father God for ever.

As a child of God, you now have a whole new family of brothers and sisters. Tell a trusted Christian that you are now born-again so they can help you in your new life in Jesus. And you have the Bible to help you understand and experience more of God's love for you and all Jesus has done and won for you. It will help you to live your life in the best possible way — His way.

Life in Jesus

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Many people think that God sends sickness.

He did send it in Old Testament times,
but Jesus defeated sickness as He suffered and died.

God doesn't send it anymore
and He doesn't want you to be sick.

He wants you to be well.

This booklet looks at how the Bible shows this is true and will help you to stand against sickness.



Katherine Hilditch has been teaching in local churches for many years. In 2013 she wrote her first booklet and since then has written many more. She created her website to make all the

booklets freely available to everyone. They can be read online or printed out. Katherine's threefold purpose is to help people understand more about Jesus and all He has done and won for them, to encourage them to go deeper in their relationship with God and to provide material to help them share their faith with others. To read her story and find all the booklets go to —

Website: LifeinJesus.net Email: contact@lifeinjesus.net