

Instead of basing your thinking about sickness and healing on your own experience and the experience of others, find out what God thinks about it and what He has done about it through Jesus. You will discover that God really does want you healed right now. It will give you hope and encourage you.



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Katherine Hilditch LifeinJesus.net 'God's Time for Healing is Always Now' by Katherine Hilditch

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Unless otherwise indicated all Scripture quotations are taken from the World English Bible British Edition (WEBBE) (Any words in brackets are not in the original text but are included to help understanding)

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God's Time for Healing is Always Now!

Nothing in Jesus's life and teaching or in the whole of the New Testament says that God's time for healing <u>isn't</u> now. Instead it says and shows time and time again that His time <u>is</u> now. Refuse to believe anything different. You have the truth - hold onto it no matter what. God's time for your healing is now.

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. All your sins, past, present and future, are forgiven, and after this life is over, you'll live in peace and joy with your 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.

GOD'S TIME FOR HEALING

The New Testament says that God wants to heal and wants to do it now. Lots of Christians make it much more complicated than it really is. Many just look at their experience. If healing hasn't come, they decide that God doesn't want them healed, or at least, not yet. There are reasons why everyone isn't healed instantly or why it never happens, but it's never God.

Walk by Faith, Not by Sight

Don't decide what you think about healing by what you see and how you feel. Believe what God says. If you base what you believe about healing on what God says and refuse to be swayed by what you can see or how you feel, you will be much more likely to find it.

Your Healing is Already Won

Before Jesus came to earth, God had to use physical ways to deal with people. He gave them the law, which was a very detailed list of rules to live by, and with it He set up blessings if they obeyed and curses if they didn't. There is no sickness listed in the blessings, but there are many listed in the curses.

But when Jesus suffered and died on the Cross, He bore the punishment for everything everyone has done wrong, is doing wrong and will do wrong, so you could be forgiven and come into a love relationship with God. (To read about being bornagain, go to the end of this booklet.) <u>Galatians 3:13</u> says that

Jesus – 'redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us.' As He suffered the punishment, Jesus took the curse on Himself, so you can be free of it, including all sickness. <u>1 Peter 2:24</u> says – 'You were healed by his wounds.' Notice it says you were healed. It's not something that is still in the future. The job's already done and God wants your body to receive it. His perfect timing for healing was on the Cross and it has already happened. You do not have to wait for it.

Look at Jesus

To find out how God sees sickness and healing look at Jesus. In John 5:19 Jesus says that He – 'can do nothing of himself, but what he sees the Father doing.' Everything Jesus did was exactly as God wanted it to be done and what God Himself was doing. As you look at Jesus and His attitude towards sickness and healing, you are seeing exactly what God thinks about it.

No Refusals, No Assessments, No Delays

Jesus did not wait for special times from God to heal. If someone asked for healing, He healed them. He never said the time was wrong. Jesus didn't make assessments. On various occasions He healed everyone in huge crowds. He wasn't making any individual assessments about whether the time was right.

When a woman who had been bleeding for years touched His robe Jesus knew power had gone out of Him, but He didn't know who to. Luke 8:45-46 says – 'Jesus said, "Who touched me?" When all denied it, Peter and those with him said, "Master, the multitudes press and jostle you, and you say, 'Who touched me?'" But Jesus said, "Someone did touch me, for I perceived that power has gone out of me." He had made no decision to

If healing comes gradually, it is not because God wants it that way, but because He is working with the faith you have. You can have faith for gradual healing, but not for an instant miracle. Sometimes lack of healing can't be explained, but that doesn't make the Bible wrong.

Know the Truth, Believe it and Stand on it

The Bible says that God's timing for healing is always 'now'. Keep believing that He wants you well and refuse to be swayed by what you feel or see. If others tell you that it isn't God's will or His time for you to be healed, don't accept it. Learn some healing Bible verses so you can speak them out anytime, anywhere. The ones I have stood on for my healing are –

- '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.'* <u>Galatians 3:13</u>
- 'You were healed by his wounds.' <u>1 Peter 2:24</u>

Never give up. Keep believing and commanding healing. If nothing happens, you may not understand, but still believe it is not God's fault. His time for healing is always now.

I have had four instant healings in my life, but I have also had M.E. for many years and I do still have some symptoms. But although I have to admit to some bad moments over the years, I don't live my life in despair and my identity isn't based on M.E. I live expecting to be well, knowing Jesus has won my healing on the Cross and that God wants me well and wants me well now.

Unbelief

If you are struggling to believe for your healing, it's unbelief that is the problem. Jesus said you only need faith the size of a mustard seed, but if you have doubt as well, it can cancel out the faith. In <u>Matthew 21:21</u> Jesus says – *"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."* Read in the Bible how Jesus always healed everyone who asked - He never refused anyone. Decide to believe that God wants you healed and now.

Some Reasons why Healing may not Come

- The devil he doesn't want you to be well, but he can only mess you up as much as you will let him. Resist him and all his lies. James 4:7 says – 'Be subject therefore to God. But resist the devil, and he will flee from you.'
- Atmosphere there is a huge atmosphere of unbelief in the western world. People generally will not even consider miracles and even many Christians doubt that they will happen. Atmosphere is important and can stop healing.
- Wrong teaching some churches are teaching wrong ideas about healing. They base their teaching on the evidence they can see in front of their eyes or on how their body feels, instead of on the truth of the Bible.
- Lack of faith a major reason is lack of faith for healing in either the sick person or those praying for them or both.
- Method The Bible says to command healing in Jesus's name, yet many Christians ask God to heal them. He has done His part through the Cross. You need to do yours and command healing in Jesus's name. Jesus said don't talk to God about the sickness, talk to the sickness about God.

heal the woman; she had drawn it out by her faith. Jesus said in verse 48 - 'Your faith has made you well. Go in peace.' Once Jesus had to lay His hands on a blind man twice before the man's sight was restored. Sometimes Jesus told someone to do a specific action and it was as they obeyed that they were healed. But for each one their time for healing was now.

Jesus Trained His Followers to Heal

Jesus also trained His followers to heal and gave them power and authority to do it. He didn't tell them to ask God if the time was right when they met someone who was sick. When one of them, who was called Peter, saw a lame man he said to the man in <u>Acts 3:6</u> – 'In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!' He didn't ask God if He wanted the man healed and he didn't ask Him whether the time was right. Peter knew he had been given the power to heal and that it was already won through Jesus's suffering. He therefore simply commanded healing in complete confidence and it happened instantly. When Jesus sent His followers out He expected them to heal people.

Wrong Teaching to 'Explain' Lack of Healing

There are various explanations which are given for lack of healing. But you have to examine them all in line with the Bible. People want a let-out clause to explain why they are not healed which puts the responsibility on God.

Arguments can be put in compelling spiritual ways, but you have to test everything against what the Bible says. And with healing, your focus must be on the New Testament as it was on the Cross that the victory over sickness was won. Here are some wrong teachings about sickness -

- 'God's teaching you something.' Of course God wants to teach you, but the way He does it is not through sickness, but through the Bible, the Holy Spirit and other Christians.
- 'God uses illness to make you a better person.' God wants you to develop as a person, but He never sends or prolongs sickness to do this.
- 'God uses sickness to discipline you.' God did punish people with sickness in the days before Jesus, but He no longer does so, as Jesus has set you free from the curse of the law.
- 'God heals in special times and moments.' There is nothing in the New Testament to support this.
- 'Healing is all in God's timing.' God's perfect timing was on the Cross and His time for you to be healed is 'now'.

Of course, God is at work in all things and will bring good out of everything for those who love Him, but He does not send illness or choose to make someone wait for their healing.

Test Everything Against the New Testament

You should never take what someone else says about healing as true, whoever they are, unless you know it is backed up in the New Testament. If you don't know, then study the Bible for yourself and find the truth. God will always help you as you look for His truth. When you believe wrong teachings such as those listed above, you are allowing doubt in. You are then much less likely to see healing either in yourself or in those around you. The churches and ministries where healing is seen regularly are not the ones which teach that God may delay healing, but those that teach that healing is already won and expect healing to happen, or at least to start, now.

Faith

Jesus said the only thing needed for healing is faith. Many times He told someone that their faith in Him had made them well. Faith has to be present for healing, especially in the person needing healing. Even Jesus wasn't able to heal many people in His home town of Nazareth, not because the time wasn't right, but because they lacked faith. <u>Mark 6:5-6</u> 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.'

When a blind man from Bethsaida came to Jesus for healing, Jesus took him out of the town because it was a place of great unbelief and He wanted him away from that influence. <u>Mark 8:23</u> says - *'He took hold of the blind man by the hand, and brought him out of the village.'* And then, having healed him, Jesus told him not to tell anyone back in Bethsaida about it. He knew they would be sceptical and could undermine the man's faith. He said in <u>Mark 8:26</u> *'Don't enter into the village, nor tell anyone in the village.'* Similarly when Jairus's daughter had died, He put the mourners out of the room and only allowed in the girl's parents and certain disciples. It is likely that many healings are not seen today because of the lack of faith for healing in a church, a place or even a country. This particularly applies to the western world where belief in miracles is dismissed by so many.

If you want to ask someone to command healing for you, choose someone who you know has faith for healing, because their faith is significant too. If someone commands healing in Jesus's name, but with little expectation that it will happen, it is much less likely to. Jesus also demonstrated that the faith of the surrounding people is of huge significance.