

THE DISEASES OF EGYPT

WAYNE PETERS

All scriptures are from the KJV unless otherwise indicated.

This article will address the important subject of healing. As a disclaimer, if you have not fully laid hold of healing, this writing is not meant to bring any form of discomfort or condemnation. In many ways, full healing is still an unfolding revelation.

This writing will cover some of the conditions that the Bible talks about in preparation for healing.

We should not feel condemnation for where we have been or where we are, but rather, how do we move forward?

Many in the body of Christ are seeking healing, and healing has been bought and paid for by our Lord Jesus Christ as recorded in the scripture, "by whose stripes ye were healed" and "I am the Lord that healeth thee" (1 Peter 2:24 & Exodus 15:26, respectively).

"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. 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" (Isaiah 53:5-6, NKJV).

"Who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness - by whose stripes you were healed" (1 Peter 2:23-24, NKJV).

"When the even was come, they brought unto Him many that were

possessed with devils: and He cast out the spirits with His word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses" (Matthew 8:16-17).

The Word of God also declares that we will not be affected by the diseases of Egypt. There are three places in the Old Testament that declare these promises to the children of Israel.

"And the LORD will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee" (Deuteronomy 7:15).

"But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee" (Deuteronomy 28:15).

"Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of; and they shall cleave unto thee. Also every sickness, and every plague, which is not written in the book of this law, them will the LORD bring upon thee, until thou be destroyed. And ye shall be left few in number, whereas ye were as the stars of heaven for multitude; because thou wouldest not obey the voice of the LORD thy God" (Deuteronomy 28:60-62).

From the Scriptures, we can read that the diseases of Egypt do **not** belong to us, but if **we will not hear** the voice of the Lord, the diseases of Egypt **will** come upon us.

What has the Lord been talking to us about?

The following five things come to mind:

1. Unforgiveness
2. Unity
3. Discerning the Lord's body
4. Reconciliation
5. Praise

Let us look at each of these topics and see what the Spirit has to say.

Unforgiveness.

Forgiveness is not optional, but it is a necessary action item that every Christian must do. Not forgiving is an indication that we do not recognize the need for that particular member to be a part of the body of Christ.

Already we can see that forgiveness is connected with discerning the Lord's body. If we do not forgive our brother, we do not love him, and 1 Corinthians 13 tells us that without love, we are just noisemakers. Without forgiveness, we will not be forgiven.

Jesus taught his disciples to pray and the prayer says to forgive us our sins as we forgive others (Matthew 6:12-15).

If we are not prepared to forgive other people, we will not have our sins forgiven either. Paul clearly said, "let not the sun go down upon your wrath" (Ephesians 4:26). If we know and understand, how can we partake of communion with unforgiveness in our hearts? The Word declares that we will drink damnation to ourselves. "For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body" (1 Corinthians 11:29).

Damnation is a Greek word, *krima*. It is used twenty-eight times in the New Testament and the same word is used in Matthew 7:2-3, "For with what judgment (*krima*) ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?"

Jesus gives us a comparison of what the kingdom of God will be like, "Therefore is the **kingdom of heaven likened unto** a certain king, which would take account of his servants. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellow servants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. And his fellow servant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt. So when his fellow servants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done. Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow servant, even as I had pity on thee? And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till **he should pay all that was due** unto him. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye **from your hearts** forgive not every one his brother their trespasses" (Matthew 18:23-35).

100 pence was three months' salary. One talent was twenty years of salary. The first man, now in prison, at \$12/hr, was forgiven \$4,800,000,000. This very same man, at the same hourly rate of \$12/hr, was owed \$6,000 but he was not willing to write this debt off and let the man who owed him go free. The net result was that the man who was forgiven the large debt, was now back in prison and owing the full amount. This, dear saints, is the price of unforgiveness.

Should this man, who would not forgive \$6,000, partake of communion? During communion, if anyone has anything against another, it would be best to let the cup and the bread pass until the situation has been forgiven. I can assure you that this will be a step towards healing.

Unity

Unity is not being in one place but is being of one mind. We must have unity within ourselves, within our home, within our community, in our local assembly and in the family of God.

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore" (Psalms 133).

I am sure that we all want life evermore right here on this earth. This life of unity will surpass the miraculous healings and resurrections that we read about in God's Word. Even Lazarus, and those healed in Jesus' ministry, died again. This unity, spoken in the Psalms, will know no death.

Jesus healed the multitudes and raised some from the dead, but these all died again. Life forevermore will be the end of sickness and death. This brings us to the scripture that tells us that, "*the last enemy to be defeated is death*" (1 Corinthians 15:26).

*"Finally, be ye **all of one mind**, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile"* (1 Peter 3:8-10).

"Be of the **same mind one toward another**. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits" (Romans 12:16).

*"Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to **be likeminded one toward another** according to Christ Jesus: That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (Romans 15:5-6).

*"Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, **be of one mind**, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you"* (2 Corinthians 13:11).

*"Finally, **be ye all of one mind**, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it"* (1 Peter 3:8-11).

*“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were **all with one accord** in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance” (Acts 2:1-4).*

The Move of the Spirit in 1948 was a similar situation to the upper room experience. Hungry hearts were in one place and in one accord and were waiting upon the Lord for the moving of His Holy Spirit.

Even in the natural or carnal state, there is power in unity. At the Tower of Babel, the people were of one mind to build a staircase to God and the Word declares that He confused their language so that they could not continue. This was a historic event, but God wants to restore even languages. This is evident when the Holy Spirit came and every man spoke with understanding.

“Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them” (Matthew 18:19-20).

Discerning The Lord’s Body

Jesus is the head and we are the body. You are a member of the body of Christ and a member in particular. When Jesus was here, all the gifts of the Spirit were active within Him. When He died on the cross, He divided Himself, or should we say, He divided the gifts of the Spirit that we read about in 1 Corinthians 12, and He distributed them among us. Jesus, the head, is presently interceding before our Father on our behalf. Jesus distributed Himself among us and we are now lively stones that constitute the house of the Lord. A house that has missing stones is incomplete. God is not going to come for an incomplete house. He is coming for a church without spot, blemish or wrinkle (Ephesians 5:27).

We are the body of Christ, and we must work together in order to get the results that we are looking for. This includes healing. There have been faith healers and miracle workers such as Charles Price and Andrew Murray and John G. Lake, etc., but when God moved in 1948, He said that this was the coming together of the body of Christ. When it comes to healing there may be a word of knowledge, a word of wisdom, discerning of spirits or any combination of gifts that will also be active. They all come into play to receive healing. If one member has faith, another has gifts of healing and the person that is sick needs both of these gifts to be active in order to obtain healing. We need to work together in order to accomplish what is before us.

It is vital for me to acknowledge my limitations and to understand my need for my brother and my sister. None of us can accomplish the things we are looking to accomplish without discerning the gifts and ministries that are within our brothers and sisters. We are not talking only about elders, deacons and the apostolic ministry. No, we are looking to every single member of the body of Christ. 1 Corinthians 12 tells us how the body functions. It tells us that if there is a member that doesn’t seem important, we need to place more honour on that member.

“And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness” (1 Corinthians 12:23).

“And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it” (1 Corinthians 12:26).

In the same way, many did not discern who Jesus was. Neither will they discern that you and I are members of the body of Christ.

“Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house. And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them” (Mark 6:3-5).

We can see here how vital it is to discern the Christ within our brother and sister. He didn’t do many mighty works, and He only healed a few. Isn’t that what we are seeing today? We will have to get more clarity on the Christ within one another and we will need to work as flawlessly as our natural body works, where there is no competition, there is just a wonderful flow and no one member is competing for first place.

“For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many” (1 Corinthians 12:12-14).

“If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother; he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also” (1 John 4:20-21).

“Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments” (1 John 5:1-2).

“He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me. He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man’s reward” (Matthew 10:40-41).

Reconciliation

If we have a spirit of reconciliation, we will look at turning every problem into an opportunity. We will build bridges instead of fences.

If we look through the lens of reconciliation, we will see negatives as opportunities. We will truly begin to see that, *“all things work together for good to them that love God and are the called according to his purpose” (Romans 8:28).*

Katallagé (kat-al-lag-ay’) is the Greek word for reconciliation - “exchange (figuratively *adjustment*), that is, restoration to (the divine) favor: - atonement, reconciliation (-ing)” (Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible, Greek Dictionary Section G2644).

Dictionary.com defines it this way, “an act of reconciling, as when former enemies agree to an amicable truce.”

Isaiah speaks of repairing a breach, that is, to fill in the gap. *“And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in”* (Isaiah 58:12).

It is our ministry to fill in the gap and to put that which is separated, back together. We all know many relationships that are broken and have large gaps that need to be filled.

“And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ’s stead, be ye reconciled to God” (2 Corinthians 5:18-20).

Although we all have different gifts, the ministry of reconciliation is upon each one of us.

Praise

God has been talking to us about praise. This is one of the more recent things that God has emphasized. Praise is an act of faith and an acknowledgement that God exists. Praise is the entrance to the throne of God, and this is where we want to be. In His presence is fulness of joy and at His right hand are pleasures forevermore (Psalm 16:11). We need to be in the realm of the Spirit if we are to do the works of Christ. Many things, like speaking in tongues, praying in our closet, or praising God, are not always easy, but are very rewarding and very necessary.

“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you” (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

Entering into praise is not a natural response when things are going roughly, and many times it is the last thing that one feels like doing. I can assure you that praise and thanksgiving will cause the dark clouds to disappear.

“Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God” (Philippians 4:4-6).

“And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful” (Colossians 3:15).

“Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name” (Psalm 100:4).

“By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name” (Hebrews 13:15).

“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light” (1 Peter 2:9).

“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen” (1 Peter 4:11).

In conclusion, may the Lord help us to have ears to hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. May we focus more on the healing that needs to take place within our hearts followed by the quickening of our mortal bodies. †

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Headquarters:
802 Airport Road
North Battleford, SK S9A 2Z3 Canada

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 934
North Battleford, SK S9A 2Z3 Canada

Telephone:
(306) 445-2733

Email:
info@globalmissionsinc.org

Online:
www.globalmissionsinc.org

Traveling Ministry Contact List:
www.globalmissionsinc.org/about

SHARON STAR

The Sharon Star is a monthly publication and mailed as a free-will offering plan. The articles within are intended for inspiration and information to those who are interested in the unfolding revelation of the Word of God.

Published by:
Global Missions Inc. in North Battleford,
Saskatchewan, Canada.

The Sharon Star is found online at:
www.globalmissionsinc.org/sharon-star

Publications Mail Agreement 40012206

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