

An encouraging word from our Pastor...

Does God Still Heal?—It Depends”

James 5:13–18

THEME: Often someone will ask you to pray for them or for a loved one who is sick. At times we are ill and we stand in need of prayer. Does God always heal? How does the Bible say we are to pray?

I Three types of sickness:

1. Sickness unto death (John 11:4)

“But when Jesus heard about it he said, “Lazarus’s sickness will not end in death. No, it happened for the glory of God so that the Son of God will receive glory from this.” John 11:4

2. Sickness for chastisement (I Cor. 11:29–32)

“For if you eat the bread or drink the cup w/o honoring the body of Christ, you are eating and drinking God’s judgment upon yourself. 30 That is why many of you are weak and sick and some have even died. But if we would examine ourselves, we would not be judged by God in this way. Yet when we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned along with the world.”

3. Sickness for God’s glory (John 9:3)

“It was not because of his sins or his parents’ sins,” Jesus answered. “This happened so the power of God could be seen in him.”

II Different views on healing today:

1. Sensationalist
2. Confessionalist
3. No healing
4. Rationalist
5. Biblical realist

III God’s direction for ministering to the sick (James 5:13–18):

1. Truly sick (James 5:14)
2. The truly sick person takes initiative in their church
 - (1) Ask appropriate questions

- (2) Evaluate
- (3) Anoint
- (4) Pray fervently
- (5) God answers according to His will

IV Four ways God heals:

- Intervention (Acts 3:1-8)

“Silver and gold have I none, but in the Name of Jesus rise up and walk.”

- Interaction (I Timothy 5:23)

“Don’t drink only water. You ought to drink a little wine for the sake of your stomach because you are sick so often.”

- Enabling and reminding (2 Corinthians 12:9,10)

“Don’t drink only water. You ought to drink a little wine for the sake of your stomach because you are sick so often.”

- Promotion (Psalm 116:15)

“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His beloved ones.”

Time to act: What will you do with what God has taught you today?

Hear the Word...write it down...LIVE it out...watch GOD work!