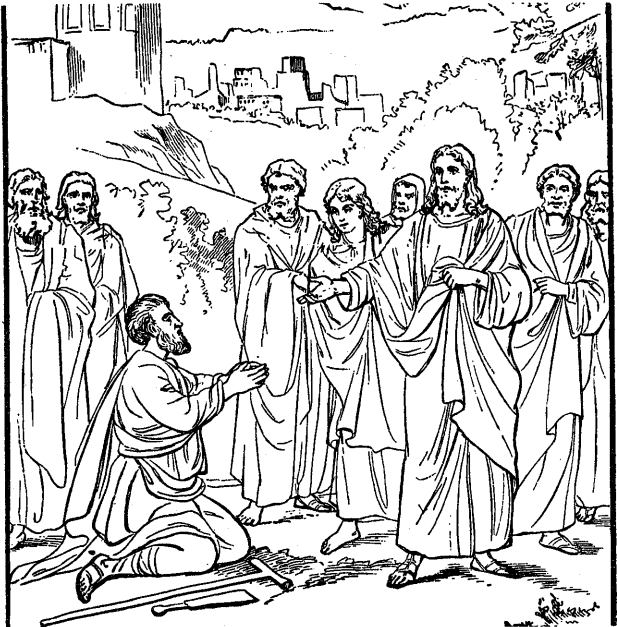


† Renewed Strength †

★ By GEORGE C. CLARK ★



“BUT THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN, AND NOT BE WEARY AND THEY SHALL WALK, AND NOT FAINT.”—Isa. 40:31.

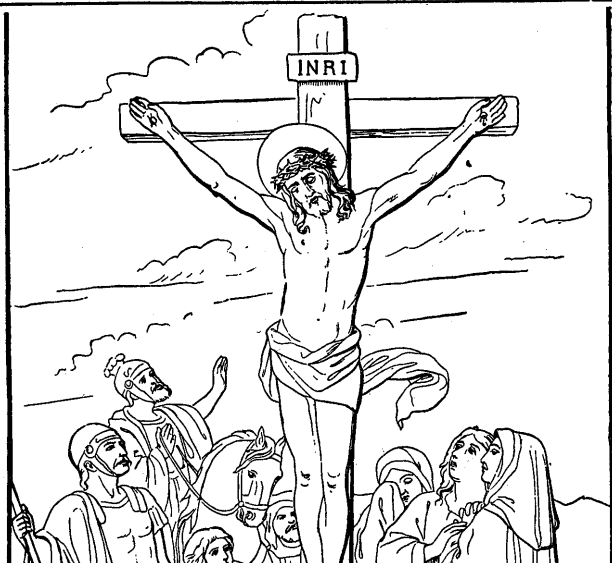


Reader, this message is going to be a blessing to you; that is, if you love the Word of God and all It has to offer.

First, let me ask you, are you sick, feeble, or weak in body? If you are, God has a remedy for you. It doesn't matter about your age either, for God heals the old as well as the young. He made no exception when He said: “I am the Lord that healeth thee”—Ex. 15:26. Neither did James make any exception when he said: “Is any sick among you? 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. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him”—James 5:14, 16. No one, my reader, ever gets too old, sick or feeble to be healed and renewed in strength.

Someone has said that it isn't God's will to heal everybody. I wonder who said that! And, someone else has said we must all die of some kind of disease or sickness. Oh! I'd like to know who said that! Nothing could be further from the Truth than these two unauthorized statements. When Jesus was on earth, he healed everyone who came for healing. He healed Peter's mother-in-law, we read, and surely

she must have been quite aged. Yes, my friend, "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: Who went about doing good, and healing ALL that were oppressed of the devil." Christ came, we are told, to destroy the works of the devil (I John 3:8), which the Bible shows to be sin and sickness. This is why Isaiah (53:5) could say: "But He was wounded for our transgressions,



He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed."

Now, we have some very good people today who are sick for the glory of God—they say. Do they really believe this? I doubt it. They would get well if they could. They know they would. But, where is their faith? Doubtless their faith has been badly hurt by hearing and believing the wrong teaching. This is one reason for my writing this tract. God wants to heal every one of His children, and to keep them well until He comes or calls. How do we know this? Listen to Paul. "And I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ"—I Thes. 5:23. It's a shame how people have been taught and made to believe that their sickness is a blessing in disguise, coming from the hand of God. We who study the Word of God know the devil is the author of sickness as well as sin. It was he who "smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown"—Job 2:7. It was he, too, who had bound the woman (Luke 13:16) of whom Jesus asked the ruler of the synagogue, "And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" Let me say, yes! And isn't it satan—and satan only—who binds every one who is sick or diseased today?

Here comes the question, "Is there any way to escape this work of satan and stay well?" Now, what does the Bible say about this? Does the Word of God really answer this question? It certainly does. Then, are we willing to take what It says? I hope so. We shall now find what God has to say on this all-important Biblical



subject. First, there are thousands upon thousands of so-called Christians who don't believe one can live here in this world free from sin. I'm sure they will not be able to agree with what the Scriptures have to say about healing. I am, however, expecting all who have been washed from their sins in the blood of Christ—and are still clean—to accept this message. I want you to listen now to what God promised the Children of Israel as they came out of Egypt: "If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in His sight, and wilt give ear to His commandments, and keep His statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee"—Ex. 15:26. Did God keep this promise? We know He did. "He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes"—Ps. 105:37. How long did this perfection or divine health program last? So far as we know, it lasted until Miriam sinned by speaking against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married. "And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, 'Heal her now, O God, I beseech Thee'"—Nu. 12:13. And, of course, God healed her.

Someone will say that was under the Old Covenant. Well, praise God, I hope the New Covenant isn't any weaker than the Old. In fact, the writer of Hebrews tells us that the New Covenant was established upon better promises (Heb. 8:6). Then surely divine healing — and divine health — would be included, don't you think? Obviously, this is why Jesus healed all who came to Him for healing, and gave healing to the early church.

By this time, I'm sure you are asking, "Must I reach this grade of perfection to inherit eternal life?" Maybe not. But why shouldn't all God's people want the best He has? Listen! Jesus didn't suffer those cruel stripes on His back for our sins. The nails through His hands and feet, and the spear in His side were for that. To leave it as Isaiah says, "He was wounded for our transgressions . . . and with His stripes we are healed." Many today fail to understand this and by so doing make those painful stripes that were placed upon the precious back of Jesus to be in vain. This is exactly what Paul meant

when he said, "For this 'cause' many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep"—I Cor. 11:30. The CAUSE, of course, is not being able to discern the Lord's body. In other words, they don't understand what "that bread" and "that wine," spoken of by Jesus at His last supper, really are. "That bread," my reader, Jesus says, "Is My body, which is broken for you"—I Cor. 11:24. And, of the cup bearing the wine, He says, "This cup is the New Testament in My blood"—I Cor. 11:25. Here the Lord shows us His blood (symbolized by "that wine") was shed for our sins: His body (symbolized by "that bread") was broken for the healing of our sickness. No wonder so many were—and still are—weak and sick among God's people.

Now, let's go on to the promises of God: "And ye shall serve the Lord your God, and He shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee. There shall nothing cast their young, nor be barren, in thy land: the number of thy days I will fulfil"—Ex. 23:25, 26. "The number of thy days I will fulfil." Did you get that? Praise God, listen! "The days of our years are threescore years and ten (70); and if by reason of strength they be fourscore (80) years"—Ps. 90:10. God has not only promised us 70 or—if strong in body—80 years but health and strength to go along with it.

"HONOUR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER: THAT THY DAYS MAY BE LONG UPON THE LAND WHICH THE LORD THY GOD GIVETH THEE."—Ex: 20:12.

And when we have lived out these years, it is the Lord's plan for us to leave here peacefully and well; that is, to fall asleep in Jesus—to slip away to be with our blessed Lord. This is the perfect way for those who will pay for God's best. "With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him My salvation"—Ps. 91:16.

"And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated"—Deut. 34:7. He made His grade with God, even if he was late in getting started off in his ministry. This should be a lesson to those who have possibly missed their calling, but still have a heart and mind to do something for God.

What about Caleb and Joshua, two of the men that Moses sent out to search the land of Canaan?



Do you suppose they made their grade? Here is what Caleb had to say about himself: "And now, behold, the Lord hath kept me alive, as He said, these forty and five years, even since the Lord spake this

word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wan-

dered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five (85) years old. As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now"—Jos. 14: 10, 11. Joshua, we read (Jos. 24:29), fell asleep at 110. Dear reader, we could go on and on with those who have made their 70 or more years and who have fallen asleep to be awakened among the righteous but time will not allow.

Since the flood, the average normal span of human life has been threescore and ten (70) years—Ps. 90:10. Yet, God's faithful few—in many cases—have lived to be many years older. Abraham, that great soul of faith, fell asleep at the good old age of 175. His son Isaac went to be with his Maker at 180. "And when Jacob had made an end of commanding his sons, he gathered up his feet into the bed, and yielded up the ghost, and was gathered unto his people" (Gen. 49:33). He was 147. And "Joseph died, being an hundred and ten years old"—Gen. 50:26. There are many today who have passed the 100 mark. Surely this should be a sign to God's people, who not only have the promise of long life but good health as well. And—in the world to come—eternal life. When the people of God come to an understanding of His promises, I'm sure, as Isaiah said (65:20): "There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an hundred years old; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed."

My beloved reader, "Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary. There is no searching of His understanding. He giveth power to the faint: and to them that have no might He increaseth strength" Isa. 40:28, 29. Yes, precious one, God will heal you right now and strengthen you in spirit, soul, and body so that "Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, as a shock of corn cometh in in his season" (Job 5:26). Now, "According to your faith so be it unto you." Amen!

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Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.—James 5:16.



Certainly, sick one, you can be healed and delivered right now, for there is healing for both soul and body in the atonement of Christ. We read, “He was wounded for our transgressions . . . ; and with His stripes we are healed.”—(Isa. 53.5).

SEND YOUR PRAYER REQUESTS

If you are sick or enslaved to some sinful habit and want deliverance please send us your name and address and we will mail you one of our anointed handkerchiefs to be placed upon your body for healing.

“So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons and the diseases departed from them and the evil spirits went out of them.”—Acts 19:12.



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