

Receiving Your Salvation (Principals of Faith)

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I recently sent this teaching to one of my family members who just got diagnosed with a semi-serious diagnosis. I felt led to share it with you. Everything in here is my heart to you. I pray that it will encourage you two and strengthen you.

First of all let me say that when I heard the doctor's diagnosis my heart and compassion went out to you both and to your family. My heart was heavy with sorrow for you, angry at the diagnosis and joyful at God's solution for it. I want you to know that I truly sympathize with you in this time, even though I leave no room for the diagnosis to be the final word over your lives. Immediately after I heard the news I asked God what He wanted me to do for you; whether come to you both and serve you in prayer and ministry or do nothing and trust in His miracle power of life. When I asked Him what I should do I felt like He told me to write a letter to encourage your faith and outlook in this situation. I am not acquainted with your spiritual life; where you are and what you believe, so please be patient.

I have seen so much sickness and pain in your God given family and it pains me to see it. Many people justify the colds, flu and hospital visits as "normal life with kids who go to school" but what I see is the enemy stealing life from y'all (lol); the life God purchased for you to live in, by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. God has so much more for you and your family than that of the "normal American family." Jesus says it like this, "*I came to give life and **life abundantly**,*" (see John 10:10). The word for life used here is "Zoë" in the Greek and it means 'life,' yet the Bible redefines it as 'the life of Jesus Christ'. It is the abundant life that *He* deserved, but refused to live, taking our place of punishment instead. This made us able to live in the 'life' (Zoë) that was rightfully His. This "abundant life" is seen in the Hebrew word for peace, "Shalom". God's covenant for us as seen in the Old Testament is summed up in this one word – Shalom. It means wholeness, prosperity and wellbeing in every area of our lives; spiritually, mentally, emotionally, physically and materially. Shalom and Zoë, biblically speaking, are one and the same. Jesus Christ deserved the "Shalom" peace of God (health, wellness and prosperity in every area of life) because of His perfect life as a man on earth, but when He died on our behalf He took what we deserved (death, pain, sickness, punishment, wrath and poverty) so that we could have what He deserved – Shalom. God wants your family to live "*life abundantly*," which means no sickness, poverty or pain, but wholeness, health and prosperity in every area of your lives! This peace life is not only for the afterlife, but it was purchased for us to live in now, here on the earth!

The principles that I am writing are life to you. They are accurate in truth and I have seen them work in and through my life, but they are still only principles. It takes the Spirit of God to give you life from these principals (see John 16:13-15). I encourage that you read through this several times (once a day if possible) asking the Holy Spirit to illuminate your heart to what you need to know and see. Also, daily prepare your heart and pray that He will guide you into Truth and that you will come to live the Zoë /Shalom life that you are meant to live. I will break this teaching

down into two main parts with several sub parts. Part one will be about God and His provision for us and part two will describe our part in order to receive His provision. The scripture references are very important to the letter. Some things might not fit without reading the verses, so please read this letter with the Bible at your side to read the references.

Part 1- God: No Darkness Whatsoever!

God is good! He is described as our Loving Father. He is Love and Love holds no account of wrong (see 1 Cor 13:5 NIV). The Apostle John in his old age, the one who had been with Jesus and learned directly from Him, summed up the entire teaching of Jesus Christ in one statement found in 1 John 1:5, *“This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.”* This was what Jesus Christ came to teach the world: that He is perfect Love. He does NOT desire evil or bad upon anyone. He desires only our best! All the time! Jesus Christ, who displayed God the Father perfectly on earth (see Col 1:15), never once said to someone that, “I can not heal you because my God is allowing this sickness in your life to make you a better person,” or “Sorry, even though you know I can heal you I won’t because it is My will and the will of My Father that you be sick.” NO! He never did. He healed all who came to Him, without reservation (see Mat 4:23-24)!

In fact the New Testament is very clear where all sickness and disease comes from. John 10:10 describes the contrast between the life of Jesus and the works of the devil, *“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”* Also in Acts 10:38-39 it shows Jesus’ ministry against the works of Satan, *“God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.”* 1 John 3:8-9 declares, *“For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”* Every miracle of healing and deliverance was Jesus destroying the works of Satan. Jesus only did good. God is Light. Jesus destroyed the works of the devil and Satan is darkness. There is a contrast in scripture between the works of God and the works of Satan. They never do the same thing. Jesus’ ministry is symbolized as light overtaking darkness. Like walking into a dark room and turning the light on; the darkness flees. This was Jesus with the works of Satan. Therefore we must conclude that sickness only comes from the devil and never from God. God neither gives it nor **allows it**: God good, devil bad. Health good, sickness bad. It is very simplified but that is how God designed it (see Matt 11:25-26).

So many well meaning Christians think that a loving Father is capable of allowing horrible things to happen to His sons and daughters. To quote Andrew Wommack (from the series I enclosed with this letter), “If people weren’t so poisoned by religion it would be impossible to think that a Father was capable of these things.” Elsewhere he says, “If I did the things to my children that many Christians accuse their heavenly Father of doing to them I would be locked away and sentenced to death in every country in the world.” Religion has told us that God is capable of allowing and giving sickness or perverse circumstances to us, because “He works in mysterious ways.” Though it is true that He does work in ways that we sometimes don’t understand, it does not mean that He can go completely against the revelation of Himself – He is good. A good Father would not desire any calamities to come to any one of His children nor did He allow this sickness to come upon you. He allowed it in as much as He had nothing to do with it, but the sickness (or the Devil) didn’t have to ask permission from Him in order to come upon you. Many questions can arise from that statement, I know, and I hope that I can answer them by the end of this letter.

The fall of mankind caused mankind to separate themselves from God. God did not separate Himself from us. He has always been searching for someone who will trust and follow Him. He communicated with Adam and Eve as well as with their sons after the fall (see Gen 4). He sought for Noah (see Gen 6:8). Yet mankind continued to fall from Him which, in turn, allowed Satan to wreak havoc on us. Satan brought sickness and disease upon us and put people into

bondage and spiritual blindness. But God... He had a plan. He sent His Son Jesus Christ into the earth so that "whosoever believes on Him would not perish (not just eternal hell but every day perishing by pain, hurt, sickness, brokenness etc.) but have everlasting life" (see John 3:16-17). The word used for 'salvation' in the New Testament is "Sozo." It is used for spiritual salvation, emotional health as well as physical healing and wholeness. It is a holistic word meaning salvation for the spirit, soul and body. God's salvation in Christ is the pathway to the Shalom/ Zoë life for us. God's salvation through Christ goes far beyond the spiritual and reaches into every area of our life. Basically, God reversed the fall of mankind for those who are saved by Him. Everything that the fall of mankind brought to us can be and is reversed in God's salvation. He didn't just become sin for us but became sickness, bondage and poverty as well (see Isa 53, 2 Cor 5:21, 2 Cor 8:9). God did not leave anything out when He saved us! Praise Jesus! That is the Good News!

So we can conclude that God is good and He wants you to be saved in all areas of your life. He made provision for your salvation; spirit, soul and body. This salvation is possible because of the sacrifice and resurrection of Jesus Christ. And because you have accepted Him you are counted worthy of receiving all of it. God has freely given you all the things you could ever need for life (Zoë) and godliness in Christ Jesus (see 2 Pet 1:3).

Part 2 – You: The Receiver of the Free Gift!

As we have seen, God says "yes" to your healing! He is not withholding your healing! Wow! What freedom! In fact you were healed 2000 years ago when Christ died and was resurrected. His work is finished in relation to healing you (see John 19:30). He doesn't have to become sickness again so that He can bear your sickness. He already did that! Why then are you still sick? Well, that is answered in the same way we would answer the question: Why isn't every one saved? The salvation of Jesus Christ only comes through faith, which simply means belief. That means that when a person receives Jesus' finished work to be born-again, that person simply believes and confesses (see Rom 10:9-10). So our initial salvation comes by our belief and our confession. To answer the first question let me quote Col 2:6-7, "*As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.*" Paul, by the Holy Spirit, is telling us that we are to walk out our Christian life in Christ in the same way that we received Him as our Savior – belief and confession. Your healing will come this same way. Listen carefully, I am not judging you, accusing you nor am I blaming you for this sickness that you were diagnosed with. That wouldn't be the heart of Father God. I am simply saying that this is clearly what the Bible teaches us about receiving salvation; spirit, soul and body. It comes through faith and confession. The Word says that God's people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge (see Hos 4:6). When a person doesn't know any better, they will say and do things that are contrary to God's will for their lives. God still loves His children, even if they are perishing for a lack of knowing any better.

When Jesus healed people He didn't say that, "it was the power of God upon Me that healed you." What He said over and over was, "Be it unto you according to your faith (belief)," and, "Go. Your faith has made you whole," (see Matt 9:22, Matt 9:29, Mat 15:28, Mk 5:34, Mk 10:52, Luke 7:50, Luke 8:25, Luke 8:48, Luke 17:19, Luke 18:42). Jesus was teaching people the eternal truth that: it is His power that heals you through YOUR faith. God doesn't pick and choose who to heal and when to heal them. He says, "I am here. Come to Me with your faith and you will be healed." Jesus makes no apologies about it being our faith that enables His healing. In fact when He went to His hometown His power was hindered by their unbelief. Here is the account in Mark 6:1-6:

"1. Then He went out from there and came to His own country, and His disciples followed Him. 2. And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue. And many hearing Him were astonished, saying, "Where did this Man get these things? And what wisdom is this which is given to Him, that such mighty works are performed by His

hands! 3 Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Josos, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" So they were offended at Him.

4. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house." 5. Now He could do no mighty work there except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. 6. And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching."

Verse 5 and 6 tell us what happened, "He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them." Verse 6 is the point, "And He marveled because of their unbelief." Here we have the most powerful man ever to walk the earth. He has the fullness of God's power backing Him up to do mighty works and He "COULD DO NO MIGHTY WORK" because of their unbelief! Wow! God's unlimited power was hindered there because of their unbelief. In today's religious society they would say, "Jesus did not do mighty works there, because it was not His will," or even worse, "God works in mysterious ways." I do not mock the people who say these things but I am angry at the demonic doctrine which tells people that God is not willing to heal them and perform mighty works for them. That is not the God we see in the Gospels of Jesus Christ. We see God **always** ready and willing to heal and deliver.

The issue then is not God's willingness nor "His will", but our unbelief that hinders His power to us. Again, I am not accusing but only revealing our responsibility to receive the free gift of God – His salvation. If then you are to receive by faith what has been freely given to you, by the merit of Christ, what then is faith? You might say, "I believe God can heal me and maybe I can accept that He wants me healed right now." That belief is good, yet it is not the faith that will heal you. Romans 10:19 says, "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God." The word used for "word" in the Greek is "rhema." Without dragging you through a word study on rhema let me say that the word is defined in the scriptures as "the Holy Spirit spoken word to you." (If you want the word study I can email it to you). Faith (the type which brings salvation to our spirit, soul and body) comes by our hearing the Holy Spirit speak to us. You heard Him the first time you accepted Christ, probably through a minister. Yet, this rhema (word) can also come directly to your heart. He can even use this letter to speak to you and in an instant you can be healed. The point is this: that you have to prepare your heart to receive His word (see Matt 13) and then, as you receive His word as 100% undeniable truth, God's power is released to heal you.

God's word to you is as a seed (see Matt 13) and as the plant grows it will come to bear fruit. The seed, plant and fruit are your faith, your belief. From that belief you then speak (see 2 Cor 4:13). That speaking is your confession that saves you as seen in Rom 10:9-10. Confession in the Greek is "Homologeō" a compound word meaning to agree or be of the same mind (homo) and word (logeō—the other Greek word for "word"). Our confession is us agreeing with the word that was spoken to us. This is how the salvation of God comes. In the same way that God's words are creative (see Gen 1), we who are made in His image have creative and powerful words also. I like to say it this way, "Our words create worlds." What we say will manifest. This is a spiritual principle. Our words are powerful and when we combine them with the belief in our heart from what God has said, all of heaven's power backs up our words, to bring them to pass.

Doctor's words are powerful because people put a lot of trust in someone with a PHD. Usually what the doctor says is final. It is the diagnosis. If you let a Doctor's words carry more authority in your heart than God's words the diagnosis will forever be your reality. A simple Christian answer is, of course, 'I would never put a doctor's words over God's words'. That sounds well and good but I too have been guilty of a religious mindset that tells me that I believe God's words when really I just know, with my intellect, His word. It isn't what I know with my mind that matters but what I believe in my heart that changes things. The difference may be easier to understand in this example; I know about evolution and could even write a convincing argument in favor of it, but I do not believe it with my heart. My knowledge of evolution does not govern the way that I live, but it is my belief in Jesus Christ as Creator that tells me how to live. Taking this

back to the doctor's diagnosis and God's finished work of healing you, it is only in believing from the heart that you are healed and that you can walk in that healing now, that you will receive the power of God to heal you. When people came to Jesus He asked them what it was that they wanted Him to do. When they had confessed their faith in Him, His power went and healed them and He told them that it was their faith that had made them well. That faith came from the heart and not from intellectual knowledge. Faith works only in the heart belief. Intellectual knowledge is not bad but when it masquerades as heart belief it is called religion and this deception upon the person will not let them receive their healing. You know you have true heart belief when the salvation of God manifests.

You need to reject the power of the words of the diagnosis and receive the life (Zoë) giving words (rhema) of Jesus Christ (see John 6:63). It is in that heart belief that God's power can flow to you and heal you. It is not that you are denying the diagnosis but that you believe a greater diagnosis, God's. You are healed! The work is finished! Now receive it by faith and confession! God is unapologetic about how we receive His salvation. He wants our interaction in it. He wants fellowship with you as you come to Him to receive His word of healing. He doesn't want you to live under this work of Satan your entire life, because He came to earth to set **you** free! Since Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever (see Heb 13:8); His healing is going to come the same way today as it did yesterday! That's good news!

You might say that this sounds all well and good but how do I even begin? Well the first place to go is to God in prayer. He wants you to spend focused time with Him. It doesn't have to be for hours, but in the same way that you as husband and wife need some focused, quality time to keep up the relationship so also it is true with your's and God's relationship. No relationship can be sustained without focused, quality time together. Time is precious and that is why God did it this way. Giving God time shows your love, in the same way that giving your children your time shows to them your love. When you come before God in prayer don't tell God about your problem. He already is intimately acquainted with it. (He bore it on the cross.) But instead exalt His healing power and life. Lift the solution up not the problem. The Bible teaches that what you focus on, you will become -- so focus on the Answer (God) not the problem (sickness). Come to Him thanking Him that He has a plan for you to receive your healing. Come to Him with His promises in the Bible saying that all of His promises are yes and amen (so be it) in Jesus Christ (see 2 Cor 1:20). His promise of healing in Rom 8:11 is already yes! We just get to receive it now. Isa 26:3 says, *"You will keep him in perfect (shalom) peace (shalom), whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts (believes and has faith) in You."* This is what your goal is in spending time with Him. You want your mind to be focused on Him and His promises over that of the problems. When your mind and heart are stayed on Him, in faith, then the Shalom of God can manifest in your lives. This verse is a promise which is yes and amen in Christ. God's says "yes" to your perfect shalom. The verse uses Shalom twice in a row! God will keep you in Shalom Shalom as you stay your mind/heart on Him. This is the purpose of spending time with God.

The other thing that must happen concerns your confessions and words. As I previously said, your words will create and destroy. You can actually make the diagnosis stronger by speaking about it. When you speak it you hear it and all the repetition can cause a heart belief to form causing the reality of the sickness to be greater than the truth of Jesus Christ. Your confession must agree with your heart belief of healing. If they disagree you will just be pushing yourself against yourself and you will tire very quickly. When Jesus taught His disciples about the principles of faith He taught them about their faith along with their confession (see Mat 17:20, Luke 17:6). He said that if you have, "faith like a mustard seed you can say to this mountain, 'move from here to there,' and it will do it." He did not say for you to pray to God about the mountain and God will move the mountain. He said to speak to the mountain according to your faith and it will be removed! Don't speak to God about your mountain, but **SPEAK TO YOUR MOUNTAIN ABOUT GOD!** Really, speak to your sickness and tell it to be removed! Don't give it place to rest, in your mind nor in your body. Every time you think of it, speak to it! Command it to go! It has to leave when that command is mixed with your faith. Be joyous in the face of it. Display God's provision of healing instead of Satan's work of death. This is called faith.

You might say that you have no time to spend time with God, and with 3 little kids I don't blame you. Ask God how you are to do it and radically go after it. Maybe it is a couple extra minutes in the shower every morning that you can spend with God or maybe before you get out of bed. Invite your kids to spend time with God with you. Whatever it is, when you know it, do it. Time is important. And it is time with God that will make the difference. Talk to Him in the craziness of the day. You must learn to find that focus and presence of God that brings peace to your life. You also have to hear Him! Your life is sustained by Him speaking to you (see Matt 4:4). If you do not, the reality of the sickness will rule you. Learn to let the reality of Jesus be the focus of your life in a real way that produces the Zoë/Shalom life that you are meant to live and walk in. The doctors words are not the final say, God is. And He desires for you to be saved in your body. God has made all provision for you and told you to receive it by faith. It is not His will for you to live under the works of Satan your entire life, nor for your kids and family to be sick and diseased. You can make the difference. It will require a change in belief and a change in lifestyle, but in my view it is worth it. You don't have anything to loose, but SO MUCH to gain.

Some of what I have to say is simple sounding. The foundation must be laid. I laid things out step by step. I am confident that what I wrote in this letter is biblical truth and more importantly, that it is consistent with the person of Jesus Christ. I mean not to elevate my knowledge or myself within this letter, but wish to serve you, and only serve you the gift of Life (Jesus). I love you two so much and your kids equally. I desire for you to receive the most that God has for you! It is the cry and longing of my heart. My prayer and service is ever towards you two. If you have questions or thoughts about anything in here let me know. I want it for you! I love you and know that it is now just a matter of time before you are laughing at the works of Satan and testifying of the healing power of Jesus Christ in your lives!