

THE HEALER

Mark 1:29-34 Rev. Brian W. Secor
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The healing power of Jesus Christ & the Gospel divides us more than it unites us today.

When Jesus came preaching & teaching, a central part of his ministry involved supernatural _____.

I. IT WAS A BUSY SABBATH DAY AS JESUS DID GOOD.

A. He came to break the _____ of Satan's kingdom.

1. First in synagogue, then in the home of Simon Peter, & then in streets of Capernaum that night the Kingdom was come. God does not like the way our world is with its evil, its pain, its sorrow & its destructive elements that include disease & illness which are the results of the fall. The kingdom comes, his will is done when all this negative hurtful, vile stuff is overturned by his power in our lives & in his church.
2. Such wonderful compassion we see in him. Such kindness & care for the human race & for individuals. He came & used divine power to make his people whole & well again. The Kingdom has come!

B. He _____ the mother-in-law of Simon Peter.

1. On way to lunch, after synagogue worship, most likely Peter tells Jesus & others that his mother-in-law is not well. Parallel in Luke says she was in bed with a very great fever.
2. It is interesting to note that Peter cared c. his mother-in-law enough to tell _____ about her. There is no reason why mother-in-laws should not be treasured & loved. Before Jesus even sat down to meal, he took action to heal this woman. Don't miss his touch, his healing touch, on her life. He took her hand & raised her up, a detail found only in Mark, & the fever left her.

C. In the evening, he healed _____ the sick & demon possessed that were brought to him.

1. Word must have got around. First, what happened in the synagogue & then what happened in Peter's house — that evening, after the Sabbath was over, the whole town crowded around Peter's house in Capernaum. All the sick, the demon possessed, anyone with a physical need came to find the _____ of the Healer.
2. The healing ministry of Jesus is not some add on we can take or leave.
 - a. Those who hate God always want to reduce Jesus down to a nice teacher & friendly fellow. They say he did no miracles, that these are made up stories to show how great a man he was. Not so. Here was _____ touching lives to bring healing to hurting people.

II. JESUS IS THE HEALER OF OUR BODIES.

1. When we come to subject like this, we need to engage both mind & emotion.

A. Jesus came to make us _____ — body and soul.

1. We are a body/soul entity. Both parts need the healing touch of Jesus
2. We dare not limit Jesus in what he can do for us.

B. What Jesus did then he can do _____.

1. Dr. Kent Brantly served as medical missionary in Liberia---contracted ebola. "What I can tell you is that I serve a faithful God who answers

prayers. ... God saved my life—a direct answer to thousands & thousands of prayers."

2. Does Jesus heal people today? Absolutely yes. His grace is sufficient for us today & that includes grace for body & soul right now.
3. But what about those hopeless cases, hopeless from our viewpoint? Does he heal those kind of diseases? History tells us yes he does. His Word says that if any of us are sick, we are to call for the elders of the church to come, anoint us with oil, & pray for our healing.

C. But, he isn't required to heal _____.

1. This is the hardest thing to accept about the Healer — not everyone who needs healing is healed. Candidly, I don't know why our Lord heals some today & doesn't heal others. If it were up to me, I'd make everyone well, probably wealthy & certainly wise. But that's the point, isn't it? It isn't up to me or to you. Its up to him & he will providentially heal some & pass others by.

D. Healing can take a variety of forms.

1. We would like to see more healing _____ today. We can all name people that if we had the power, we would take them by the hand in Jesus' name & lift them up. But that is not the normal way God heals.
2. God uses the _____ which he placed in our bodies against disease to heal us. God is merciful to us in that cuts are healed, wounds become scar tissue, we are restored to health many times naturally & that is all from God's mercy.
3. God makes us wise so that we take _____ of ourselves. Don't be a fool & destroy your body by what you do or do not eat or by what you do but let wisdom guide you so you are in health & live as long as are intended to live.
4. God uses _____ means to help us heal. We should make use of all the means God gives us to find healing for our bodies.
5. God uses _____ to bring healing. This is hard saying.
 - a. I Kings 14 — Jeroboam's son. See v. 12-13
 - b. They say the good die young. That is not always true. But all of us will die someday. Fact is death can be a mercy & it is. When we grow old & feeble, when disease so ravages our body that we cry for divine deliverance as God's child, when pain so controls us that we can think of nothing else, in mercy, the Healer takes our hand and says to us "Come home."
 - c. I know death is not an original part of creation but think of how awful this earth would be if we as fallen people would never die. For ages & ages we'd be hurting, debili-tated, diseased w/ no hope of release.
 - d. Two cautions.
 - i) We are never to _____ death by euthanasia or any other means.
 - ii) Not everyone who dies has a _____ future to look forward to.

E. Jesus wants us to _____ him even when we are not made well & whole.

1. When illness comes upon us & we are not made whole, we trust the Healer to carry us through the illness so that in life or in death God is _____. Paul --- **II Cor. 12:9-10**
4. None of us will get out of this life alive. Sooner or later some disease will touch us, weaken us, even kill us. We have the privilege of trusting Jesus the Healer who in life & in death has us firmly in his _____. The Kingdom has come!