

Spring Session, 2015  
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Lesson 4:

# Healing School

## Lesson 4: The Gospel of Healing - Part 1

**Central Truth: Our salvation includes healing as well as spiritual deliverance.**

### **Romans 1:16**

**16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.**

From a doctrinal standpoint, the next two lessons in this Healing School will be the most important. We are going to get into the very heart of the healing message.

Most of us are undoubtedly familiar with verse above, penned by the apostle Paul. It is a rich verse, from which we can glean great insights.

First of all, I think that it is important that we pause to see Paul's confidence in his commodity! He was not "selling" faulty or fraudulent goods, like some snake oil salesman.

What he had WORKED, and he was the living proof of the life-changing power of the gospel!

Most of us, familiar with this verse, have probably seen it strictly in the context of the *spiritual* salvation we experience when our sins are forgiven and we are born again.

However, as we will see, this verse has much to say about salvation in the context of *healing* also.

There are three primary things we need to see about this verse for the purposes of our study on healing:

1. Paul declared that the gospel is the POWER of God.
2. He declared that it is the power of God unto SALVATION.
3. It is the power of God unto salvation for everyone who BELIEVES.

We will look at all these important points in their fulness to appreciate how they apply to the message of divine healing.

1. First of all, Paul says that the gospel is the **POWER** of God.

The word translated “power” is the Greek word *dunamis*, and means *miraculous power, might, or ability*. It also means *inherent power, or power that resides in a thing by virtue of its nature*. It also means the *power for working miracles*.

In short, this is *God’s supernatural power!*

So, Paul is telling us that the gospel is literally the power of God; that it has His power inherently in itself by virtue of its nature.

This is the same word used of Jesus in **Acts 10:38** when Peter says, **“how 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.”**

In other words, the Word of God, the gospel, is ANOINTED with POWER!

2. Secondly, Paul says that the gospel is the power of God unto **SALVATION**.

The word translated “salvation” here is the Greek word *soteria*, and means *deliverance, preservation, and salvation*.

C.I. Scofield defines this word, *soteria*, as follows:

**"The Hebrew and Greek words for 'salvation' imply the ideas of deliverance, safety, preservation, HEALING and soundness: 'Salvation' is the great inclusive word of the gospel, gathering into itself all the redemptive acts and process: as justification, redemption, grace, propitiation, imputation, forgiveness, sanctification and glorification..."**

So, from this definition, as well as from other proofs we will see, this Greek noun *soteria*, has a much broader meaning than just *spiritual* salvation, as does the verb *sozo*, which is commonly translated “saved.”

In fact, as we will see, the word *sozo* is often used in the New Testament to refer to those who are *healed or made whole*.

3. Lastly, Paul says that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation to them that **BELIEVE**.

As we will see, *believing* means ACTING on what we've heard!

We know this to be true with salvation in regard to the new birth. One must both believe and personally appropriate (act on) the gospel in order for the gospel's saving power to be released on their behalf.

**Romans 10:9-10**

**that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**

It is not enough for one to hear the gospel and mentally ascent to its truths. One must *believe* from their heart, and *respond* to the gospel in order for it to be of any good to them.

**Hebrews 4:2** (In the context of Israel failing to enter the promised land through unbelief)  
**2 For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it.**

This passage is referring to the fact that the unbelief of the Israelites, in regard to God's promise to give them the land, kept them from possessing what belonged to them.

God had given them the promised land, but their refusal to believe and act on what God said kept them from entering into what God had already given them.

Instead of enjoying the benefits of their "gospel," as it were, they died in the wilderness without ever setting foot into the bountiful provision God had made available to them.

As we said, this is true with the gospel of Jesus Christ as well. One must hear, believe, and ACT on what one hears for the gospel's power to be released on their behalf.

**THE BIBLE KNOWS NO SAVING FAITH APART FROM A RESPONSE/ACTION!**

**James 2:14, 17 *Complete Jewish Bible***

**14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone claims to have faith but has no actions to prove it? Is such "faith" able to save him?**

**17 Thus, faith by itself, unaccompanied by actions, is dead.**

The fact is that one can hear the gospel and be "believe" that it is true, but if that individual fails to ACT on what he believes, he will remain in his sins.

Conversely, however, regardless of how dark the stain, if one believes and personally appropriates the promise for themselves, the power of God will save the sinner, remove the stain of sin, and raise the lost man or woman from death unto life!

**STORY:** The Native American man who was dramatically saved by acting on one simple verse:

**Romans 10:13**

**13For “whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”**

**What we want to see is that the gospel of healing works EXACTLY the same way!**

Gospel means *good news*, and whenever anyone believes the good news that Jesus died, not only to pardon our transgressions but provide healing for our bodies, they will be healed!

We will take a very close look at the gospel of healing itself in our next lesson, but for the remainder of this one, we want to see how this word, *sozo*, is used in regard to those who were healed when they believed and acted on their faith.

Again, we want to see that just as we can be saved *spiritually* by believing the good news regarding our salvation, we can likewise experience *physical* salvation by believing as well.

**Mark 5:25-34**

**25 Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, 26 and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse. 27 When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment. 28 For she said, “If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well.”**

**29 Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction. 30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, “Who touched My clothes?”**

**31 But His disciples said to Him, “You see the multitude thronging You, and You say, ‘Who touched Me?’”**

**32 And He looked around to see her who had done this thing. 33 But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. 34 And He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.”**

Remember that Paul said we can see the POWER of God unto SALVATION, which includes HEALING, when we BELIEVE. We will see these very elements bring healing to this woman.

## **THERE ARE SEVERAL THINGS TO NOTE:**

- **Jesus credited her healing to her faith.**

We tend to look at stories like this and say, “Isn’t it wonderful how Jesus healed this woman.” However, Jesus **DID NOT** credit the healing to Himself.

**QUESTION:** To what did Jesus credit the healing of this woman?

**34 And He said to her, “ Daughter, YOUR FAITH has made you well.**

- **The woman’s faith came from what she heard.**

Where does the Bible say faith comes from?

**Romans 10:17**

**17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

Her faith likewise came from what she heard.

**Mark 5:27**

**27 When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment.**

The stories she heard about Jesus served as a rudimentary “gospel” or good news that inspired her to take action.

- **Her faith was expressed in both what she SAID and what she DID.**

**Mark 5:27-28**

**27 When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment. 28 For she said, “If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well.**

She risked much because of her conviction. She was legally “unclean” and not supposed to be in public.

However, the tenacity of her faith caused her to dare the crowd and press in to Jesus.

Likewise her faith had a confession that was both bold and confident.

- **Her faith released God’s healing power.**

**Mark 5:29-30**

**29 Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction. 30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, “Who touched My clothes?”**

As we saw earlier, the gospel is “the power of God unto salvation,” or as we said, the gospel is *anointed* with God’s power, both to save and to heal.

Jesus, the *living* Word was likewise anointed with healing power.

**Acts 10:38**

**38 how God ANOINTED Jesus of Nazareth with the HOLY SPIRIT and with POWER (*dunamis*), who went about doing good and HEALING all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.**

When this woman acted on her faith and touched the hem of Jesus’ garment, she made a demand on the power of God.

**FAITH GIVES ACTION TO THE POWER OF GOD!**

Just as the one who believes the gospel and receives forgiveness of sins and a new life, so likewise the one who believes the good news about God’s provision for our physical bodies can receive God’s power for healing.

Jesus perceived that POWER had gone out of Him. This is the same Greek word, *dunamis*, translated as “power” in both **Romans 1:16** and **Acts 10:38**.

Her faith made a demand on the anointing.

**STORIES:** We’ve seen many times how faith in an individual’s heart will draw on that healing anointing.

- **She alone received.**

**Mark 5:24,31 *Wuest Expanded Translation***

**24 And He went off with him. And there kept on following with Him a large crowd, and they kept on pressing upon Him almost to the point of suffocation.**

**31 And His disciples kept on saying to Him, You are seeing the crowd pressing hard around you from all sides; yet you are saying, Who touched me?**

Despite the fact that many were pressing hard upon him, only this woman, who touched Him in faith, made any demand on the healing anointing that rested upon Him.

This explains much about why some are not healed.

Our faith has much to do with whether or not the healing anointing is released on our behalf.

**STORY:** Woman's son healed of polio when she believed the anointing was at work after a time of ministry.

- Lastly, we see that this woman was “saved” when she believed.

**Mark 5:34**

**34 And He said to her, Daughter, your faith HAS SAVED YOU. Be going into a state of peace, and be continually sound in body, healed of your affliction.**

That phrase translated “has saved you” is the Greek word, *sozo*. She was *saved* when she believed.

So, we can see that our salvation is both physical as well as spiritual.

**Mark 10:46-52**

**46 Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging. 47 And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”**

**48 Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”**

**49 So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called.**

**Then they called the blind man, saying to him, “Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you.”**

**50 And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus.**

**51 So Jesus answered and said to him, “What do you want Me to do for you?”**

**The blind man said to Him, “Rabboni, that I may receive my sight.”**

**52 Then Jesus said to him, “ Go your way; your faith has made you well.” And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.**

We see many of the same dynamics in this story as we saw in that of the woman healed of the issue of blood.

- he heard (v.47)
- he acted (vs.47, 50)
- his faith was tenacious (v.48)
- Jesus credits the healing to his faith (v.52)
- he was healed (v.52)

When I wrote my first book on healing, called *Healing: The Gospel Truth*, I had an entire chapter devoted to this blind beggar, entitled *Bind Faith*.

Even though he did not have his sight, he could see what even the religious leaders of the day could not see: namely that this was Jesus, the Son of David, the Messiah Who was to come.

This man’s story is a lesson in the TENACITY of faith!

We see the tenacity of his faith in that he held to his conviction even when others were trying to shut him down!

**Mark 10:48**

**48 Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”**

There will be many times when the voices around you will likewise seek to shut down your confession of faith.

It may be:

- family members who believe you’ve lost touch with reality
- a bad diagnosis or test results
- others who do not share your convictions
- those who think you’re not deserving

**QUESTION:** What do you do?

**ANSWER:** Keep shouting!



The blind man's tenacious faith stopped Jesus in His tracks!

**Mark 10:49**

**49 So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called.**

**Then they called the blind man, saying to him, "Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you."**

**NOTE:** Everybody will get on your side when you begin to get results, but sometimes in order to get the testimony, you've got to be ready to stand the *test!*

**Mark 10:50**

**50 And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus.**

This outer garment was what the blind would use for bedding at night and to catch their alms during the day.

It was his means of living as a blind man and a beggar.

When he cast it away, it was as if to say, "A man who is about to be healed of blindness doesn't need a blind man beggar's garment!"

It is also interesting to note that Jesus asks this question:

**Mark 10:51**

**51 So Jesus answered and said to him, "What do you want Me to do for you?"**

Up to this point the man had simply been asking for Jesus to have mercy on him. Jesus wants to know specifically what he wants. God's mercy is broad and encompasses many blessings.

**51 ...The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight."**

Jesus did not deny the man's request. There are HEALING MERCIES available at the Throne of Grace, just as there is pardon for our sins.

**Mark 10:52**

**52 Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.**

Once again Jesus credits the man's faith for the healing he receives. The words "made you well" are again translated from the word *sozo*. This man's faith *saved* him physically.

#### **James 5:14-15**

**14 Is anyone among you sick? 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. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.**

Here again we see that faith in action will "save the sick" through the prayer of faith.

Again the word translated "save" is *sozo*, proving once again that faith in the truth will release God's healing power.

The elders here are the ones praying the prayer of faith for the one whose faith is perhaps not fully developed. However, there is a part the one in need plays.

#### **James 5:14**

**14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church...**

This shows both faith in God's process as well as humility and submission to God appointed leadership.

**STORY:** Pete & Maria Sparhawk asked me to pray. God told me to go and anoint them with oil.

People get their eyes on the oil and the elders, but you can have enough Crisco to drown in and elders circling the block, but if no one prays the prayer of faith, no healing is coming!

Forgiveness comes along with healing because the same redemption provides both!

#### **Psalm 103:2-3**

**2 Bless the Lord, O my soul,**

**And forget not all His benefits:**

**3 Who forgives all your iniquities,**

**Who heals all your diseases.**

For one to be able to pray the prayer of faith, there has to be a gospel of healing to serve as the foundation for that faith!



