

# GOD'S THOUGHTS ON HEALING NEVER CHANGE

## I. God's Thoughts on Healing Have Not Changed.

- A. Same—past, present, and future Hebrews 13:8.
- B. God has never changed His mind about healing. He wants people well.
- C. What does God think about healing?
  - 1. On any given subject, God's thoughts are bigger, higher, and better than our thoughts Isaiah 55:6-9. It goes on to say that He sent His Word to change our thoughts.
  - 2. The Bible reveals the thoughts of God.
- D. Has His thinking changed about healing? Is it for today?
  - 1. If God is for healing and against sickness, surely we ought to find it in His thoughts about His people in the Old Testament.
  - 2. This is what He thought about it yesterday.

## II. God's Thinking in the Old Testament.

- A. God made a covenant (an indissoluble agreement) with the children of Israel.
  - 1. Jehovah Rophi or Rapha (The Lord, thy Healer) - The first covenant name given after the Red Sea experience (a type of redemption) reveals His provision for healing Exodus 15:26.
  - 2. Jehovah - Redemptive name for deity. Whatever is attached to Jehovah is in connection with redemption.
  - 3. Anything attached to Jehovah is "forever" and "unto all generations" Exodus 3:13, 14, 15.
  - 4. He is the Lord our Healer forever and for all.
- B. God promised constant health to the children of Israel Exodus 23:25, 26.
- C. Obedience and keeping the covenant meant God's blessing and health Deuteronomy 7:12-15.
- D. David rejoiced in the knowledge of God's healing power Psalms 103:2, 3; 107:17, 20.

## III. God's Thoughts in the New Testament—They Have Not Changed.

- A. Jesus ministered to the sick Matthew 4:23.
  - 1. Healing the leper Matthew 8:1-4.
  - 2. Healing the centurion's servant Matthew 8:5-13.
  - 3. Healing Peter's mother-in-law Matthew 8:14, 15.
  - 4. Healing the multitude Matthew 8:16, 17.
- B. Jesus bestowed power to heal upon His 12 disciples Luke 9:1, 2, 6, 11.
- C. He bestowed power to heal upon the 70 Luke 10:1, 9.
- D. After Jesus' resurrection, He extended the thought of God to heal the sick to all Believers Mark 16:15-18; John 14:12.
- E. And lest healing should be lost, He perpetuated it forever by setting healing in the Church as one of the nine gifts of the Spirit.
- F. Jesus set the Church against sickness and commanded them to practice it James 5:13-16.
- G. These verses contain instructions both to the sick and to the elders what they are to do when one is sick. Every person who answers to the name of elder ought either to:
  - 1. Respond to the call for anointing and prayer for healing the sick or be able to prove that this portion of Scripture has become obsolete or else question his qualifications for the office of elder.
  - 2. GOD'S THOUGHTS ON HEALING HAVE NOT CHANGED.