

the health of our soul. What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world (including physical health) and lose his soul. (Mark 8:36) Man's soul is sick with the disease of sin. (Rom. 3:23) This disease is a fatal disease that results in eternal separation from God. (Rom. 6:23) Even though man freely brought this condition upon Himself, God has made a way for healing to take place. God allowed His Son to suffer the disease of death for every man. (Jn. 3:16 Heb. 2:9) Just as the Israelites looked to the brazen serpent in the wilderness and were healed; so all those who look to the cross of Calvary and trust Jesus as their Saviour may be healed. (Num 21 Jn. 3:14,15)

## God's way of Salvation

The question of being right with God is not "Am I living a good enough life?". Nor is it the statement "I'm doing the best I can". Salvation is not gained by what WE do for God, rather it is a free gift based on the FINISHED WORK of Jesus Christ! (Eph. 2:8,9) Religion is MAN'S effort to please God. Becoming a Christian, is believing that GOD has already done all that needs to be done for me to be saved. Many religious people on judgment day will discover to their utter despair that "religion" will not allow them into the presence of God in heaven. (Matt. 7:21-23)

The vital question is "Are your sins forgiven?" All men are sinners by NATURE and by action. (Rom. 3:23 5:12 Eph. 2:1-3) We don't become sinners when we sin; we sin because we ARE sinners. Our very NATURE towards God is corrupt. (Is. 53:6 Rom. 3:10-13) Because we are sinners we experience death. (Rom. 6:23) Death is not only physical (separation of the soul from the body); but also spiritual (separation of the soul eternally from God) (2 Cor. 5 Gen. 3). Man's only hope of being reconciled to God is through His Son the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Cor. 5:17-19) Through Christ's death, burial, and resurrection He paid the penalty for man's sin and made it possible for believers to be freed from the bondage and condemnation of sin. (1 Cor. 15:1-7 1 Pet. 2:24) Forgiveness is possible through His shed blood. (1 Peter 1:18,19) By TOTALLY trusting Jesus as your Saviour as your ONLY hope of being made right with God; you can be saved from the condemnation you justly deserved. (Jn. 1:12 3:16 Acts 16:31 4:12)

### SERVICES

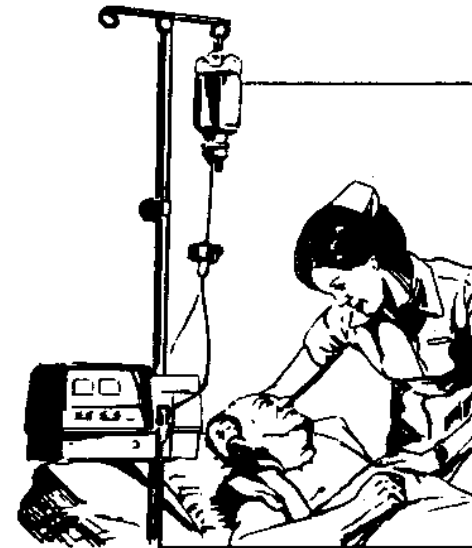
Sunday School .....	9:45 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship .....	11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship .....	7:00 P.M.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting .....	7:00 P.M.

# THE CORNERSTONE

BIBLICAL ANSWERS TO CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

## HEALING

IS IT GOD'S WILL FOR EVERY PERSON  
TO BE HEALED?



**Greenwich Baptist Church**

P.O. BOX 52  
GREENWICH, NEW JERSEY

To answer this question we need to understand that according to the Scriptures there are 3 kinds of sickness. To discern God's will concerning sickness a believer must determine which of the 3 he is experiencing.

## **SICKNESS UNTO DEATH**

Hebrews 9:27 says that every man has an appointment with death. General boundaries of this appointment with death are given in Psalm 90:10. All the faith, and all the prayers in the world will not rescue a person if it is God's time for them to die. (Psalm 31:15) The Lord Jesus knew in his humanity, he had an appointment with death. (Jn. 13:1) Death and sickness are still a reality for Christians because of indwelling sin. (Rom. 7:18 Gal. 5:17 1 Jn. 1:6-10) Christians have been saved from the PENALTY of sin (Rom. 3:21-28 5:1 2 Cor. 5:17-21) Christians are BEING SAVED from the power of sin (Rom. 8:5-13) And finally, Christians will one day IN THE FUTURE be saved from the PRESENCE of sin! Until the "redemption of the body" at Christ's coming there will be sickness and death. (Rom. 8:18-25 1 Jn. 3:2 1 Corinthians 15:51-57) God promises a day when all pain and sorrow will be taken away, including death itself; but that day is yet FUTURE. (Revelation 21:4) As long as we are in this life the "outward man" is in the process of perishing, but the "inward man" is renewed more and more into the likeness of Christ. (2 Cor. 4:16)

## **SICKNESS OF CHASTISEMENT**

There is a parallel between obedience to God's laws and freedom from sickness. (Deuteronomy 28:15-48) Prov. 3:1,2 promises that those who forget not God's law and keep his commandments will have "...length of days and long life...". In Ex. 15:26 God says to His people, "If you will diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord your God, and will do that which is right in his sight, and will give ear to His commandments, and

Local Church and there is an unrepentant spirit and attitude, that person is susceptible to physical problems. According to 1st Cor. 5:5 a disciplined person is delivered unto Satan FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE FLESH! When a person has been removed from the protective covering of the Local Church watchcare then, he or she is directly exposed to the sphere and control of Satan. (1st Samuel 15:23) It is significant that before Satan could bring physical harm to Job, the HEDGE OF PROTECTION around Job had to be removed. (Job 1:10). Job's example clearly indicates that not all sickness is a result of chastisement. There is a sickness unto the glory of God.

## **SICKNESS UNTO THE GLORY OF GOD**

The disciples came to Jesus and asked why a certain man had been born blind. Did he sin or his parents? They thought it was a SIN OF CHASTISEMENT. Jesus answered "neither hath this man sinned nor his parents, but that the works of God should be made manifest in Him" (Jn. 9:3) Surely this was also the case with Fanny Crosby. By allowing God to form His character in her through her infirmity of blindness she was able to write many of the beloved hymns we sing each week in our Churches. Joni Ereckson Toda is a contemporary example of the glory of God shining through infirmities. Paul prayed three times concerning his thorn in the flesh and God's answer to Him was "My strength is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12:9) Tim. was told to seek medicinal help in his infirmity, not healing. (1Tim. 5:23) When Paul spoke of the sickness of Epaphroditus in Phil. 2, he didn't blame it on a lack of faith or disobedience. On the contrary he said it was "...for the work of Christ, he was near unto death...".

## **The Sickness of the Soul**

While there is much concern for the health of our body there should be an even greater concern for

saturates the bloodstream with lipids. As these lipids travel through the bloodstream, they cling to the walls of the arteries. Lipids such as cholesterol and triglycerides may build up so much that an artery may become clogged. Medically this condition is called atherosclerotic plaque.

The eating of "blood" is forbidden because it contains harmful parasites called "flukes". (Lev. 7:26) These flukes, medically called schistosomes, migrate to the lungs, liver, and intestines where they can do extensive damage. Some sausages contain large amounts of blood. If not cooked properly, infected sausages can transmit schistosomes to humans.

The trichina parasite infects most of the Biblically unclean animals. This parasite is found in clean animals as well, but in clean animals the parasites are large and easy to spot. Trichinosis infections in pork are microscopic and require extremely careful inspection.

Rabbits are notorious as carriers of tularemia. The rabbit chews the cud but does not have a parted hoof, therefore it is Biblically unclean. Merely handling animals with tularemia can transmit the disease. Tularemia affects the lymph glands, causing swelling and fever.

# 7 Medical studies have verified that those women who follow the Scriptural guidelines of abstinence (Lev. 12:2-7 15:19-33) have a much lower risk of cervical cancer, the most common form of cancer. Also, it has been discovered that the seed of the man is an alien substance to the woman. It triggers responses in her body similar to an 'allergic' reaction. A woman with only one husband is able to develop an immunity to this reaction; however, a promiscuous woman's immune system becomes confused and unable to distinguish alien substances. This confusion is a key to the development of cancer. This may be why God gave the warning of 1st Cor. 6:18

# 8 When a person has been disciplined by the

keep ALL 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." The first commandment with PROMISE, the fifth Commandment, says "Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy DAYS MIGHT BE LONG upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." There is no question that a person's spiritual condition affects his physical condition. (Prov. 17:22) A person may have great faith in God that God can heal; but if that person, is violating God's principles revealed in Scripture, his faith will in many cases be fruitless. The following is a partial list of principles in Scripture that affect a person's health.

# 1 Partaking of communion "unworthily", without proper self examination and confession, results in sickness and sometimes death. (1 Cor. 11:23-34)

# 2 Failing to conquer guilt and bitterness can result in unhealthy bones. (Psalm 32:1-3) This is significant because "the life of the flesh is in the blood" (Genesis 9:4), and the blood cells are manufactured in the bones. Furthermore, Doctors agree that ulcers are not caused by what a person eats, but by "what eats a person". Scripture warns that an angry and unforgiving spirit will result in troubles for the flesh. (Prov. 11:17)

# 3 Failing to properly mourn over sin. (Matthew 5:4) The St. Paul-Ramsey Medical Center at the University of Minnesota has verified that tears which accompany a brokenness over sin contain important chemicals which relieve stress and tension. Tears that are shed because of exposure to an onion does not contain these substances. Through brokenness and humility before God the body is able to rid itself of harmful toxins.

# 4 Failing to call for the Elders of the Church may be linked to persistent sickness. (James 5:14-16) Scripture encourages seeking the help of doctors and medicine. (Matt. 9:12 Mk. 6:13 2 Kgs. 20:7 Lk. 10:34 1 Tim. 5:23) It is truly

tragic when a child dies because the parents refuse to allow medical treatment based on their "belief in God". God has wonderfully blessed us with medical knowledge that CAN be used to His glory. But, there are times when a believer should seek the counsel and prayers of Local Church Leaders. Some cases that are impossible with men are possible through God. (Mark 5:21-34 2 Chronicles 16:12)

# 5 Failing to honor the Sacred purposes of the Body results in physical problems. Drunkenness is strongly condemned (1 Cor. 6:10), and those who ignore this warning will suffer the consequences described in Prov. 23:29-35. Immorality is singled out as especially destructive to the body. (1 Cor. 6:18) Doctors have confirmed that promiscuous ladies have a much higher risk of cancer! The modern day A.I.D.E.S. problem is a result of violating God's moral standards. (Deut. 28:27)

# 6 Failing to follow God's guidelines concerning diet contributes to a person's susceptibility to sickness. Many of the so called "western diseases" that Americans experience which are rare in other countries can be linked to a lack of fiber in the diet. When Jesus said "I am the bread of life," He was affirming the completeness of Himself and bread to meet the basic needs of man. (Jn. 6:35) There are at least eight amino acids our bodies cannot make; these we must get from the food we eat. (World Book Encyclopedia, 1984, Volume A, page 408) All the amino acids the body needs to be healthy are contained in the kernel of grain. This is why wheat germ is known as the "complete grain".

God warned that some foods are "unclean" and therefore unhealthy. (Deut. 14 Lev. 11) A 1953 issue of the Bulletin of the History of Medicine, published by the Jn.s Hopkins University School of Medicine confirmed that every single animal that God says is "unclean" has a much higher toxicity level than "clean" foods. Most of the animals that are forbidden to be eaten are scavenger animals who tend to eat anything

available to them. Even if their diet is regulated, the simple digestive systems of these animals prevents the proper purifying of the food they eat. For example, food that a pig eats becomes flesh after two hours of consumption. A cud chewing animal like the cow requires 24 hours to turn food to flesh. Animals that chew the cud, (a requirement for Biblically clean animals) have 4 different stomachs that digest the food. The more digestion the less toxicity. During rumination a fermentation process kills most diseases in the food of clean and this results in meat safe to eat.

Furthermore, scavenger animals eat animals, which have eaten other animals, which in turn, have eaten other animals. Each time one animal eats another animal, it consumes poisons such as lead, mercury, PCB, and DDT. Biblically clean animals that part the hoof and chew the cud (Deut. 14:4-6) are strictly vegetarian. Animals such as cattle and sheep consume plants which have low concentrations of these poisons. Mussels, oysters, shrimp, and clams eat the scum and debris of oceans, lakes and rivers. The result is the taking in of the many poisons dumped there. Animals that feed on shellfish concentrate these poisons even further. Many animals have actually become extinct because of these poisons. In God's creative wisdom these scavenger animals were intended to cleanse the land of infectious diseases and harmful poisons that are detrimental to human existence.

The U.S. News and World Report, May 28, 1984 verifies the need to separate meat and milk by at least two hours to get the benefit of the calcium. (Ex. 23;19 34:26 Deut. 14;21) Calcium is not absorbed by our bodies when red meat is eaten with milk. eaten A calcium deficiency results in a weakening of the bones, which is called Osteoporosis.

The restriction concerning the eating of "fat" (Lev. 7:23) has been proven to lessen the occurrence of heart attack and also prevent the problem of "lipids" Eating large amounts of fat