

REMINDER

Volume XVI

November 7, 2010

Number 45

IS HEALING PART OF THE ATONEMENT?

by Evangelist David Cloud (continued from last week)

We're looking at the history of the modern neo-Pentecostal movement, specifically the people who led it into prominence during in the last 150 years or so -



A. A. Allen

Pentecostal evangelist **A. A. ALLEN** published a book in 1953 entitled **How to Renew Your Youth Without Medicines, Drugs or Surgery**. He stated: *"It is my firm belief that God wants everyone of us to prosper and be in health until we fulfill the number of our days."* He claimed that God has promised to "restore our youth," meaning that God would "take away the sickness, the disease, the infirmity, even the deformity, that cause one to feel, act, think, and live like an old person." He died with a blood alcohol level of 36.

JACK COE, another very influential Pentecostal leader in the mid point of the century, published **Tried ... But Freed** in 1956. He stated that *"Deliverance from physical sickness is provided for in the atonement and is the privilege of all believers"* (pp. 35-40). Coe taught that *"the day would come when those who consulted physicians would have to take the 'mark of the beast' and that men were clearly looking to the wrong source for healing when they consulted doctors"* (Coe, "Doctors, Demons and Pills," Herald of Healing, Dec. 1953, pp. 2-4,6, cited by David Harrell,



Jack Coe

Jr., All Things Are Possible, p. 101).

Another famous faith healer was **KATHRYN KUHLMAN** (1907-1976). She popularized the "miracle services" concept, during which she would call out supposed disorders that were being cured in a certain area of the auditorium, and it would be received by the appropriate individual. Kuhlman taught that people could be healed and then lose their healing if they failed to come up to the stage and testify (a convenient "out").



Kathryn Kuhlman's magnetic speaking ability drew thousands who came to hear her message of healing as part of the atonement - she packed churches and auditoriums wherever she went.

Born in Missouri and raised in a Methodist church, in the late 1940's, Kuhlman began to teach that physical healing was provided in the atonement of Jesus Christ. In 1947, she preached that the miracles of Pentecost should be experienced today, claiming that Christians today are able to perform the same miracles as Jesus performed, and even greater miracles. *"Every church should be experiencing the miracles of Pentecost. Every church should be seeing the healings of the Book of Acts"* (Kathryn Kuhlman, cited from Jamie Buckingham, Daughter of Destiny, p. 104). She published a booklet entitled **"The Lord's Healing Touch,"** and **"I Believe In Miracles,"** which was also the catch phrase she began each of her radio and television broadcasts with. In her later years, her ministry was plagued with scandal. She died during open-heart surgery.

(continued inside)



Many of today's Pentecostal-Charismatic leaders continue to promote the doctrine that healing is in the atonement. **KENNETH COPELAND**, popular Charismatic evangelist, states this idea in his paper:

"Sickness is of the devil ... God has never used sickness to discipline His children ... I don't care how old we are, it's His will to take us home healed, well, whole, and delivered" (Kenneth Copeland, quoted in *Calvary Contender*, Sept. 15, 1989).

Popular Pentecostal preacher **KENNETH HAGIN, SR.**, from Broken Arrow, Oklahoma (born in 1917) has also taught a health-prosperity gospel. He says:

"Like salvation, healing is a gift, already paid for at Calvary. All we need to do is accept it. All we need to do is possess the promise that is ours. As children of God, we need to realize that healing belongs to us" (Hagin, **Healing Belongs to Us**, p. 32).

He further says: *"God is glorified through healing and deliverance, not sickness and suffering"* (Hagin, **The Key to Scriptural Healing**, p. 17).

Hagin's influence has been phenomenal. Thousands of students have graduated from his **Rhema Bible Training Center** and have gone throughout the world planting churches patterned after his ministry. The stated purpose of Rhema is *"to produce graduates who will carry forth the great charismatic renewal that God has sent into our time."* His daily radio program is broadcast on more than 180 stations in the States and by short-wave to about 80 other countries. By the late 1980's, more than three million of his 85 books and a half million of his sermons on audio cassette were being distributed each year. His monthly **Word of Faith** magazine goes to 190,000 homes.

This philosophy of healing is also held by **CHARLES AND FRANCIS HUNTER**, who conduct healing seminars. In an article in *Charisma* magazine, "It's the Hour of the Believer," Francis Hunter is quoted as follows:

"The Bible does not leave any doubt. It does not say some of you, or just a few of you who believe; it simply says that all those who believe are going to be able to lay hands on the sick, and the sick are going to recover" (E.S. Caldwell, **"It's the Hour of the Believer,"** *Charisma*, Oct. 1987, pp. 19-24).

Not all Pentecostal and Charismatic preachers believe exactly as Roberts or Copeland or the Hunters, and there are many variations on the healing theme. Some believe medicine should not be used; others recognize the value of medicine. It is a fact, though, that a large number of Pentecostal leaders both past and present claim that healing is in the atonement and is therefore promised by God.



Let me say up front that I do believe in divine healing. I believe in **James 5:14-15**:

"Is any sick among you? 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: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him."

This passage gives clear instruction for the sick in this church age. We believe in this, and we practice this, and we have seen God heal in answer to prayer. I have experienced healing in this way.

But note that these Bible instructions do **not** lend **any** support for a faith healing movement. The sick Christian is **not** instructed to attend a special healing meeting or to seek the services of a faith healer, but is to call for the leaders **of his own church**. Note, too, it is the sick person who is to take the initiative to seek the prayer of his church leaders. The emphasis is not on the gift of a faith healer, but on the prayers of humble church leaders.

I repeat, I believe in healing, but I do not believe in the Charismatic faith healing movement. It is **not** based on Scripture. There is **no** healing movement in Scripture. The Bible does **not** promise healing and perfect wholeness in this present time. The Bible does **not** instruct us to hold healing crusades.

Further, the Bible does not allow women to preach and usurp authority over men, but that is exactly what has been happening in the Pentecostal-Charismatic movement for more than a century. Women such as Phoebe Palmer, Carrie Judd Montgomery, Maria Woodworth-Etter, Aimee Semple McPherson, Maria Wing Robinson, and Kathryn Kuhlman and have played a major role in the movement. **The Scriptures forbid this.**

I do believe in divine healing. But I don't believe God **always** heals, and I don't believe that healing is in the atonement. I also believe that the Pentecostal-Charismatic healing movement has caused untold harm. Following are the reasons I say this:

1. THE HEALING OF CALVARY IS, FIRST AND FOREMOST, SPIRITUAL HEALING -

Isaiah 53:5 is often quoted as a proof text for the idea that physical healing is in Christ's atonement. *"... with his stripes we are healed."* The primary meaning of this passage, though, is that we are healed from sin through Christ's death.

This is what I Peter 2:24 says: *"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."*

The Apostle Peter applies Isaiah 53:5 to salvation from sin. The healing spoken of in Isaiah 53:5 is spiritual healing of the soul from sin.

2. THE PHYSICAL ASPECT OF SALVATION PERTAINS TO RESURRECTION; IT IS A FUTURE HOPE NOT A PRESENT REALITY -

There is a physical part to salvation. There is a physical wholeness; there is a glorious kingdom; there is a wonderful,

trouble-free life promised to the child of God--but it is something we look forward to by faith, not something we presently possess in this world. This is clearly what Rom. 8:22-25 teaches:

“For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.”

The Apostle Paul was a spiritual giant, yet he said his condition was that of groaning within himself, **WAITING** for the redemption of the body. He said the redemption of the body is a hope, not a present possession. In verse 10 of Romans 8, Paul says the body is dead because of sin. The Christian has eternal life; his sins are forgiven; his name is written in Heaven; he is a child of God. But the Christian lives in a body that is under the curse of death, and the Christian lives in a world which is still under the curse of God for sin, a world which *“groans and travails together until now.”*

Thus, while the Christian can live a life of victory and fruitfulness through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit, he is still under the influence of the troubles and pains of this wicked world. This *includes* sickness, depression, sorrow, trials, difficulties, sweat, tears, hurt, old age, weakness, death. These things are the lot of the Christian just as they are for the non-Christian. The release from the troubles of the flesh will come at the “redemption of the body” - the resurrection and second coming of Christ.

It is at death or at the Rapture that the Christian will gain liberty from this body of death and will have that perfect physical healing and wholeness that is so intensely desired.

3. THE HEALING MINISTRY OF CHRIST WAS UNIQUE: TO PROVE HE WAS THE MESSIAH -

It is popularly taught in Charismatic circles that Jesus healed as an example for Christians to follow. Jesus’ healing ministry is held forth as an example of what healers today are doing. John Wimber, Charles and Francis Hunter, and a host of others are saying every Christian can heal, that Jesus’ healing ministry is an example for all Christians.

This idea ignores the fact that Jesus healed as a sign that He was the Messiah, the promised Saviour, the Son of God. Jesus’ healing ministry was **not** an example for us to follow, but was part of His unique **credentials** as the Christ. This is plainly what the Bible teaches. Consider the following Scriptures:

“And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name” (John 20:30-31).

“But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that

I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me” (John 5:36).

“If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him” (John 10:37-38).

“Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father’s name, they bear witness of me” (John 10:25).

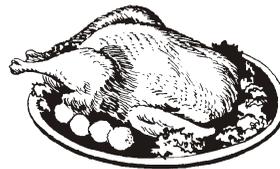
“Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works’ sake” (John 14:11).

“If I had not done among them the works which none other man did, they had not had sin: but now have they both seen and hated both me and my Father” (John 15:24).

These verses leave no doubt as to the purpose of Christ’s miracles. They were not done as examples of what every Christian can and should do, but were done to demonstrate that He was the promised Holy Son of God. This explains the fact that no one before or since Christ has ever been able to perform the healings He performed. He healed every type of disease, cast out every type of devil, raised the dead, and He did these miracles repeatedly, at will. He healed **perfectly**. He *never failed* to heal those who were brought to Him. Not once did he fail. **Who can say that today?**

It is true that the apostles did some wonderful miracles, as recorded in the Book of Acts, but their miracles were also performed for a special, unique purpose as we shall see in the next heading.

- more next week



OUR ANNUAL CHURCH FAMILY THANKSGIVING DINNER WILL BE ON SUNDAY, NOV. 21

The Food Sign-Up Sheet is on the Bulletin Board in the Foyer - please let us know what you’re bringing.

Plan NOW To Be Here!

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Caryn Quinnelly
 Cradle Roll 2: Derek Quinnelly
 6:30 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Piper Quinnelly
 Cradle Roll 2: Ryan Quinnelly
 Wed. Eve. Service ----- Volunteers Needed!

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of October 31, 2010

Sunday School ----- 22
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 35
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 32
 Wed. Eve. Service, 11/03/10 ----- 32

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of October 31, 2010

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 916.00
 Insurance Fund ----- \$ 108.80
Total Received for Week of 10/31/10: \$ 1,024.80

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed to operate the church EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00

INSURANCE FUND REPORT FOR OCTOBER:

Monthly Requirement ----- \$ 273.08
 Amount Received during the month ----- \$ 273.08
Amount Short for Month: \$ 0.00!!!

INSURANCE FUND REPORT THIS MONTH:

Monthly Requirement ----- \$ 273.08
 Amount Received 10/31/10 ----- \$ 48.72
Amount Still Needed By 12/06/10: \$ 224.36

A Thank You from Our Pastor

Shirley and I wish to thank all of you for the wonderful card and gift you gave us for Pastor Appreciation Day! The gift helped us purchase a used car that had the parts we need to repair our car, which was damaged in the wreck we had last month. We hope to get it back up and running soon. Thank you all SO much!



WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. ***Admit that you are a sinner.***
2. ***Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.***
3. ***Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.***
4. ***You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).***
5. ***By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.***



Please Remember To Be Faithful to Give!

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go **up**. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start **today** - **OK?** Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
 Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
 Dickie Eberle ----- Greeter, Custodian
 Larry Mathews, Caryn Quinnelly, Todd W. White ----- S.S. Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars, Brian & Charity Crawford, Dwayne English ----- Outreach
 Flowers ----- Hannah and Shirley White