

What Was Jesus' Attitude Towards Sickness & Disease (S & D)?

He Also Came to Re-produce Himself in Us. We are to have the same attitude towards S & D as He did!

By B. D. Tate

He Considered S & D as someone Satan Has Bound

From Luke chapter thirteen we see clearly that in addressing healing on the Sabbath day that Jesus saw sickness and disease upon someone as being *bound by Satan*.

Lu 13:16 "So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, **whom Satan has bound**—think of it—for eighteen years, **be loosed from this bond** on the Sabbath?"

He Considered S & D as someone having Fallen into a Pit

From Luke chapter fourteen Jesus describes sickness and disease as someone who has fallen into a pit.

Luke 14: 5 Then He answered them, saying, "Which of you, having a donkey or an ox **that has fallen into a pit, will not immediately pull him out** on the Sabbath day?"

He Considered S & D as evil as someone having their life destroyed or killed! To heal then was to do good and not evil! To heal was to save life from death and destruction!

Mt 3:4 Then He said to them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath **to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?**" But they kept silent.

5 And when He had looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts, He said to the man, "**Stretch out your hand.**" **And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored as whole as the other.**

(Mt 5:16 "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your **good works** and glorify your Father in heaven.)

He Considered someone with S & D as Oppressed by the devil

From Acts chapter ten the scriptures testify that those who need healing are oppressed of the devil.

Ac 10:38 "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.

He Considered S & D a work of the devil (John the apostle gives us his testimony about the attitude and purpose of Jesus towards S & D)

1Jo 3:8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose **the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.**

He Considered it captivity!

Jesus came preaching deliverance to the captives...

Luke 4:18 "The Spirit of the LORD *is* upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to *the* poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, **To proclaim liberty to *the* captives** And recovery of sight to *the* blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;

He Came to take away S & D by Fulfilling Prophecy: Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses...

From Matthew chapter eight we see Jesus fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy concerning sickness and disease by healing everyone who came to him. **This passage shows that Jesus considered His ministry and mission to have taken upon Himself our infirmities, pains, sorrows, grief, sicknesses and diseases.** Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit Matthew translates Isaiah to specifically include all our sicknesses...

Matt. 8:16 "When evening had come they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. **And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick,**

17 **that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities and bore *our* sicknesses."**

He Came to Fulfill the Law's requirements against humanity by Fulfilling His Messianic Role to Reverse the Curse

Jesus saw His work as fulfilling His Messianic role and identity listen to what He says to John the *Baptist's disciples* who had come to ask Him are you the one or do we seek another?

Lu 7:22 Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things **you have seen and heard**: that *the* blind see, *the* lame walk, *the* lepers are cleansed, *the* deaf hear, *the* dead are raised, *the* poor have the gospel preached to them.

Ga 3:13 Christ **has redeemed us from the curse of the law**, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed *is* everyone who hangs on a tree")

His Love & Compassion Came to Destroy Sickness & Disease

Jesus was moved with compassion and in showing God's love released them from their sickness and disease...

Mt 14:14 And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; **and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick.**

He Came to show God's Will is Health and Deliverance!

The following testify that Jesus understood that it was God's will to heal all. It is written of Jesus in His ministry in the gospels some *seventeen times* that ALL that came to him for healing were healed. **That shows in itself the will of God concerning healing...**

Mt 8:16 When evening had come they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, **and healed all who were sick,**

Mt 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and

healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.

Mt. 9:35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, **and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.**

Ac 10:38 "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.**

Healing Shows the Truth of God's Word... To Confirm His Word!

Mr 16:20 And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and **confirming the word** through the accompanying signs. Amen.

He Considered Healing showing that the Kingdom is Upon Us

...to prove that the **kingdom of God has come among us!**

Matt. 12:28 "But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, **surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.**

He Considered Healing Showing us that Jesus is One with the Father

...that God sent Jesus and **is in Him** and then in turn to **prove God is in us!**

John 10: 37 "If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;

38 "**but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him.**"

He Considered Healing showing us the way...

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "**I am the way**, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

John 4:48 Then Jesus said to him, "**Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.**"

Ac 2:22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, **a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know—**

He Considered Healing showing us that the Son of man has power to forgive sins!

Lu 5:23 "Which is easier, to say, **'Your sins are forgiven you,'** or to say, **'Rise up and walk'?**

24 **"But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins"** —He said to the man who was paralyzed, "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house."

He Considered Healing as meant to turn the people's hearts towards God in repentance!

Matt. 11:20 Then He began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, **because they did not repent:**

21 "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, **they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.**

Did Jesus come to deliver us from sin?

Did Jesus atone for all the consequences of the fall and the curse? The answer is certain as we consider the depiction of His suffering from Isaiah Chapter 53:

Isaiah 53:3 He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, *our* faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

4 Surely He has borne our grief and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.

5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.

The scriptures teach us that through the atonement He was bruised for iniquities, suffered for our transgressions, bore our pains, sicknesses, and grief, and **by His stripes we were healed**. Salvation is not just the spiritual new birth but for the *whole* being. **Matthew** takes this passage under the direction of the Holy Spirit and **ends any doubt about it being for today** when after Jesus had healed multitudes, he quotes Isaiah saying it is the fulfillment of this prophesy. Jesus in healing all is fulfilling God's provision for our salvation spiritually AND PHYSICALLY!

Matt. 8:16 "When evening had come they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. **And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, 17 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses."**

Jesus makes a remarkable statement:

John 14:12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, **he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do,** because I go to My Father.

One could have argued that God wanted the world to know that Jesus was/is the Messiah therefore God commissioned him to heal, to deliver, to set free to show Jesus is Lord. Certainly that is true; yet, **Jesus' mission and then re-commission** of his disciples was to do the very works he did! **The Great Commission** has often in our day been presented to mean salvation in the new birth; what has not been presented is how much that commission included healing, deliverance, and setting the captives free! In other words, the Great Commission is TWO-FOLDED having the first part meant to help accomplish the second part. Listen to Jesus' commissioning of the twelve apostles and then the seventy he sent out two by two: They were to heal the sick and then preach the kingdom of God is near.

Mt. 10:8 “**Heal the sick**, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

Luke 9:2 He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to **heal the sick**.

Luke 10:9 “And **heal the sick** there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’

The laborers were meant to show God’s power to forgive and deliver and then preach the kingdom of God! The same is just as true today as it was then and even more so since Jesus has been glorified and the Holy Spirit sent into the hearts of believers!

Mt 9:37 Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the **laborers are few**.

Mt 9:38 “**Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.**”

We have the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead dwelling in us to the same things for the same reasons!

Ro 8:11 **But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.**

God’s will is to manifest His glory through his sons and daughters in the name of Jesus! The name of Jesus is Lord, deliverer, redeemer, savior, healer, protector, provider, and all wisdom and power! **We are to go in His name to do what Jesus did!** We are commissioned to be His ambassadors and ministers of reconciliation!

2Co 5:20 Now **then, we are ambassadors for Christ**, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God.

2Co 5:18 Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, **and has given us the ministry of reconciliation**,

Joh 14:13 “And whatever you ask **in My name**, that I will do, **that the Father may be glorified in the Son.**

Joh 15:8 “**By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit**; so you will be My disciples.

Jesus Came to Re-Produce Himself as a seed re-produces itself with thousands! His mission was that we would Do What He did and have the same attitude towards S & D as He did!

Joh 12:24 “Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, **it produces much grain.****

Ro 8:29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be conformed to the image of His Son*, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

In Matthew 28:19, 20 this is considered the ***Great Commission!***

19 “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 **“teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;** and lo, I am with you always, *even to the end of the age.*”

Somehow this verse gets forgotten or left out; however, Jesus commanded the apostles to make disciples *teaching them to observe ALL things that Jesus commanded them!* That includes preaching the gospel and healing the sick as I have already written...

I heard an argument recently that absolutely baffles me. The argument states that since Jesus refused to stay places where the people begged him to stay, but instead went to other towns to preach and heal, that it wasn't God's will to heal everyone because he left towns where sick must have remained.

Luke 4:42 Now when it was day, He departed and went into a deserted place. **And the crowd sought Him and came to Him, and tried to keep Him from leaving them;** 43 but He said to them, **“I must preach the kingdom of God** to the other cities also, because for this purpose I have been sent.”

Jesus answers this by His own words that He was sent to preach in other cities also and being held by time and space as a human being He can't be everywhere at the same time. Think of this, if Jesus doesn't leave that town He never makes it to the cross in Jerusalem where He takes away the sins of the whole world. **If we continue to use this logic** then consider that Jesus only ministered to towns within a thirty mile radius of His birth. That would mean that since He did not go into the entire world to preach to every soul and every town that God does not include or want everyone to be saved.

It is so obvious that God's intention with Jesus was to re-produce the same ministry in all of us! As a seed when planted (crucified, dead, and risen from the dead) produces many so the gospel is for everyone who hears, responds, repents and believes in Him.

Jesus said (I repeat it):

John 14:12 "**Most assuredly**, I say to you, **he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also**; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

13 "And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 "If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*.

The **Great Commission** is to fulfill God's will that the whole world would be preached the good news AND HEAL THE SICK **listen again**:

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

19 "Go **therefore and make disciples of all the nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 "**teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you**; and lo, I am with you always, *even to the end of the age.*" Amen.

Special note:

When we understand Jesus' attitude towards sickness but see so many who do not receive healing we take our experiences and place **that above the true witness of scripture**. **When we do this we lose our foundation for faith.** When we don't know God's will through His word because we allow the things we don't understand to confuse the things we do, **we have nothing to base faith on.** When we construct elaborate arguments just like the one above to dismiss what we can clearly see as God's Word and Will *it is no wonder we have no power.* In my opinion it isn't just confusion anymore, it isn't just ignorance or an honest difference of opinion, when arguments like this are presented it is a willful denial of the truth—an escape from responsibility. It is an effort to eliminate the failure as being our fault. There is more at stake than misinformation or misunderstanding now it has become an issue of pride, will, and determination to keep the *status quo*. Just as the Pharisees **would not believe** in Jesus even though there were multitudes of signs, wonders, and miracles being performed to confirm and attest his ministry, they refused to embrace the truth. Today, as many signs, wonders, and miracles are being performed in Jesus' name just as Jesus did, mainly through those who believe God wants all saved AND HEALED, there is a refusal to embrace the truth. We are no longer open to the manifestation that validates and confirms His Word. Just as with Jesus that His word and works are one so it is to be with us. I John 4:17 "Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; **because as He is, so are we in this world.**"