

Why Do Others Receive Healing Who Do Not Embrace it As God's Will Always to Heal?

By B. D. Tate

It is a curious question but it does need addressing. The argument is this: if God heals some in the Christian camp who do not see it as God's will to always heal, then the position of believing that God always heals is not right. The progression would be that since some do get healed under the belief that God chooses in His timing and in His will to heal some and not to heal others then the premise that God healed all is not correct.

Let's apply this to salvation itself which is the soundest footing to begin understanding this issue. Consider this verse:

Col. 2:6 "As you have therefore received Christ Jesus so walk in Him."

How did we receive the Lord? We heard the gospel message, we understood our predicament, **and we believed God's will in the matter**—that Jesus died for us. Then we, after believing in our heart confessed with our mouth that Jesus is Lord.

Rom. 10:10 "For with the heart one believes unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Yet at the heart of this message is **one fundamental belief that Jesus Christ came to save sinners from their sin—all sinners.**

John 3:16 "**For God so loved the world** that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

There are those who do not believe it is God's will for **ALL** to be saved. Some believe that God has predestined some for glory and many for condemnation. The teaching centers on the election of God and His supreme sovereignty. This position stands that no man can resist God and that no one can come unless the Spirit draws him. **From this position then they would ask the same question of those who believe it is God's will to save all.** Why do some receive salvation while others do not? If God wills all to be saved all would come; therefore anyone who believes all are meant to be saved is incorrect.

For those who do not embrace this position of predestination we simply respond by saying "God saved all but not all respond." If some get saved when we believe all are meant to be saved that does not negate the truth that Jesus died for all. All are elected but not all respond to their election.

The fact that not all get saved doesn't negate the truth that all are saved in Christ Jesus. Similarly (Col. 2:6) then the fact that not all get healed doesn't negate the truth that all are healed in the atonement in Christ Jesus.

We would argue that there are reasons why someone doesn't get saved. They do not believe Jesus is their savior, they do not want to surrender their life and will to God, they are not convinced that they need to repent, they believe in another plan of salvation, the list could go on...**the bottom line is that the Holy Spirit can be resisted, grieved, and denied.**

Act. 7:51 "You stiff necked and uncircumcised of the heart and ears! **You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did so do you.**"

Eph. 4:30 “**And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God**, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. “

II Tim. 2:12 “If we endure we shall reign with Him; **if we deny Him He will also deny us.**”

I am continuing to explore this relationship of salvation among those who do not believe **ALL** are saved. I address the question why is it that some are and some are not if all are supposed to be saved? After all unless we believe that all are saved the argument goes, then no one will be saved right? Transposing this with healing: After all unless we believe that all are healed the argument goes, then no one will be healed?

The answer to both questions is a resounding no. If salvation is found among those who do not believe **ALL** are saved, that does not validate their position, **it just means some have been saved regardless of their position.** This means that salvation came to some being witnessed to by someone who wasn't sure they are the elect of God. Nevertheless, **the message of the gospel of salvation in the Name of Jesus was preached and the listener believed it was for them.** The Holy Spirit revealed to them their need to receive Jesus. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to convict, to convince, and to convert not the work of any human being.

Carry this over to healing: If some healing is manifested among those who do not believe **ALL** are healed that does not validate their position, it just means some have been healed regardless of their position. This means that healing came to some being witnessed to by someone who wasn't sure they are the healed of God. Nevertheless, **the message of the gospel of**

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believed it was for them. The Holy Spirit revealed to them their need to receive Jesus' healing. Again, it is the work of the Holy Spirit to convict, to convince, and to convert not the work of any human being.

A Basic Truth!

If the gospel were to be preached by unregenerate men, proclaiming salvation in no other name than Jesus Christ, some would get saved! If healing is made known in the name of Jesus by those who do not believe God heals all, some will get healed. Those who don't believe all are healed **do** believe God works miracles and does heal **SOME!** Therefore, by an act of individual revelation knowledge some do get healed.

The issue then becomes which is the more effective stance to take?

Amazing to me is the fact that some evangelists who are predestinates, are quite successful at winning the lost; however, I firmly believe that those who believe God has saved all in Christ are more successful. Similarly, amazing to me is the fact that some who believe God **can** heal, have **some** results with divine healing; however, their results are few and far between in comparison to those who are **convinced** that the atonement included divine healing for today.

Why are the results so different?

The fundamental issue about faith is certainty. If we are convinced that Jesus died for us and God wants us to be saved

then faith arises for salvation. If we are not sure that Jesus died for us and God wants us saved, then doubt remains and James 1:8 explains that doubt receives nothing from the Lord. **Faith arises when the Will of God is known!**

When healing is treated in this uncertain way then it must be translated within each believer whether or not it is meant for them. ***This leaves considerable room for doubt.*** When doubt is so pervasive the results reflect it. The healing ministries around the world and in Church history that have had great success and higher results have this fundamental truth—**they believed the atonement covered healing for ALL.**

Better faith (purer faith without doubts) results come because the Word of God is ***preached with faith!*** It is much more effective when the preacher is convinced, is sure, and in faith about salvation or healing, for those who hear the message to embrace it. The truth is this, healing ***is not preached among*** those who are not sure it is for all with conviction! Most preachers are much more comfortable preaching about something they are convinced about...it is near impossible to stand in faith about healing and then teach it when we have **not received it as a revealed truth of the gospel.** We can't produce results of any magnitude if we remain in doubt.

Consider What the Prayer of Faith is!

James chapter one explains that doubt is being double minded about the will of God. Doubt is like the waves of the sea tossed back and forth from one point of view to the other. The apostle tells us what this condition brings:

James 1: 7 **For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;**

8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

It makes sense then to understand that being **single minded, certain, sure, convinced**, about God's will is where God wants us. He wants us in FAITH so that we can pray the prayer of faith—knowing what the will of the Lord is. This is the strength of James' admonition in the fifth chapter of the book of James:

James 5:15 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.

This promise is certain and a declaration based upon knowing what the will of the Lord is which is to save the sick and raise him up! This is as certain as "if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven."

This coincides with this promise:

I John 5: 14 **Now this is the confidence** that we have in Him, that if we ask **anything according to His will, He hears us.**

15 **And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.**

We must understand that God's mercy extends over all our sins but when it comes to doubt, not knowing God's will, according to James, this stops God's power from flowing. **He cannot override our will and lack of agreement with His will.** This promise makes it clear that we are supposed to ask ACCORDING TO HIS WILL. It also makes it clear that we can have **confidence in knowing His will** and as this applies to healing it means God's will is health is raising up the sick. Also further note or conclude that if

we pray prayers that are not according to His will He doesn't hear us. That may sound harsh but parents do this when their children ask for things their mom or dad has already said no to.

I can share personally that the revelation knowledge and expansion of explanations to why people are healed and those that are not healed has everything to do with **my heart being established in God's healing grace for ALL** (See booklet entitled ***We Must Be Established in Grace***). We simply do not pursue answers to issues and questions from a foundation of faith when we are not certain that healing is for all. When we let go of the **foundation that salvation** is for all we will not pursue answers for issues and questions that arise because some are not saved.

We Do Not Let Experiences Trump the Word of God!

As to the matter of God's will concerning healing being judged by our experiences that is a **fundamental flaw of theology**. We never let go of the truth we do know from God's word no matter what the experiences are in our life or someone else. **We don't let experience dictate what we believe about God's will.** Our experiences may not line up with the promises of God but that does not change the promise. If our experiences are different than what the Word of God reveals then our experiences need to be questioned and our heart examined not the word. When we let go of what the Word of God clearly teaches because of our experiences we ***have removed our foundation of faith***. We will wonder, wander, and be in confusion never coming to the knowledge of the truth because we let the truth go...

Experiences are meant to ***confirm the Word*** not define the Word. When experiences are different from the Word of God they

are not in agreement, or aligned with, or better said they are fallen, in rebellion of God's will. Remember Jesus taught in His prayer, "Thy will be done on earth AS IT IS IN HEAVEN." This means God's will is not being done on the earth as it is in heaven—it is fallen and cursed.

Mark 16:18 "And they went out and preached the word everywhere and **the Lord worked with them confirming the word with accompanying signs following.** Amen. "

Who did this? Who went out? The scriptures testified that it was "Believers." Anyone who believes in Jesus is a believer. Jesus went onto say:

John 14:12 "He that believes in me will do the same works that I do, and greater works will he do because I go to the father."

In Conclusion:

I can understand the powerful deterrent towards healing if a loved one, a friend, someone close did not get healed. It is so difficult for us to take responsibility for any failures on our part that it crushes us just to think that maybe we got it wrong. Remember, the Great Commission rests with us not with the angels or God Himself; **He has given us the responsibility to reach the lost with His grace and power.** If people are not reached whose fault is it? At the same time, **God never intended for us to go it alone.** We were never supposed to go without His power and Spirit. Healing is not a debate and the one that is right gets the results; no, **healing is an initiation of the Spirit,** God's grace being manifest in our heart to believe Him, what He's done, and to be

used by His Spirit to work the works of Christ for the spirit, soul, and body of man.

The enemy wants us doubting, confused, and uncertain. He wants us NOT established in grace in salvation, healing, and so on...because once we are established and are certain of the Word of God **we have all the faith we need**...now it is a matter of acting upon it.

Just because some or a few are healed under the belief system that God can and does heal (when it is His will) doesn't validate this position. The position of predestination is not validated because some get saved under that system of belief. The results are obvious there is far greater success when we believe it is God's will for all to be healed. We go from powerlessness and confusion to understanding, power, and results by establishing our hearts in God's grace that healing included all in this time, for now is the day of salvation. We won't need healing in heaven, we need it now...in this fallen world.

See these booklets for further investigation:

Healing is a Major Aspect of the Gospel
We Must Be Established in Grace
Jesus' Attitude towards Sickness & Disease
What Did Jesus Emphasize?