

## **ARTICLE 11**

**We believe divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.**

### **1. The Relationship of the Cross to Healing**

- a. The reality that the risen Jesus provides physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual healing is one of the great truths for Spirit-empowered living today.**

Scripture references: Isaiah 53:4; Matthew 8:14-17; Acts 9:34; Revelation 13:8

- (1) Matthew, as one of the first disciples to record the story of Jesus, saw a connection between the Cross and healing.**

- (2) Before His death, the Lord Jesus saved people, healed the sick, and cast out demons.**

### **2. Scriptural Reasons for Healings and Other Miracles**

- a. In New Testament times, healings were a direct expression of Christ's love and sympathy for suffering, sick, and afflicted people.**

Scripture references: Matthew 9:36; 14:14; see also 20:34; Mark 1:41; 5:19; Luke 7:13; 10:33

- b. Miraculous healings confirmed in a visible way that Jesus Christ did have the power to forgive individuals of their sins, to rescue them from eternal death, and to give them eternal life.**

Scripture references: Acts 3:1-26; 8:4-8; 9:32-43

- c. Miraculous healings served as signs that when God raises believers from the dead during the Second Coming of Christ, they will be completely healed and will receive new bodies that are suitable for life in heaven.**

Scripture references: Romans 8:18-23; 1 Corinthians 15:35-55; Philippians 3:21

### **3. God's Provision of Healing in Our Lives**

- a. Healing is a part of the total ministry of Christ's saving love and has been provided for everyone through His death on the Cross.**

Scripture references: Matthew 4:23; 8:14-17; 9:12; Luke 5:17; 10:34; Acts 3:1-10; 9:34-35; 19:11-12; James 5:13-16

**(1) God loves and heals the whole person.**

**(2) God heals in many different ways.**

- b. God's provision of healing does not mean, however, that everyone will be healed this side of eternity.**

Scripture references:

Living in a broken world—Genesis 3:19; Romans 5:12-21; 8:18-25, 35-39

God's bringing good from suffering—John 9:1-3

Mystery of God's ways—2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Romans 11:33-36

Our judgment of God's timing—1 Corinthians 4:5; compare Titus 1:3

**(1) We live in a broken world where pain and suffering are a reality.**

**(2) Even in sickness, God works miracles in our lives, bringing good out of our suffering.**

**(3) We cannot completely understand the ways of God and why some people are healed this side of heaven and others are not.**

**(4) God works according to His time in healing.**

**c. When we are confronted with illness, we want to pray in obedience to God, believing that He wants us to be well and whole.**

Scripture references:

Trust in suffering—2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Romans 8:18-30; 1 Corinthians 15:12-28, 35-58

Prayer in suffering—Psalm 6:1-10; 30:1-12; 88:1-12; 102:17; Luke 18:1-8; Philippians 4:6; Romans 8:26-27; compare John 14:16-17; 2 Corinthians 5:1-9

Hope for complete healing—1 Corinthians 15:50-58; Philippians 3:20-21; 1 Peter 1:3-9

(1) **We are to continue to trust and hope in God, even in our pain.**

(2) **God gives us strength to pray in our suffering.**

(3) **God gives us hope for complete healing one day.**

God's love in suffering—

Our confidence in God's promises—

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## **Discussion**

### **Relationship of the Cross to Healing**

1) Explain the relationship of the Cross to healing.

### **Scriptural Reasons for Healings and Other Miracles**

2) Discuss some Scriptures that support the belief in divine healing

3) Of what do healing miracles serve as a sign?

### **God's Provision of Healing in Our Lives**

4) What is the source of our healing?

- 5) Name some ways in which God heals.
- 6) Does Scripture support the claim that we will be healed in every situation? Explain your answer.
- 7) Discuss some ways God may work miracles in our lives, bringing good out of our suffering.
- 8) What should believers do when confronted with illness? How should we pray?
- 9) Discuss situations in which God may give us special strength to pray in our suffering.
- 10) How can we have hope during our suffering?

## **Prayer**

Great God of Heaven, how generous is Your grace. When we look at the Cross, again and again we see Your great compassion and love for us.

What You did through the Cross is indeed amazing. Your Son died there for our sins and sicknesses, providing for our redemption and the healing of our whole persons.

Today because of the power of the Cross to heal, we pray for sound minds and sound bodies; and in hope, we anticipate the resurrection of our bodies when we will be rid of disease and death.

Precious are You, Lord, forgiving our sins and healing our infirmities.

Amen.

## **Resources for Additional Study**

Arrington, French L. *Christian Doctrine: A Pentecostal Perspective*, Vol. 2. Cleveland, Tenn.: Pathway, 1992; pp. 253-269.

Cross, Terry L. "The Doctrine of Healing" in *Transforming Power: Dimensions of the Gospel*. Cleveland, Tenn.: Pathway, 2001; pp. 177-231.

Thomas, John Christopher. *The Devil, Disease and Deliverance: Origins of Illness in New Testament Thought*. Sheffield Academic Press, 1998.