Victoria Fellowship Church International & Interdenominational

Bible Study Worksheet - August 23, 2020

Theme: The Certainty of God's Word

Topic: God's Promise of Healing

Main Text: Exo 15:12 - 26; Matt 8: 14 - 17; Jam 5: 13 - 16

Key verse: Exodus 15: 26 "and said, 'If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes. I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I(am) the Lord who heals you.'

(NKJV)

INTRODUCTION: After years of slavery, the Lord with a mighty hand delivered the children of Israel out of Egypt. And for forty years, they journeyed to the Land God had promised their forefathers. As God's people journeyed through the wilderness, it was natural to become thirsty for water. On this one occasion, the available water was not drinkable – it was bitter (Marah). And when Moses cried to God, God did not just heal the water, but also promised healing to His people. The promise "I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I (am) the Lord who heals you" was and is still God's commitment to His people for all generations.

1. (a) Read 2 Chronicles 7: 14, Psalm 23:3; 41:3; 103:3; 147:3; Jonah 2:5-7; Jeremiah 33:6 and list various areas in which we could be needing healing. (b) What do we make of God's promise of healing in Exodus 15: 26 and the condition attached?

When God's people thirsted for water, God not only provided the water but used it to spotlight a deeper need and to precursor the coming Messiah. Apart from the relief healing brings to the healed individual, healing is also an important proof of the Messiah's deity and mission – (Isaiah 30:26): Peter told Cornelius' household: "God anointed Jesus with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; ..." (Acts 10:38; Isaiah 61:1-3). Jesus confronted the unbelief of the religious leaders of His days with, "... evidence of the miraculous works I have done, ... Then you will know and understand that the Father is in me, and I am in the Father." (John 10:38 NLT). When John the Baptist questioned Jesus, His response was "... the blind see, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is being preached to the poor." (Matthew 11: 4 -5 NLT; Isaiah 35:5-6). Healing was one of the hallmarks of Jesus' earthly ministry!

2. (a) Read Isaiah 35:5-6; Matthew 12: 22-23; Luke 7:18-23. How do you think healing helped to point people to the fact that Jesus is the Messiah? (b) From Exodus 15:25, Matthew 8:17 and 1 Peter 2:24, what is our confidence in God for our healing as believers? (c) From Psalm 103:3, what is the greatest healing of all and how does it tie with God's promise in Exodus 15:25-26?

Jesus completed His earthly ministry with 'It is finished', meaning that there is no more to be added. That is why Apostle Peter could speak about our healing through Christ in the past tense '...by whose stripes you were healed' (1 Peter 2:24). We only need to access our healing in Christ by faith. Thus, James shows us one of the ways to access Christ's healing mercies (James 5:13-14). So even if one does not possess the gift of healing, the various issues of life should not overwhelm us. Our God is the God who heals us. Through agreement, God's children can continue to harness God's promise of healing. (Psalm 133: 1 -3; Matthew 18:19)

3. (a) According to James 5: 13 – 14, what are we to do when afflicted or sick? (b) Discuss the place of faith, corporate prayers, prayer of elders, and anointing oil, in receiving healing for our sicknesses? (c) Read Exodus 15: 25; John 9:1 – 7 and discuss the place of science, and natural remedies in the fulfillment of God's promise of healing.

Prayer: Father we thank You for by the stripes of Jesus we are already healed, therefore we pray that You might be pleased to heal every sick person among us this morning, in Jesus name, Amen.