

100 BIBLE LESSONS

Give these lessons to people you visit, youth groups, hospital patients, church visitors and new members. Use them in Sunday School, bus ministry, jail services, nursing homes, Christian schools, small discussion groups and many other places. God's Word will answer your questions and help solve your problems.

LESSON 41 – MIRACULOUS HEALING

I. A MIRACLE DEFINED

A "miracle" is an extraordinary or unusual event this is considered to be a manifestation of Divine power.

II. IS GOD CAPABLE OF HEALING MIRACLES?

The Bible is a supernatural book – a miracle book, and it tells the true stories of many miracles.

The lepers were cleansed; the eyes of the blind were opened; the deaf could hear; the lame could walk; the demon possessed were delivered; the dead were raised.

In Acts 28, Paul performs two miracles. In verses 3-6, the miracle of no harm from the viper bites, and in verses 7-8, Paul healed Publius' father of a fever.

The greatest miracle is the resurrection of our Savior. All other miracles are inferior.

Our God is a miracle working God. Jehovah Rophi (Ex. 15:26) is one of His names. Ex. 15:26, "I am the LORD that healeth thee." See Psalm 103:1-4.

Our God is the God of the impossible. Matt. 19:26, "...Jesus ... said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible." Luke 18:27, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

III. IS HEALING IN THE ATONEMENT?

There are seventeen times in the Gospels where Jesus healed all of the sick who were present (Matthew 4:23-24, 8:16-17, 9:35, 12:15, 14:14, 34-36, 15:30-31, 19:2, 21:14; Mark 1:32-34, 39, 6:56; Luke 4:40, 6:17-19, 7:21, 9:11; and 17:12-17). There are forty-seven other times where He healed one or two people at a time (Matthew 8:1-4, 5-13, 14-15, 28-34, 9:1-8, 20-33, 12:10-13, 22-23, 15:21-28, 17:14-18, 20:30-34; Mark 1:21-31, 40-45, 2:1-12, 3:1-5, 5:1-20, 25-43, 7:24-37, 8:22-26, 9:14-29, 10:46-52; Luke 4:33-39, 5:12-15, 17-26, 6:6-10, 7:1-17, 8:27-39, 43-56, 9:37-42, 11:14, 13:11-17, 14:1-5, 18:35-43, 22:51; John 4:46-54, 5:2-15, 9:6-7, and 11:43-44). Nowhere do we find Jesus refusing to heal anyone. In light of Jesus' statement that He could do nothing of Himself but only what He saw the Father do (John 5:19 and 8:28-29), His actions are proof enough that it is God's will to heal.

MT 8:16 "When the even was come, they brought unto Him many that were possessed with devils: and He cast out the spirits with His word, and healed all that were sick: [17] That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, 'Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.'"

The Old Testament reference being quoted is from Isaiah 53:4, which says, "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted." The fact that this verse substitutes "infirmities" and "sicknesses" for the words "sorrows" and "griefs" in Isaiah 53:4 makes it clear that when Isaiah said "with His stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5), he was speaking of the physical healing of our bodies. Jesus provided for physical healing as well as forgiveness of sins. The very word "save" (Greek - "SOZO") is translated "made whole" in reference to physical healing in Matthew 9:22, Mark 5:34, and Luke 8:48. James 5:15 says the prayer of faith shall save (Greek - "SOZO") the sick. Many scriptures mention the healing of our bodies in conjunction with the forgiveness of our sins (Psalms 103:3, Isaiah 53:4-6, and 1 Peter 2:24). It appears that healing is in the Atonement but that some healings are received in the age to come (Heb. 6:5). God told Hezekiah to use figs as medicine, and Paul told Timothy to use wine as medicine for his stomach.

IV. WHAT IS TAUGHT IN JAMES 5:14-20?

James wrote to the Christian community that if anyone was sick they were to call for the elders of the church. The elders are to pray over the sick and anoint him with oil. The elders are to pray the prayer of faith. James speaks of confessing faults one to another. "...IF he has committed sin. It is possible to be sick without having committed sin, but if sins are involved they will be forgiven.

V. DOES GOD HEAL MIRACULOUSLY TODAY?

Yes, He certainly does. My wife and I have been married 21 years. Since the time she was 4 years old she had suffered from "asthma" which is a respiratory disease that often arises from allergies and is characterized by difficulty in breathing, tightness of the chest and coughing. This condition is incurable and is usually treated by the use of inhalators and various other medications.

After we were married, we moved to west Texas where it's known for its notorious dust storms. It is not unusual to see a dark cloud form and within 20 minutes you are in dust so thick that you have to turn on your car lights just to see to drive. It was within this background that my wife could have died or almost died if it had not been for a miracle.

My wife, day after day, had to be propped up in bed in a fetal position just to try to breathe. Night after night, I prayed for God's healing to come to her. After months of this kind of thing going on, we were at the end of ourselves. It was at this time that we intensified our seeking of God by adding fasting along with our prayers. Within a few days, some supernatural things began to happen. It was revealed to me through prayer that my wife's real problem was not asthma but rather fear. There is a natural fear that

is normal (like, "I can't breathe") and there is a supernatural fear that is abnormal that drives and torments people. The scriptures declare "God hath not given us the SPIRIT OF FEAR; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (2 Tim. 1:7). When we discovered this was the real problem I immediately resisted and rebuked this foul spirit of fear (See James 4:7). My wife was instantly healed and delivered from fear and asthma that day. That has been almost 20 years ago now, and she has remained healed.

In his personal diary John Wesley on March 17, 1746 records this true account of the healing of his horse. "I took my leave of Newcastle,...my horse was so exceedingly lame that I was afraid I must have lain by too. We could not discern what it was that was amiss; and yet he would scarce set his foot to the ground. By riding thus seven miles, I was thoroughly tired, and my head ached more than it had done for some months...I then thought, "Cannot God heal either man or beast, by any means, or without any?" Immediately my weariness and headache ceased, and my horse's lameness in the same instant. Nor did he halt any more either that day or the next.

My friend, God says He cares even for the sparrows. If God even cares for the animal creation how much more does He care for you? "Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows" (Luke 12:6-7).

A few weeks ago, in Kit Carson, Colorado a woman told me about her baby who at 17 months had brain damage and was partly brain dead. The baby was lifeless in the hospital with all kinds of tubes and things hooked up to it. This woman told me she got angry at God and began to curse. When she finally calmed down she told God that she was sorry and would give her child to Him if He would heal him. Immediately the lifeless child stood up in the hospital bed with all of the different tubes attached to him. This lady began to say, "Jesus has just healed my baby!" She ran and called her husband, "Jesus has just healed our baby!"

He said, "What?"

She said, "Jesus has just healed our baby!" That baby is now grown up and is a 4.0 student in college.

Why am I sharing these true stories with you? When the apostle John wrote down the true stories and miracles that Jesus had done, he said that the reason for him doing so was this: "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" (Jn. 20:31).

Adapted from the teaching ministry of Andrew Wommack, Don Krow, & Alban Douglas

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Mention 5 miracles recorded in the Bible.
2. What is the meaning of Jehovah Rophi?
3. Is healing in the Atonement? Explain.
4. What is taught in James 5:14-20, regarding healing?
5. Are there genuine miraculous healings today? Give a testimony of one.
6. Read Galatians 3:5; Acts 14:8-10. How do we receive miracles today?