**God Heals our Wounds: Isaiah 53:5**

**Isaiah 53:5 NIV**
But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 53:5 The Living Bible (TLB)

**5**But he was wounded and bruised for *our* sins. He was beaten that we might have peace; he was lashed—and we were healed!

# Isaiah 53:5Jubilee Bible 2000 (JUB)

# But he was wounded for our rebellions; he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and by his stripes healing was provided for us.

# Isaiah 53:5Expanded Bible (EXB)

**5**But he was wounded for ·the wrong we did [**T**our transgressions]; he was crushed for ·the evil we did [**T**our iniquities]. The punishment, which ·made us well [brought us wholeness/peace], was given to him,
and we are healed because of his ·wounds

We are going to mediate on the theme of – Healing. The Pharmaceutical industries are making Billions of Dollars each year because it is a – Booming Business. People get sick all the time, and they are in need of medication. Further many get addicted to medicines also. We all know that we get sick and we desire – Healing. The psychologist tell us that more than 50% of our sickness is psychosomatic, related to how we feel and they are not real physically.

We can be sick: Physically, Emotionally, Mentally and Spiritually. The Bible attributes sin to be the cause of our sickness. If we set right our sins with God and ask His forgiveness we can head in the direction of “ total “ healing. However though God gives healing, we go through a process of healing because we have let the sickness leave deep wounds and scars in our system. It takes time to heal and heal completely.

The verse in Isaiah 53:5 is a classic verse in the Bible explaining why Jesus was wounded and how his wounds can heal us. It is a theological understanding of healing. This healing is a “total” healing. The expanded Bible gives a clear picture of how our sins are robbing our peace and harmony with God, how God undertook the punishment for us

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and we are healed because of his ·wounds

If we note this translation we can understand how God is bringing the lost peace and wholeness into our lives. The punishment for our sins should have been taken by us, but Jesus has taken our place and he has offered us His peace.

Now how responsible we are toward God’s healing?   Are we thankful to Him?  Do we take the healing of Jesus lightly? Do we take his death on the cross lightly? Do we think about it and thank Him for our healing?

I remember the story which I want to share at the end of this devotion. There was a man who returned from Word War II. He used to visit a cemetery and shed tears as often he can find time. It went on for many years. His family was aware of that. His baby son grew and became a man. One day he took his son to the grave and wept and told his son, today I am alive because of my friend who was willing to take my place and die for me. He sobbed, how can I ever forget him, or his kind deed? How can I ever thank him? His son was deeply moved.

This story illustrates what happened on the cross. Jesus has taken our place. Are we thankful? Because of Jesus we experience “healing” on a daily basis from all kinds of sickness. Do we think about it? Do we feel grateful?

My friend, whatever may be your need, we pray that God will heal you and give you His grace to carry on in your life. No matter how deep or bad is your wound - *The Blood of Jesus can heal you*!

May God bless you.

**Rev. Lazarus**

**DLM**

**God can Heal & Save - Jeremiah 17:14**
Heal me, LORD, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise.

This verse comes from the book of Jeremiah. Jeremiah ministered to the people of Israel during a time of sin, rebellion and apostasy. God because of His loving kindness and covenant with His people was in fact pleading them to consider repentance or face the judgement. It is a time of – Decision.

We too face this decision all the time. We need to first recognize that we are sick with sin. No matter we try to be good sin is the sickness we cannot escape unless and until the Good Lord intervenes. To even repent and look to God, we need – Healing. In sin we refuse to see the goodness of the Lord and his healing. It is like a chronic smoker thinks he can smoke and get away with that, even when he is injuring his lungs badly day by day. He does not even think, it is good for him to go to the doctor. It is the same with alcoholic or any other addiction. That is why this verse starts of with

1. **Heal me, Lord and I will be healed**. As I mentioned yesterday we are sick physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually and to see that we are sick we need God’s healing. So it is good we pray this prayer as a cleansing act for our soul. If we are desperate for healing we would also call upon God with earnest cry like the Blind Bartimaeus in Mark 10. He cried, Son of David have mercy on me, even when he was charged to be quite he shouted all the more. Do we feel the need for healing? Is our cry to God desperate? It is good to think about our need and our cry to God.
2. **Save me and I will be saved:**  When we cry who can come to our rescue? Only God. Adam Clarke Bible Commentator says,

Is this so? Then no one but Jesus the Lord can heal our spiritual diseases.

1. It requires omniscience to know them. There is in all sin, in every one sin, a depth which human wisdom can never fathom--a depth of baseness, ingratitude, contempt (Psalms 19:12).

2. It requires omnipotence to subdue them. It requires the same putting forth of Divine omnipotence to bring light into the darkened soul as to bring light into this darkened world (2 Corinthians 4:6).

3. It requires infinite patience to bear with these soul-diseases.

4. It requires an infinite sympathy, and a boundless love.

God can heal, God can save. Salvation = Life eternal, a life without end. Then what should be our response? We need to praise God.

1. **For you are the one I praise.**

Can we ever thank God for his goodness and kindness? Can we thank God because He has accepted us as sinners to heal and save? Can we repay his love? His love on the cross? We can never do.

But we can be grateful, we can be thankful, we can praise Him and thank God for his deeds. Not in mono syllable. Have you ever gone to a meeting where the person in charge of “vote of thanks” saying one word. Hi, thank you! No, they will list each person and each item as long as they can recall and remember.

How much more we need to thank God for his good ness and healing. I am just sighting two things God is taking care: Our breathing and our Kidney care.

One Oxygen cylinder cost Rs 1,500. Each adult consumes one cylinder a day. For an year it is 365x1,500 = 5,47,500/Year Multiplied by our current age now. May be 50 or 60. Have we thanked God for our life, our breath each day?

If our Kidneys fail we need dialysis. It would cost 5000/Week and for an year

53x5000 = 2,65, 000. This two would add up to Rs 8,12,500 multiplied by 50 or 60. Have we ever thanked God for healing us from such sickness daily.

I have not added doctor’s charge, hospital bed charge, transportation etc. There are other systems in our health: Sight, Hearing, Digestion, Neuro, Ortho ++++ other things. We can never fully calculate how much God is taking care of us and our health.

Let us remember God’s healing and Salvation and praise Him daily.

If we begin to praise God, we have no time to grumble.

Rev. Lazarus

DLM

**Righteousness and Glory of God - Isaiah 58:8**

Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. (NIV)

Many years ago I was in Kerela, India. I woke up one early morning and I sat on the Veranda watching the sky on a sea shore. The dawn of the morning was such a beauty to see. I could really appreciate God’s creation. But the climax was in the breaking of the Sunlight that changed the scenario from night to day. I can still picture that “dawn” in my mind.

Here Isaiah says,” Then your light will break forth like the dawn”. Let us imagine that in our mind when the light of God comes, *it brings vision, clarity and above all healing.* Friends every day morning God gives us the sun light to help us start a day afresh. While it is fresh in many ways, this verse says,”your healing will quickly appear“. Healing is instantaneous, *in a moment just started for that day.* Is it not a wonderful thought to ponder? Thinking about it and writing this devotion itself is refreshing to me. When that healing starts, 99What happens?

1. Then your righteousness will go before you.

Bible is very clear that our righteousness is “filthy” rags before God. But the righteousness mentioned here is God’s righteousness. The righteousness God imputes to us in Christ. It is a free gift given to us by God because of Jesus’s work on the cross. It will go before us.

Imagine in the morning after a snowy day, someone gets up early before you and cleans the snow in your drive way. Imagine they used pressurized hot water to melt and clear all the snow. Something like “deicing of plane” in the winter. How nice we will feel before driving for the day. We will start that day with a happy note. I stayed in Cleveland Ohio in 2014 for winter and I wished someone will do that just that before John and Julie got out for work each day.

Yes, God is clearing all the unwanted things for us before we start the day and he sets the “righteousness” before us for that day. Is it not wonderful? I already feel like jumping and singing and praising the Lord! Amen.

So let us encourage our heart with these thoughts. We all know that there are many things that upset our mind, mood and matters of the day, but above all- God’s righteousness is going before us.

1. And the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.

Not only the righteousness is going before us every single day. The glory of the Lord will be your rear guard. When God’s righteousness lead us, his glory will follow us and protect us from all harm and danger. It is like the Israelites journey in the wilderness as they marched to the – Promised land- Canaan. What is our journey on this earth? It is moving toward – Heaven the Promised land of God. We are moving from Genesis to Revelation – The beginning of God’s creation to the culmination of His Kingdom to come.

Imagine the Glory of the Lord that is following us till the end of our journey will be arriving before us in heaven to – Welcome us, greet us and usher us into the Kingdom. I feel I am getting started in my Spirit this morning. It is a –Jump start! I also want you to get started well with the righteousness of God and the Glory of God! Amen.

**Dawn helps us to Discover God. It gives a new Deliverance and a New Destiny!**

**Rev. Lazarus**

**DLM**

**Cry to God – He can surely Help Psalm 30:2**

**LORD my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.**

This verse has a context. The children of Israel were punished by God with a pestilence. Many have died and David is surely calling to God for help. To understand verse 2 we need to see verse 1 and 3 also.

I will exalt you, Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths
    and did not let my enemies gloat over me.
2Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.
3You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of the dead;
    you spared me from going down to the pit.

David sees his status clearly. God intervenes and lifts him out of depths, how he calls for help and how God heals him. *Sickness is not only a physical malady but it affects our mind, emotions and our spirit*. One who is sick does not feel all that motivated and ready to go. Sickness in a lot of ways is down casting and depressing. It is true for all, it is true for David.

Though David is a king the feeling of being low, sick, tired and not motivated is not a new thing for him. I am sure we all can identify with David on this kind of feeling. *Our post or position does not give a warranty that we will feel good mentally and emotionally when we are facing sickness.*

How we feel is also mainly guided by how *we feel about our selves, our God and our enemies. This feeling affects us so much than the credit we give for such feelings.*  Even if we do not physically see enemies, there is an irritable feeling of being sick and tired of things around us. Psychologist tell us that frustration is – Hidden Anger.

We need to deal with that. Either we are angry with God, Ourselves, Our situation, Our family members or the people with whom we work.

In any case it is not good to have that anger. It is not going to help us physically, emotionally and spiritually. People get hipper tension, acidity and other stress related issues in health: Diabetic issues, Cholesterol and other ailments.

It is going to block, God’s healing in us. When we feel like that, Is there a hope? Is there a deliverance?

When we face such a situation what should we do? David cries out to God for help and gets healing. *A desperate cry brings an immediate deliverance.* Only If we go to God he can help us.

Knowing God can help alone cannot heal us, we need to go to Him. *It requires quietness, humility, surrender and submission and trust in His awesome goodness and graciousness*. If we do not go – We have issues! We need to deal with them.

But often times we go to all other sources other than God and have avoidable problems. David learnt the secret of approaching God in all circumstances. That proved to be a good method for him every time and all the time.

Let us go to God, pour out our heart, cry and get healing. It is not a luxury it a necessity. The sooner we embark on this truth the sooner things begin to fall in shape for us: Physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. It can be our regular routine.

May God’s love and grace draw us close to Him and heal us all the time so we become – Healed helpers.

**Rev. Lazarus**

**DLM**

**One Word-One faith-One Trust-One Miracle - Matthew 8:8**

The [centurion](http://christianity.about.com/od/glossary/a/Centurion.htm) replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed." (NIV)

**5**When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. **6**“Lord,” he said, “my servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly.”

**7**Jesus said to him, “Shall I come and heal him?”

**8**The centurion replied, “Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed.

We are having devotions on the topic of – Healing. This is a classic passage from the New Testament. Where Jesus is commending the, *“faith” of a centurion, a Roman official*.

While Jesus is telling the centurion “ Shall I come and heal him”, he replies, **….** “Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed.

The centurion realizes his unworthiness for Jesus visit, *but he recognizes the power and potential of Jesus’s word- Word for healing, he says- Say the word.* That kind of understanding calls for a deep faith and confidence in the life and ministry of Jesus. He is able to set aside the chance of Jesus visiting his house but takes the high road of faith telling Jesus to say – the word.

The word,”word” is important in the Bible. It is important in the context of the language of –Hebrews. In Hebrew language the word “word” is always associated with the person and the power with which it is spoken.

For example a collector’s word is powerful over the whole district. President’s word is powerful over the whole country. Reading the the book of Genesis we know the power of God’s word.

He says, let there be light, there was light, he says let all the animals be created it was created. He says let there be stars and luminaries and the moon and stars and galaxies were created.

Here the centurion quotes his life example and the “power” of his word over 100 people and he says to Jesus- Say the word. *Any day God’s word is power and authority because He is- Omnipotent, all powerful.* We need to trust it and believe on it. If we believe and put our trust God’s word will work for us.

The bible commentators tell us that the centurion went home and on the way his servants came to told him that his servant became well. He also found that in the “exact” time when Jesus said let him be healed his servant was healed.

How many times have we experienced- God’s word in our lives? Do we put our trust and belief that when He says it will happen? Do we say to Him like the centurion, say – The word? He is ready to say the word my friend, we need to ask Him. I remember in 2011 when our ministries faced intense problem in finance and leadership, I prayed to God say your word. I heard him say, Take the mantle, the mantle of ministry. I believed and took the leadership and found God’s guiding hand in each and every step.

Today our ministry has moved beyond the borders of Tamil Nadu to Andra Preadesh Hindi speaking areas. Currently we are exploring Gujarat and Bihar for ministry. Sky is the limit, when God says His word. We all can experience what the centurion has experienced - One word-One faith-One Trust – One Miracle.

May God bless you.

**Rev. Lazarus**

**DLM**

**Daring faith and Delightful Delivery – Mark 5:34**

He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

This is a wonderful illustration of faith in action. I am giving the whole passage for you to get the dynamic of this story.

A large crowd followed and pressed around him. 25And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. 26She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. 27When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, 28because she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.” 29Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

30At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my clothes?”

31“You see the people crowding against you,” his disciples answered, “and yet you can ask, ‘Who touched me?’ ”

32But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. 33Then the woman, knowing what truth had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. 34He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”

If we read the life and ministry of Jesus there is always a – Large Crowd around him. If we look close we can see a closer circle of people his disciples 12, his close disciples: Peter, James and John and in this story the woman who suffered much for 12 years!

In nutshell she has suffered, she has spent much and did not have a way out from her trouble. Is it not a familiar story for us all? We want to get out of sufferings, but seldom we see relief till we come to Jesus. If we think through this woman’s imagination, it is intriguing, 28because she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.”

*She was not interested in getting an interview, a review about her sickness, Jesus asking her questions and then placing his hands and healing her*. She was interested in- Secretly and silently touching Him.

As she came behind and touched Jesus, 29Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. The Bible says immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body she was freed from her suffering. Is it not wonderful? Is it not a medical miracle? Yes my friends, when we come close to Jesus to “touch” him we will be healed, our faith is rewarded, we can feel it.

Do we take the decision to come close to Him? Do we dare to touch Him in confidence and faith? Do we press through the things that obstruct us to get close to Him? There lies the answer for our – Healing and deliverance.

Jesus makes it a point to address this issue, *bringing to light the dynamic of “faith” healing and the person who touched him*. He has felt the power of healing leave him. *It is a “double” touch: in the sense she touched and Jesus touch brought –Healing and restoration of health.* 32But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. 33Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth.

In her trembling there was truth that was triumphant ! She had an opportunity to explain the phenomenon of – Faith Healing! Not the theologians and leaders or Pharisees of Jesus day explained the truth about faith, but a simple humble suffering soul.

It is always the case, the one who got mercy will share the mercy, the one who receives the grace will share the grace. Are we in the list? Do we have some trembling moments to share about –Jesus and his healing? The response of Jesus is classic: 34He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”

Jesus is assuring her that her “faith” has it’s reward. Fairh always has it’s reward. Jesus is also assuring: Healing, peace and freedom from suffering. Is that what we all want? Healing: Physical, emotional, spiritual, financial and relational all the time. Yes, we can have them if we come close to Jesus to – Touch Him.

Where are we today? Are we in the large Crowd surrounding Jesus, Are we like the 12 disciples? Are we still closer to him like the: Peter, James and John? or Are we like the woman? Who came and touched Him?

We need to press forward in faith if we need to get the touch of Jesus and His healing. The world needs – Healed helpers, one who has touched Jesus and sharing the story with others. Imagine this lady, her whole life she would have told her story with an excitement whenever the opportunity was present. Her children would have heard it and shared it, her Grand Children would have heard it and shared it. The miracle goes on and on and on! Don’t you want to be part of such faith and legacy?

May God bless you.

**Rev. Lazarus**

**DLM**

**God Heals - Psalm 147:3-NIV**

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Today we know a lot of people suffer with broken hearts in many ways. *It is broken due to relationships, financial burdens, academic failures, and spiritual darkness and so on.*

1. He heals the brokenhearted

I was looking into Dr. Charles H Spurgeon’s notes on this psalm and also reflecting on this – Broken heart. It can be seen in two angles: One from the Physician’s angle another from the patient’s angle. We can take a Biblical approach. Heart is broken Because of 3 reasons:

1. **It is Sinful**: It is broken because it has severed it’s relationship with God due to sin. When Adam and Eve sinned they broke the relationship with God. In the same token their whole heart was broken. That is an important factor for humanity. Since the basic heart is broken all that stems out of that heart is broken, the wound is raw and bleeding.
2. **It is bleeding**: The broken heart is a heart with life and beat, it will bleed. As long as we have the breath of God in us that he breathed to Adam we will experience this –bleeding. It is bleeding because it wants to be “whole” again, normal again.

1. **It is infected**: Not only sin severed the relationship with God, it constantly infects our heart, and so any infected wound won’t heal and it will bleed. We need to tackle the source of infection that is sin and also arrest the bleeding.

We have seen the heart from the Physician’s side.

Let us take the patient’s side. God works constantly with His children because he wants to mend the broken heart. If there is one best – Cardiologist- It is God Himself. He is making our heart realize it’s own condition.

We know that our heart has an involuntary muscle control, that is; it is independent of command from the brain for it’s function. In the same way the spiritual heart that God has placed in us is Broken because:

1. **It is contrite and humble**. God’s love makes our heart melt instead of becoming cold and frozen. *We are chosen not frozen*. *God makes our heart to melt and return to Him. We repent and return to Him*. Humility is the key factor for our heart to be mended and healed. Humility makes us search and seek God all the time.
2. **It is Seeking God**: As Saint. Augustine said, “ *Our hearts are restless until they find rest in thee, for thou has made us for Thy self “*. Our heart is bleeding, yearning and looking for God. Our heart is earnestly seeking the creator, savior and Lord. This search is a “healthy” one because it is setting the heart in a corrective course. A course of – Healing.
3. **It is seeking the healing**: The broken heart wants to function well and become complete. *It is sick and tired of the wounds and scars of sin,* it wants a brand new start - It wants to turn a new leaf. *It is like the dead leave turning green in Spring after a severe winter*.

As I work through the theme of healing more and more I realize each day how much my own heart needs healing all the time. It is good to be “aware” of our need and go to the right doctor, the Great Physician Jesus himself. He is on call 24/7.

Jesus says in, Matthew 11:28-30 “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.**29**Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **30**For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

1. And binds up their wounds.

Any wound that is deep needs attention so it can be healed- It needs bandage. God has created our heart and He knows all about it. He is the right person to bind up the wound.

One day I was visiting St. Joseph’s eye Hospital in Trichy, India. They have put a board in the hospital: *God heals the wounds, we put the bandages.* How true only God can heal. We can recall the Good Samaritan story where he binds the wound of the stranger.

God binds our wounds so it will become well. People who refuse to take care of the wounds end up with infected wounds and a lot of bleeding. God is there always. *The sooner we go to Him the sooner we get our wounds bound and we are on our way to a – Wholesome Healing.*

My friend I do not know what is your current condition. Are you bleeding in your mind, emotion, spirit or body? Is your heart heavy with sadness? Depression or Anxiety? It is troubled with unforgiven matter? Un finished business? Unresolved anger? Deep anger that has led you to frustrations in life?

Whatever it may be, Jesus can heal you. Even if healing is a process you need to start it. Why not start it today? In closing I want to share the worship song that is so comforting:

To be in your presence

Not rushing away

Where your love surrounds me

Where I feel complete

This is my desire, Oh Lord, This is my desire.

This is my desire, Oh Lord, This is my desire.

**Rev. Lazarus**

**DLM**

**Healing Beyond Resurrection Luke 8:50**

Hearing this, Jesus said to Jairus, "Don't be afraid; just believe, and she will be healed."

This is an interesting incidence from the life and ministry of Jesus. Jesus is proceeding in his ministry: He is healing a variety of people. As a healer he is healing many. In a crowded situation a woman touches Jesus and gets healed.

49While Jesus was still speaking, someone came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. “Your daughter is dead,” he said. “Don’t bother the teacher anymore.”

Already Jesus is going to heal Jairus daughter. At that point the news comes that she is dead. Let us see here death from our point of view. It is the end, it is with no recourse, return or change. But for Jesus it is different. He is the- Resurrection and life. There is no death for him. Jesus says to Jairus, Don’t be afraid; just believe she will be healed.

For all our sickness sin is the root cause and if we accept Jesus and His plan of Salvation we get healing from the sickness of sin. We get eternal life - The life everlasting. That is why Jesus is telling- Just believe. In the book of Proverbs there is a verse, Life and death or in the power of the tongue. It is true, in any situation we can speak life or death. Here Jesus speaks life, because is life. He has said: I am the way, the truth and the life.

For us death is a perturbing thing, for Jesus it is not. He is calmly going about his business of healing and stopping on the way to Jairus house. He knows the outcome so the current outcome did not bother him. Those who trust in God and believe in His words are people who need not be afraid. They are bound to see the power and deliverance of God’s word- It can heal, it can teach, it can resurrect people.

Here we see Jesus is teaching a bunch of lessons to his followers:

1. People are always in need of healing.
2. Jesus stops to address their need and heal them.
3. Even if people come behind him un seen, He heals them and recognize them.
4. He has a plan for all who come to Him. He planned to visit Jairus and nothing can stop that.
5. In the wake of death, Jesus declares life and assures Jairus.

Do we see Jesus with faith and trust as Jairus did?

Entering Jairus house Jesus calls for a new order. *He stops the mourning, he declares life.* He tells them she is only sleeping. How can one die when they have Jesus - The power of resurrection nearby. Death has to role up it’s sleeve and run. All others did not see that, Jesus did. That is why he says, she is sleeping.

Jesus calls only Jairus, his wife, Peter, john and James and takes them with Him. For those who believe all things are possible.

54But he took her by the hand and said, “My child, get up!” 55Her spirit returned, and at once she stood up. Then Jesus told them to give her something to eat

When God Almighty says, My Child get up. Imagine the power of his word- Life returns in a hurry , and at once she stood up. Can death hold her against God’s command? No! At his command even the dead will raise up, even death has no power. I Cor 15:55

**Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?”[**

**God can heal us even when we experience Death.**

**Rev. Lazarus**

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**….I am the LORD, who heals you. Exodus 15:26**

He said, "If you listen carefully to the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you."

This verse comes in the Book of Exodus, right after the Israelites left Egypt. They have been miraculously delivered from the bondage of Slavery in Egypt. In this context we see this verse. Because God loved Israelites and he promised to deliver them they were delivered. But there is a covenant to be followed.

If we study the old testament long enough and careful enough we will see there are many promises to the covenant community. *We will notice that there is always a condition for the promise to be fulfilled.* In fact covenant in the Ancient Middle East dealt with two people agreeing on something and having a witness to seal the agreement. Covenant in simple terms is a contract, a legal agreement, a binding between people.

In the covenant of God and Israel God was one of the covenant partner and also the witness. So in a 3 party agreement two cannot go wrong- Because it was God. Only the 3rd party the people of Israel can go wrong. *In variably we see how God keeps His end of the covenant but man falls short all the time*. It is the fallen nature of humanity that makes us break the covenant to obey God and follow His instructions. That is why God is emphasizing that *we should keep an active watch and vigil on the matters of importance.* Keeping the covenant with God also has added blessings and health that God has promised.

Whenever we are following God’s command we can be assured of His healing. God assures that He will heal us. In the same token we can see that whenever we are sick it is a reminder for us to look up to God and turn toward Him. Why God allows sickness?

When we are sick we are not able to function normally. We have a lot of free time. *We have time to think and reflect on the matters of Importance - Our Soul and Our Spirit*. *It is a time of purging the soul, turning to God, turning a new leaf and getting rejuvenated in the Spirit.* Now we see can why God allows sickness.

During my training days in Railways, I had been sick due to bronchial problems. It is due to lung congestion, it normally took time to settle down. It was also a time to rest, reflect and get close to God. When God allows sickness to us it is for a good purpose. As Saint Lyolla used to say, “ It is for the Greater good, for the Greater Glory of God.

God’s word is always true, He will heal us completely. In fact sickness here include not only physical sickness but our emotional, mental, relational and spiritual sickness also. That means we need to do constant reflection to get right with God. *It is not a luxury but an absolute necessity. Are we having our own reflection time? Do we keep our end of covenant with God? Is sickness helping us to come close to him? May we seek God earnestly and be well. Then we too can sing the song – It is well with my soul.*

*If we need healing we need to go back to God!*

***Rev. Lazarus***

***DLM***

***What are the ingredients of – Healing? Mark 1:40-45***

### Jesus Heals a Man With Leprosy

**40**A man with leprosy[[h](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+1+&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24256h)] came to him and begged him on his knees, “If you are willing, you can make me clean.”

**41**Jesus was indignant.[[i](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+1+&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24257i)] He reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!” **42**Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cleansed.

**43**Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: **44**“See that you don’t tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them.” **45**Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.

Here we see a Leper approaching Jesus. Lepers were considered unclean in Jesus time because It was the requirement in the laws of Moses. They were supposed to be outside the camp, or town. They lived in the valley of lepers and kind people supplied them food through baskets. They were experiencing a physical suffering and pain, psychological trauma, emotional breakdowns and spiritual struggle. The doctors tell us that it is a skin disease that attacks the root of the skin, it stars there and comes up to the surface. You could have seen lepers with blunt fingers in their feet, hands and nose- It is heart breaking*. Dr. Stanes who died in 1999 in Orrisa as a maryr was working with them.*

Imagine in that state this man comes out of the valley, coming up a hill is not easy when you do not have the edge of your fingers on your feet. But he decided to come up any way. If we put ourselves in his shoes we can appreciate the desire, determination and the process of healing he underwent. It is a good lesson for us too.

1. ***He was seeking Jesus:***People seek Jesus at desperate times, when all other things fail they seek God. I have seen students ask for prayer just before the exams. Seeking Jesus is the only way for – True Healing*.*

That is because we are all sick with sin and effects of sin. If we seek Him there is hope always. How earnestly we are seeking? What is the cost we are willing to pay? Do we climb obstacles to reach Him? These are critical questions we can ponder.

When Lepers came to town, they have to shout, “unclean” drawing the attention of others? Do you know for what? They can throw stones at them. This leper was willing to go through that- His desire to see Jesus was over powerful for him. He didn’t mind the stones! How about for us?

1. **He surrendered**: In his mind he surrendered the whole thought of going to Jesus at all cost and was willing to pay the cost. Total surrender is a key with Jesus Either it is full or nil. How about us, is it easy to surrender fully? I have been in full time ministry for almost 30 years. I feel I need to surrender myself fully every day like this leper. Because all the time we fight the thought should I do my will or His will? Do I go this way or that? Do I give up this or that? With the fallen nature in sin and Satan’s temptations all the time it is a strong pull to go away from God’s will.
2. **He submitted to His will**: It is so classic, this leper comes to Jesus and kneels before him on the road. Did he care for his prestige, name or what others think about him? No, he submitted fully before Jesus. Not only that he prays that wonderful prayer, **40**A man with leprosy[[h](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+1+&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24256h)] came to him and begged him on his knees, “If you are willing, you can make me clean.”

*What if, if we cannot do that consciously? What is if you are going through concerns, anxieties, a cloudy time in your spirit or a deep depression?*

*Between 2007-2010 I went through such a time. I could not bring myself fully to pray, or read the Word of God. One of the darkest time in my life and ministry for me, and my family.*

When our conscious fail us, God works through our unconscious mind, the inner man still. If our heart’s desire is for Him He will take care. I used to pray , “ David recovered all, God help me to do the same “. Even when nothing happened visually I kept this prayer over and over and over and over.

*Slowly the light of God started coming into my soul. I used to listen to worship songs, not able to sing but let the words and the spirit of God minister to me day after day.* Talk about healing my friend you can experience God’s healing abundantly. Every day, all the days. To the extent we feel the need for healing to that extent we will seek –Jesus.

If you are facing a cloudy time, take heart, be of Good cheer, God is near and dear. God will do the fighting for you.

May God bless you.

***God can heal us weather we are conscious or not! Amen!***

***Rev. Lazarus***

***DLM***

***God can Heal an utter sickness: Mark 5: 1-20***

### Jesus Restores a Demon-Possessed Man

They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes.[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=mark+5+&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24366a)] **2**When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came from the tombs to meet him. **3**This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. **4**For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. **5**Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

**6**When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. **7**He shouted at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God’s name don’t torture me!” **8**For Jesus had said to him, “Come out of this man, you impure spirit!”

**9**Then Jesus asked him, “What is your name?”

“My name is Legion,” he replied, “for we are many.” **10**And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

**11**A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. **12**The demons begged Jesus, “Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them.” **13**He gave them permission, and the impure spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

**14**Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. **15**When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons,sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. **16**Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man—and told about the pigs as well. **17**Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.

**18**As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. **19**Jesus did not let him, but said, “Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” **20**So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=mark+5+&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24385b)]how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

Here we see a man with *physical pain, mental torture, social rejection, psychological trauma and spiritual darkness*. Situation cannot get any bleak than this. *He was helpless, hopeless and hazardous for himself and others*. While the whole town rejected him and has nothing to do with him, Jesus arrives on the scene. *Jesus is always there to help the helpless and give hope for the hopeless.*

Verses 1- 5 describe what this man is doing normally. While when other sees him they were afraid, perhaps they were running away from him. *But he comes running to Jesus. Jesus Peace, quietness and calmness is like a magnet that will attract any body in any place at any time*. He says he is name is –Legion.( an army of demons perhaps 3500-4500 were tormenting him) They are giving a testimony of Jesus. Jesus name is above all names, every knee will bow and every tongue will confess. ( Even the devils and the demons).

*Jesus says,* **8**For Jesus had said to him, “Come out of this man, you impure spirit!”

We see the spirit negotiating a deal, to get permission to get into the pigs. They cannot make that move, Jesus has to give the permission. Jesus has power over: Sickness, nature, demons, devils, life and death! What an awesome God, Savior, Shepherd and - *What friend we have in Jesus.*

When the spirit goes into the pigs, they all go down the valley and fall in water and die. A great loss for the owners of the pigs. They are telling Jesus to leave their area. When God comes and gives healing, see the response from the town. God’s kindness, goodness and healing is not always accepted in all places. It is so with us when we share the good news.

*The climax of this healing story is recorded in the last 2 verses in the passage.*

**18**As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. **19**Jesus did not let him, but said, “Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” **20**So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=mark+5+&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24385b)]how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

While he wants to go with Jesus, Jesus tells him to stay and share what the good Lord has done for him and has shown him mercy.

That is preciously the task of all believers; those who meet Jesus and experience healing are supposed to tell others – What the good Lord has done.

Imagine what better place would be if all of us are telling what the good Lord has done for us and carrying the torch of the Gospel sharing the mercies of God. *It would be bringing so much of comfort, joy and healing for the helpless and the hopeless*. Are we ready to polish our lambs for God to shine in the dark World. There is a Chinese proverb: In a dark night, instead of cursing the darkness - Light a candle!

We are the candle! Matthew 5:14

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.

***Rev. Lazarus***

***DLM***

### Healing - Moving from Darkness – Light Mark 10:46-52

### Blind Bartimaeus Receives His Sight:

**46**Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means “son of Timaeus”), was sitting by the roadside begging. **47**When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

**48**Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”

**49**Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.”

So they called to the blind man, “Cheer up! On your feet! He’s calling you.”**50**Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.

**51**“What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked him.

The blind man said, “Rabbi, I want to see.”

**52**“Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.” Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

In the life and ministry of Jesus there are different paradigms of healing. We have seen one yesterday when Jesus heals the Gadarian Maniac. Today we are seeing – Bartimaeus. If we see this miracle closely we see Bartimaeus was blind but had heard the news that Jesus is visiting –Jericho. Jericho is a city on the way to Jerusalem and all the travelers have to go through this city while they proceeded to Jerusalem.

1. **He sensed the presence of Jesus** Though Bartimaeus could not see he heard the crowd moving around. Are we sensing the presence of God? Can we be so interested in like Bartimaeus for Jesus visit? If we see his life, he is a physical handicap, he is in mental agony over his blindness. He has to depend on others to move from one place to another. I heard a blind Christian lady Radha Amma remark one time, Sam, I do not have any enemy, *but I do not want even my enemy to have the “blindness” I have.*
2. **He calls out to Jesus**: **47**When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

The way he addresses Jesus, we can see he has an understanding of the background of Jesus - Jesus, son of David, have mercy on me. Perhaps he was a “Jew”. We can come from privileged group of people but still be sick and needing- Healing. Is our desire to heal strong enough to call the attention of God, do we cry to Him in desperation? Is our cry loud and cannot be silenced by others? These are some pertinent questions we need to ponder my friend.

1. **He Meets Jesus - The CE0- The Healer Gives an Interview**.” Call him”. I am sure that was the Hall mark for Bartimaeus, God calls him. What a comfort when we are sick, that God Almighty is calling us. He is always calling us: Come, come down quickly, “come all who are heavy laiden” , come to light, come to the living waters and so on. An interview with God is always “open” for all of us. If we call he answers. The trouble we do not call and still blame it on Jesus. Let us call and be called.
2. **Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.**

How did he come? He throws his cloak aside, he jumps to his feet and came. I can imagine the scene, the blind people have a sheet or a towel before them so people can throw coins and cash on it. Does Bartimaeus need that when Jesus calls? No. He throws it away. When you are “called” by God you are willing to throw your sickness away and all that is associated with it. Do we have to be sick and continue in the, “sick of tired of being sick” condition continually. No, God says, I am the Lord thy healer.

**E.He tells Jesus His needs:**

“What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked him. The blind man said, “Rabbi, I want to see.”

God asks a straight forward question and the blind man gives the answer. I want to see. If we are sick and know the “cost” of sickness we too will go straight to Jesus and present our case. He was not having a discussion, a dialogue, or an opinion, or a second school of thought. He was sick, he sought Jesus, he tells his need. It is always the best way. Let us tell Jesus.

**Jesus Heals**: **52**“Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.” Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road. Not only he gets healing, but he follows Jesus. In an instant his life is changed from darkness – light. I remember one of our high school student “titled” this passage. Dark night- Dawn! A beautiful title for life. When we receive the healing of Jesus we move from the darkness of sin to the dawn – The Light of Jesus. Jesus commends his faith.

**Healing has the faith Element**: God’s healing calls for “faith” in us. It is the simple trust and belief we place on God’s awesome power over sickness. We need a million healing along the way. When we are down we need a healing of encouragement, when we are depressed we need stronger pull to come out, when we are sad we need a word of comfort, when we are crying we need a shoulder to lean on, when we are in pain we need a healing touch. Jesus can offer all of this and more. But the key is we need to operate on – Faith. Here what Jesus says- *Your faith has healed you*.

Where is our faith today? If we need healing Do we sense the presence of God? In our crying out we cannot be silenced by any other noise or others? Do We seek Him desperately? Do we see Him and tell Him our need? He says, Your faith has healed you.

Are we following Jesus after His healing?

The climax of the story is the last verse, Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road. We all get healing and we go our own ways. As I was meditating I remembered how I used to be interested in following Jesus, doing something for God - After I gave my life to Christ. I want to maintain the same fervor and faith all the time , God being my help.

God knows our desire and He will lead us accordingly.

**Rev. Lazarus**

**DLM**

### When Jesus saw their faith- Mark 2:5

### Jesus Forgives and Heals a Paralyzed Man- Mark 2:1-12

A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. **2**They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them.**3**Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them.**4**Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. **5**When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

**6**Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves,**7**“Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

**8**Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things? **9**Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’? **10**But I want you to know that the Son of Manhas authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the man, **11**“I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” **12**He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”

Our devotions are about healing these days. It is interesting to see the passages of Jesus Healings in the NT. Today we are seeing the miracle of – Jesus healing the Paralyzed man. Paralyzed mean: in action, not able to function, not normal and so on. This man is a handicap fully, that is he cannot function normally alone and he needs assistance for any of his activities: Moving his limb, hands and body. His need is physical, it is medical, it has affects his psychological persona and above all he is spiritually sick with sin. How do we know that because we see Jesus saying to him in verse 5, . **5**When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

If we look closely we see Jesus sees his condition, he also sees the “faith” of his friends. As we mentioned earlier there is always the elements of healing in faith and in this case his friends faith draws the attention of Jesus-Why?

1. **They were caring friends**. They were willing to care for his friend to carry him to Jesus. It is walking the second mile in mission of healing for them. Who would carry a sick man and walk on the road? What if others ask questions? What to do if the distance is long? How about the crowd that is always there when along with Jesus?
2. **They were daring friends**: This people approach the house where Jesus was teaching, they find the crowd and they go up the roof, not only that that they take the roof off and lower their friend. To me they are “daring” friends. One who will do all out for their needy friend. Sometimes we need to go “all out” to bring the sick to Jesus. *Either they meet Jesus or they miss Jesus*, our actions are a key factor. *Jesus heals, but we need to bring the sick to Jesus. Here Jesus says,* **5**When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

Sin is always an issue in our –Sickness. Once we are alienated from God we become sinful and sick - Only God can cure. Once we are healed we need to bring others to Jesus. *Today the world population is 7.3 Billion 7300 Crores and only 2700 Crores are Christians. 36.9% are only Christians the rest 63.1% need to be brought to Jesus. The task is urgent and important!* Further many are helpless and hopeless, they need to be carried to Jesus. In this story the four friends we can say represent the 4 directions: South, North, East and West, the four corners of the world. *They have to come, they have to coordinate and cooperate and carry on the task of – Evangelism.* How to do it?

*These friends saw the sick man’s need over their need.* They were willing to pay the cost, they desired at all cost they will bring him to Jesus. It is the same formula in Evangelism any day, any time in all places. Are we willing to bring someone to Jesus. As Dr. Robert Coleman our professor used to say, Say a good word for Jesus. May God bless you.

**Rev. Lazarus/DLM**

***Healers Helpers? Who are they? How do they get Healed? Isaiah 53:5***

**Isaiah 53:5 NIV**
But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Yesterday morning while writing the devotion I was praying to God asking God to teach me about this wonderful subject of healing. He brought a wonderful imagery before me.

Imagine we go to the ocean shore: We can enjoy the beauty, get the breeze and sit down and meditate. Or we can go and stand in the ocean shore wetting your feet with water as the waves come to the shore. Or you can swim for few yards. I remembered my class mate from Tuticorin, who was a son of pearl picker who will go to the deep parts of the ocean to pick up pearls.

***Healing with God is like that****. To the extent we bath, swim and sink in His grace we can understand His healing. It should be a regular thing for us like it is regular think for an Olympic swimmer to swim. He enjoys swimming, he gets mastery over it, he is destined to swim if he is after the – Gold Medal. It is like that with God’s healing. We are destined to become healed and become – Healed Helper. The question is are we willing to pay that cost? In Olympic there is one Gold medal but with God there are millions for his Children.*

*As I prayed God gave these thoughts – What are the ingredients of a – Healed Helper. They are.*

1. **Humble Heart:** The Bible says God loves the humble.

He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. Psalm 25:9
It is not one time being humble, we need to have a desire to be –humble. Humble people are never haughty or arrogant. It is meek and not weak! They have a good disposition of their character that cannot be hidden. We can easily see that. D. L. Moody the evangelist said, We cannot fake, humility. Are we humble? Do we desire a humility in our heart? Do we want to head that way?

1. **Broken Heart:** A broken and a contrite heart Oh God thou will not despise says Psalmist in Psalm 5:17. Being broken in heart before God, being poor in the spirit as Jesus says in Matthew 5:3 are all dynamic qualities of the “inner” man God wants us to have.

It is an inside matter. *The time we spend alone with God will lead us to that precise point. We are molded by His grace and are in “molten” state to be used by Him. What a blessing we can bring that way to others - Broken before melting now.*

1. **Thankful Heart:** Psalm 107:1 says: Oh Give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, for He is good, His mercy endures for forever. If we can be thankful we can experience God’s grace more and more. The more and more we experience thankfulness - We experience His healing. *It fills and spills from our lives*. Is it not wonderful? Though the Covenant community Israel had many blessings they could not bless others to a great extent because of their un thankfulness and murmuring. Murmuring is a cancer in our soul that will eat away all the good things that God is creating. That is why we need to be conscious of being- Thankful. - Our depth of thankfulness to God helps us enjoy the depth of his healing.
2. ***Loving heart****:* *In final analysis love is strong, deep and tough*. One cannot truly love without taking it seriously and going about it. The other side of the coin of love is commitment. If we study the New Testament we can slice Jesus ministry any place any time, we can see love and commitment. That is why He could accomplish the plan of – God’s Salvation. Here love is not rationalizing but it is truly relation centered on God.

In his final teaching Jesus said, in John’s Gospel Chapter

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you. John 20:21

He was willing to die for you and me, He wants us to carry His Cross and pay the cost. If we want to be healed helper these are points to ponder.

*Where are we before the ocean of God’s love and grace? Are we enjoying the breeze? Are we making our feet wet? Or we swimming into the ocean, or we picking the pearl in the deep sea? Are you a healed helper? Do you want to become one?*

***Rev. Lazarus***

***DLM***

*Will Healed Helpers Get “ attacks again“ ? Matthew 11:28-30*

**28**“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.**29**Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. **30**For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

We are meditating on the theme of healing. We have seen God’s promise to Israelites, the Covenant Community that God has said, I am the Lord that heal thee . Ex 15:26. We have also seen miracles of Jesus “healing” various individuals in the New Testament. Healing has many paradigms, and sickness mean: Physical, mental, emotional and spiritual. But the root cause of sickness is – Sin.

We are asking an important question? Can healed helpers get attacks of sickness again? The answer is- Yes. What are the signs of such attacks and how to handle them.

In my early career days I joined a nice Auto Parts Industry – TVS in Madurai. It was 1970-1972. During that time I was affected with lung infections that brought bronchial problems. I was healed and switched over to other career Railways and started on full time ministry from 1986. But till now after nearly 30 years I get chest congestion problems. Not that I was not healed, the wounded portions are troubled portions can “flare” up any time when it is affected. That area is more prone for infections and inflammations.

It is also true with spiritual healing. Some can be inflamed and get infected again.

*In the matter of spiritual healing since our body, mind and emotions are also involved and integrated these inflammations can occur and hurt us. We need to be aware of that. Our thoughts can be inflamed with anger, displeasure and disagreement with what is happening to us and we may be responding to it by showing anger outside or keeping it inside as a hidden anger in the form of - Frustrations.*

One such issue I can straight away site is the crisis we faced in DLM in 2011-2012. The financial crisis and the leadership crisis is a deep hurt I did not anticipate.

Even after 3 years , thoughts can crowd my mind and make me sick spiritually. I have to be aware of it and “surrender” it to God right away. Leaving the thoughts to brew is letting the infection grow, and not cleaning the wound, applying the medicine and putting bandage. *I am working on it whenever attacks come, I can tell you if you try God will help you also.*

**Signs**: Dis satisfaction in spiritual like, physical life and surroundings. A brewing unthankful heart to God and His Mercy and Grace. Lack of personal time with God and we have to come up with our own list. Because it is between us and God. Unless we attend to it, we cannot deal with it effectively.

**Relief**: Go to God, Go to God and go to only God. Spend time with Him, Read His word, Worship Him heartily. These are avenues of healing for us. Postponing healing is not good for us physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

May God grant us His grace to do the – Diagnosis. We all know after diagnosis we need to get into therapy, treatment. Some times treatment is not pleasant, but it is necessary. God is always ready to heal us any time, any day. His healing is for 24/7. Let us go to Him. In John 4:10 we read,

*Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.”*

***Rev. Lazarus***

***DLM***

**Soul Well = All well Formula 3 John 1:1-2**

***1****The elder,*

*To my dear friend Gaius, whom I love in the truth.*

***2****Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.*

Apostle John is called the apostle of – Love. He is the closest to Jesus as we read the Gospel narratives. He is the one who goes to the foot of the cross, he is the one to whom Jesus says, behold here is your mother. He is the one who mentions the word, “love” over 35 times in the ist Epistle of John. He is writing to Gaius, a beloved Christians the above words.

**Health:** It is said, Health = Wealth. It is true. Nothing like getting up on a day feeling hale and healthy. A good health gives good feeling. To feel well in the midst of sickness is something one has to “tell” his mind. That is why we all need – Healing, a touch of God to keep a good level of health to carry on the task that God has given to each one of us.

In my life and ministry I have seen exemplary people who have limited health but have overcome it by God’s grace and have ministered effectively. I remember late Radha amma who was blind but kept an active prayer ministry throughout life.

**All may go well with you:** Our mind is a complex , if all are well it is easy for it to program good things, even if one thing is wrong mind tends to see things through the glass of – Pessimism or sickness. That is why it is good to have a situation where – All may go well.

**Even as your soul is getting along well.**  Apostle John attributes the importance of the soul to emphasis that it is - *Important. Soul has eternal dimension that our body and mind does not have*. So it is good to think about eternal “well being” as first priority than other things. The matters of soul are important because it is the matter of the spirit and therefore matter of God, God Almighty Himself. That is why Jesus said, Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and all these things shall be added unto you. Matt 6:33 All includes our health also.

Keeping our soul well is an active exercise. It can get crowded, corrupted and sick easily. Soul can be cleansed only by the – Blood of Jesus. For cleansing one has to take time to be with God, His presence in Worship, prayer and Word. It is a thing one cannot rush. It is like Kidney dialysis. The patient is hooked to a machine where the blood is cleansed of all chemicals that are harmful to the body. It goes for 5 hours and for many patients they recommend it once a week.

While dialysis is going on, one the patient cannot be running around or doing other things. It is total submission to the treatment. I think it is a good picture of our souls with God. If we do not let the impurities be cleansed by the blood of Jesus it is going to affect all other systems in our life.

How about our soul today? Are we patient enough, prayerful enough to be in the presence of God. If we are, our soul will prosper.

We all know the song- It is well with my soul. The writer a good Christian, **Horatio Spafford (1828-1888**). He and his wife lost his son first. Then his four daughters later due to a ship wreck . While on his way to see his briefed wife in London , he composed this song – It is well with my soul. I am sharing that with you this morning,

1. When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.
	* *Refrain:*
	It is well with my soul,
	It is well, it is well with my soul.
2. Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.
3. My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!—
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
4. For me, be it Christ, be it Christ hence to live:
If Jordan above me shall roll,
No pang shall be mine, for in death as in life
Thou wilt whisper Thy peace to my soul.
5. But, Lord, ’tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,
The sky, not the grave, is our goal;
Oh, trump of the angel! Oh, voice of the Lord!
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul!
6. And Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.

May God of peace and health give you healing you need.

**Rev. Lazarus**

**DLM**

### Jesus-Comes-Calms-Comforts & Charges

### Jesus Restores a Demon-Possessed Man-Mark 5:1-20

They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes.[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+5+&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24366a)] **2**When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came from the tombs to meet him. **3**This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. **4**For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. **5**Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.

**6**When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. **7**He shouted at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God’s name don’t torture me!” **8**For Jesus had said to him, “Come out of this man, you impure spirit!”

**9**Then Jesus asked him, “What is your name?”

“My name is Legion,” he replied, “for we are many.” **10**And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area.

**11**A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. **12**The demons begged Jesus, “Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them.” **13**He gave them permission, and the impure spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

**14**Those tending the pigs ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, and the people went out to see what had happened. **15**When they came to Jesus, they saw the man who had been possessed by the legion of demons, sitting there, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. **16**Those who had seen it told the people what had happened to the demon-possessed man—and told about the pigs as well. **17**Then the people began to plead with Jesus to leave their region.

**18**As Jesus was getting into the boat, the man who had been demon-possessed begged to go with him. **19**Jesus did not let him, but said, “Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” **20**So the man went away and began to tell in the Decapolis[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+5+&version=NIV#fen-NIV-24385b)]how much Jesus had done for him. And all the people were amazed.

We looked at this same passage some time ago, but today I look at it and also reflect few interesting observations which I want to share, remember our healing is dynamic and continuous.

Having born and brought up in India I have seen the influence of the evil spirit and it’s possession over people. When I was in Seminary in the US in 1980s it was a tough task for me to explain this to professors. But it is a reality we all have to reckon with any day. Till Jesus comes back and ties Satan and throws him in the lake of fire it will continue. Just like we have a physical world the spirit word under Satan is real.

Coming to the narrative we see this area of Gersenes is a Greek area believing in spirits and demons. It had a non -Christian culture, orientations and practices. Can we think of places of similar setting in our context? Let us see what Jesus does?

**He Comes:** Jesus comes to the place. Jesus is always going after the “lost” sheep. He goes to this place. It is a journey across a lake as we see the passage. If we consider this maniac, Jesus comes to him. *He knows about him, he knows about his torments from the spirit, he knows about the need for his healing and restoration. Jesus knew it was His mission to heal. I would say Jesus saw this potential Evangelist long before the healing.*

If we feel we are left out, lonely and uncared for Jesus knows and He is coming. *His coming is always an interesting theme*: Individually, as a small group of believers and as a Church at large. His coming is important because He is not coming as a Savior for he has done that - He is coming as a Judge and King! Where is Jesus in our heart? Is he the King? Are we waiting for the King to come to join the Kingdom.

**He calms:** We see the man who was self destructive and socially deviant, and violent in behavior is calm after seeing – Jesus. Jesus always calms the storms. Not only on the sea but in all places of our lives: Personal, emotional, relational and other areas. As a Physics student I know of substances that are strong in radioactive rays. They emit such strong rays, and you cannot stop it. You can put the element in a thick led box or concrete but it will – Radiate. *Like that Jesus can radiate Calmness*. His calmness is so strong it can silence the agitation of a man troubled with thousands of demons. Imagine the strength of – Jesus calmness.

**Comforts**: We do not know much what has happened to the healed man inside. But we know that he became a changed man. He gets delivered from the demons and he is healed. God can bring such a change.

Change I would say is dynamic, we may need one change today, but we may need another change in our body, soul, mind and spirit the next day. So we need the comfort of Jesus. It can be obtained on daily basis, like daily manna. It cannot be taken excess or in shortage. Are we taking the Comfort of Jesus?

I ask this question because sitting with Jesus we can let our thought wander and ponder other things. I have learnt that to get the “message” of Jesus we need to reflect and ponder. Jesus can throw different light on the passages all the time. It is like the normal astronomy student sees the starts, the scientist see the Comets! Biblical passages have comets and galaxies. Only to a patient scientist it is visible. It is there all the time, but many miss it. It is same with Jesus. Here in this narrative we see the people of Decapolis did not see it. They saw the destruction of the pigs and not the deliverance of Jesus. We need a spiritual paradigm, it is an active prayerful spiritual exercise to maintain such a paradigm.

**Charges:** When Jesus is asked to leave the town the healed man comes to join Jesus on the boat. He wants to become a disciple of Jesus. Only disciples were going on the boat, Jesus says, no. Can Jesus redirect a potential disciple? All knowing God, Jesus knew how he can be a healed helper in his own area, Decapolis mean 10 Cities. It is a potential ground for Evangelism. That is why Jesus charges him, “Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” In simple words- Tell a good word for Jesus.

May God bless you.

**Rev. Lazarus**

**DLM**

**Healing for a sick Soul- Psalm 51**

We are in our reflections on – Healing. We are learning in depth the many dimensions of healing. It has been an useful study for me which I am sharing these days.

We need to understand the background of the psalm. David who is called, “ man after God’s own heart” has his moments of trouble, sin and defeat. He trespasses God’s law and goes on to cover his sin by killing Uriah. It is a sick situation spiritually. David writes psalm 51 as a psalm of repentance.

Have mercy on me, O God,
    according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion
    blot out my transgressions.
**2**Wash away all my iniquity
    and cleanse me from my sin.

**3**For I know my transgressions,
    and my sin is always before me.
**4**Against you, you only, have I sinned
    and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are right in your verdict
    and justified when you judge.
**5**Surely I was sinful at birth,
    sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
**6**Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;
    you taught me wisdom in that secret place.

**7**Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
    wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
**8**Let me hear joy and gladness;
    let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
**9**Hide your face from my sins
    and blot out all my iniquity.

**10**Create in me a pure heart, O God,
    and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
**11**Do not cast me from your presence
    or take your Holy Spirit from me.
**12**Restore to me the joy of your salvation
    and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

*While sin alienates us from God a repenting heart will run toward God for His Grace and mercy*. So the matter of our spirit and it’s health is very important between us and God. And only God can come to our rescue and restoration.

**10**Create in me a pure heart, O God,
    and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
**11**Do not cast me from your presence
    or take your Holy Spirit from me.
**12**Restore to me the joy of your salvation
    and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

So pure heart, steadfast spirit, abiding of Holy Spirit are the key ingredients to be spiritually healthy. This has to be borne in mind that we are sinful in nature and our natural tendency is to pull us toward sin but we need to fight it all the time.

We know the story. God forgives the sin of David, but the consequences of sin he had to face. The moral decay in the palace, the conflicts between his sons and the conflicts in leadership. If we observe the Kingdom of David- It goes down in a downward spiral. It is sad, but true.

So the whole idea of healing is far deeper than we normally give credit to. That puts a deep concern for our health spiritually. Only God can restore us to Him fully. Let us remember this and run to God all the time.

Rev. Lazarus

DLM

### Jesus Heals While – Arrested – Luke 22:47-51

**47**While he was still speaking a crowd came up, and the man who was called Judas, one of the Twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him,**48**but Jesus asked him, “Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

**49**When Jesus’ followers saw what was going to happen, they said, “Lord, should we strike with our swords?” **50**And one of them struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear.

**51**But Jesus answered, “No more of this!” And he touched the man’s ear and healed him.

We have been meditating on the theme of healing. Jesus is our Lord and Savior, He is the shepherd, He is our companion, He is the Guide, He is the Jehovah of the Old Testament and the coming King of the New Testament. He is the Jehovah Jireh the who provides, Jehovah Shalom who gives peace and Jehovah Rapha who – Heals. Ex 15:22-26.

When God says he is the healer- He is the healer. When he gives His word that he will heal our disease, He will heal our diseases. Here we see Jesus being betrayed by his disciples, he is caught in the Garden in the mount Olives. He is being taken for trial and crucifixion. *It is a situation of restlessness and unpleasantness, there is tension in the air*. The jealous disciples want to do something for their master- Jesus. When the soldiers of high priest come Jesus says this,

Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple guard, and the elders, who had come for him, “Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs? **53**Every day I was with you in the temple courts, and you did not lay a hand on me. But this is your hour—when darkness reigns.”

Jesus is arrested by the Jews and not the Romans the ruling power at that time. *His own people have plotted this scheme for him. His own has rejected Him. Even at this critical hour Jesus is expressing his true Character- As a Healer*. **51**But Jesus answered, “No more of this!” And he touched the man’s ear and healed him.

My friend we may be going through an intense crisis, an unexpected sickness, a burden too much to handle, a river too deep to cross, a fire too intense to face. But we need to remember that we have the unchanging – Jesus. Here we see He is on his way to the cross, yet he comes forward to heal the man. It is true for us any time any day. He will always be ready to offer – Healing.

The disciples are angry, they are displeased at the injustice done to their Master –Jesus. They want to protect Jesus and that is why they used the sword. But Jesus wants to extend His love and mercy to His enemies. He is practicing what he preached - Love your enemies and do good to them.

Jesus is always a – Healer. The name of Jesus, the blood of Jesus is the most powerful “tool” that Jesus has left with us. We have to claim the power of Jesus. The name of Jesus has power over all things: Nature, sickness, disease and death!

May His healing empower us energize us to be his “agents” of – Healing in the sick world.

**Rev. Lazarus**

**DLM**

Jesus – Heals on the Cross – Luke 23: 39-43

**39**One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

**40**But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? **41**We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”

**42**Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+23+&version=NIV#fen-NIV-25978d)]”

**43**Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

We are meditating on the theme of healing. Yesterday we have seen that even while getting arrested Jesus offers – Healing. We are moving on to the next scene, Jesus is crucified and he is being mocked by the religious leaders of the day. He is hanging in between two criminals. One of the criminal is also insulting Jesus.

But the other criminal sees his need, the sickness of his soul, the death and the eternal consequences. He sizes the opportunity to speak to Jesus,

“Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+23+&version=NIV#fen-NIV-25978d)]” Somehow he sees that Jesus is the real King and He is bound to go to His Kingdom. He sees the need to find a place in the Kingdom of Jesus. Is it not wonderful? The healing of Jesus is so powerful and contagious that this thief on the cross is seeing the need for cleansing his soul and getting right with God. Talk about ultimate healing, the theif aimed at it. Not only he sees his need but immediately approaches Jesus. Perhaps he has few moments to live, few breaths to take, but he used it wisely. *If we are searching healing desperately we will opt for desperate measures.* Are we seeking healing that way? Are we approaching Jesus? Is there a genuine cry in our heart to Jesus? If the answer is yes, then the healing is definitely offered by Jesus. To all who call upon Him, He is ready to offer healing.

**43**Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.” While we can engage ourselves in a debate on which is paradise, where is the Kingdom of Jesus one thing is clear.

This thief who is alienated from God finds a place in God’s house. *He is accepted by God in an instant, in a twinkling of an eye, in a flash in a lightning speed! Is it not wonderful?*

True to the Character and Calling of Jesus – He is offering Healing. With Him there is no sickness, His light shine and drives away all darkness, sin and sickness. He is found when we seek Him.

Reflecting on the various dimensions of Healing of Jesus, this comes as a – Climax. The purpose of his coming to the World to offer Salvation and healing is fulfilled till the last minute of His life. In fact He is dying, a painful death on the cross.

A French doctor says death occurs to persons on the cross due to lack of Oxygen, due to poor function of the lungs because the person is suspended and holding his body’s weight on his arms. It is an agonizing death, but Jesus is offering healing as He is dying!

By His death we live, by His blood we conquer Sin and Satan. The one who teaches that unless the grain of wheat dies it will not be useful is demonstrating the principle from his own life. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. John 12:24.

It is simply beyond human comprehension what Jesus accomplishes on the cross. It is good to meditate on this.

May God of healing offer such deep healing for us so we will be radiating His Love and healing to others in need.

**Rev. Lazarus**

**DLM**

**Healing beyond Resurrection – Luke 24: 13-35**

### On the Road to Emmaus

13Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+24+&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26005a)] from Jerusalem. 14They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. 15As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; 16but they were kept from recognizing him.

17He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?”

They stood still, their faces downcast. 18One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” 19“What things?” he asked.

“About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. 20The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; 21but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. 22In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning 23but didn’t find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. 24Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.”

25He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” 27And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

28As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. 29But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them.

30When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. 31Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. 32They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”

33They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together 34and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.” 35Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

This is a familiar passage for us. We have seen Jesus is healing in all situations in His life. He is the healer, He is healing wounded hearts, souls, spirits, emotions and physical sickness too. Here we see He is healing the hopelessness of his disciples. After Jesus death on the cross the disciples were in dismay and disbelief as to what to do? Their Master Jesus is gone? What would be their next step? With the Iron power of Rome and the way Rome treated the uprisings of Jews the fear of disciples were genuine. Rome decided to crush and annihilate all opposing forces to teach a lesson to others as to-What would happen to one who raises against Rome? It is noted that one time Rome crucified 1000 people on the cross the revolting group to teach a lesson to others.

Here we see the two disciples taking a walk to Emmaus that day. Jesus joins them, engages in conversation and inspires them with the – Word of God. When we are hopeless and helpless what we need is – The Word of God, the Spirit of God and His love. Nothing can cure a sick heart like the presence of God, peace of God, Personal assurance of God. A walk with Jesus experience.

In fact this two disciples were experiencing a intense spiritual “therapy” session. They did not know it but the great physician Jesus has formulated the – Intricate therapy for them. The explanation Jesus gave to them is a brief summary of Old Testament writings: The law , The History and the Prophets - Culminating in the life and ministry of Jesus. Who can sum it up so beautifully and concisely other than the Author and finisher of all things – God Jesus Himself.

The climax of the passage is the scene where the disciples invite Jesus to stay with them. The discovery comes to an end as he breaks bread with them. V 30-32. At that instant He disappears leaving them with the – Joy and Hope. It is like a life time “jump start” for them. That is what they needed.

There is a powerful lesson of healing here. In our walk of faith we may have times of helpless ness and hopeless less. We need to remember that God is aware and He has sent His son- Jesus for that purpose.

He is an incarnate Jesus one who is not a distant reality but a flesh “living” among us-Feeling, walking, talking and uplifting us. Brining us to our memory the – Living Word of God. His word can raise the dead, heal the sick, bring hope for the hope less and put us back of track.

As an Ex. Railway official I have seen many derailments and putting the train back on the track. It is a happy moment, the train can resume the journey and attain the full speed and reach the destination. When God puts us back on the track we too can reach the destination that God has set for us in our faith and life. It is the ultimate healing that Jesus has given His life for.

May God bless you, where ever we are in your faith journey and life. God knows, He cares, He is near, He is walking with us in those moments. We may not see it but He is there. The climax is – Discovering Jesus and telling others about it. I had that experience when I went through the depression between 2007-2010. It was a fresh discovery of Jesus. We say I am coming to Jesus – Come Lord Jesus. Amen!!

**Rev. Lazarus**

**DLM**

DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS

On–Healing

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