

# Jesus the Healer, pt.3, 11.1.15

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**Big Idea: Healing is a function of our authority and power in Jesus.**

## **Understanding Authority and Power in Healing – Luke 9.1; Matt.8.5-13**

1. Review the last point from Jesus the Healer, pt.2
  - a. He commanded healing – 1.41, 2.11, 3.5, 5.41, 7.34, 10.52.
    - i. What did you notice about how he healed? They were commands.
    - ii. How often do you pray like that?
    - iii. Jesus had authority & power.
2. I believe when we understand the difference between these two and begin operating in our authority with greater power we will see things shift and accelerate. These words may occasionally be used synonymously but they mean two very different things.
3. The story of the Roman Officer captures the difference between the two.
  - a. His authority as an officer came from his position and his power came through his orders. As a major, he had a position of authority over his troops, and his words activated the power. “I say to one, ‘go there’ and to another ‘come back’ and they do.” Until he speaks, his authority doesn’t change anything but once he acts, it changes the environment.
  - b. The officer understood that Jesus had authority and that his word which was the instrument of that authority was powerful enough to make her well. He was saying, “Jesus, you have authority over sickness, so just release your power through your words and she’ll be healed.”
  - c. **Illustration of Usain Bolt.** He is the fastest sprinter in the world. I can beat him every time, if he decides to walk those 100 meters. He has authority to win based on his position as the “fastest man in the world” but if he isn’t operating in his power he will be beat.
  - d. **Authority comes from our position in Christ (our identity) and power comes from the presence of the HS in us. Authority describes who you are; power describes what you can do. Authority is granted and power is exercised. Power is the enforcement of authority. We need to have a deep revelation of both in our life. We don’t have to fight for our authority, nor do we need to beg for power, as though God reluctantly does it out. We need to have a deep revelation of authority and a fervent consecration for power.**
    - i. **Jesus had power and authority given to him at His baptism. A declaration of His authority “this is my son” and the empowerment of the HS.**

ii. Look at authority: Luke 10.17-20. Satan had authority in heaven, but when he was cast to earth he lost his authority. Now, we are given authority over him. He still has power, but he does not have authority.

1. There is huge authority in the “name of Jesus.” The name “Jesus” is more than a title; it is a declaration of ultimate authority. Mark 9.38 & Acts 19.13-16 are stories of people using the authority of Jesus who were not believers. It is the Name by which every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord.
2. We have authority “in Christ.” As a believer, I am seated with him in Heavenly places. I am his child and all that he has belongs to me. This is the seat of authority. It has nothing to do with how righteous I’m living or how dedicated I am to him. My faith is in Jesus and therefore I have authority.
3. We grow in our revelation of authority as we intentionally and persistently mature in our faith.
4. We pray differently when we understand our authority in Christ. Satan wants us to fight him in prayer, life, etc when the victory has already been won. You don’t fight with a defeated enemy. You declare victory, take authority and demand his submission. You don’t ask God to do what he’s given you authority to do.

iii. **Power comes from the Holy Spirit – Acts 1.7-8; 4.30-31.**

1. The disciples already had the authority because they were in Christ, but they did not operate with any great power. The power came from the infilling of the HS.
2. Power comes from the HS. Every believer in Jesus has a dimension of power, but I believe there is much more available. **I believe that power of the Holy Spirit vacillates based upon three realities in my life – Wholly, Holy and Holey.**
  - a. Wholly – completely devoted to God; pressing in for more of him; quickly obeying His will; seeking for more of his character and power in my life; yielding myself to His plan.
  - b. Holy – separating myself from sin, living a righteous life, not compromising; dealing with brokenness; having a humble attitude; not letting the world dictate my values and thinking.
  - c. Holey – half-hearted; areas that don’t reflect the character of God; little fruit of the Spirit; halfway committed to doing God’s will; if it’s convenient and isn’t going to cost much, etc.
3. **Power increases with agreement.** When a group of people join their hearts and lives together for the common good. There is a HS explosion. There are many examples in Scripture where unity led to explosive results – the Tower of Babel; the building of Solomon’s Temple; the outpouring of the HS in Acts 2; This is why Jesus says, “where two or

three are gathered in my name.” There is great power in agreeing prayer. Individual prayer is limited in its impact, but common, expectant, faith filled prayer of a group will accomplish much.

- a. Acts 2.1, 42-47, 4.23-24, 31-35; 5.12-16 describes the interconnectedness of unity of heart and purpose and the outpouring of the HS.
  - b. Before we launch our new vision, we will have a time of 21-40 days of prayer and fasting. It will be a time of confession, repentance, recommitment and consecration to the new season the Lord has before us.
  - c. We have a measure of collective power but God wants us to press in for more and that pressing in means we need to be wholly, holy and not holey.
4. John Paul Jackson said “Kings rule with authority but they conquer with power.” We need a revelation of our authority in Jesus and greater consecration for power in the HS. We already have both but we are limited by our understanding (renewing of the mind) and the consecration of our lives (radical commitment).
4. Conclusion: God has given mankind authority over sickness and disease. Satan has power to generate illness (Job, Acts 10.38) but he doesn’t have authority to over rule our efforts to defeat it. Therefore, we should pray for both supernatural intervention and manmade intervention . We should pray with authority that cancer, neurological disorders, mental diseases, etc are under our God given authority and they will submit to it. God may intervene with a prayer or a pill, with surgery or the supernatural, but either way we shouldn’t assume that sickness or brokenness is his best. Jesus showed us what is best by healing all and we should assume the same with the authority and power he has given us.

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### **Healing and Willow’s Ministry**

1. Gospel Presentations:
  - a. **Presence Evangelism** – mercy ministries. Providing food, shelter, medical help, education, justice, agriculture; religious liberty & minority rights
  - b. **Proclamation Evangelism** – message ministries. Evangelizing, distributing the Bible, discipleship, starting churches, growing people in the Word
  - c. **Power Evangelism** – miraculous ministries. Healing (hearts, minds & bodies), deliverances, words of knowledge and prophecy; answered prayers; unbelievable reconciliations, lives supernaturally turned around by God;
    - i. We need more people involved in our prayer ministry.

2. We MUST believe God for MORE, especially as it pertains to healing and power evangelism!
  - a. We are convictional about certain parts of Christian theology, morality and disciplines, but when it comes to the miraculous and healing we back down. We'll believe the Bible about some things and not others. We wonder why God doesn't do more and yet our hearts are like that of Jesus' hometown where Jesus could only do a few miracles, b/c the people's hearts were filled with unbelief.
    - i. The unbelief is often due to unanswered prayers and broken dreams. WE have to be child like and keep going after it. WE have to "take up the cross" on this one. I believe that "taking up the cross" is living in the tension of unanswered prayers. Their are lives and families that hang in the balance.
  - b. The Lord convicted me the other day: You're not believing for enough! Believe me for more! I can do exceedingly, abundantly beyond anything that you could hope for or imagine!! Scott, how much of your life can be explained through your own efforts?
    - i. I don't think there are going to be that many who get to heaven and hear God say, "Wow, you believed me for way too much!", but I do think many of us are going to hear, "Wow, why did you play it so safe; why didn't you believe me for more?"
    - ii. I'm not going to let myself off the hook by letting what I don't know overshadow what I do know.
      1. There is a Biblical interpretation principle that states you don't let an unclear passage trump a clear passage.
      2. I do know what the Scriptures teach on healing – James 5.14-18 – and I'm not going to let my currently unanswered prayers for the sick which includes my wife to supplant and overshadow the clear meaning of Scripture.
      3. I will live in the tension knowing that I serve a good God whose ways and thoughts are as far above mine as the heavens are above the earth.

Healing was front and center in the ministry activity of Jesus from the very beginning in Mark 1 to the Garden of Gethsamane where he healed a guy's ear to the cross where Isaiah's prophecy, "by his stripes we are healed" was fulfilled.

Healing was central to the ministry of the early church and it continued to be through various expressions of the Christian faith in the centuries and it is still being manifested today. Healing in all its manifestations must be a central part of the ministry expression of our faith.

### Take Home Questions:

- How do you normally pray for the sick and how similar or dissimilar is it with how Jesus prayed for the sick?

- Which do you have a better revelation of authority or power? Which is easier for you to operate under?
- Where are you believing God for “more” and where are you not believing him for “enough”?