

THE HEALING BALM OF GILEAD

Apostle Mark Kauffman

“And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power,”

Ephesians 1:19

What the Lord is doing today should exceed what He has done in past generations. Every generation has had healing power provided for their day, not every generation believed it and received it, and nevertheless it has been available. Even though Jesus, in His earthly ministry healed many, He still rebuked that generation for their unbelief. As a young boy growing up in church I knew of many pastors and congregations in the 1960s and 1970s who did not believe in divine healing. As the church has moved into this new millennium, the Lord desires for us to receive a greater dimension of healing in our midst than what we have ever known. The Church is always called to move from glory to glory. This speaks of moving from one degree of revelation, transformation and experience in God to another. As we progressively move forward, we also experience greater manifestations of God in our lives.

“Behold the voice of the cry of the daughter of my people because of them that dwell in a far country: Is not the LORD in Zion? Is not her king in her? Why have they provoked me to anger with their graven images, and with strange vanities? The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved. For the hurt of the daughter of my people am I hurt; I am black; astonishment hath taken hold on me. Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?”
Jeremiah 8:19-22

We have a grieving prophet in this passage for the health that has diminished from God’s people. Through this prophet, the Lord is crying out to His people because their physical needs have gone unattended. The Lord is provoked to anger, not because of His inability to heal them but their unbelief and personal distractions. Jeremiah said their harvest is past and they still are not delivered. This speaks of missed opportunities to receive what the Lord was offering them. The majority of people today are so distracted by many things in this world that they miss many opportunities to receive from the Lord. The people of Gilead were sick and tormented by disease and their physical needs had gone unattended. The Lord asks four rhetorical questions that answer themselves, the first two being: *“Is not the Lord in Zion”* and *“Is not her king in her?”* The answer to these two questions is YES. Gilead is a type of the end-time church and not only is the King *with* us but He also lives *within* us! We are His temple, His Body. Christ in us the hope of glory.

“But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”
Romans 8:11

The Healer lives inside every believer, quickening and making alive our bodies by the Spirit of God. Healing virtue not only flows to us but out of us through the Spirit of God dwelling inside these earthen tabernacles.

The last two questions the Lord asks in Jeremiah 8 are, *“Is there no balm in Gilead”* and *“is there no doctor there”*. Once again, the answer is YES. He

asked these questions to awaken in their understanding what He had already provided for them.

Gilead was an exporter of balm and myrrh. Myrrh is a symbol of Christ's sufferings at Calvary and the whipping post for you and me through His finished work. Since the answer to these questions is yes, "then why are my people not healed" He asks. Many church people do not believe healing is for today or they say they believe God heals, but will He heal me? God is no respecter of persons, He desires His people to be whole. 3 John 1:2 reads, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." "Above all", the Lord Jesus desires us to walk in health. God is so into healing He calls himself Jehovah Rapha, the Lord our doctor.

Psalms 107:20 reads, "He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions." Healing is in God's Word. As we mediate and receive the Word of God, it is assimilated into our Spirit, soul, and body making us well. Notice that receiving His Word precedes healing. Once again healing is in His Word and is medicine to our bodies.

"Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. (2) Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: (3) who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; (4) Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; (5) Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's." Psalms 103:1-5

In verse 3, the Lord tells us that all our sins He forgives and all our diseases He will heal! How wonderful the Lord is to remind us of His benefits. But even more He is not reluctant to give them to His children. In verse 5, He tells us that not only will He heal us but renew our strength as in our

youth. His promise is to restore what was lost during the time of sickness. How amazing is our God? How wonderful are His ways?

"And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Mark 16:17-18

"They shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover", this speaks to us as progressive or gradual healings. There is a major distinction between miracles and healings. Miracles are instantaneous interventions of God's creative power that brings about instant results. Healings are like a seed that is planted, watered, looked out for until it grows and brings forth fruit or manifestation. Healings must be received by faith and not feelings. The just shall live by faith; faith in God's Word and what He says about us is what we are to contend for. We must side with the Word in spite of feelings or what doctor's report we have received. God is not a liar and His Word is eternally true. The fact is you may have pain in your body, but the truth is by His stripes you were made whole. Facts will bind us but there is a higher order where His Word prevails, and His truth makes us free from sickness, disease and tormenting pain. How do we possess our healing? We must receive it by faith then act on God's Word of truth regardless of symptoms that may be lurking in our body.

Matthew 8:17 reads, "That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses." Healing is transactional; there is God's part but also man's part. It is our part to believe and receive by faith and it is God's part to release healing into our bodies producing manifestations of His healing power. Be it unto us according to your Word, Lord! Revelation 22:17 reads, "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come.

And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.” Notice the word “take”, healing is freely given but we must take it as our own. Believe Him for it, than thank Him that the end results of health are forth coming. I believe God desires His people to not only receive healing but walk in divine health. Like Israel, when they left Egypt there was not one feeble or sick among them. For forty years, three million people lived above sickness in the realm of health and wholeness. His desire for His people is to walk in health, so we can finish our purpose and destiny in the earth strong, and not weak! In the Old Covenant, healing was part of the covenant for God’s people. How much more is healing for His church who has received a better covenant through Jesus Christ.

Reach out today and make Christ’s atoning work yours personally, and then praise Him for it. Watch God bring forth healing and give you a testimony to pass on to the next generation. Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever to the glory of God. He is still Jehovah Rapha, the Lord God our Healer.



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Being passionately involved in both ministry and business has brought a unique ability to equip and train marketplace ministers to link the idea of prosperity to a God given plan that will advance the kingdom of God. He also oversees Impacting the Nations Network which oversees 100 pastors and churches based in the nation of India. Kauffman is the international editor of the VACHANACHOSHANAM Newspaper in India. This newspaper not only spreads the message of the kingdom in India but throughout Asia and the Middle East.

Through the power of God and word of knowledge he sees many miraculous healings and deliverances as he ministers the Gospel of the Kingdom. His heart is to see the body demonstrate the nature and ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ thus fulfilling their destiny.

He is married to Jill Kauffman, who pastors along with him, and has 3 sons Anthony, Ryan & Christian Mark and a granddaughter, Alexandra Irene.