

BLESSED HOPE

BHBC



BIBLE CHURCH

Blessed Hope Bible Church

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Learning ...

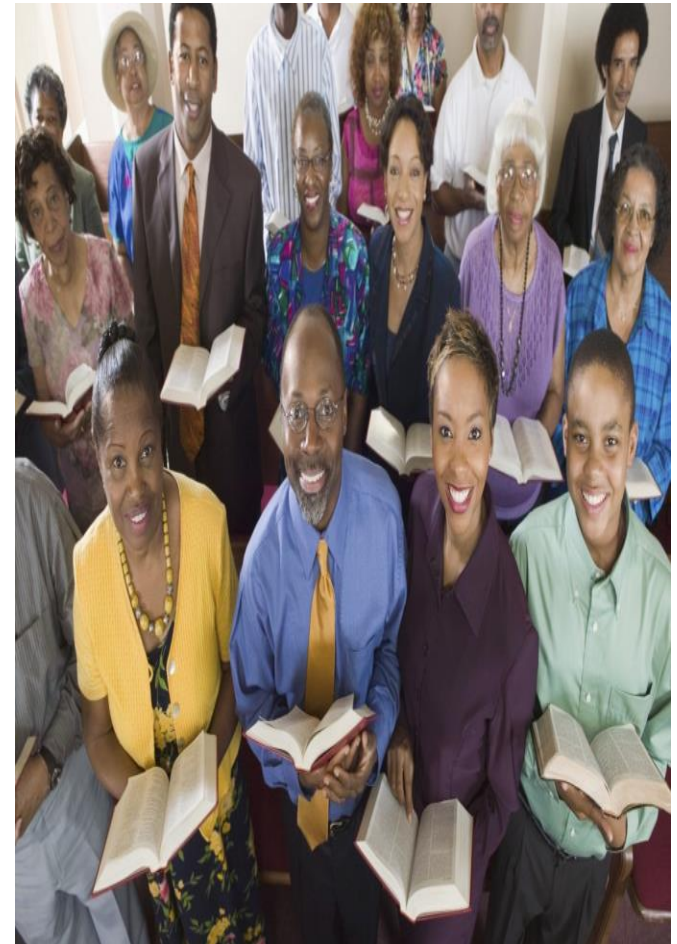
Loving ...

Leaning ...

Living ...

Leading ...

*By the Word
of God*





THE
MIRACLES
OF JESUS

INSTRUCTIONS FROM OUR INFIRMITIES



THE HEALING OF PETER'S MOTHER-IN-LAW
Matt.8:14-15; Mark 1:26-31; Luke 4:38-39

INTRODUCTION

- Many times we take our health and strength for granted until we get sick.
- Some people like to be sick, or pretend to be sick, so that they can get a lot of attention from others.



- Our sicknesses have a way of showing us how frail and weak and limited we really are (notice how easy it is to get sick or to get hurt).
- **LESSON:** Our sicknesses can be used to help us appreciate our health and strength and use them to glorify God every chance we get.
- From **three stages** in the healing of Peter's mother-in-law we will learn how our sickness can help us appreciate our health and strength, and thereby we will learn to glorify God every chance we get.

STAGE #1: PETER'S MOTHER-IN-LAW GOT SICK

- **THE IMPLICATION:** The Fact That She Got Sick Implies That She Was Previously Healthy.
 - When she was healthy, she could go about her normal daily household routine.
 - When she became sick (i.e., we don't know how, when, where, or why she got sick with the fever), she had to lay in a bed and her normal daily household routine came to a stop.

- **THE INSTRUCTION:** The Bible gives a number of reasons why people become sick personally (like Peter's mother-in-law)
 - Sometimes, sickness is given to **strengthen** our faith.
 - **James 1:2-4:** “My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect (i.e., mature) and complete, lacking nothing.”
 - Sometimes, sickness is given as a form of **discipline** due to some personal sin.
 - **1Cor.11:30:** “For this reason (i.e., partaking of the Lord's table in an unworthy manner) many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.”

- Sometimes, sickness is given so that when one is healed, others might **believe** (e.g., the healing of the man born blind; the healing of the nobleman's son)
- All sickness is the result of sin in the world.
 - When Adam sinned, sin came into the world and death as a result—physical death is the result of some kind of sickness.
 - Jesus dealt with the **cause** of sickness--sin--by His death on the cross.
 - Jesus will deal with the **presence** of sickness itself at in the new heavens and the new earth in which there will be no more sickness.

STAGE #2: PETER'S MOTHER-IN-LAW GOT HEALED

- **THE MIRACULOUS INTERVENTION:** Jesus Healed Peter's Mother-in law By Touching Her Hand
 - The healing was immediate and complete.
 - The healing shows that Jesus has the authority and power to heal any and all illnesses.
 - The healing shows that Jesus takes the initiative to heal based upon His sovereign choice, according to the good please of His will.

- **A MAJOR INQUIRY:** Why doesn't the Lord heal everybody?
 - **Answer #1:** The Lord is NOT obligated to heal anyone-- saved or unsaved--He decides **who** He will heal, **when** He will heal them, **where** He will heal them, **how** He will heal them (i.e., naturally or supernaturally), for **how long** the healing will last, and **why** He will heal them (i.e., which is according to the good and wise council of His will).
 - **Answer #2:** No one--saved or unsaved--is in a position to dictate, demand, force, or manipulate God for a healing (e.g., God is the sovereign master of the universe, He does what He pleases in His created universe--according to the good and wise council of His will for His own glory).
 - **Answer #3:** All we can do is ask God nicely, humbly, sincerity, and respectfully, for healing--and then trust the wisdom of God as to whether or not He will grant that healing.

- **THE MEANINGFUL INSTRUCTION:** Some lesson concerning the Lord's sovereign right to heal or not to heal.
 - **Lesson #1:** Being a Christian does not exempt you from sickness in this earthly life.
 - **Misunderstanding #1:** Some Christians attempt to use 1 Peter 2:24 to teach that believers have physical healing in the redemption of Christ.
 - **1 Peter 2:24:** “who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness--by whose stripes (wound) you were healed.”
 - 1 Peter 2:24 is a quotation of Isaiah 53:5, which is not talking about physical healing from sickness but spiritual healing from sin.

- **Misunderstanding #2:** Some attempt to use Matthew 8:17 to teach that believers have physical healing in the redemption of Christ.
 - **Matthew 8:17:** “He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses.”
 - Matthew uses this quotation of Isaiah 53:4 to show that when Jesus healed all who were sick He fulfilled what was spoken in this passage.
 - When Jesus healed people He confronted the cause of all sickness, which is sin. Jesus therefore laid the foundation for His destroying sickness once and for all--by dealing with the cause of sickness on the cross.
- **Misunderstanding #3:** Some attempt to use 3John 2 to teach that believers have physical healing in the redemption of Christ.
 - **3John 2:** “Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.”
 - This is not a promise that all believers will be prosperous or never get sick; this is a blessing from one believer to another believer (e.g., I can give this bless to another)

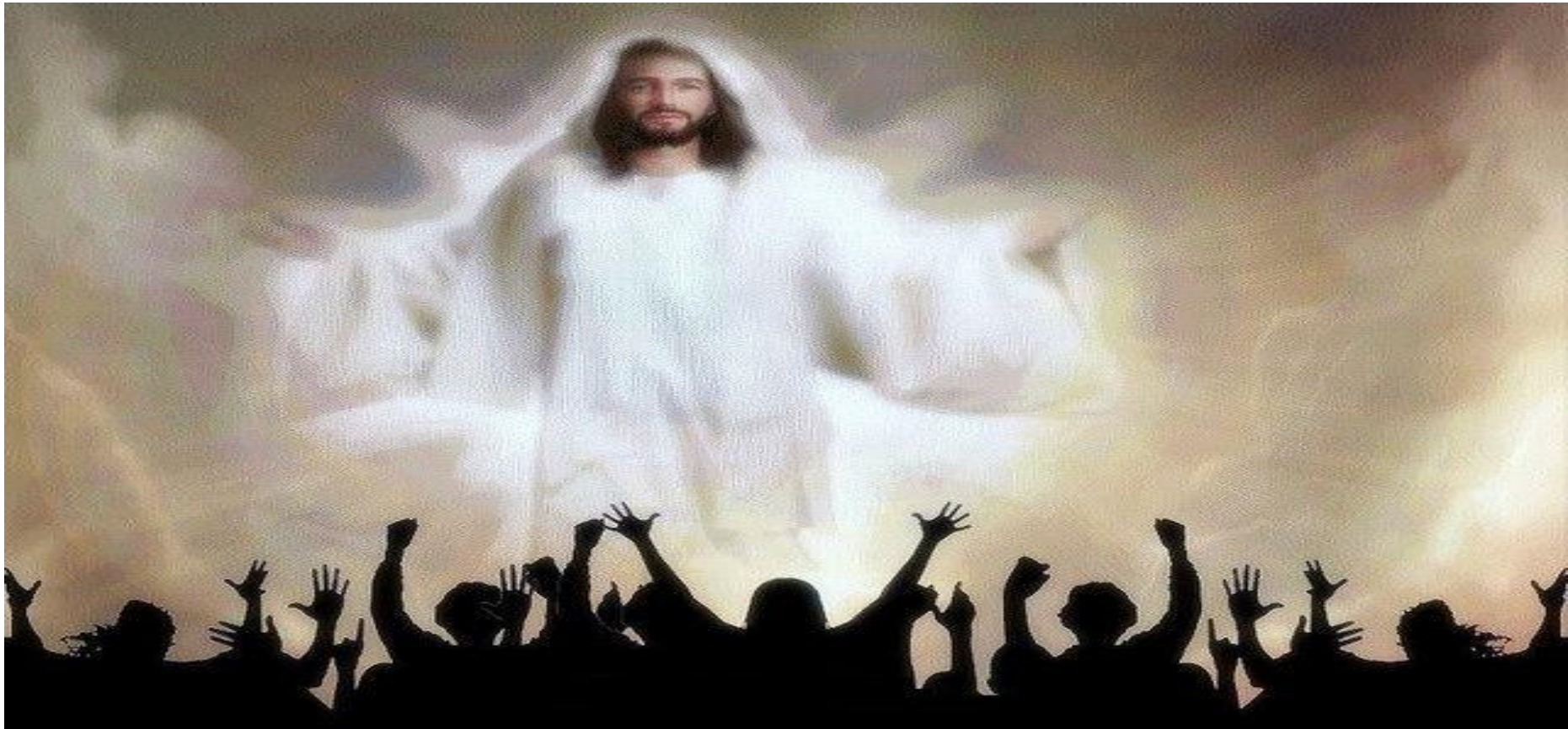
- **Lesson #2:** All healings in this life are temporary!
 - If we get healed from one sickness, we will get sick again.
 - One day, we will die from a sickness.
- **Lesson #3:** The true issue is not if you got a physical healing, but that you got a spiritual healing.
 - One can be healthy physically, and sick spiritually (e.g., there are a lot of physically healthy people who are weak and sick spiritually)
 - One can be sick physically, and healthy spiritually (e.g., there are a lot of physically sick Christians who are very strong and mature spiritually).
 - In God's eyes, it is better to be healthy spiritually (e.g., sick is not the real issue in one's life--trusting God in spite of sickness is the real issue)!!

STAGE #3: PETER'S MOTHER-IN-LAW GOT BUSY

- **THE ILLUSTRATION:** As soon as Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law, she got up and began to serve her Lord.
- **THE INSTRUCTION:** Sickness may be a hindrance, but our health is an opportunity.
 - **Lesson #1:** Sickness may be a hindrance
 - It hinders our daily routine
 - It makes us a burden upon others in the family, thus adding to their daily routine because now they have to see about us.
 - It causes not only physical pain, but emotional stress, financial ruin, and even spiritual turmoil.
 - Sometimes, it robs us of our dreams and ambitions because it prevents us from performing our "do to" list (e.g., sickness will cause you to drop out of school, quit a job, end a promising career, close down a business)

- **Lesson #2:** Our health, or healing from a sickness, is an opportunity to praise and worship God for His blessings
 - **Perception:** Christians who are in good health should be ashamed of the excuses they give for not being in worship.
 - **Exhortation:** Christians who are sick and unable to come out to worship should still call for the elders of the church to come and lead them in prayer, praise and worship!!
- **Lesson #3:** Our health, or healing from a sickness, can be used by God to be a blessings to others, even to those who are sick and shut-in (e.g., the household was blessed by Peter's mother-in-law being healed)

A CHALLENGE FOR YOU
ARE YOU TRUSTING THE LORD WITH
YOUR HEALTH AND HEALING?



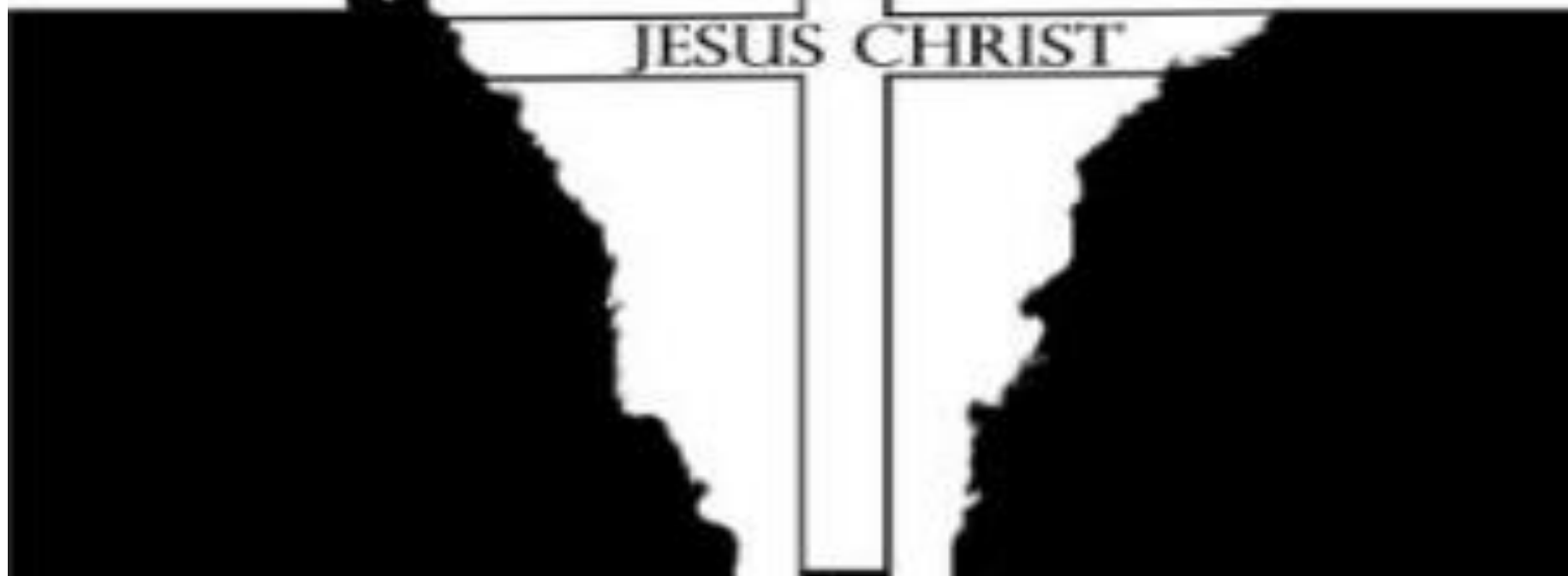
RECEIVE THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR
SAVIOUR TODAY!!



GOD HAS PROVIDED THE
ONLY WAY...WE MUST MAKE
THE CHOICE



JESUS CHRIST



- 1. Acknowledge** that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died on the cross for your sin, and that He arose again from the dead on the third day.
- 2. Admit** that you are a sinner, **guilty** of sin and **responsible** and **accountable** to a holy God for your sin, and that you are under His just condemnation and eternal punishment for your sin.
- 3. Affirm** that the Lord Jesus Christ is your Lord and Saviour by **receiving** His provision of salvation through your faith in Him alone.