

Restoration Series #4 - the Healing Ministry of Jesus

by James Robison

The sermon emphasizes the importance of hearing God in the spirit and living in the power of the Word of God to experience healing and deliverance.

Duration: 1:21:48

Scripture: Proverbs 3:1, Matthew 4:17, Matthew 4:23

Topics: "Healing"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of repentance in order to access the power of the kingdom of heaven. He refers to Matthew 4:17, where Jesus preached about the light coming and the need for repentance. The preacher urges the church to repent and return to the kingdom power. He also highlights Jesus' actions of preaching in the synagogue and spreading the gospel of the kingdom of power in Galilee. The sermon concludes with the preacher witnessing the healing power of God and encouraging the congregation to trust in the word of God for health and well-being.

Transcript

The church today, tragically too often, lives by sight and not by faith, by speculation, by presumption, and not by faith, because we don't hear God. We don't hear the Word of God. God is speaking.

God has spoken. God continues to speak. He does not contradict Himself.

He speaks consistent, but many of the things that are consistent with this Word, in our distorted view, we still don't understand or see. Even when it's God, we may feel that it's contrary to Scripture. That was a tendency that the Pharisees had oftentimes.

They said, we have the Word. They waved the Scriptures in the face of Jesus, who was and is the Word, and they carried the Bible, the Word, the Scriptures, and the scrolls, but it wasn't written in their hearts. And that's the distinct difference between the church that lives by revelation and the one that lives in the futility of their own understanding.

You don't carry the Bible simply in a leather binder, but rather you hide it in your heart, and you find the Word of God actually carrying you along in the spirit. And I'm longing for the Word of God to begin to speak to you in the spirit, in the spirit realm, into your spirit, and right on your heart, and then begin to live

in and through your life. I can't preach faith into you.

I can't preach belief into you. I can't preach confidence into you. I can preach the Word.

The Word will open your hearing, and as your hearing is opened, and you in fact hear the Word and receive the Word in the spirit, Jesus says, if you can believe, nothing shall be impossible. Now, I didn't say that. Jesus said it.

Do you believe that? But you must hear Him, and I tell you, that's the problem, is hearing the Lord. That's one of the major problems. The greatest war in the universe is the war in the spirit realm against the Word of God.

Are you aware of that? All the forces of hell, the powers of darkness, are in constant conflict, in confrontation against the Word of God. From the moment the Word goes forth, the enemy seeks to snatch it away. When you receive the Word, then the enemy will try to drive you away from it, and persecution will come, and a friction will come because you did receive the Word, and then some of you will seek the comfort zone.

That's the constant tendency. It's a constant invitation to you who've received the Word to conform to society and to the image of this world. Conform.

Conform to religion. Conform to the expectation of men. Seek the approval of men.

Seek the acceptance of men. That'll be one of the great battles you pastors who are seeking now to live by revelation. I don't think there's a pastor involved in this meeting, privately or publicly, who in his heart doesn't want to hear God clearly and move by revelation.

And when God begins to speak to you, there's going to be the conflict within for you to conform and seek the approval of men before you even make a move. And then it'll continue because you're going to find acceptance even when you've been approved by God. And when you're blessed by God, you're going to find acceptance and then the tendency is going to be to settle in and get comfortable.

And then you're going to find that that communication is broken because you've allowed the tendency to conform to take away and choke out the Word. The same thing happens when you let the worries of the world or the deceitfulness of riches or the cares for other things. And those other things can even be good things.

It can even be your family sometimes. People make idols out of their children sometimes, out of their mate sometimes. And although we're to be good parents and loving mates, we're not to idolize any person.

And so even good things can choke it out. Ministries often choke out the Word and you don't hear God. I want you to understand that the only way that you're going to be able to move in the kingdom of power over the kingdom of darkness and to move in victory and overcome this world, the only way is for you to be able to hear God in the Spirit and let this book get off the page in your heart, in your spirit.

I can say it to you. I can quote it to you. I can't receive it for you.

I can't believe for you. I can't live it for you. You've got to receive it.

It's a miracle. It is really a miracle when it happens. But that's what we're seeking tonight.

Psalm 107 verse 20. Psalm 107 20. He said his word.

He said his word and healed them. Isn't that good? He said his word and healed them and delivered them from their destructions. John chapter 1 says in the beginning was the Word.

The Word was with God. The Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.

All things were made by him. Without him was not anything made that was made. It goes on to say and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

Who is the Word? He said his word and healed them. Jesus Christ is the living Word of God. Does the Word live today? Will the Word abide faithful? Heaven and earth will pass away but my, my Word endures forever.

When Jesus appears, his name is the Word of God. The words that I speak, Jesus said, they are spirit and they are life. As Moses said in his departing message, this is not an idle word for you.

It is your life. God not only keeps his word, he is his word. The Word is God.

God is the Word. The Word ever lives. He sent the Word.

Somebody says, do you think healing is in the atonement? Do you think healing's in the blood? Healing's in Jesus, friend. It's in Jesus. Deliverance is in Jesus.

Salvation is in Jesus. And the works of Jesus in his shed blood is purchasing for us all of heaven right now as ours and for all eternity when we become not only new creations but have a new body that can't get sick. There's no sickness in heaven.

There are a lot of folks waiting to get healed in heaven. Forget it. You won't get healed in heaven.

Friend, if you ever want to get healed, get it now. In heaven, you've got a new body, not healing. You can't get healed in heaven.

You can't get sick. Somebody says, well, do you think it's the will of God to heal? And if you think it's the will of God to heal, why do you think it is? Well, it's really pretty simple. He built healing into your body.

That's the first testimony. His creative purposes say he wants to heal you. Only a body that has been intruded, only a body that's been disturbed and disrupted in its normal processes, even by nature, you'll find that nature testifies of the character of God.

God's a giver of life. God is the giver of fruit. And God gave us the capacity within this body to fight diseases.

And what are doctors doing? People wonder about doctors. I want to tell you, I think it's a sign of, of a willingness to grow. And someone simply pauses and says, you know, do you, do you think we as Christians, if we could really hear the Lord, like we should, do you think we'd need any doctors? And then they'll follow that and say, well, do you think then it's, is it right to have a doctor? And that's, you know, that's a good, honest question.

I'm going to tell you, when you come clean before God, you're going to begin to ask questions about everything you've been taught and you're going to ask the Holy Spirit to bring the truth and teach you now

and dismiss any error. Well, that's a good question. Do you know that when the Lord sent healing to my body and then I saw the healing power of God flow so freely that every member of my family was healed and I began to see miracles.

And as best I can remember, I went through six months that I cannot recall ever praying for anyone personally or even over the telephone who was not healed instantly for a period of six months. And I want to tell you, I've asked the Lord, I said, Lord, I want, that's where I want to live. That was really nice.

But do you know that I've never been through a six month period of my life when I've had so many people after me, hating me as I did during that six month period. I mean, I got my brains beat out. It was as though I was committing some horrible act.

I just, I just believe God. Do you want me to tell you how far I've been caught up into the spirit realm? I mean, this is absolutely incredible. It blows me away right now to even think about it.

I was so consumed by the word of God. All I could hear was Jesus saying, rise and be healed. All I could hear was Jesus saying, I am the Lord that healeth thee.

All I could hear him saying was, I sent my word to heal you. All I could hear him saying is that when you pray the prayer of faith, the sick are restored. All I could hear was the word of God.

Listen, I couldn't hear any other possibility. I couldn't hear men. I couldn't hear preachers.

I couldn't hear professors. I couldn't hear scholars. I couldn't hear theologians.

All I could hear was the word. I'll tell you how far I was carried along. I couldn't, if asked to pray for you, this was, it blows me away now to think about it.

It never got to my mind. I want to tell you the thought, the impulse, the impulse, the thought never got to my mind that there was a possibility you might not get well. That thought never got to my brain.

Never got to my brain. I thought it was the easiest thing in the world. When I first started, I went with fear and trembling.

I can remember going like a little child to pray for a woman we would tell was dying. Took my wife by the hand, took our Bibles. We'd never done it before.

I'd had a man show me how. He said, come, there was a woman dying of cancer, had it all over her body. She was a friend.

I said, man, I love this family. Let's go pray for her. He said, come on.

I said, will you show me how to pray for a sick person? I said, I'll show you. Come on, let's go. We walked in the hospital.

He took his Bible. He didn't have on a tie, didn't have on a suit, just had on a short-sleeved shirt and the word of God, walked in the room. I mean, he didn't even look like a prophet.

I mean, he didn't even look like a priest, didn't look like a king, looked like a carpet cleaner. That's what he was. And he just walked in the room.

When he got in there, he said, now watch this. Here's how we do it. He looked at the lady and said, you got a problem, don't you? She had cancer all over her.

What do you mean, got a problem? She had no problem agreeing with him. I got a problem. He said, God's bigger than all your problems.

She didn't doubt that. She'd been taught that all her life. But he said, now God's concerned about every part of you.

And he just took a piece of paper from the room and her husband was across the bed. Betty was in the room with us. He took a sheet of paper, drew a circle on it.

He drew a circle on it. He said, see that circle? Of course she did. Said, that's you.

And in the circle, he drew another circle. And in the smaller circle, he wrote cancer. He said, cancer is in you.

Is that right? She said, yes. According to all the diagnosis and even the examination, yes. And it's serious.

He said, well, I want to show you something else that concerns God, because he is concerned about your cancer. But he drew another circle. And in that circle, he wrote bitterness.

And he drew another circle and he wrote unforgiveness. And he drew another circle and he wrote pride. And he drew another circle and wrote jealousy.

And he said, do you see all of these other problems? Some of these are in you too, aren't they? And she said, yes. And he said, God's concerned about them just as he's concerned about cancer, isn't he? She said, yes. And he said, wouldn't it be rather inconsistent? Wouldn't it even be irreverent? Wouldn't it even be hypocritical to say, God, come and take away the cancer while I keep the bitterness and the jealousy and the pride? And she said, yes.

He said, wouldn't it be better just to say, come and take out of me everything that is not like Jesus? And she said, yes. And she was under deep conviction, as was her husband. And he looked across the bed and said, and you feel the same way, don't you, sir? This is serious with your wife.

He said, I do. And then he said to me, go to the door of the hospital room and put your foot against the door. Because when I began to pray, the devil's going to try to come through that door.

Well, I thought that's pretty neat. You know, that's going to be interesting how this will be. So I'm a pretty good-sized fella with peace on my feet, and I put my feet against the door.

And he begins to pray for this woman. And I love to hear him pray because he prayed the word. And I mean, he began to pray.

And he prayed with authority. He knew who was in charge. He prayed for God to take out of her life every unholy, unwholesome thing.

And about the time he'd been praying a few moments, somebody that was as a raving maniac hit that door screaming. They not only hit the door, they began to scratch and claw on the door like an animal. But they weren't getting in the door.

And they didn't get in the door. Because peace on your feet will stop them every time. And I thought, boy, this is interesting.

The person went on down the hall, obviously totally deluded mentally, but they knew the right room to scratch on. The power of God filled that room, and God healed that woman. Of one of the most severe cases of cancer anybody's ever been diagnosed to have.

Until even this year, the doctor was so astounded that he said, there's no way it can all be gone. It can't be. I know you're doing fine.

She said, I told you it's healed. Every time I talked to the couple, they said, we know what happened. You know, our friends down at our church, they went to a Baptist church there in Fort Worth, said they don't understand this.

They just think they can't understand it. We try to tell them some of them are unhappy about it. Can you believe that? He said, did you know that when you all prayed for us and left the room, do you remember looking back and telling us that some of our best friends would come through that door and try to put cancer back on my wife? He said, do you know you hadn't been gone a half hour before they began to march into the room getting ready to bury my wife? Telling her how terrible it is, but you just hang in there till you die, or whatever, just jumped.

But he said, we already knew God had already spoken. God came in that hotel room. We knew God, I mean, in that hospital room, we knew God was in that room.

We knew that. This doctor this year said, I'm positive it's still got to be there. The man actually put her on the operating table, cut her open and looked and couldn't find it.

It was gone. And she said, I told you, and it was. And I want to tell you any healing that Jesus does when it is complete is verifiably confirmable by any medical examination.

And you don't have to fear it. But brother, I was being carried along after that. I went over to that house to pray with that lady that was dying in bed.

And I sat on the foot of her bed. She hadn't been able to get out of bed for a week. They sent her home to say she's going to have to come back indefinitely.

And I actually said, she'll die most likely in the hospital. We can't even treat her, go home, spend a day or two there and then come back. And we're just going to take into trying to find out what's wrong.

We don't know. She was absolutely wiped out. We sat on the foot of her bed, bed, and I prayed for her.

She got out of bed and walked us to the door and she hadn't been back to bed. Praise God. And her whole family got healed and it's glorious.

And she's given her testimony on our television program and she's beautiful and God healed her all over. She had a terrible appetite. She had such a horrible appetite.

She could not get victory over it. And she actually had surgery on her stomach where they had sewed her stomach together and made it able to hold only four to six ounces to try to take weight off her. And she actually kept eating so much with a tiny stomach that she kept gaining weight.

But when God healed her in that bed, the appetite problem was over. It was over. And now the weight has just come off.

And she says, I don't die. I just sit down at the table and eat with Jesus. She said, I eat to please Jesus.

What a beautiful, beautiful testimony. Well, I was flowing along like this. I said, I don't intend to ever go to a doctor again as long as I live.

Why did I say that? Because I didn't like doctors or believe that they had a purpose. No, I just didn't intend to get sick. I got jumped on for that.

I mean, is it all right if you don't go to a doctor cause you're well? Well, some people interpreted that to mean I didn't believe in doctors. Listen, I believe it's possible for us to live where we wouldn't have to go. I think you can live where you wouldn't have to take pills.

I really think it's possible not to get sick. Don't get down on yourself. If you do let's learn, but let's get up the valleys to learn in, not to live in, get back up on the mountain, learn in the valley, get back up on the mountain.

Listen, you can glory. You can glory in sickness. You can glory in sickness, but don't glorify sickness.

Deal with it. We don't have to have it. Jesus is not sick.

He doesn't even have a cold. He's living in you. That is a profound statement.

He's not sick. Well, during this time, man, I'm telling you, I said, it's a good, and I just asked the Lord. I just prayed, and I said, Lord, are doctors wrong? And the Lord said, they're sometimes unintentionally hurting a lot of people.

They treat them improperly. They give them a lot of drugs because they want a quick fix. And God said a lot of what they're giving people has a more damaging end result than if they hadn't gotten it.

He said there's a lot of things happening at the hand of a doctor that's not healthy. I said, well, Lord, anybody admit that, the doctors will admit that. One of the doctor friends at Dudley Hall told him recently, he said, now here's the situation.

He said, you're going to have people come to you. This is when he got ready to graduate from medical school. You're going to have a situation, people are going to come to you all your life.

And the situation is this. Many of the people that come to you would have been better off if they'd never showed up in your office. But some of the people you're going to help.

So at the end of your medical career, try to have more on the side that you help than on the side that you hurt. Now, many of the doctors that have told us that's just the case, because there's some doctors that are really getting open and honest about what drugs do to people. I'm going to tell you something, folks, there's lots of stuff we're putting in our body that's killing us right now.

And as many wonderful things as God gives us that help the body, there's some things that we're putting in our body inappropriately at the wrong time, in the wrong way, and the wrong quantity that is devastating the temple of God. Now, don't leave me, don't you leave me yet, let me finish. But I said, Lord, and I didn't

just ask about what doctors might do wrong.

I want to know, are they right? Is it right to have a doctor? And the Lord said, certainly. He said, I wouldn't have allowed my son to be called the great physician if physicians were sinful and wicked. I would never let a wicked name be attached to my son as a complementary name.

He said, Luke, the beloved physician understood the body and understood what was going on and was best able to record the miracles from a medical perspective of any of the gospel writers. And the beloved physician traveled with Paul the apostle and saw the wonderful signs and wonders and they worked at his hand. And it wasn't that he just had a bag of pills, he had the power of God, but he was also a beloved physician.

And then the Lord Jesus in his graciousness said, now let me tell you the main purpose. And the Lord talks to you like this. And he's talking consistent with scripture.

I want you to know he never contradicts the word and he will talk to you. He will communicate with you, but you must know the word. So you don't know you're being deceived.

You've got to know what the word says. It's got to be consistent with the word. And the Lord Jesus talked to him.

He said, all right, go to the good Samaritan. I went over and looked at the good Samaritan. Here was a man beaten.

Here's a man hurt. Here's a man lying beside the road. He's been terribly battered.

What happened? What did the good Samaritan do? Jesus said he did this. He came and he saw his need. He got in and he cleansed the wounds and he put oil on the wounds and he bound up the wounds.

He did what? He took care of the wounds and he took him to a place and paid the money for them to take care of him until he was well. And what did Jesus Christ say? He said, this is the true neighbor. Go and do likewise.

This is good. Jesus says it is right to care for those in need, for those who are injured, for those who are hurt. And he showed me that a physician in its purest work and purest definition is that a physician is a trained mind and a trained hand skilled in dealing with the hurts and the needs of the temple, the body of God's people.

And that they're there to help, not to replace God, but to help. Now, some think they're God and those can be dangerous. Some of them think there is no God and that can be dangerous too.

But a physician, a doctor, has a place. And he certainly, if everybody in the church were living in perfect health, you still have lots of lost people that wouldn't be in perfect health. And we ought to help them like the good Samaritan helped that man when he was hurt.

And doctors are able to do that. And it's a wonderful means of missionary work and taking the gospel not only in praying for the sick, but caring for the needs of others. And no one should ever feel insulted or put down or inadequate in faith when they would consult a doctor, confer with a doctor, or go to a doctor and say, I'm in trouble.

I need some help. Wouldn't it be wonderful if all the doctors could begin their diagnosis in prayer? Wouldn't that be a wonderful day? It may not be too far off. Although you and I may be able to live without them, although you and I may be able to overcome, we should never feel shame should we need one.

And we should always ask the Lord for wisdom. The doctor's not God. Remember that.

Sometimes they best help us by telling us specifically how to pray, specifically what to deal with. After all, Jesus named the diseases and rebuked them. It's nice to know sometimes what you're rebuking.

They have a wonderful place. So thank God for, does that help a little bit for you to understand? I really want to see the church move in such power that all you have to do is roll the sick in the church and the power of God will come on them and they get healed. But I'm going to tell you this, the moment you get healed, you can lose it before you get out the door.

Somebody says, well, I don't think when Jesus healed people, they lost it. Well, then you just haven't read your Bible. Jesus told one man that he healed.

He said, no, don't go back into sin unless something worse come on. That's Jesus talking. In other words, if we don't walk after the word, we're still vulnerable.

Did you know that Pharaoh released the people from Egyptian bondage and they headed toward the Red Sea? What did Pharaoh do after he let God's people go a few days later? What did he try to do? He tried to do what? Take them back into captivity. You can be healed tonight. Walk out of here.

Not keep your eyes on Jesus. Start checking for symptoms, checking for pains, trying to get a feeling, trying to get a sensation and not receive the word. And the enemy grabbed you before you get home.

But I will tell you, when I deal with a problem in my life, I don't start checking it. I just keep my eyes on Jesus. God showed me how to rebuke a headache.

If a headache comes, I don't sit around and say, is it leaving? Is it leaving? Let me see if it's leaving. I'm going to sit here and see if it's leaving. Is it leaving? I wonder if it's gone.

Oh, I hope it's leaving. Friend, I just set my sails to catch the wind of the spirit, put my eyes on Jesus. I say in the name of Jesus, headache, go.

Now you try that. The first thing the devil will tell you is you're dumb for doing it. Isn't that dumb, talking to a headache? Can you imagine who that is telling you that something Jesus did is dumb? Did Jesus speak to fever? Did Jesus rebuke the dumb spirits? Did Jesus Christ speak to the sicknesses? Did he say speak to the mountain? Well, friend, if you've got a mountainous headache or a little baby headache, tell the thing to go.

Speak to it. Talk to it. That'll be a sign of growth, too, when you can talk to it without feeling dumb anymore.

I'm telling it's a sign of maturity. I remember when I first started, I said, headache. I almost was embarrassed.

Headache. The devil said, you dumb dingbat. I hope nobody hears you talking that way.

Headache. Oh, isn't that something? Headache, go. My sinuses would begin to flare up.

I'd say sinus problems, congestion, go. And the devil would say, you dummy. And he'd just try to pour more of it on.

And man, the old sinuses would just begin to puff up again. And he would say, it's not working. It's not working.

It's not working. It's not working. You know what the Lord would say? He'd say, get with me and I'd get in the Word.

And the Word would prevail. And I found myself many times when it looked like I was losing a battle, I'd just turn and go to the Word. And all of a sudden, I'd notice those problems weren't there anymore.

The headache was gone. The sinus was gone. The Lord said, look, when you deal with a problem, you speak to it.

You leave it alone. You don't know the times or the seasons that I put in my own power. You just act on the Word.

You do what I'm saying. You heed what I'm saying. And you leave the results and the timing to me.

Just keep your eyes on me and keep going. But I've been amazed as I would speak to these problems coming against me. I had something come against me this afternoon.

I came in and told my wife and my daughter. Here's how I told them. I said, there's something all over me right now.

All over my body right now like a virus. It's penetrating the pores of my skin. It's sapping my strength.

It's draining me right now. I told them that, but I said, it's all right. I didn't say that with cockiness.

I didn't say it with arrogance. I said it with confidence. I said, but it's all right.

And I said, the only reason I'm telling you is I just want you to agree with me and rejoice with me. I'm all right. I didn't say that presumptuously.

I know in my spirit, I know. And I'm going to tell you if the word's not first in my life, I can't know like that. And you can't talk that into me.

But the word will put that in you. It's the most amazing thing in the world. And I can't get the word for you necessarily.

Sometimes I can help you. But you need to receive the word. And we need one another.

My friend, he sent his word to turn over to Proverbs chapter two, and we're going to go through some scriptures. You're not in a hurry. Are you tonight? The hurry spirits not welcome here tonight.

Is it is the Holy spirit welcome? The Holy spirit never is in a hurry and he's never rude either. I want to tell you something, folks, you really need to be listening to the message tonight and you need to be seeing it in the word. And this you can call it prediction or whatever you want to, by the way, you need to go to

Proverbs three, I meant three.

You're going to need what you're hearing tonight because the greatest release of the work of the enemy in diseases, even against Christians has already begun right now. And it is going to intensify in the months and years ahead, like you won't be able to imagine. And you really need to hear tonight and you need to so hear that fear will not prevail against or over this word.

You'll just be able to hear the word, no matter what the situation or the diagnosis, this word must take prevalence over anything else. You hear Proverbs chapter three, beginning at verse one. Now let's listen to the word of God.

My son, my children do not forget my teaching, my words, let your heart keep my words, my commandments for length of days and years of life and peace. They will add to you and do not let kindness and truth. That's the word leave.

You bind them around your neck and write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and man trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. Rest assured, friend, look here for a moment, rest assured that as long as we're in this life, there will be in this life that which we cannot understand unless God grant that understanding there will be in this life.

I feel certain that which we will not understand and God will not reveal to us in this life. How we are not yet known as we're known. We do still see through a glass dimly.

Someday we will be known as we're known and we will know as he knows, but in this life, they're going to be those puzzling situations for which you will not in this lifetime find the answer adequate to satisfy your sensual desires or your understanding. And that's why God says don't lean on your own understanding. It won't hold.

There'll always be the puzzling thing. There'll always be that question. Robert Duvall, who is the Academy Award winning best actor, and I may have shared earlier with you, spent the day with me in my home Friday just over a week ago.

And Robert is making a movie on a preacher and I'm concerned about the drift of it. And he's being open enough to let me help. And I want to see him love the Lord.

And he's opening opportunities for me to witness by the grace of God to Willie Nelson and Waylon Jennings and these other fellows. And I want to love him. I want to really see a Willie get saved.

And I mean, that's on my heart. It's just on my heart. I can't tell you how much.

I love him. I want him saved. And Robert was telling me about the movie and he says, I've seen the power of God.

He said, it's real, man. And he began to tell me about these different people where one of them was an old lady in Tennessee. He said, she's so real.

He said, she's so holy. And he's been watching me for years and listening to, he's memorized my messages. If anything ever happens to me, and I think he could do them about as well, probably he's got them down a lot of them down.

And, and he was telling me in the movie, he said, I'm going to have a man pray. The preacher is going to pray for two children that have a terminal disease. And he said, the power of God is going to come so heavy on him that one of the children's just is going to fall under the power of God.

And so is the preacher and the powers all over. And he said, and the kid is healed miraculously. Like he said, I know God does because I've seen it.

And he said, but the other kid is going to die. And I said, why Robert? He said, because they'll always be that, which we don't understand. And I said, well, that's right.

And that is right. I mean, they'll just be that we don't understand. God said, don't lean on your understanding.

There's a lot I don't understand right now. Some of you say, why do you think you stopped that power flow where everybody was getting well when you prayed for them? Two reasons. The first reason is tragic.

Much of the church couldn't wait to beat that out of me. They lined up to do it. They got me in rooms behind closed doors and splattered my brains all over the wall.

I left one of those meetings so weak in my body that I could barely drive home. Within 48 hours, I was running fever and sick. And my wife came in and said, you want me to get somebody to pray for her? I said, I really don't care.

It might not be the will of God for me to get well. That's what they had pumped into my body and into my mind. Let me tell you something.

Words lead to the ruin of the hearers. I didn't go in that room to get ruined. I went in to pour my heart out.

And I'm telling you, it was like being crucified. I don't think they understood. I don't think they could understand the spirit that was in that room when those men walked in there and looked at me.

It was as though I were before a firing squad. I started out by telling them how Jesus healed me. And one of them said, a brilliant professor said, let me ask you something.

Suppose somebody came to get healed. And they came and said, all right, let's pray. God, if it's your will, heal me.

Go ahead, God. If it's your will, heal me. Go right ahead.

I'll accept it. Go ahead. And what if they don't get healed? What do you say to that? And I said, well, now let me ask you something.

I said, how many people do you think would get saved who came to God like that person you described? All right, God, go ahead. If you want to save me, go right ahead. Go ahead, God.

Save me. Go right ahead. I'm ready.

Go ahead. Go ahead and save me, God. I said, how many of them do you think would get saved? He said, not many.

I said, not any. He that cometh to God must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. And I said, let me ask you something else.

Suppose they come to get saved and they go out and live like the devil. I said, does that nullify the word of God and the gospel of Jesus Christ? I said, suppose they come down the aisles by the thousands and there's no transformation in their lives. Does that make Jesus any less mighty to save? And he said, no.

And I said, if I pray for every sick person on this earth and they don't get well, that doesn't nullify the gospel, the truth or the healing ministry of Jesus. It tells me we better seek the Lord. I want it well understood tonight that I do not base what I believe on physical phenomena.

I do not base what I believe concerning salvation on physical or emotional manifestations. I was not born again by physical emotion. I was not born again by a mere decision.

I was born again by the living word of God. I know I'm saved by the word of God. And I do not base my convictions concerning the healing power and ministry of Jesus on anybody getting healed any more than I base my confidence on the saving power of Jesus on somebody getting saved.

I didn't come to your salvation. I came to his salvation. He is mighty to say, I came to Jesus, not your experience.

I do not base my convictions on what I see. I base it on what he said, the forever settled living word of God. I do not base what I believe concerning healing on your healing either.

If you base what you believe on what you see, if you base what you believe concerning salvation on other people being changed or saved, you will walk away from God when they fall away from God. When the preacher falls, your faith will fail. And I'm going to tell you something else.

The first time you pray for a sick person and you don't see him get well, your confidence in the healing power of God will go too because you trust in what you see rather than what he says. But I want to tell you, when I came to the Lord and I said this, I said, God, if every member of my family dies of a horrible disease, I want it to be heard by every demon power of hell and every deceiving spirit. I want you to know that no matter what happens, it does not alter the word of God.

I believe this word. And this is why it works. It is by faith.

But one of the reasons I found the flow broken, I went to one of the big preacher's conventions. There were thousands there. Dudley was with me.

I can't describe to you the horror of the moment where I had been on the platform time and again, just like I was on the platform in the myriad here to speak to the largest crowd ever gathered in Oklahoma Baptist history. I can remember telling the humorous joke when I came up, I said, what a wonderful night. Thousands that filled the myriad.

I said, they're having the Texas evangelism conference tonight too. And they only have about 10,000. And I understand you have nearly 15,000.

But I said, of course, they only have Billy Graham preaching in Texas. And everybody laughed. I can remember being here on that platform.

And I said that in humor, I love Billy. He's my friend. But the point is, I was a hero on those platforms.

I walked back to the same conference where I was applauded. And you should have seen them part. They wouldn't even walk over and shake my hand.

They would actually turn to look at another person. And then those who walked behind me could hear them talking about me as I went by. But the moment we were seated up in the arena to listen to a wonderful man of God, Dr. Stephen Oldford, preach, a preacher got up and came over to us and knelt down in front of us.

Remember Dudley and said, pray for me, pray for my boy. Dudley Hall went to one of those big conventions. He said it was, it was almost embarrassing.

He said, I could hardly get to the sessions for people stopping me on the elevator and stopping me in the halls. He said, we actually had to pray for the sick in the elevators all over the convention. People come and said, would somebody please pray for me? But the mockery went on.

See, it's still going on right now. Right now. If I read you some of the letters that I've gotten from famous preachers in your state, your first impulse would be to throw up.

Your second impulse would be to go into a rage. Then your next impulse would be to get on the floor and weep your heart out at the spiritual sickness that's prevailing in some of these so-called spiritual giants right here in Oklahoma City. It's tragic.

You say, are you angry with them? Not even a little bit. I love them and I'm going to tell you something. When their needs are great, I'll be there right at the side to pray and I'm praying for them now.

And I want to tell you, I don't want the judgment of God on them. I want the mercy of God on them because I too walked in those critical, corrupt, if you please, shoes. Blind, leaders of the blind, leading everybody into the ditch of destruction.

You may say, well, what do you do when you do pray for someone and they don't get well? I weep. I ask God for a word. I say, God, come.

Lord, I can't stop until I see it the way it was with Jesus. Let me tell you, if the church of Jesus Christ won't beat me to death, I might learn something that'll help the church if you'll give me a little time. Why don't you be patient with me, church? Listen to me.

I don't know much about the healing ministry of Jesus. I'm a baby, but I know that it's the nature and character of God that wants you to walk. Will there be anybody sick in heaven? No.

Jesus said, pray, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Would it be all right to pray that way? I'm going to, I'd like to see the will of the father done now like it is in heaven, whatever his will is. It's his character to heal.

It's his creative manifestation to heal. He did it. It was the practice of Christ and his ministry and the church to heal.

The other reason that I believe the unbroken flow of healing was interrupted was not only the pounding that came against me. Listen, I can't tell you what that did to me. I can't even, I, you don't know how that

hurt me.

To want to pray for people, do you understand the love it takes for people to be praying for one another? Do you understand that a sick church literally stood back in open public skeptical mockery of a man in Oklahoma who years ago said, I'll sit down and pray for sick people. And many times he personally put his hands on and prayed for nine to 10,000 people a day for eight, 10 and 12 hours without even stopping to go to the bathroom because when he would look out, it would break his heart at the mangled masses. And the church of Jesus Christ stood outside and mocked him.

And so God almighty let him build a skyscraper. That's the biggest building in Oklahoma to shout to the world. He's healer still, healer still.

If he said nothing else in his ministry, Oral Roberts has said he's healer still. Your analysis of Oral Roberts doesn't interest God one bit. He may have missed God 10,000 times, but so have we.

And we're not his judge. And God wants this world to know Jesus is healer. I shudder to think sometimes had it not been for the absolute overpowering image of a man who said, I believe in healing, if in fact even Jim Hilton, who helped me to be healed, and James Robinson and others of us, and many today who are praying for the sick, might not have brought the lie that it passed away with the apostles.

But there was just enough there to make you wonder if the miracles might be real. And then to find, in fact, they are. Catherine Kuhlman, who saw so many miracles, who astounded us all with her mysticism.

I didn't understand the mysticism of Catherine Kuhlman. I've never understood the manner of Ernest Ainsley. I used to watch him, to mock him, to mock him.

He was one of the best laughs in my repertoire preaching to imitate Ernest Ainsley. And saying, baby. And one night God Almighty rebuked this smart aleck preacher and said, if you're so hot, why don't you get a bunch of deaf people up on the platform and tell them to say baby right in front of everybody? He said, why don't you tell the sick to come up in front of everybody while you pray for them, Mr. Bigshot? And God said, you don't think too much of Ernest Ainsley and the way he talks, do you? He said, what do you think about the story in the Bible where my son spit in that man's eyes? He said, you don't understand the things that are a little different about Ernest Ainsley and Catherine Kuhlman.

But he said, I want to tell you, I don't heal proud people. And he said, there are not many proud people going to hear Ernest Ainsley because they're too sophisticated. God says, I'll use what man calls foolish to confound the wise.

I've heard some of the most glorious testimonies of my life by people that were healed in Ernest Ainsley meetings. I don't know if Ernest does everything right. It bothers me sometime when he bops them on the head.

It does. I mean, you know, I figure if God's mighty enough to knock them down, you don't have to bop them too. Maybe I'll be able to share that with brother Ainsley right before he bops me.

Let me tell you something. Well, you've seen the power of God come so mightily that all you have to do is start to touch them and they go pow. Well, you've seen the spirit of God sweep through a congregation and lay them out everywhere.

And in the process heal their sick bodies. You know, God's powerful and he doesn't need our pop or our shaking hands. But maybe Ernest could learn a thing or two.

Maybe he could even learn something from me if I'd quit picking on him and go love him. I do love him. You can't know how much I love him.

I watched him Sunday night take a little blind girl. She had a little misshaped head she couldn't see. And he put his fingers up on her eyes.

And Ernest prayed to quite a few people. There was no obvious healing there. You just, you didn't see it.

I thought that was rather noble that he showed all those people that didn't get healed. And he loved every one of them. And then the little baby was there and grandmother had her.

You know what he did first? First, he led grandmother to Jesus. Grandmother got saved there. Then she put the little blind girl up.

Ernest put his hands up on her little eyes. And he said, Jesus, heal her little eyes. He said, come out blindness.

And the little girl went like there. And she looked over and reached out and got his flower off his lapel. And she just sat there and prayed with the little flower.

And Ernest said, isn't that wonderful? This little girl sees a flower. And her grandmother said she can't walk either. And in a few minutes, Ernest just took that little girl in his arms.

And he just began to hug her. He said, he's so sweet. Jesus, please heal her little legs.

Please, Jesus. Please, please, Jesus. And he held her.

He said, I believe Jesus is going to make her walk too. And it was the love that touched our hearts. She didn't walk, but she did see.

That's good. That's progress. Church, would you quit killing yourselves? Would you be patient with me while I learn? I tell you, I don't know much.

Would you love me while I try to hear the Lord to see the body here? I want your babies well. I want your children well. I believe Jesus wants.

Look what he says. You don't lean on your own understanding. Verse six, Proverbs three.

Stay with me. Don't get in a hurry. Too much is happening here tonight.

You can't imagine the good that's already been done tonight. Lord, deliver us from the hurry. God wants to help some people here tonight.

It won't be me. Get your eyes off me. I'm not it.

I'm not the word he sent. I preach the word. I lift up the word.

I lift up the Lord. I don't preach healing. I preach Jesus.

I want you to see Jesus. You'll never be disappointed if you'll get to him. You can't be disappointed if you get to Jesus.

Do not lean on your own understanding. Verse six, in all your ways, acknowledge him and he will make your path straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes.

Fear the Lord and turn away from evil and it will be what? Health, healing to your body and refreshment to your bones. What will be health to you? The word which you receive. The living word.

Turn over to chapter four, verse 20 of Proverbs. See it in the word. Receive it in your heart.

Am I saying this or is God saying this? Answer me. Who is saying what I'm about to read? I want to see what God says. Proverbs 420.

My son, that's the believer. That's his children. My son, give attention to my words.

Incline your ear to my sayings. That's his word. Do not let them, the word, depart from your sight.

Keep your eyes on Jesus. Not on miracles or manifestations. We don't seek miracles.

We seek Jesus. We get so caught up in the glory of Jesus that miracles follow his manifest presence. Do not let them depart from your sight.

Keep them in the midst of your heart. Get the word down inside of you. For they are life to those who find them and health to all their whole body.

Who said that? The word is what to your body? Health to how much of your body? All of your whole body. Turn over to Matthew chapter four and let's look what happened when the word became flesh. Don't you love to turn through the Bible? Aren't you glad you got a Bible where the pages aren't all stuck together? Some of your Bibles are getting broke in this week.

You've been over in places you didn't even know there were in your Bible. Pulling the pages apart, not longer stuck together. Isn't that wonderful? That thing will just work so good when you break it in.

Matthew 4, 23. I'll tell you what, you wouldn't do bad to read what Jesus said in verse 17 because Jesus talked about the light coming and the word referred to him as the light. In verse 17, Jesus began to preach, repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand and that's the kingdom of power.

He said it's at hand, but you must repent to get it. And that's the message to the church today, folks. That's the message to us today to repent, get back into the kingdom power.

Verse 23, Jesus was going about in all Galilee, what did it say? Teaching in the synagogues. And what else? Preaching the gospel of what? The kingdom, that's power. And what else was he doing? Healing.

Look at it again, pause again. Jesus was going about in all Galilee, what? What else? Preaching. What else? Healing.

That's the ministry of Jesus, folks. Healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people in the news about Jesus went out into all Syria and they brought to Jesus all who were ill, taken with various diseases, pains and demoniacs and epileptics and paralytics. And he did what? Heal them.

And great multitudes followed him from Galilee and Decapolis and Jerusalem and Judea and beyond the Jordan. If you want to make a marginal note, you go over and read the ministry of Jesus in Luke chapter 4 and you're going to find Jesus Christ healing people. As a matter of fact, although I'm coming back to Matthew for the conclusion, I think it'd be good if you just looked at Luke 4 for a moment.

I'm not in a hurry. I refuse to get in a hurry. I'm having fun.

If you're tired, sleep. We'll wake you up when we get to the end. All right? I just have a wonderful time.

Brother, I want you to know that Jesus Christ will not do miracles where he's not received. Brother, if you want to see miracles, you've got to get in an atmosphere where you expect miracles. I don't mean an atmosphere where you work up a bunch of emotion.

There may be zeal, there may be excitement, there may be praise, but there's not stirred up flesh. There's a stirred up spirit of a living God. I watch people try to get people into a frenzy of ecstasies and trying to get them into an atmosphere to help them.

I think more people are hurting that atmosphere than helped. Sometimes God does his greatest works. I've observed when it gets real quiet, I'm watching the Lord heal this boy on the front row.

It's kind of getting fun, partner. Well, I watched the Lord straighten that crippled body completely out in front of almost 1,500 people watched it just straighten out all those old muscles. Then I watched it just come right back.

And now I'm watching him, just peace is coming on you all the time, isn't it, little buddy? Boy, I love you so much. You're so precious. He's learning to rest.

This kid's a fighter. He never was supposed to be able to walk. Boy, he's a fighter.

And now the Lord's having to show him how to rest. And those muscles are beginning to just relax. See, I watched God straighten his jaw and his hands where he could talk plain is the neatest thing.

And I just getting so happy, I watched his hands become like mine. And then I just stepped back and I just watched it come right back. And the Lord said, now peace must come.

He said, it's not going to be something you stir. He said, this is one of these that's going to be for my glory. As my glory comes, you're going to see he's just going to be restored as I'm restored.

There's some people like that. They're going to be restored as Jesus is. It's a beautiful thing.

And we need peace. You need to get in an atmosphere where there's peace. God's beginning to minister to some of you now.

I want to tell you that sickness is in your body tonight. Jesus wants to just take it right off. He really does.

Right where you're sitting, some of you may never get to move and you've got to know. Jesus couldn't do miracles in his hometown. They recognized him in the flesh.

They said, this is the carpenter. This is Joseph's son, but they didn't receive him as the son of the living God. There are a lot of you that praise Jesus, but you don't know that Jesus is still the same.

You've got a weak Jesus that you lean on. He's weak. He's not the mighty Jesus of scriptures.

He's not the mighty Jesus that not only came out of the grave, but the mighty Jesus who raised Lazarus. And I love what my pastor, Jimmy Draper said about that resurrection. I love it.

I remember him just finished his term as president of Southern Baptist. He said, when Jesus Christ spoke to Lazarus and said, Lazarus come forth. And by the way, as Jim Hilton says, when he preaches on Lazarus, he said, Jesus wasn't timid.

He didn't go and say, I hope you come out. He said, Lazarus, where everybody can hear him. He wanted him to say that the word delivers.

My pastor said, when Jesus raised Lazarus, the power that raised him was so great. Think of it. The power that raised Jesus is the same power that raised Lazarus is the same power that's in your mortal body right now.

Not your mortal body, mortal body. Your mortal body can be swallowed up now with the life of God right now. And so mighty was that resurrection power.

Dr. Draper said that when Jesus said Lazarus come forth, he was bound hand and foot with grave clothes and the power that raised him came all the way to the door of the tomb. Bound. Power.

Power. That's the kind of power that often went out when Catherine Kuhlman was ministering. Catherine Kuhlman died of an enlarged heart.

Many of the people who attended said, Catherine get well. She said, I don't understand. I can help others believe, but I can't seem to get it.

Oh God. I can't help but wonder if maybe the body of Christ had not spoken so many curses on Catherine Kuhlman. If maybe the body couldn't minister to her sometime.

Oh, how many were healed in her knees. Everywhere. They rolled a three or four star general like a sack of laundry into here in a wheelchair with his uniform hanging on him.

He weighed less than 90 pounds. His bone structure was turning to jelly. And he sat there.

Catherine Kuhlman began her lecture and something went, and she stopped, thought something was wrong in the PA and she paused. And then she began again like fireworks. And she said, who's doing that? Who is doing that? Who is distracting now? Who is distracting? And it continued until that general stood up over 180 pounds.

Perfect. His bone structure reformed in his body by the power of God. Right in the seat.

One of the great miracles of her ministry. Absolutely overwhelmed people. They said that his muscles and his tissue had again filled every part of his uniform like a whole man.

He came to say, God. They tell me the people that worked her meetings said that the expectancy level was so high in Catherine's meetings. They said she used to get her helpers to go to the hospitals and the nursing homes and get the sick and put their wheelchairs and load them on the buses.

She said, go get all of them. Get the sickest people in this town. They said it was such a sight when they'd load that humanity on those buses.

And she'd have these little guys that believe God working on the buses. And they'd stand there and begin to tell those people God's evil. God can heal you.

Jesus Christ can do it. And some of those sick people ran off the bus and went into the meeting to get a seat. Well before they ever got off the bus.

Because they expected God to do so. Oh how we need to pray for one another. You're not going to see many miracles, if any at all, in an atmosphere of unbelief.

They didn't happen. But I'll tell you, you continue reading that fourth chapter of Luke and you'll not only find that he healed Simon's mother-in-law by rebuking fever in verse 38. Look what he did in verse 39.

It says he rebuked the fever. That means he said, fever go. He didn't take her temperature.

He rebuked the fever. He didn't monitor it. He got it on go.

He said, go. You can do it. And Jesus, don't be frustrated if you ever speak to a mountain it doesn't go the first time.

Don't be frustrated if you begin to act on the word. John Wimber, who sees probably the greatest healing miracles of anybody in the country, was ordered by God to start praying for the sick. He told his church that we're going to go after him.

We're going to pray for the sick. Do the ministry of Jesus. And he told them.

And the whole church got sick and liked to die. And I'll guarantee you, if you live by sight, the devil will put on such a three-ring circus for you, you won't even be able to get back to the word. But if you'll just tell the devil, it doesn't matter what you do.

I go with Jesus. I don't look back. I got my eyes on Jesus.

You can't distract me from Jesus. And old John Wimber told them, it's dying. And everybody sick that they went that was really sick and prayed for it died.

John said, it beats all. He got to where when he'd get a call to go pray for somebody, they're like, oh no, this is it. Finally got a call to go and pray for somebody that was dying.

And he said, when he got there, he told God, he said, here, oh God. He said on the way, he said, Lord, why don't you come? And he went in and saw the woman there about, he said, if you've ever seen death warmed over there, it was, he said, it was pitiful. He said, it just didn't help my faith a bit.

And he said, I went in there and here I went again, doing what God said. And he said, the glory of God came down that room, filled that room. That woman got up out of that bed and hit that floor well and went in the kitchen and started fixing us a meal.

So help me God. She was healed and still is. And he said, when I got out in my car and got on that California freeway, I said, all right.

Who touched the supernatural? And he never stopped. All right. Somebody says, how does it happen? Brother, you just go with God and wait.

That's how you win the lost. You just go with God and trust. He's the only one that can do it.

It's in his hand. Don't you be distracted. Jesus rebuked that old fever and it left.

And then I just love this picture. Look at verse 40. And while the son was setting all who had any sick with various diseases, brought them to Jesus.

And he laid his hands on every one of them and he was healing them. And if you've got something against prayer lines, you better cut that out of your Bible. I don't want to hear any preacher ever again, say any mocking word about a healing line or a prayer line, because I want every pastor on this earth to know if you've ever had a counseling session in your study with hurting people, you have a prayer line and you take them by appointment.

The only reason you ever see long lines, people getting prayed for is because the church doesn't pray for them like they ought to. And so they line up to get somebody that loves them enough to pray for. If we get right with God, we'll start lining up to pray for them instead of them lining up to get prayed for.

And if somebody gets sick, we'll be wanting to go over there and pray for them. Let's quit making fun of each other. I'm sick of the merchandising.

I hate to see it. I hate to see somebody trying to act like you got miracles when you don't. It bothers me to see showmanship and all that stuff.

It breaks my heart. My dear friend, Jesus Christ had them come in the throngs and line up and he prayed for him. By the way, another one of the reasons that I think the flow of the healing power ebbed was that the Lord made it very clear to me, please understand what I'm saying, because I don't know of anything that thrilled me anymore.

And just to spend my life sitting or standing and reaching out to you and others who are sick and watching Jesus just keep healing. But I'm telling you, the Lord showed me that our society and even the church is so perverted that people would absolutely come to a person who's flowing in the power that's about to flow. And if they could pin that power on that individual, they would literally take you apart limb for limb thinking that you are the special one.

That's how sick we are. We're a hero worshiping idolatrous people. Brother, I want to tell you, hero worship is over, brother.

It's idolatry. And there are no more big shots. They're God called, God anointed, God appointed people that are to be appreciated and held in high esteem only for the work's sake, not for their name's sake.

There are no more big shots, brother. It's just the body. And I want you to know the glory of God's going to come and you won't trace it to me and you won't trace it to Oral Roberts and you won't trace it to some pastor.

It's going to be a body ministry and you're going to find people getting miraculously healed in little home Bible study groups and prayer meetings and mothers and daddies going home and laying their hands on their children and their loved ones and driving across this country and praying for the sick and they're

going to be coming up from triple beds and they're going to be getting well and they're going to go to little churches in the country and big churches downtown and Jesus is going to be welcome and they're going to get up and you can't pin it on anybody but Jesus. That's the day we're moving into now. That's why you need to understand you may be the one.

They came to Jesus. Brother, in that ninth chapter of Matthew, that woman touched Jesus in the crowd and he turned around and said, your faith made you whole and he called her daughter. Your faith made you whole.

That woman was born again. Not only was the hemorrhage dried up, but she was born again. That's what God wants to do for every one of you here tonight.

The Lord wants to make you whole. God wants to minister to you and our Bible conference, when the glory of God began to move as it did this year, nearly 15,000 people had registered. On Friday night, the spirit of God just began to sweep through this place.

I loved what one of your Oklahoma City residents said, the black boy's name is James Wright, isn't that it? I think he still goes to First Southern Dell City out here. James Wright was at our Bible conference last year and blessed us. That boy sings from the bottom of his feet to the top of his head.

I get just a thrill out of watching his feet, man, when he's singing. He's got God just oozing out of him. And old James Wright sang last year, a year ago at our Bible conference.

This year he came back to our Bible conference to sing again. I remember what James said before he sang. He said, I thank God that one year ago, right here, I came down and I got on my face down there and I left my chains right there and I don't care my chains anymore.

I haven't picked them up. I was free right there a year ago. But I mean that Friday night after he had sung, the thousands fell on their face before God and the healing ministry of Jesus began to sweep.

I'm telling you folks, you can't believe the testimonies that came from the upper balcony. I mean, we're preachers. One of the preachers there, he was so sick and he was so crippled up and some little lady looked down at him and said, sir, you're sick, aren't you? He said, yes, I am.

How'd you know? She said, I could just tell. Said, I want to pray for you. That pastor of the First Baptist Church said, so help me God.

I was healed sitting right there. That little lady that I would probably thought was strange, prayed for me and God healed me. And he said, I went back to my church and told him Jesus heals and people got healed at my church.

And he said, I've never stopped telling him and I won't stop. For the all of that, a little Baptist deacon in the back, we said, just reach out and pray for somebody. He looked out there and there's a lady there had legs like concrete sitting in a wheelchair.

Nobody moved to her. Spirit of God said, go on, pray for her. Oh God.

And all of a sudden he said, I just put my hands out. And he said, that woman came out of that chair, like a shot out of a cannon. Ran two times all the way around that Coliseum.

Came back and said, can you believe this? Said, my legs were like bricks. Another layman from Alabama prayed for a sick lady. God healed her.

She came back down the next morning about to hug his neck off. She was happy how God healed her. I love what John Wimber says.

He just gets so happy. He prays for people, God heals them. He said, isn't that something? He said, God does all the work and I get all the hugs.

Isn't that neat? Boy, it's so much fun to see God work. You let these little laymen see people get healed. Whether you let a layman see the power of God, like we saw a layman stand up and put his hands on a tumor in a man's back that was as big as an orange.

And when he felt the tumor, he nearly fainted. Because by word of knowledge, God had shown John that someone had that tumor. He stood up out of the aisle.

He was a skeptic. And then that little old deacon put his hands on that thing. And it just went like that under his hands.

The people that stood around this man, and he was almost electrocuted when he was about 10 or 12 years old. He said, I had over 300 volts going through my body for a number of minutes. And he said, when that man put his hand on my back and God's power came, he said, it made that electrical shock seem like a goose bump.

He said, the power of God came. People standing close to him said they watched him come up off the floor. I know one thing, the power of God was so heavy in that room, but there was only one place for me to get.

And that was on the floor in the presence of God. We've watched God's glory come. That same night, a blind person received sight.

A crippled person began to walk and made beautiful progress. We were in a meeting the other day in Atlanta, coming down on the elevator with one of those glass elevators. I saw a woman being pushed in a wheelchair into our meeting.

I told Betty, I said, God bless that lady, Betty. I said, maybe she'd like to be prayed for. Wouldn't it be wonderful if God would heal her? We had a reception.

I walked in and began to shake hands with the people in the reception. While I was shaking hands and just greeting the people, some layman walked over to that woman in the wheelchair. The woman that had her pelvis crushed, her spine crushed, the woman that doctors had said could never under any circumstances walk, lived in such intense pain, it was almost unbearable.

He said, lady, I believe God wants you to get up. He said, can I pray for you? And he reached over. This is before we ever start, man.

This is why we're in there eating cheese and crackers. This layman's hearing God, just reached down and prayed for that lady. I'm eating cheese.

And here she comes walking by with somebody pushing her wheelchair down the wall. That woman sat in a straight chair like everybody else. Before we went home that night, she walked up and said, and she was so stately and dignified.

She said, doctor said, this could not happen. Would you look? She said, I don't have any pain. It's the first time I've been without pain in several years.

She said, look at this. Isn't this wonderful? And she walked out of the place that night. It wasn't James Robertson.

It was Jesus. It was Jesus. That's what Jesus wants to do.

You think it didn't thrill me the other night to invite a PhD from Evansville, Indiana, who got right with God a year ago as I preached. He said he invited me to help his image look good. I got up on Saturday night and preached three and a half hours.

Half the book of Jeremiah. He said I never looked so bad in my life. He said I could have killed him if I could have got to him.

But he said when James gave the invitation, the first sinner on his face was me. And Jesus changed my life, and he really did. To invite that PhD to sit and listen to a layman, Ronnie Harris, come and tell him how a girl with legs crippled like a rag doll.

He watched God hit her like a boat of lightning, spin her around in front of 2,000 people while they prayed, and a boy back here prayed for her. And she took off running and never stopped, and she's still going, testifying, walking around, praying for people. Totally immobile, legs that looked like splinters, made whole.

And he said that was so wonderful. And he said just a few weeks ago, the chairman of our board of directors, our board, has been with me for 20 years, puts the drapes in most of the high-rise hotels and Hyatt Regencies and those places. Ronnie Harris said when Bill James and I looked at this 14-year-old girl with old blind eyes, it looked like old white, deaf, gray, and her deaf ears and her tongue that had never spoken.

We just put our hands on her. This is a man in the farm, real estate business, a country boy. He was one of the ones that got set free, Brad, when you and Terry and Susan and Betsy apologized for bringing your friends to hear me preach, you remember, because I had changed.

I'd gone crazy, you remember. And boy, they nearly tore the chairs apart getting down the front to get right with God. You know, it's been nearly two years ago since y'all really got loose and free, isn't it wonderful? You're so pretty.

Good night. You want to see four pretty disciples that Jesus turned inside out. Y'all stand up right here.

Just stand up, come on, and just turn around and look up at these people. I want to show you four disciples that Jesus turned inside out. Ronnie Harris and his twin brother got turned inside out too, of all places, on an airplane with me.

That's where Brad got started being really finished off, was on the airplane flying across the country, and I'm leaning out there reading the Word to him non-stop. And I was reading the Word on the plane to old

Ronnie Harris, and old Ronnie's leaning out my eye like this, and I was going. And old Ronnie told his friends later, he said, man, it was like trying to get a drink out of a fire hydrant.

Boom, the Word of God, doctor, blew my head off. He said, I've never been so overwhelmed by the Word of God in my life. Boy, he said, when I got home, told my mom and daddy what happened, they said, son, you have gone crazy.

Man, they'd never stopped. And old Ronnie Harris is telling his PhD, he said, you think we put our hands on those old gray eyes? And we began to pray for Jesus to let that girl see. And all of a sudden, her eyes became whole.

And she looked at us in big tears, started rolling down her cheeks, and we reached up and touched her ears, and we rebuked the deafness, and we spoke to the dumbness, and we told the dumb spirit to go. And in a few moments, she could hear, and she was beginning to try to talk, and we began to find words and say, praise, praise, praise. And she began to say, praise, praise, said, praise Jesus, Jesus.

And she left running, praise Jesus, praise Jesus. And our mother and daddy, like the faded, and the whole town was turned inside out. Old Ronnie Harris said, I led 38 people to Christ right there.

Oh, to hear Arthur Blessed tell about the time the blind man with pussy sockets, pus running out of his old dry sockets, came up to touch the man dragging the cross through the thousands of people. And Arthur turned around, and he said, I reached back, and it was so horrible, I just touched his cheeks. And I said, Jesus, heal him.

Of course, understand, Arthur's seen entire towns instantaneously healed by the power of God. Oh, thank God for Arthur. Arthur said, I just prayed.

He said, James, I didn't get to see it. He said, I turned around, and he said, I thought a riot had broken out behind me. I took a few steps with the cross, and he said, I knew it was a riot.

And he said, I turned around, and that boy, that man, had the eyes of a little child, and he was looking at me perfect. And he said, the people came on me so that the Southern Baptist missionaries working with me had to take me into their quarters and barricade the door to keep the thousands of people from thronging me and trampling me. And then the missionaries went outside, and they began to organize the village.

And Arthur said, I walked back outside and led 10,000 people to Jesus Christ outside. He is the same. Jesus is the same.

This Jesus is healing. This Jesus wants to make you whole tonight. He sent his word and healed him, delivered him.

He saved him. You can come to Jesus. Jesus will minister to you.

Jesus will minister through you to others.

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