

God's Love Heals

From: Know and Believe:

A Lifetime Journey toward Rediscovering God's Love for You

Taken from Chapter 34: Love in Action

by C. D. Hildebrand

Many Christians find it difficult to believe that God will heal them because they combine “justice” with “forgiveness.” They believe God can only heal them or help them if their situation is not their doing, but they don’t believe He will help them if they caused the problem.

Let’s be honest. While, of course, things happen to us that are no fault of our own, many of the difficulties and health problems we face are ones in which we bear at least partial responsibility.

Many do not manage their finances well and find themselves backed up in debt they cannot pay. Others smoked tobacco, spent too much time in the sun, ate poorly, took drugs, didn’t wear protective gear as needed, and now they are “reaping what they have sown.” Relationships among family and friends are strained because they were unkind and self-centered or behaved inappropriately. Does God ignore these beloved ones?

We have several sayings in the U.S.A. which express the sentiment that if you do something that creates a problem, that problem is yours to solve. We say, “You made your bed. Now lie in it,” or “If you do the crime, then you do the time,” or “You get what you pay for.” These sayings are true, but in God’s economy, “Mercy triumphs over judgment,” (Js. 2:13), and “Love covers a multitude of sins,” (1 Pet. 4:8). While many sayings and even misappropriated Scripture make perfect sense, if they are based only on us getting what we deserve and do not include the mercy of God, then they are not correct.

Romans 3:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Yes, the wages of sin is death, BUT God freely gives us eternal life. The concept of us *deserving* salvation is completely out of place. Anyone suggesting any other way to be saved other than faith is considered a heretic.

Then why do we go on thinking that healing and help from God are something we work to deserve and receive? Does He heal and help because we've been good boys and girls, or are not these things also given and received by grace through faith? Indeed, forgiveness, healing, help, and whatever we receive from God is a *gift*. Please allow this to sink into your heart.

Galatians 3:5

Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

God doesn't do any miracle because we follow the law or are extraordinarily diligent. He does miracles because He extended the free gift of them, and we believe. When we understand that we are forgiven, it is much easier to believe that His love reaches out to us to heal. This includes healing of the spirit, soul, and body. God is willing to repair the damage done to us and clean up the messes we have made.

Perhaps you have a lifetime of making the wrong financial choices. God isn't abandoning you to your own works. He's not ashamed of you. No! He is working in you to make wiser choices and will provide for you so that you no longer live in poverty or in debt. He will help you find additional employment so you can finally be free.

We need to see that the God who freely saves, freely helps us. This is very important because the enemy will accuse us and shame us and try to get our eyes on our own failures and tell us we can't expect God to help us after we messed up. That is not true. He will help us. Not only will He help us clean up the mess we've made, but He will also change us from the inside out, so we will be able to avoid the same mistakes in the future. Oh, how wonderful is our God's love for us.

Romans 8:32

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?