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HOW TO RECEIVE HEALING BY THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

WORLD OVERCOMERS CHURCH
Pastor Andre Monie, Lead Pastor
6655 Winchester Road • Memphis, TN 38115
www.worldovercomers.org • 901-844-3000

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Introduction

If you have a sickness or disease or a malfunctioning body, or if you are under severe mental depression, and you have come to be prayed for by the laying on of hands for healing or for deliverance from that depression, would you please read the following instructions carefully:

Know the Will of God

I minister on four passages of Scripture. To be healed under this method, biblical faith healing, you have to know that it is God's will for you to be healed. It is not enough to know that God can heal you if he wants to. You have to know that He wants to. You have to know that it is His will for you to be healed, because faith can only be exercised where the will of God is known.

The only place where we can find God's will is in God's Word. So, I'll give you two scriptures out of many that show it is God's will for you to be healed.

Healing Was on the Cross

> ***That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esasias the prophet, saying, "Himself [Jesus] TOOK OUR infirmities, and BARE OUR sicknesses"*** (Matthew 8:17).

Please notice that it says, *"…Himself TOOK OUR infirmities, and BARE OUR sicknesses."* It is obvious that if He TOOK our infirmities and BARE our sicknesses, then He doesn't want us to have them. If He wanted us to have them, then He would not have taken them for us. The second scripture is:

> ***Who his own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness; by whose stripes YE WERE healed"*** (1 Peter 2:24).

"WERE," of course, is past tense and indicates that, as far as God is concerned, we are already healed. Not going to be healed, but were. We have to know that, believe that, and receive it by faith. Then it becomes ours personally. But it is already done as far as God is concerned.

Now, when it says, *"With His stripes ye were healed,"* it means that when they took Jesus into custody in Pilate's Judgment Hall under the Roman Government, they beat Him, or scourged Him, which means they whipped him with a leather whip. Now, the Heavenly Father saw every major disease of humanity transferred (symbolically) from humanity by the lashes of the whip to Jesus' body. When every major disease was transferred (symbolically) to Jesus' body through the lashes of the whip, they took Jesus' body out to Calvary and killed Him. When they killed Him, they killed the sicknesses and diseases. That's what the Bible means when it says, ***"With His stripes you were healed."***

Recovery Begins When Hands Are Laid On Us

The minister's hands become a channel in which God's healing power is released to our bodies.

> ***"And these signs shall follow them that believe: in my name… they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover"*** (Mark 16:17-18).

Notice, He says these signs shall follow them that believe: ***"…in my Name they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover."*** Well, you are saying that you are sick, so you qualify for this, and I am one of those who believe. It is obvious that I have hands, so I qualify. That means we can expect it to work because we meet the qualifications.

Healing Is Not Always Instantaneous

Now, notice that He said, "THEY SHALL RECOVER." THEY SHALL RECOVER. The word "recover" implies a process and not necessarily an instantaneous manifestation. And that's where many people miss it with Divine Healing: they have the mistaken idea that all divine healing is always instantly manifested, meaning that the condition or sickness always leaves instantly and that the healing is physically apparent instantly, but that's not true. The very word RECOVER implies a process. It means we go from being sick to being well. Even in the Bible, not everyone was healed instantaneously under the ministry of Jesus.

For instance, John 4:52 talks about the nobleman's son and says that he began to amend from that very hour. He started getting better instantly. The Bible says that the fever left him instantly, but apparently everything else associated with that condition did not leave instantly. But it said that he began to amend. That means that he started getting better. So, then, there was a time element involved.

When He said, *"You shall recover,"* there is no way I can tell you how long it will take you to recover because I don't know where your faith level is at this stage of your spiritual growth and development, and I don't know the nature of your condition. Some conditions require greater faith force to drive them out. Faith is a spiritual force, and our faith drives out the condition. It is not really God who heals us, yet it is God: God provides the healing power, and our faith releases it.

According to Your Faith It Will Be Done

There is the case with the woman of the issue of blood for 12 years.

> ***And He [Jesus] said unto her, "Daughter, THY FAITH hath made the whole..."*** (Mark 5:25-34).

In Matthew 9:27-31, two blind men came to Jesus, and Jesus asked them, ***"Believe ye that I am able to do this?"*** They said unto Him, ***"Yea, Lord,"*** [or "Yes, Lord"] and He said unto them, ***"According to your faith be it unto you."*** The Bible said they received their sight.

So even though the power of God does the healing, our faith allows or permits the healing power to flow to the problem in our bodies. It may not disappear **INSTANTLY.** We may have to leave our faith on the condition long enough for it to build enough force to drive that condition out of our bodies. That's why Jesus said they shall recover.

The point is, don't be discouraged even after I lay my hands on you. If you don't see an instant change in your body, know that Jesus Christ is not a liar, and He said they shall recover, so whether it is instant, one minute, one hour, one day, one week, so that you get it. And He said you shall recover, so that means you shall be well.

The fourth and final scripture is Mark 11:24, the Prayer of Faith. I like to couple the laying on of hands with the prayer of faith so that we can approach this disease or condition from two points. We approach it from the laying on of hands point of view, where He says we shall recover. Then we can also add to that our prayer of faith and our confession of faith. That adds to the laying on of hands and provides a larger channel through which the power of God can come to bring about your healing.

Believe That You Receive

> ***Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them*** (Mark 11:24).

In this case, what is our desire? To be well or healed! So He says, **WHEN YOU PRAY.** Notice He didn't say before you pray, or after you pray, or when you see something, or when you feel something, but rather **WHEN YOU PRAY, WHEN YOU PRAY.**

That means right now, the moment in time when you pray. He said **WHEN YOU PRAY, BELIEVE YOU RECEIVE THEM;** them what? **THEM DESIRES.** In this case, our desire is to be healed, so what He's saying to us is: when you pray, believe that you receive your healing. Then He said **YOU SHALL HAVE THEM. YOU SHALL HAVE THEM!** Notice that the **SHALL HAVE** doesn't come until after we believe we receive them, when we pray. So, in essence, it's saying that if we don't believe that we receive **WHEN WE PRAY,** then we will never **(SHALL)** have them. Remember that "shall have them" is based on us believing we receive them when we pray. To believe we receive is simply taking God at His Word.

Now, if we believe that we receive them, then the most natural thing that we would say after we pray for you is, "Father, I thank You. I **BELIEVE** that I have received my healing. Therefore I **BELIEVE** that I am healed." We are now confessing faith. We are not saying that we **KNOW** that we are. We are not saying that we **LOOK LIKE** we are. We are not saying that we **FEEL LIKE** we are. We are saying, **"I BELIEVE THAT I AM."** We are confessing faith. God's Word then becomes our evidence, not our physical bodies. God's Word says, **"WITH HIS STRIPES YE WERE HEALED,"** so that's our evidence. By faith, we believe we receive that healing.

Now we need to say that and make a positive confession with our mouths, out loud, at least in conversational tones. When you are alone by yourself at night, go into the garage or closet, or get under the bed covers, or wherever, say aloud: *"Father, I thank You. I believe that I am healed. I believe that I am healed."* So instead of saying you **FEEL** healed, you're saying, *"I believe that I am."* You may feel sick, or may look sick, but your confession must be, *"I **BELIEVE** that I am healed."*

What to Say When Healing Has Not Happened

Now, don't lie about it. If somebody asks you how you feel, don't say you feel good when you feel bad, because that is a lie. You are under no obligation to tell anybody how you feel. When they ask you how you feel, you say, *"According to the Word of God, with Jesus' stripes, I was healed. Therefore, I believe that I am healed."* That way, you stay in faith. You're not telling a lie. You didn't say you felt good when you actually felt bad. You said, *"I **BELIEVE** I'm healed."*

Say, for instance, you have a tumor, and the tumor disappears. Or maybe you have migraine headaches constantly, and then they suddenly disappear. Or maybe you have back pain or a slipped disc that's been there for years, and suddenly all the pain is gone, and you are completely well. Then you can say, ***"Praise the Lord, I AM HEALED. I AM HEALED."*** Somebody will say, ***"How do you know?"*** You say, ***"Look at my body. Examine my body. My body proves that I am healed. I am healed. I am healed."*** Until that time, you say, *"I believe that I am healed."* Somebody will say, ***"Why would you believe that?"*** You say, ***"The Word says that with His (Jesus) stripes I was, and if I WAS, I AM, and if I AM*** (present tense), ***I am healed."*** Now you are confessing faith. Do you understand?

When God's Healing Power is Felt in Our Bodies

The minister will come forward and lay hands on you, and God's healing power will be ministered to you. God's healing power is a tangible substance and can sometimes be felt. Some people are more sensitive than others and will actually feel the power. When hands are laid on you, if you do feel that power, that doesn't mean you are healed; it simply means that the power is there. If you feel it, **DON'T BE AFRAID OF IT.** It will not hurt you! Sometimes you may get hot all over your body; sometimes people feel cold all over; sometimes people pass out or fall under the power. Someone will be standing right beside you. If you feel like you are going to fall, go ahead and fall. He will catch you so that you don't hurt yourself when you fall. This phenomenon occurs when the power of God manifests. Don't be afraid of it. You don't get healed **BECAUSE** you fall or don't fall. You don't get healed because you feel or don't feel anything. You get healed because you believe you receive, but this is one thing that sometimes happens. Just let it happen. It won't hurt you.

Now, you may have more than one thing wrong with you. If you do, don't come for your migraine headaches, and wait until next week to come for your bad back, and two weeks later for your left ear that's been stopped up for 20 years. Believe God for all of them. In fact, I'll probably say, *"Receive your healing from the top of your head to the soles of your feet."* That covers everything in between.

Healing and Medication/Medical Aids

If you are on some medication – let's say you have diabetes and have to take insulin, or you wear glasses and need healing for your eyes. After receiving prayer, you may say, "Pastor Price, should I stop taking my insulin?" (or "Should I throw my glasses away?") as proof of my faith? **NO!** Don't do that! Don't base your faith and your healing on **NOT TAKING MEDICINE.** Instead, base your faith on God's Word. This medicine will not heal you anyway. Wearing glasses does not heal bad eyes. Taking insulin doesn't heal diabetes. All it does is make your body think it's normal. It will not help your faith, UNLESS you put your faith in wearing glasses, then take your glasses off and throw them away. Now you are in trouble because you have thrown away your faith (glasses). Don't base your faith on **NOT TAKING MEDICINE** or **NOT WEARING GLASSES** or anything like that, but base your faith on the Word of God. If you need the medicine, take it. If you don't need it, don't take it. It has nothing to do with your faith unless you let it. Understand you **ARE NOT SAYING YOU ARE HEALED.** You are saying **YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE,** so your body may still need the medicine. Do you understand what I'm saying?

But your body may still need the medicine so that it can continue to function until your faith takes over. I guarantee you that you will be the first person on planet earth to know that something has happened in your body. For instance, if you have to wear glasses, and one day you put them on and can't see out of them, shouldn't that tell you something? If you are taking insulin, your urine won't show any sugar so that you won't need the insulin. Either that, or you will have a reaction to the medication. Your body will suddenly turn green all over. Orange polka dots will break out on you, and you'll know something has happened. You will go to your doctor, and he will certify that you don't have the condition. Don't base your faith on NOT TAKING THE MEDICINE. Base your faith on God's Word. If you need the medicine, take it. If you don't need it, then don't take it.

But don't get hung up one way or the other. Some people get hung up, thinking that not taking the medicine automatically means they have faith, and that taking the medicine automatically means they don't have faith. Not so! Not so! You might not take medicine and have no faith, or you might take the medicine and have faith. So, base it on God's Word, and you will receive your healing.

Agreement

Now, one last thing: you may have already prayed for yourself. Maybe you are exercising your faith for yourself, and you are believing God that you have received your healing according to Mark 11:24, which is right and proper. What you are coming forward for is not that you don't believe you are healed, but simply that I might agree with you by the laying on of hands. I'll agree with you that you have received your healing, and that's all right, according to Matthew 18:19. I know of situations where people have been making their own confession. They come, and when the anointing of the Spirit of God is flowing through the ministry gifts, then suddenly the manifestation comes. Now, you don't have to have anybody to agree with you, but you can.

So if you are coming for agreement, you don't have to tell me, but when the minister lays hands on you, you say, *"Father, I'm not coming because I don't believe. I believe I am healed. I'm just here for the minister to lay his hands on me in agreement. I believe that I have already received my healing."* That way, you stay in faith, and you don't get into unbelief.

You can order the minibook version of *How to Receive Healing by the Laying On of Hands* by Dr. Fred Price. Call Crenshaw Christian Center in Los Angeles, California.