
BIBLE TALK

This week the question is: **Can God heal without a miracle?**

We have discussed on this program many, many times that miracles have ended. There are two major passages in the New Testament which teach that miracles would end when the apostles died and the revelation of God's new covenant was completed and perfected. These passages are **1 Cor 13:8-13** and **Eph 4:7-13**.

But the question we're asking this week is: Can God heal without a miracle? Some people have the mistaken concept of God that the only thing He can do is something miraculous. Many people want to limit God and forbid Him from doing anything thru natural means. Can God heal without a miracle? The answer is: Of course He can! In fact, this is how God heals people today. He works thru natural means and natural laws to bring about healing.

Matthew 9:12

12 ... [Jesus] said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.

Jesus is here teaching that when people get sick, they need to see a physician – a doctor. When a person goes to the doctor, follows the doctor's advice and takes the medicine the doctor gives, he may get well – and if he does get well, it is God that made that person well.

1 Timothy 5:23

23 No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your stomach's sake and your frequent infirmities.

Here the apostle Paul gives a prescription to Timothy for some physical ailments he was suffering. Wine was prescribed as medicine. If Timothy followed the orders of Paul and if God was willing, Timothy got better. Was this a miracle? Certainly not. This was God healing thru natural means.

2 Timothy 4:20

20 ... Trophimus I have left in Miletus sick.

Here is a friend and helper of the apostle Paul. You will notice that Paul did not miraculously heal this friend of his disease. You will notice that God did not miraculously heal this man of his disease. If he was ever to get better, he would have to pray to God, take medicine, see doctors and, if God was willing, he would become better, but not by miracle.

MIRACULOUS HEALING

There is a difference between natural healing and miraculous healing. Miraculous healing is instantaneous and without any medicines – without any doctors. Natural healing is thru the agency of doctors and medicines and it takes time.

Let me illustrate what I'm talking about. There is a difference between feeding people naturally and feeding people miraculously.

Genesis 18:8

8 [Abraham] took butter and milk and the calf which he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree as they ate.

Here is food being provided naturally. It requires time and effort on the part of man. It is done in accord with natural laws and nothing extraordinary is noticeable.

John 6:11-14

11 And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted.

12 So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost."

13 Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten.

14 Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."

Here food was provided supernaturally. It defied natural laws of the earth. It was extraordinary and very noticeable and it was done for a purpose – to prove that the man working the miracle had authority from God. Men should therefore listen to that this man said – this was the purpose of the miracle.

In the same way, men are healed today, but not by miraculous means. There are no more prophets living today who need to prove they have a special message from heaven. God's message to man has been completely revealed (2 Tim. 3:16-17) and there is nothing more God has to say to anyone. Since there are no more prophets and no more apostles, miracles have ended.

So in conclusion, men are healed today, but not by miracles. Rather, men are healed by natural means. Every time a man gets sick, takes medicine and gets well, that man should thank the Good Lord for making him well, but there is no miraculous healing today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Well ... thanks for listening to our message this week. We invite you to visit our web site www.WillOfTheLord.com. There you may download the notes and the audio file of the message you just listened to.

Call again next week when we consider a new subject on *Bible Talk*.