

HEALING AND THE HARVEST

- The Lord's heart for healing is amazing!
  - **Matthew 8:1-3 Wuest N.T.**  
And having come down from the mountain, great crowds followed with Him. And behold, a leper having come, fell upon his knees and touched the ground with his forehead in an expression of profound reverence before Him, saying, Master, in the event that you may be having a heartfelt desire, you are able to cleanse me. And having stretched out His hand He touched him saying, I am desiring it from all my heart. Be cleansed at once. And immediately his leprosy was cured by being cleansed away.
- Healing is not simply a secondary issue for the Lord: He is desiring to heal with all His heart.
- The central passage in my pursuit of God's healing touch.
  - 15But the news about Him was spreading even farther, and large crowds were gathering to hear *Him* and to be healed of their sicknesses. 16But Jesus Himself would *often* slip away to the wilderness and pray.17One day He was teaching; and there were *some* Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting *there*, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and *from* Jerusalem; and the power of the Lord was *present* for Him to perform healing. **Luke 5:15-17 NASB**
  - ..."And the power of the Lord was [present] with Him to heal them." **Luke 5:17 Amplified Bible**
  - The word for healing means healing of the sick...cured. It was used in the Bible specifically referring to the sick or of something broken. It means to heal, remedy, repair, or treat.

35Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.36Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd. 37Then He \*said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. 38Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest." **Matthew 9:35-38**

- **Matthew 9:35-38** – A connection of Healing and the Harvest
  - All the places Jesus went, the same things happened. (**v35**)
    - Teaching
    - Preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom.
    - Healings of every kind.
  - Jesus saw people in a way that released compassion. (**v36**)
    - People were distressed and harassed.
    - People were dispirited, thrown down or broken.
    - People were lost...without destiny or eternal purpose.
  - Jesus gives a prayer assignment (**v37-38**)
    - The Harvest is rich, ripe, and plentiful.

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- There is a shortage of workers.
- Ask the Lord of the Harvest for harvesters.

16But He said to him, “A man was giving a big dinner, and he invited many; 17and at the dinner hour he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come; for everything is ready now.’ 18But they all alike began to make excuses. The first one said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of land and I need to go out and look at it; please consider me excused.’ 19Another one said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please consider me excused.’ 20Another one said, ‘I have married a wife, and for that reason I cannot come.’ 21And the slave came *back* and reported this to his master. Then the head of the household became angry and said to his slave, ‘Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the city and bring in here the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ 22And the slave said, ‘Master, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ 23And the master said to the slave, ‘Go out into the highways and along the hedges, and compel *them* to come in, so that my house may be filled. 24For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste of my dinner.’

**Luke 14:16-24 NASB**

- **Luke 14:16-24** – Healing: The compelling evidence
  - People were not compelled by invitations (**v16-20**)
  - Skip the polite invitations.
    - Go get the poor.
    - Go get the crippled.
    - Go get the blind.
    - Go get the lame.
    - STILL, THERE IS ROOM!
  - Go and compel them to come in so the house is full.
  - Could the healing of the poor, crippled, blind and lame be the evidence that will compel multitudes so that the house is full?

8Philip \*said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” 9Jesus \*said to him, “Have I been so long with you, and *yet* you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how *can* you say, ‘Show us the Father’? 10Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works. 11Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves. 12Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do; because I go to the Father. 13Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do *it*. 15 “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. **John 14:8-15 NASB**

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- Four Tools of Harvest
  - Accurate and empowered preaching and teaching.
  - Authentic compassion.
  - Prophetic prayer and intercession.
  - Healing for the sake of evangelism.

1But there will be no *more* gloom for her who was in anguish; in earlier times He treated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali with contempt, but later on He shall make *it* glorious, by the way of the sea, on the other side of Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles.

2The people who walk in darkness will see a great light; those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them.

3You shall multiply the nation, you shall increase their gladness; they will be glad in Your presence as with the gladness of harvest, as men rejoice when they divide the spoil.

4For You shall break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, as at the battle of Midian.

5For every boot of the booted warrior in the *battle* tumult, and cloak rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire.

6For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

7There will be no end to the increase of *His* government or of peace, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this. **Isaiah 9:1-7 NASB**

- **Isaiah 9:1-7**
  - Those in darkness will see a great light. (The light of the world.)
  - Multiplication...great increase.
  - The only comparison is “the gladness of Harvest”.
  - His power and presence will break the yoke of oppression.
  - This all is the result of the presence of the King.
  - There will be no end to the increase of His government or peace.
  - The zeal of the Lord of Host (not human ambition) will accomplish all this.
  - Come Lord and be zealous over this place!
    - The gladness of harvest is another compelling element...harvest is the outworking of the heart of our compassionate King.
    - Lord, cause us to be those who obey with what we have and who believe You for what we need.