

## EFFECTIVE PRAYER CAN ACCOMPLISH MUCH

Today we will take a look into the breadth and scope of the healing ministry of Jesus. Virtually everywhere He went in cities or villages at seaside or in the countryside. He came to people and people came to Him to be taught and touched by His healing power.

We will look at a few of these examples of people being made well in the New Testament. As you will see, the Gospels list seventeen incidents where many people were gathered and the whole crowd was healed. He healed each of them and all of them.

I am also listing forty-seven other times when Jesus healed one or two people at a time. There were bunches of hurting people in His day and there certainly are multitudes of hurting people today that need to be healed spirit, soul, and body.

### **JESUS HEALED THEM ALL**

There are seventeen times in the Gospels where Jesus healed all of the sick that were present:

**Matthew 4:23-24**

**Matthew 8:16-17**

**Matthew 9:35**

**Matthew 12:15**

**Matthew 14:14**

**Matthew 14:34-35**

**Matthew 14:30-31**

**Matthew 19:2**

**Matthew 21:14**

**Mark 1:32-34**

**Mark 1:39**

**Mark 6:56**

**Luke 4:40**

**Luke 6:17-29**

**Luke 7:21**

**Luke 9:11**

**Luke 17:12-17**

There are forty-seven other times where Jesus healed one or two people at a time:

**Matthew 8:1-4**

**Matthew 8:5-13**

**Matthew 8:14-15**

**Matthew 9:1-8**

**Matthew 9:20-33**

**Matthew 12:10-13**

**Matthew 12:40-45**

**Matthew 2:1-12**

**Matthew 3:1-5**

**Matthew 5:25-43**

**Matthew 7:24-37**

**Matthew 8:22-26**

**Matthew 9:14-29**

**Matthew 10:46-52**

**Luke 4:33-39**

**Luke 5:12-15**

**Luke 5:17-26**

**Luke 6:6-10**

**Luke 7:1-17**

**Luke 8:27-39**

**Luke 8:43-46**

**Luke 9:37-42**

**Luke 13:11-17**

**Luke 14:1-5**

**Luke 18:35-43**

**Luke 22:51**

**John 5:2-15**

**John 9:6-7**

**John 11:43-44**

NOWHERE do we find Jesus refusing to heal anyone. In light of Jesus' statement that He could do nothing of Himself but only what He saw the Father do (**John 5:19, 8:28-29**), His actions are proof that IT IS ALWAYS GOD'S WILL TO HEAL.

<sup>31</sup> And He came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and He was teaching them on the Sabbath; <sup>32</sup> and they were amazed at His teaching, for His message was with authority. <sup>33</sup> In the synagogue there was a man possessed by the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, <sup>34</sup> "Let us alone! What business do we have with each other, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!" <sup>35</sup> But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet and come out of him!" And when the demon had thrown him down in the midst of *the people*, he came out of him without doing him any harm. <sup>36</sup> And amazement came upon them all, and they *began* talking with one another saying, "What is this message? For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits and they come out." <sup>37</sup> And the report about Him was spreading into every locality in the surrounding district. **Luke 4:31-37 NASB**

- He spoke with authority.
- A man is healed and delivered...in the synagogue.

<sup>38</sup> Then He got up and *left* the synagogue, and entered Simon's home. Now Simon's mother-in-law was suffering from a high fever, and they asked Him to help her. <sup>39</sup> And standing over her, He rebuked the fever, and it left her; and she immediately got up and waited on them. <sup>40</sup> While the sun was setting, all those who had any *who were* sick with various diseases brought them to Him; and laying His hands on each one of them, He was healing them. <sup>41</sup> Demons also were coming out of many, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But rebuking them, He would not allow them to speak, because they knew Him to be the Christ. <sup>42</sup> When day came, Jesus left and went to a secluded place; and the crowds were searching for Him, and

came to Him and tried to keep Him from going away from them. <sup>43</sup> But He said to them, “I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, for I was sent for this purpose.” <sup>44</sup> So He kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea. **Luke 4:38-44 NASB**

- Peter’s mother-in-law is cured of a fever. (v39)
- Various people with all kinds of diseases got touched and each one got healed.
- Many people were healed and delivered.

<sup>12</sup> While He was in one of the cities, behold, *there was* a man covered with leprosy; and when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and implored Him, saying, “Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.” <sup>13</sup> And He stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” And immediately the leprosy left him. <sup>14</sup> And He ordered him to tell no one, “But go and show yourself to the priest and make an offering for your cleansing, just as Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.” <sup>15</sup> But the news about Him was spreading even farther, and large crowds were gathering to hear *Him* and to be healed of their sicknesses. <sup>16</sup> But Jesus Himself would *often* slip away to the wilderness and pray. <sup>17</sup> One 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 5:12-17 NASB**

- The power of God was present to perform healing!

<sup>24</sup> But, so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,”—He said to the paralytic—“I say to you, get up, and pick up your stretcher and go home.” <sup>25</sup> Immediately he got up before them, and picked up what he had been lying on, and went home glorifying God. <sup>26</sup> They were all struck with astonishment and *began* glorifying God; and they were filled with fear, saying, “We have seen remarkable things today.” **Luke 5:24-26 NASB**

Examples in **Matthew**:

When Jesus came down from the mountain, large crowds followed Him. <sup>2</sup> And a leper came to Him and bowed down before Him, and said, “Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.” <sup>3</sup> Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. **Matthew 8:1-3 NASB**

- Jesus reached out and touched a leper...the leper got healed and Jesus didn't get sick.

<sup>5</sup>And when Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, imploring Him, <sup>6</sup>and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, fearfully tormented." <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him." <sup>8</sup>But the centurion said, "Lord, I am not worthy for You to come under my roof, but just say the word, and my servant will be healed. <sup>9</sup>For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to this one, 'Go!' and he goes, and to another, 'Come!' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this!' and he does *it*." <sup>10</sup>Now when Jesus heard *this*, He marveled and said to those who were following, "Truly I say to you, I have not found such great faith with anyone in Israel. <sup>11</sup>I say to you that many will come from east and west, and recline *at the table* with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven; <sup>12</sup>but the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." <sup>13</sup>And Jesus said to the centurion, "Go; it shall be done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed that *very* moment. **Matthew 8:5-13 NASB**

- Jesus sends His 'word' and heals the centurion's servant.

<sup>9</sup>Departing from there, He went into their synagogue. <sup>10</sup>And a man *was there* whose hand was withered. And they questioned Jesus, asking, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"—so that they might accuse Him. <sup>11</sup>And He said to them, "What man is there among you who has a sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will he not take hold of it and lift it out? <sup>12</sup>How much more valuable then is a man than a sheep! So then, it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." <sup>13</sup>Then He said to the man, "Stretch out your hand!" He stretched it out, and it was restored to normal, like the other. <sup>14</sup>But the Pharisees went out and conspired against Him, *as to* how they might destroy Him. <sup>15</sup>But Jesus, aware of *this*, withdrew from there. Many followed Him, and He healed them all. **Matthew 12:9-15 NASB**

- He heals a whole list of sicknesses (including pain!).
- They were coming from around the around the area because people need the Lord...His Word, His loving touch and power.

<sup>13</sup>Is anyone among you suffering? *Then* he must pray. Is anyone cheerful? He is to sing praises. <sup>14</sup>Is anyone among you sick? *Then* he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; <sup>15</sup>and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him. <sup>16</sup>Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that

you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. <sup>17</sup> Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. <sup>18</sup> Then he prayed again, and the sky poured rain and the earth produced its fruit. <sup>19</sup> My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back, <sup>20</sup> let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins. **James 5:13-20**

- We need to look around us to see who needs to be made whole.
- We are going to do that by responding to James' exhortation to us...call for the elders of the church and if anyone is sick, we will pray over them and anoint them with oil, and God will bring healing and restoration.

### **CATEGORIES OF FAITH FOR HEALING**

Seeking Faith – The person who is sick manifests a faith that seeks out God's healing touch...the woman with the issue of blood. **Matthew 9:20-22**

Intercessory Faith – friends of the sick person 'carry the sick person' to the Lord for healing. **Luke 5:18-26**

Ministry Faith – the person(s) ministering to the sick has 'faith for Jesus to heal.'  
**Acts 3:1-11**

Corporate Faith – calling for the elders and the church body to pray with faith for healing. **James 5:14-16**