

Gifts of Healings

I Corinthians 12: 7-11 *To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

8 For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit,

9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,

10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

11 All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

The gifts of healings are manifested for the supernatural healing of sickness and disease without any natural source or means.

Some gifts of the Spirit are more spectacular in demonstration than others, but they are all supernatural.

We may have difficulty because of our limited knowledge, in defining some of the gifts.

But the gifts of healings may be less difficult to define.

Most of us basically understand the subject of healing.

Healings were, of course, in prominence in Jesus' ministry as He walked on the earth.

Jesus had a healing ministry and He also gave authority to His disciples to heal the sick (**Matthew 10:8**).

Healing the sick is also included in the Great Commission, (**Mark 16:18**).

The gifts of healings have nothing to do with medical science or human learning.

Luke, who was himself, a medical doctor, was with Paul on many of Paul's missionary journeys.

Luke wrote the “*Acts of the Apostles*” as well as the book that bears his name.

Luke was with Paul when he was ship-wrecked, and they were on the island of Melita.

Nothing at all is said to the effect that Luke ministered to the folks on that island with his medical knowledge.

But the father-in-law of the chief man of the island was sick, and Paul laid his hands on him and he was healed.

He was healed by the supernatural power of God.

This was the gifts of healings in operation.

Then, the islanders brought the sick from all over the island and Paul ministered to them and they were healed.

Certainly, I believe in medical science, and I thank God daily for what it can do.

I am not opposed to doctors, but some people confuse medical science with the gifts of healings.

A radio ministry speaker once said that the gifts of healings were what God had given doctors and medical science.

If that’s God’s method for healing, then why do doctors get to charge us for their services?

However, anyone who has had any experience with doctors knows that under normal circumstances, they like to be paid for what they do.

Also, if doctors and medical science were God’s method of healing, medical treatment would always be free from errors, doctors would make no mistakes.

However, we know that that’s not true either.

Doctors and medical science are *natural* means of healing.

The gifts of healings and other methods of divine healing are *supernatural*.

Never forget, doctors and hospitals do much good for humanity.

I personally know many good Christian doctors who have the very best interest of their patients at heart and minister to them with their natural human ability as a trained physician.

But the healing that is supernatural doesn't come by diagnosis or by prescribing treatment.

Divine healing comes by laying on of hands, anointing with oil, or maybe even just by speaking the Word, just to name a few examples of how healing is ministered.

Gifts of healings were prominent in the New Testament.

It will help us to understand the operation and the purpose of these gifts of healings by looking at some of their uses in the Scriptures.

We know first that the purposes of these gifts of healings is to deliver the sick and to destroy the works of the devil in the human body.

We have discussed the working of miracles and have observed that that gift was more prominently on display in the Old Testament.

It is the opposite the gifts of healings which are more prominent in the New Testament.

Jesus Ministered as a Man Anointed by the Holy Spirit

Jesus Himself ministered not as the Son of God but as a man anointed by the Holy Spirit.

Jesus was just as much the Son of God when He was twenty-five as He was when He was thirty.

Yet we have no record of Him having healed anyone at this age anywhere.

Again, we have no record in the bible that He performed any type of miracle before He was anointed by the Holy Spirit.

Take a look at **Luke 4:18**, ***"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim***

liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

What did Peter say in **Acts 10:38**, ***how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.***

This is proof that Jesus didn't heal the sick by some power that was inherent in Him as the Son of God, the Second Person in the Trinity.

Rather, He healed the sick just as anyone else called of God would minister to the sick today – by the anointing of the Holy Spirit, by the manifestation of these gifts of healings and the ministry of the Word of God.

The Gifts of Healings

Let's look at several verses in Corinthians for clarification the subject.

1 Corinthians 12: 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,

1 Corinthians 12: 28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues.

1 Corinthians 12: 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

Notice that I have been calling this gift by the plural version of both words, gifts and healings.

In the English Standard Version, you only see the use of these two words in the singular.

In the King James Version, you see the plural use both words on in **verse 28**.

In the Greek, verse 28 is ***“gifts of healings.”***

According to *Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words*, the word, "**healings**," is plural in the Greek in verses 9, 28, and 30.

Notice that this is the only one of the spiritual gifts listed in ***I Corinthians 12***, in the plural for both words, gifts of healings.

All the other gifts of the Spirit are singular, except tongues, which will be covered in a later lesson.

Why are they "gifts of healings" and not the "gifts of healing"?

This is a biblical mystery to which we don't have an answer.

However, I have an opinion.

It may be that there are gifts of healings because there are many kinds of diseases, illnesses, and maladies, so it would seem to me that God would provide gifts of healings for the myriad number of medical problems that human bodies can be subject to.

Just saying.

Another reason I believe that the plural use is the proper name for this gift is because I have known enough different people in my life used in this gift, only it seemed that some would use more often for say, cancer.

Others were used more often for neurological conditions.

It seems almost as if God were using many different people to deal with many different types of healings.



www.lifespringak.com
info@lifespringak.com
(907)222-0850