

# Healing and Sovereignty

Heinrich Frederick Drye  
Revised 2017 Wabash IN

Why are only some Christians who pray in faith healed? If you are one of those who are not healed how should you evaluate and deal with that reality?

## 1. Providence (God is Sovereign – in complete control.)

Lamentations 3:20-26, 32-33, 37-38; Psalm 139:16; Exodus 4:11-12; Luke 4:23-28; 2 Timothy 4:20; Deuteronomy 32:39; John 9:1-3

## 2. Purpose (God has planned this for my good and His glory.)

Romans 8:28-29; 11:33-36; 2 Corinthians 1:8-9; Psalm 23:1-3, 4-6

## 3. Prayer (I make a humble Request.)

Matthew 26:39; 2 Corinthians 12:8-9; James 4:13-16; 5:13-16; 1:2-4

## 4. Perspective (I submit to what God thinks is best and remember that this present earth is not my home.)

1 Peter 1:3-9, 13; 2 Cor. 4:16-18; Heb. 12:28; 13:14; Philippians 1:20-21

**The Gospel in Once Sentence:** Jesus Christ came to earth on a rescue mission out of love and mercy to die for our sins (to suffer the wrath of God in our place) that we might be reconciled to God (saved) through repentance and faith in Christ Jesus who will return as King to establish his kingdom on earth (and who will give the redeemed their eternal, glorified bodies. There will be no more sickness and no more death.).

“Since there will never be a tear in heaven (Revelation 21:4), nothing will be sad, disappointing, deficient, or wrong (**MacArthur Study Bible**).

“To go to heaven, fully to enjoy God, is infinitely better than the most pleasant accommodations here.” **Jonathan Edwards**

**Randy Alcorn** wrote in his book, Heaven, “Nothing is more often misdiagnosed than our homesickness for Heaven. We think that what we want is sex, drugs, alcohol, a new job, a raise, a doctorate, a spouse, a large-screen television, a new car, a cabin in the woods, a condo in

Hawaii. What we really want is the person we were made for, Jesus, and the place we were made for, Heaven. Nothing less can satisfy us.”

A young lady in the church I pastored in Logansport, Kassie Neumann, wrote something on Facebook when she was 18 years old that I have written in the margin of my Bible at Revelation 22, “Sometimes I skip to the end of the Book, and wonder at what will be. There’s a city beyond the crying and dying of this world. And there’s a God we desperately need who can make all things right again. That’s enough for me.”

## Observations

1. Many godly people do not experience divine healing. God, in his sovereignty, and according to his wise purposes, may or may not heal. Note the God-honoring response to suffering in Job 1:18-22.
2. God receives as much glory through suffering believers who are not healed but who walk by faith and experience joy in the Lord as those who are healed. (2 Corinthians 12:8-9; Hebrews 11:32-40; 12:28; 13:14)
3. Everyone who experiences healing should remember that it is temporary. The death rates in churches that believe in divine healing and those that don't are identical. On the other hand we should keep in mind that every believer will at the resurrection experience complete and permanent healing.

## Conclusion

God does not always give us what we think we need, because he loves us enough to give us what we really need.” **Brian Tabb**, DG

The sovereignty of God is the pillow upon which the Christian rests his head.” **C.H. Spurgeon**

"If every human – all seven billion of us – died tomorrow in an earthquake, God would have wronged no one. Settle this in your heart. Life is a gift from God. He owes it to none. He may take it at any age, at any time, and do no wrong. Either we trust God by affirming all his revealed wisdom, or we play God by deciding what He got wrong." – **John Piper**

"Why do bad things happen to good people? That only happened once and He volunteered." **R.C. Sproul**

"I'm not suffering from anything that a good resurrection can't fix." **D.A. Carson**

"This the only time in history when I get to fight for God. This is the only part of my eternal story when I am actually in the battle. Once I die, I'll be in celebration mode in a glorified body in a whole different set of circumstances. But this is my limited window of opportunity, and I'm going to fight for all I'm worth." **Joni Eareckson Tada**

"God is glorified in healing. But I have seen God even more glorified when people are not healed yet continue to praise Him in the midst of deep suffering."

"God is most glorified when we declare Him sufficient in the midst of great loss." **Vaneetha Randall Risner** Desiring God

"Occasionally weep deeply over the life you hoped would be. Grieve the losses. Then wash your face. Trust God. And embrace the life you have." -- **John Piper**

**Jon Bloom** wrote, "Our joy doesn't spring from Jesus giving us what we want, but Jesus being what we want."

**John Piper** wrote, "If you lose all but Christ, you still have what is most valuable, and the One who supplies all you really need." (Philippians 3:8; 4:19; Psalm 16:5, 11; 63:1-5; 73:25-26; Habakkuk 3:17-18)

## Final Thoughts

### Summary

1. **God is good.**
2. **God is sovereign.**
3. **God is all I need.**

## Four Basic Truths

### 1. **God is in complete control.**

Ps.33:8-11; Prv.19:21; Is.14:24-27; 46:9-11; Eph.1:11

### 2. **God is faithful to his own.**

Romans 8:28-29; Luke 22:31-32

### 3. **Jesus is my greatest treasure.**

Jer. 2:13; 1 John 5:11-12, 20b-21; Philippians 1:21; Psalm 16:5, 11

### 4. **My purpose is to glorify God.**

1 Corinthians 10:31; Psalm 115:1

## Fourfold Response to Adversity

### 1. **God has designed this for my good.**

Genesis 50:20; Romans 8:28-29

### 2. **God has planned this for his glory.**

Acts 4:27-28; Rom. 9:17; 11:36; Rev. 17:12-14; 17

### 3. **God and what He chooses to provide is enough for me to have joy and hope.**

Phil. 4:4, 12-13, 19-20; Ps. 23:1 NLT; Psalm 16:5, 11; 63:3-5; 73:25-26; Lam. 3:19-26, 32-33, 37-38; Is.41:10; 26:3-4

### 4. **I choose to rejoice in the Lord.**

1 Pet.1:3-9,13; Rev.19:11-16; 21:1-6; 22:1-5,17; 2 Cor.4:16-18; Heb.12:28; 13:14;

**Habakkuk 3:17-18** "Though the fig tree does not bud and there is no fruit on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though the flocks disappear from the pen and there are no herds in the stalls, yet I will celebrate in the Lord; I will rejoice in the God of my salvation!"