

Come & Reason Sabbath School.
Lesson 6 Faith and Healing 2Q 2010

Sunday.

Is Fear healthy?? Where did Fear originate in humanity?? The lesson asks ‘what should we be afraid of’??

[ref. Luke 12:4-5 (New International Version) 4"I tell you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more. 5But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after the killing of the body, has power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him.

So, whom, according to the founder of our church [Jesus], should we fear?? OURSELVES, if we have not had the image of God restored in our hearts & minds.

Tuesday

What is **Faith?**

Hebrews 11:1 (New King James Version)

1 Now **faith** is the *substance* of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Gr. *Hypostasis* – Hypo – under, below, underneath Stasis – Stable state [*standing*].

Substance -- Sub – under, below, underneath Stance -- *standing*.

Wednesday

STRESS. Eustress vs Distress.

Rahe carried out a study in 1970 testing the reliability of the stress scale as a predictor of illness. The scale was given to 2,500 US sailors and they were asked to rate scores of 'life events' over the previous six months. Over the next six months, detailed records were kept of the sailors' health. There was a +0.118 correlation between stress scale scores and illness, which was sufficient to support the hypothesis of a link between life events and illness. In conjunction with the Cornell medical index assessing , the stress scale correlated with visits to medical dispensaries, and the H&R stress scale's scores also correlated independently with individuals dropping out of stressful underwater demolitions training due to medical problems. The scale was also assessed against different populations within the United States (with African, Hispanic and White American groups). The scale was also tested cross-culturally, comparing Japanese and Malaysian groups with American populations.

Stress according to the Holmes and Rahe Stress Scale, the number of "Life Change Units" that apply to events in the past year of an individual's life are added and the final score will give a rough estimate of how stress affects health.

Death of a spouse	100
Divorce	73
Marital separation	65
Imprisonment	63
Death of a close family member	63
Personal injury or illness	53
Marriage	50
Dismissal from work	47
Marital reconciliation	45
Retirement	45
Change in health of family member	44
Pregnancy	40
Sexual difficulties	39
Gain a new family member	39
Business readjustment	39
Change in financial state	38

Change in frequency of arguments	35
Major mortgage	32
Foreclosure of mortgage or loan	30
Change in responsibilities at work	29
Child leaving home	29
Trouble with in-laws	29
Outstanding personal achievement	28
Spouse starts or stops work	26
Begin or end school	26
Change in living conditions	25
Revision of personal habits	24
Trouble with boss	23
Change in working hours or conditions	20
Change in residence	20
Change in schools	20
Change in recreation	19
Change in church activities	19
Change in social activities	18
Minor mortgage or loan	17
Change in sleeping habits	16
Change in number of family reunions	15
Change in eating habits	15
Vacation	13
Christmas	12
Minor violation of law	11

Score of 300+: At risk of illness.

Score of 150-299+: Risk of illness is moderate (reduced by 30% from the above risk).

Score 150-: Only have a slight risk of illness.

** According to an 1991 article in the New England Journal of Medicine, the rates of both respiratory infection & clinical colds increased in a dose-response manner with increases in the degree of psychological stress. Infection rates ranged from approx. 74% to approx. 90%, according to levels of psychological stress, and the incidence of clinical colds ranged from approx. 27% to 47%.**

Thursday

What is **Healing**? What sort of healing does God want for humanity??

Proverbs 12:17-19 (New International Version)

17 A truthful witness gives honest testimony,
but a false witness tells lies.

18 Reckless words pierce like a sword,
but the tongue of the wise brings **healing**.

19 Truthful lips endure forever,
but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.

Proverbs 15:4 (New International Version)

4 The tongue that brings **healing** is a tree of life,
but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.

Isaiah 58:7-9 (New International Version)

- 7 Is it not to share your food with the hungry
and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—
when you see the naked, to clothe him,
and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?
8 Then your light will break forth like the dawn,
and your **healing** will quickly appear;
then your righteousness [a] will go before you,
and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.
9 Then you will call, and the LORD will answer;
you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I.
"If you do away with the yoke of oppression,
with the pointing finger and malicious talk,

Malachi 4:1-3 (New International Version)

- 1 "Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire," says the LORD Almighty. "Not a root or a branch will be left to them.
2 But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with **healing** in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall.
3 Then you will trample down the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I do these things," says the LORD Almighty.

1 Corinthians 12:8-10 (New International Version)

- 8 To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit,
9 to another *faith* by the same Spirit, to another gifts of **healing** by that one Spirit,
10 to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.

Revelation 22:1-3 (New International Version)

- 1 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb
2 down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the **healing** of the nations.
3 No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him.

Faith and works are the two oars with which we are to make our way in the Christian life. The Lord calls upon all who think they know what *faith* is, to be sure that they are not pulling with only one oar, and their little bark going round and round, making no progress at all. *Faith* without intelligent works is dead. *Faith* in the **healing** power of God will not save unless it is combined with good works. AU CR, October 15, 1905 par. 787 (Australasian Union Conference Record)

Taking proper measures is not a denial of *faith* in prayer for **healing**.—Many who seek the Lord's **healing** mercy think that they must have a direct and immediate answer to their prayers or their *faith* is defective. For this reason, those who are weakened by disease need to be counseled wisely, that they may act with discretion. They should not disregard their duty to the friends who may survive them, or neglect to employ nature's agencies for the restoration of health. (The Ministry of Healing, 231.)

Employ Every Facility.—It is not a denial of *faith* to use such remedies as God has provided to alleviate pain and to aid nature in her work of restoration. It is no denial of *faith* [for the sick who request prayer for **healing**] to cooperate with God, and place themselves in the condition most favorable to recovery. God has put it in our power to obtain a knowledge of the laws of life. This knowledge has been placed within our reach for use. We should employ every facility for the restoration of health, taking every advantage possible, working in harmony with natural laws.—The Ministry of Healing, 231, 232 (1905).

When we have prayed for the recovery of the sick, whatever the outcome of the case, let us not lose *faith* in God. If we are called upon to meet bereavement, let us accept the bitter cup, remembering that a Father's hand holds it to our lips. But should health be restored, it should not be forgotten that the recipient of **healing** mercy is placed under renewed obligation to the Creator. When the ten lepers were cleansed, only one returned to find Jesus and give Him glory. Let none of us be like the unthinking nine, whose hearts were untouched by the mercy of God. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." James 1:17. CCh 306. (Counsels for the Church).

This is the life we are to present to the sick, telling them that if they have *faith* in Christ as the restorer, if they cooperate with Him, obeying the laws of health, and striving to perfect holiness in His fear, He will impart to them His life. When we present Christ to them in this way, we are imparting a power, a strength, that is of value; for it comes from above. This is the true science of **healing** for body and soul.—The Ministry of Healing, 243, 244 (1905).

So with all the promises of God's word. In them He is speaking to us individually, speaking as directly as if we could listen to His voice. It is in these promises that Christ communicates to us His grace and power. They are leaves from that tree which is "for the **healing** of the nations." Revelation 22:2. Received, assimilated, they are to be the strength of the character, the inspiration and sustenance of the life. Nothing else can have such **healing** power. Nothing besides can impart the courage and *faith* which give vital energy to the whole being. MH 122.3 (The Ministry of Healing).

The power of love was in all Christ's **healing**, and only by partaking of that love, through *faith*, can we be instruments for His work. If we neglect to link ourselves in divine connection with Christ, the current of life-giving energy cannot flow in rich streams from us to the people. There were places

where the Saviour Himself could not do many mighty works because of their unbelief. So now unbelief separates the church from her divine Helper. Her hold upon eternal realities is weak. By her lack of *faith*, God is disappointed and robbed of His glory. DA 825. (The Desire of Ages)

Here was ground with which Nicodemus was familiar. The symbol of the uplifted serpent made plain to him the Saviour's mission. When the people of Israel were dying from the sting of the fiery serpents, God directed Moses to make a serpent of brass, and place it on high in the midst of the congregation. Then the word was sounded throughout the encampment that all who would look upon the serpent should live. The people well knew that in itself the serpent had no power to help them. It was a symbol of Christ. As the image made in the likeness of the destroying serpents was lifted up for their **healing**, so One made "in the likeness of sinful flesh" was to be their Redeemer. Romans 8:3. Many of the Israelites regarded the sacrificial service as having in itself virtue to set them free from sin. God desired to teach them that it had no more value than that serpent of brass. It was to lead their minds to the Saviour. Whether for the **healing** of their wounds or the pardon of their sins, they could do nothing for themselves but show their *faith* in the Gift of God. They were to look and live. DA 174. (The Desire of Ages)

He was active to relieve every species of human misery that was brought to Him in *faith* for relief; but He did not bestow **healing** power indiscriminately where there was manifested an independence and selfish exclusiveness that would give no expression to their sorrows nor ask for the help so much needed. All who came unto Him in *faith* He was ready and willing to relieve. Sorrow fled at His presence; injustice and oppression withered beneath His rebukes; and death, the cruel spoiler of our sinful race, obeyed His commands. TDG 249.3 (This Day With God)

God is just as willing to restore the sick to health now as when the Holy Spirit spoke these words through the psalmist. And Christ is the same compassionate physician now that He was during His earthly ministry. In Him there is **healing** balm for every disease, restoring power for every infirmity. His disciples in this time are to pray for the sick as verily as the disciples of old prayed. And recoveries will follow; for "the prayer of *faith* shall save the sick." We have the Holy Spirit's power, the calm assurance of *faith*, that can claim God's promises. The Lord's promise, "They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" (Mark 16:18), is just as trustworthy now as in the days of the apostles. It presents the privilege of God's children, and our *faith* should lay hold of all that it embraces. Christ's servants are the channel of His working, and through them He desires to exercise His **healing** power. It is our work to present the sick and suffering to God in the arms of our *faith*. We should teach them to believe in the Great Healer. MH 226.1 (The Ministry of Healing).

227.2 In the word of God we have instruction relative to special prayer for the recovery of the sick. But the offering of such prayer is a most solemn act, and should not be entered upon without careful consideration. In many cases of prayer for the healing of the sick, that which is called faith is nothing less than presumption. 227.3 Many persons bring disease upon themselves by their self-indulgence. They have not lived in accordance with natural law or the principles of strict purity. Others have disregarded the laws of health in their habits of eating and drinking, dressing, or working. Often some form of vice is the cause of feebleness of mind or body. Should these persons gain the blessing of health, many of them would continue to pursue the same course of heedless transgression of God's natural and spiritual laws, reasoning that if God heals them in answer to prayer, they are at liberty to continue their unhealthful practices and to indulge perverted appetite without restraint. If God were

to work a miracle in restoring these persons to health, He would be encouraging sin. MH 227.2,3 (The Ministry of Healing).

There is something better for us to engage in than the control of humanity by humanity. The physician should educate the people to look from the human to the divine. Instead of teaching the sick to depend upon human beings for the cure of soul and body, he should direct them to the One who can save to the uttermost all who come unto Him. He who made man's mind knows what the mind needs. God alone is the One who can heal. Those whose minds and bodies are diseased are to behold in Christ the restorer. "Because I live, He says, "ye shall live also." John 14:19. This is the life we are to present to the sick, telling them that if they have faith in Christ as the restorer, if they co-operate with Him, obeying the laws of health, and striving to perfect holiness in His fear, He will impart to them His life. When we present Christ to them in this way, we are imparting a power, a strength, that is of value; for it comes from above. This is the true science of healing for body and soul. MH 243.3 (The Ministry of Healing).