

**"HOPE DEFERRED MAKES THE HEART SICK,
BUT WHEN DESIRE IS FULFILLED, IT IS A TREE OF
LIFE," Proverbs 13:12.**

Dear Faithful Saints of the Most High God,

This is the third letter I have written to you this month. The first two were good letters on God's Word and Love, but this is the one that is needed today by so many fellow believers who are dealing with problems, woes, sickness, poverty, broken families, dead-end jobs, hopelessness, and depression. Let's face it, today's world is not nice. There are very few things in this life that can really bring a smile to your face and lift your spirit, much less give you joy or peace. True joy and peace can only come from the Throne of our Heavenly Father, not from material possessions, power, or wealth.

You may occasionally see a smile on someone's face, or even hear them chuckle or laugh a little, but under that fake facade you'll often find a cesspool of anger, fear, doubt, hopelessness, depression, and disappointment.

Dear brothers and sisters, this definitely should not be in the life of the Christian, for we have a source of *Living Water* that should be springing up within our soul. Jesus said, **"But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life," John 4:14.** This living water is more than just H₂O to drink. The fact that it is **"LIVING"** means that it brings life to all that it flows over. It is not standing, stagnate, tainted, or sour water. It is new, fresh, clear, clean, nurturing, sweet, refreshing, and forever water.

The LORD and I have been in three conversations in the last two days with people that have been lied to by satan. Satan is a liar and the father of lies! My body was born with several birth defects. Some cropped up when I was young and almost cost me my life, but God. One should have left me physically deformed, but God. Later in life, one cost me a lot of time and money and should have kept me from a job path that God planned for me to walk, but God. In more recent times, one issue was intended to not only kill me, but keep me out of the Will and Calling of God, but God.

In life we have a choice, we can believe what the circumstance looks like, even what the world tells us or what family or friends tell us. We can listen to one voice inside our head telling us to just live with the problem as it is our cross to bear because, after all, we will be well, healthy, happy, and safe once we are in Heaven. OR, we can listen to God's Holy Word and the Voice of the Holy Spirit confirming God's Word in our spirit.

Can we get by with physical affliction or physical hardship for the rest of our life? Yes, we probably can, with a little perseverance and effort. But is that the Will of God for us, even, the Perfect Will of God? Over the years I have had a knee operation, nose operation, two shoulder operations, one bro-

ken jaw operation, one broken arm, two open heart surgeries, and two pacemaker procedures, and yet I can say that God was in everyone of them. OH, NO, He did not cause them, **He saw me through them.** I could have lived through most of them without any medical interventions, but I could not have gotten through them without faith in God. I could have even accepted the shortness of breath, the pain, the discomfort, the limited activity, and even the shorter life span if I wanted to believe the lies of the devil. God is the HEALER!

I thank and praise my LORD that my Father and Mother stood on God's Word and walked in faith that God heard their cries for help and would (did) answer prayers!!!!!!

Can we carry the cross, walk the rocky road, accept the lot given to us by the world? Yes we can, but why should we when God has given us His Word - His Promise - and His Son on the Cross for us to walk in our victory? Or we can listen to the lies of the devil and doubt that God has healing for us today and never walk in His fullness of life.

The following is a letter we received last week from a man who has listened to and is living in the lies of the devil to the extent that he doesn't believe that God heals. He has lost all hope. He only has faith that he will be sick. He is content to carry the burden of physical bondage.

Children - we need to WAKE UP to the truth of God's WORD. **"Now the God of Hope fill you with all Joy and Peace in believing, that you may abound in Hope, through the Power of the Holy Spirit," Romans 15:13.**

July 2024

I have had my appendix out. Was I supposed to pray it away ?

I when young, had my tonsils out . Was I to pray it away instead ?

I occasionally have colds.

I also have arthritis, since 2001.

I take Tylenol. I reserve aspirin for blood clots ...

I also have diabetes, I take insulin injections to control my blood sugar. Was I supposed to pray it away instead?

I stopped praying years ago, because my praying was never answered ...

Bacteria, Viral, Poisons -- cause illness, not sin.

I just had 2 bad teeth pulled. Was I to pray that away, instead?

I wear a strong hearing aide.

One of your tracts hinted of predestination. This is a heresy!

Paul ****, NJ

(continued on next page)

I am also an evolutionists, a deist !

I once had ~ 1000 tracts, but got rid of 93% of them. Two were by an obvious lunatic, who claimed that God healed him of Leukemia and diabetes - he's probably dead now.

These diseases kill if not treated !

August 20, 2024

Dear Paul,

I have some good news and I have some bad news. But, first I want to thank you for your letter we received last week. To tell you the truth Paul, I'm not really sure why you wrote the letter, as you didn't ask us any questions, review or comment on any of our monthly letters, or any of the 900 Gospel Tracts that we publish. And by the details you shared in your letter, it sounds like you have had a very rough life, physically. For that, I am truly sorry.

You are correct when you stated that bacteria, viruses, and poisons can cause illness. Let me add that they also can cause death, as do wars, accidents, and attacks using guns and knives. However, more often than not, the sicknesses, diseases, and deaths that we incur in life are caused by ourselves. Cancer, heart attacks, liver and kidney failures, strokes, diabetes, bronchitis, emphysema, and the endless list goes on, are mostly caused by our bad habits of smoking, drinking, bad diet, lack of exercise, sexually promiscuity, drug use and abuse, laziness, and so forth. And this is a very deep well to dip water out of.

Your letter reads like your mind is already made up as to what you believe, don't believe, and you don't want to change. I know that these few words probably won't change your mind; however, you said something that I will address, not from my thoughts but from a source that is not only timeless, but is changeless. While not all diseases are a result of sin, sinful acts or lifestyles, many dangerous and harmful behaviors can result in serious illness and loss of health. The Bible makes a distinct connection between sin and sickness, directly and indirectly. This effect is often subtle because an illness or a poor, weak, rundown state of health may not be the result of a specific sin. It may be the product of a series of sins committed over many years or a lifetime, a total disregard of a healthy lifestyle. This is a broad topic but to bring it down to where we live, the Bible instructs us to take care of our body. To not do so is a sin. Whether or not you believe in God, the Bible states that we are made in the image of God. It was the sin of Adam that led to disease and death in the world. If we believe in God, then our ***"body is a temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which you have of God, and you are not your own!"***

The good news is that God loves us, God loves you! Because God loves us and sent His Son to die for us, there is HOPE! Hope in all things, including healing. And He has provided a way, a promise for us to walk healed, if we walk with Him. ***"Peter said, 'I do not possess silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene - walk!'" Acts 3:6*** (and he did). The act of healing, or deliverance, or salvation is an act of FAITH, Faith in God and Faith in His Word. Without Faith there is nothing.

You have faith that one day you will die, maybe by disease or illness. Likewise, by Faith you can live. Just because we may be facing something negative in the physical world, does not mean we have to accept it as our lot in life – our burden to bear – or our cross to carry. NO! As long as we have breath in our lungs, we can have HOPE that God will move in the spiritual AND the physical world on our behalf. If we accept sickness (or anything else) as that is just the way it is, is accepting the lies of the devil. He is the father of lies and there is no truth in him.

The bad news: if you choose to refuse to believe in Jesus Christ, His Word, and the salvation that He offers, then when you die, you will not experience eternal life in Him, in Heaven!!! I am not saying that if you believe, trust, and have faith in God, that you will be instantly healed of all of your ailments or that life will be a bed of roses. But, I am saying that He wants to heal you and that He will walk with you when you deal with the sicknesses and diseases of this world.

In closing, I must say, ***"That if you will confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and will believe in your heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, you WILL be saved,"*** Romans 10:9. You will have a brighter future if – IF – you will follow Romans 10:9. Once you do, you can have the HOPE and PEACE from God. If you do, let me suggest that you read and believe God's Word written in the Bible. There are many scriptures on healing and hope in the enclosed Gospel Tracts. Please read these tracts out loud, so you can hear the Word of God, for His Word says that ***"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."*** The more you speak the Word of God, the more you hear the Word of God, the more you believe the Word, the more faith you have in the Word of God the more faith you have, the more God can move on your behalf and meet your physical needs. It is simple, yet it is not. But it has to start with you. God is not a liar. He has given His Word, He stands by His Word, and He will fulfill His Word (His promises to us)!

I have been sick many times, I have had many operations, I have faced death more times than I want to recall, and I have faced loneliness and despair. But God has always been there each and every time. Today, I am whole, healthy, safe, secure, and my bills are paid, not because I'm a super-person, no. Only because I serve the King of kings and Lord of lords and walk in faith that ALL of my needs are met by His riches in Glory!!!

I have put you on my prayer list, I will call you to the LORD by name, believing in faith that He will make Himself clear to you, that He will prove His love for you, and that you will see the truth and power in His Holy Word. Please feel free to contact me for prayer or just to talk. There is spiritual power in His Word when spoken by His Children.

God bless you, keep you, and walk with you.

In the Name of Jesus Christ, Whose I am and in Whom I serve,

Phillip Buttram

Phillip Buttram
Director