

MEDITATIONS ON THE TRUE CHRISTIAN LIFE

*...."This book of the law [the Word of God] shall not depart from [always be in] your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful [take heed] to do according to all that is written in it; for THEN you will make your way prosperous, and THEN you will have success"....
Joshua 1:8 NASB*

October 10

THREE TYPES OF HEALING

[part 4 of 7]

* Now, I want to show you the three types, or classes, of healing.

The first comes by the faith of the sick person, as you have seen in Jesus' teachings. The second comes by the faith of the sick person in the elders' faith. Finally, there is the believer who knows that his diseases and sicknesses were laid upon Jesus. He knows that Jesus put disease and sickness away, and that "with his stripes [he is] healed."

And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. (Mark 16:20)

After the day of Pentecost, the disciples went forth, preaching in the name of Jesus among the heathens and Jews, yet they did not have any conception of the substitutionary sacrifice of their Master, in whose name they healed the sick and cast out demons. We have a sample of this in the book of Acts:

And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked: the same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked. (Acts 14:8–10)

Paul did not lay his hands on the man. He did not pray over him. We cannot be certain of what Paul told him, but we do know that he was not a Christian. The man had been listening to the Word, and, as he listened, his heart believed without any doubt. Paul, with the discernment of love, saw it in his eyes, and "said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet."

I want you to notice the next group of people who have a right to healing. They are the ones described in 1 Corinthians 3:1: “And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.”

The word “carnal” is another way to identify “those ruled by their senses.” “Carnal” people are dominated by what they see, hear, feel, smell, and taste. Now, look at the next two verses:

I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. For ye are yet carnal:...are ye not carnal, and walk as men? (verses 2–3)

In other words, “You walk as sense-ruled men who have never been born again.” The Greek word translated as “carnal” is *sarkikos*, meaning “sense-ruled” or “senses.” The “sense-ruled” man may be born again but is untrained in the Scriptures.

For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. (Hebrews 5:12–13)

He is but “a babe.” Or, a better rendering: “He is not experienced in practicing and living in the realm of righteousness.”

What does that mean?