

Created Whole, with a Warrantee: Part 10:

Jesus Christ Maketh Thee Whole! Acts 9:34

Trust in Divine Power, is a central core of God's special Laws of Health. This is not merely an after-thought, some kind of formality that doesn't really matter. We all need to realize more completely that continual and total reliance on Divine power is our only safety. We need His blessing, guidance and protection now as never before.

We are living in the closing scenes of this sinful world and as never before in the past has Satan been working as hard to deceive, ensnare and destroy as now. Most folk have no idea of the responsibility of each individual to guard their health and have not learned that God has given the guidelines and the promises to keep us well if we trust Him and obey His precepts.

Not only do Satan and the evil angels lead people to indulge harmful habits and promote ignorance of the laws of health, but he has caused many false ideas to be accepted as truth in society today. One deception is that disease is an inevitable consequence of nature; it just happens and nothing can change it; one way or the other we are bound to suffer despite what we eat and how we live and nothing can be done to avert it. In fact it is even taught that being sick is the will of God. But what does God actually say in His Word?

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." 3 John 1:2.

So you ask, "Do you mean God does not want me to be sick? Are you sure that I can be sick even if God has not planned that I be sick?" We have been deceived to believe that God, who sees all events, has planned that we be sick with some disease, and if He has planned that we be sick with it, we are doomed to be sick with it. It comes as a surprise to find out that God is not the author of sickness—Satan is—and God desires our ultimate health and happiness.

Unfortunately, the medical arts do little to show otherwise as they are also ignorant in most cases of God's Laws of Health and only know the chemical drug therapies they were taught. The patient goes to the doctor with a symptom and is given a drug to stop the symptom, but not the information about why he has the symptom or how to prevent it. Few doctors are ever informed that being sick has something to do with what's on the table and what's put in the body and the habits of life. They fail to teach their patients that we are our own enemies if we ignore God's Laws of Health.

Then Satan has another snare in the case of illness and that is seeking out prophets and sorcerers, new-age cures or the dark arts to try and be cured. Many of these even claim to be using the power of God for their cures, but is this true? Does God have anything to say about these 'healers'?

Did you know that there was a king of Israel who had an accident and was badly injured; and instead of seeking guidance from God, he sent to get information from a heathen oracle, what we would call a psychic or spirit-healer. The King's name was Ahaziah and his story is found in 2 Kings 1.

"Ahaziah, seriously injured, and fearful of the possible outcome, sent some of his servants to make inquiry of Baalzebub, the god of Ekron, whether he should recover or not. The god of Ekron was supposed to give information, through the medium of its priests, concerning future events. Large numbers of people went to inquire of it; but the predictions there uttered, and the information given, proceeded from the prince of darkness.

"Ahaziah's servants were met by a man of God, who directed them to return to the king with the message: "Is it because there is no God in Israel, that ye go to inquire of Baal-zebub, the god of Ekron? Now therefore thus saith Jehovah, Thou shalt not come down from the bed whither thou art gone up, but shalt surely die." Having delivered his message, the prophet departed. PK 207-208.

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Now it may well have been if he would have humbled his heart and sought help from God instead of a heathen idol, maybe his life would have been spared. But rebellious, and unwilling to repent, Ahaziah died, "according to the word of the Lord which Elijah had spoken." The history of King Ahaziah's sin and its punishment has in it a warning which none can safely disregard. Men today may not pay homage to the same heathen gods, yet thousands are worshiping at Satan's shrine as verily as did the king of Israel. The spirit of idolatry is common in the world today, although, under the influence of science and education, it has assumed forms more refined and attractive than in the days when Ahaziah sought to the god of Ekron. Every day adds its sorrowful evidence that faith in the sure word of prophecy is decreasing, and that in its stead false prophets and healers, superstition and satanic witchery are captivating the minds of many.

"There are many who shrink with horror from the thought of consulting spirit mediums, but who are attracted by more pleasing forms of spiritism. Others are led astray by the teachings of Christian Science, and by the mysticism of Theosophy and other Oriental religions. The apostles of nearly all forms of spiritism claim to have power to heal. They attribute this power to electricity, magnetism, the so-called "sympathetic remedies," or to latent forces within the mind of man. And there are not a few, even in this Christian age, who go to these healers, instead of trusting in the power of the living God and the skill of well-qualified physicians." Prophets and Kings 210

"Not a few in this Christian age and Christian nation resort to evil spirits, rather than trust to the power of the living God. The mother watching by the sickbed of her child, exclaims, "I can do no more. Is there no physician who has power to restore my child?" She is told of the wonderful cures performed by some clairvoyant or magnetic healer, and she trusts her dear one to his charge, placing it as verily in the hands of Satan as if he were standing by her side. In many instances the future life of the child is controlled by a satanic power which it seems impossible to break.

"I have heard a mother pleading with an infidel physician to save the life of her child; but when I entreated her to seek help from the Great Physician, who is able to save to the uttermost all who come to Him in faith, she turned away with impatience." Counsels on Health 454.

"God had cause for displeasure at Ahaziah's impiety. What had He not done to win the hearts of the people of Israel and to inspire them with confidence in Himself? For ages He had been giving His people manifestations of unexampled kindness and love. From the beginning He had shown that His "delights were with the sons of men." Proverbs 8:31. He had been a very present help to all who sought Him in sincerity. Yet now the king of Israel, turning from God to ask help of the worst enemy of his people, proclaimed to the heathen that he had more confidence in their idols than in the God of heaven. In the same manner do men and women dishonor Him when they turn from the Source of strength and wisdom to ask help or counsel from the powers of darkness. If God's wrath was kindled by Ahaziah's act, how does He regard those who, having still greater light, choose to follow a similar course?

"Those who give themselves up to the sorcery of Satan, may boast of great benefit received; but does this prove their course to be wise or safe? What if life should be prolonged? What if temporal gain should be secured? Will it pay in the end to have disregarded the will of God? All such apparent gain will prove at last an irrecoverable loss. We cannot with impunity break down a single barrier which God has erected to guard His people from Satan's power." PK 211-212.

All these popular healers, New-Age Gurus, false prophets and psychics are various kinds of spiritualists. Read what inspiration says about them.

"Spiritualists make the path to hell most attractive. Spirits of darkness are clothed by these deceptive teachers in pure robes of Heaven, and they have power to deceive those not fortified with Bible truth. Vain philosophy is employed in representing the path to hell as a path of safety. With the imagination highly wrought, and voices musically tuned, they picture the broad road as one of

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happiness and glory. Ambition holds before deluded souls, as Satan presented to Eve, a freedom and bliss for them to enjoy which they never conceived was possible. Men are praised who have traveled the broad path to hell, and after they die are exalted to the highest positions in the eternal world. Satan, clothed in robes of brightness, appearing like an exalted angel, tempted the world's Redeemer without success. But as he comes to man robed as an angel of light he has better success. He covers his hideous purposes, and succeeds too well in deluding the unwary who are not firmly anchored upon eternal truth. {2Red 88.3}

"Spiritualists claim superior light and power. They have opened the door and invited the prince of darkness in, and have made him their honored guest. They have allied themselves to the powers of darkness which are developing in these last days in signs and wonders, that if it were possible they would deceive the very elect. Spiritualists claim that they can do greater miracles than Christ did. Satan made the same boasts to Christ. Because the Son of God had linked himself to the weakness of humanity, to be tempted in all points like as man should be tempted, Satan triumphed over him, and taunted him. He boasted of his superior strength, and dared him to open a controversy with him. "Spiritualists are increasing in numbers. They will come to men who have the truth as Satan came to Christ, tempting them to manifest their power, and work miracles, and give evidence of their being favored of God, and of their being the people who have the truth. Satan said to Christ, "If thou be the Son of God, command these stones that they be made bread." Herod and Pilate asked Christ to work miracles when he was on trial for his life. Their curiosity was aroused, but Christ did not work a miracle to gratify them.

"Spiritualists will press the matter to engage in controversy with ministers who teach the truth. If they decline, they will dare them. They will quote Scripture, as did Satan to Christ. "Prove all things," say they. But their idea of proving is to listen to their deceptive reasonings, and in attending their circles. But in their gatherings, the angels of darkness assume the forms of dead friends, and communicate with them as angels of light.

"Their loved ones will appear in robes of light, as familiar to the sight as when they were upon the earth. They will teach them, and converse with them. And many will be deceived by this wonderful display of Satan's power. The only safety for the people of God is to be thoroughly conversant with their Bibles, and be intelligent upon the reasons of our faith in regard to the sleep of the dead.

"Satan is a cunning foe. And it is not difficult for the evil angels to represent both saints and sinners who have died, and make these representations visible to human eyes. These manifestations will be more frequent, and developments of a more startling character will appear as we near the close of time. We need not be astonished at anything in the line of deceptions to allure the unwary, and deceive, if possible, the very elect. Spiritualists quote, "Prove all things." But God has, for the benefit of his people who live amid the perils of the last days, proved this class, and given the result of his proving. {2Red 90-91.}

"God, in his word, has placed his stamp upon the heresies of spiritualism as he placed his mark upon Cain. The godly need not be deceived if they are students of the Scriptures and obedient to follow the plain path marked out for them in the word of God.

"The boastful spiritualist claims great freedom, and in smooth, flowery language seeks to fascinate and delude unwary souls to choose the broad path of pleasure and sinful indulgence, rather than the narrow path and the straight way. Spiritualists call the requirements of God's law bondage, and say those who obey them live a life of slavish fear. With smooth words and fair speeches they boast of their freedom, and seek to cover their dangerous heresies with the garments of righteousness. They would make the most revolting crimes be considered as blessings to the race.

"They open before the sinner a wide door to follow the promptings of the carnal heart, and violate the law of God, especially the seventh commandment. Those who speak these great swelling words of vanity, and who triumph in their freedom in sin, promise those whom they deceive the enjoyment

of freedom in a course of rebellion against the revealed will of God. These deluded souls are themselves in the veriest bondage to Satan and are controlled by his power, and yet promising liberty to those who will dare to follow the same course of sin that they themselves have chosen.”
2Red 92-93.

We are not to attend their meetings or consult with them, neither are our ministers to engage in controversy with them. They are of that class specified whom we should not invite into our houses, or bid them God-speed.

Our Protection:

Do spiritualist prophets, witches and psychics have the power to harm us? What if someone pays to have a spell cast to cause us harm? Can people actually be harmed by these things?

The answer can go both ways; yes, sometimes people can be harmed, especially if we disregard God's warnings and seek after them or get curious and want to investigate into these things. But no, if a person truly has given their hearts to Jesus and is not deliberately breaking any of God's Commandments, he can claim the promises of God's special protection. We should remember to ask for that protection daily for ourselves, our children and our families.

We know that when Satan fell, he took one third of the angels of heaven with him. So that means there are two thirds of the angels still there; for every angel that serves Satan here on earth, there are two that serve God, and God's angels are stronger than the fallen angels. God limits the power that Satan can use and protects those who trust in Jesus.

“Bless the LORD, ye his angels, **that excel in strength**, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.” Ps 103:20

“The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.” Ps 34:7

However, if we are careless Christians, if the only time we gather our families together for prayer is on Sabbath at church; if day after day goes by in our homes and we neglect personal devotions and family worship and fail to ask for God's angels to be sent to protect, guide and shelter our defenseless heads from Satan's wrath—how can we imagine that God is going to make up for our presumption and just do it anyway?

No, No! God's directives are 'Call upon Me'; 'Ask what ye will'; 'Ask and it shall be given'; even in that wonderful Psalm of promise, the 91st, it says we are to dwell and abide with Him. What does God warn if we are careless and worldly and fail to remain in right relation to Him?

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.” Hosea 4:6.

There is no guarantee that if we just assume that because we are a member of a certain church that somehow we don't need to worry about Satan. If we just drift along from Sabbath to Sabbath, living no different than our worldly neighbors, how can we imagine that somehow we have automatic protection. No, friends, the Bible gives no such promise that we will be protected and helped when we are too indolent to seek and ask, claiming the promises and asking for that guidance and protection we so much need. Better to have the family do without their breakfast than neglect to pray together, better yet, arrange to rise earlier and allow the needed time, first for your own private devotion and then for family worship. If you make a solid choice to do it and explain why to your family, you will soon have a schedule and make it a habit; it will be worth every minute you spend.

Morning and evening family worship does not need to be lengthy or tedious, read a text asking first that God bless the reading of His Word with the Holy Spirit, then pray together, asking for that protection and help we

all need. Finish up by singing a hymn of praise. Take more time early when you are alone before God in your personal devotions, but never make family worship tedious especially for small children. It should be a bright spot in each day, a time when sweet memories are formed and tender love binds heart to heart and all hearts to Jesus.

"Fathers and mothers, each morning and evening gather your children around you, and in humble supplication lift the heart to God for help. Your dear ones are exposed to temptation. Daily annoyances beset the path of young and old. Those who would live patient, loving, cheerful lives must pray. Only by receiving constant help from God can we gain the victory over self.

"Each morning consecrate yourselves and your children to God for that day. Make no calculation for months or years; these are not yours. One brief day is given you. As if it were your last on earth, work during its hours for the Master. Lay all your plans before God, to be carried out or given up, as His providence shall indicate. Accept His plans instead of your own, even though their acceptance requires the abandonment of cherished projects. Thus the life will be molded more and more after the divine example; and the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." 7T 44.

"If you have failed in your duty to your families, confess your sins before God. Gather your children about you and acknowledge your neglect. Tell them that you desire to bring about a reformation in the home, and ask them to help you to make the home what it ought to be. Read to them the directions found in the Word of God. Pray with them; and ask God to spare their lives, and to help them to prepare for a home in His kingdom. In this way you may begin a work of reformation; and then continue to keep the way of the Lord." {CG 557.3}

Precious Promises for Physical Sickness:

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." III John 2.

"And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people."
Matthew 9:35.

"And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all." Luke 6:19.

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever." Hebrews 13:8

"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." 1 Peter 2:24

"Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;" Psalm 103:3

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." Isaiah 53:5

"Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise."
Jeremiah 17:14.

"For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord;" Jeremiah 30:17a.

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"And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee." Exodus 15:26.

"My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh." Proverbs 4:20-22.

"He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions. Psalm 107:20.

"The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed." Matthew 8:8.

"Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him." James 5:14, 15.

"And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Mark 16:17, 18.

God will hear our prayers if we hear and obey His good counsel.

"In order to be purified and to remain pure, Seventh-day Adventists must have the Holy Spirit in their hearts and in their homes. The Lord has given me light that when the Israel of today humble themselves before Him, and cleanse the soul temple from all defilement, He will hear their prayers in behalf of the sick, and will bless in the use of His remedies for disease. When in faith the human agent does all he can to combat disease, using the simple methods of treatment that God has provided, his efforts will be blessed of God.

"If, after so much light has been given, God's people will cherish wrong habits, indulging self and refusing to reform, they will suffer the sure consequences of transgression. If they are determined to gratify perverted appetite at any cost, God will not miraculously save them from the consequences of their indulgence. They "shall lie down in sorrow." Isaiah 50:11.

"Those who choose to be presumptuous, saying, "The Lord has healed me, and I need not restrict my diet; I can eat and drink as I please," will ere long need, in body and soul, the restoring power of God. Because the Lord has graciously healed you, you must not think you can link yourselves up with the self-indulgent practices of the world. Do as Christ commanded after His work of healing,--"go, and sin no more." John 8:11. Appetite must not be your god." Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 25.

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