

promises. Know that He values the trial of your faith as being “much more precious” than gold.

It is possible that sickness or injury may come as a reproof to bring an erring one into line with God’s Word. David said, “Before I was afflicted I went astray; but now have I kept thy word” (Psalm 119:67).

Adversity may also come as a refining fire to purify and try the heart of a Christian. In Psalm 34:19 we are told, “Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.” The perfect man Job was afflicted. He had boils from the crown of his head to the soles of his feet, but he was not forsaken by God. After being severely tried and tested, Job was not only healed, but was given twice as much as he had before. “So the LORD blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning” (Job 42:12).

Yes, God has provided divine healing for His children. He has promised grace for every trial. You can have the assurance that God will fulfill His promise and answer prayer according to His will and His purpose for you. As you look to the Lord for help, give thanks to Him for all His mercies. Praise Him with the Psalmist who exclaimed: “Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who

crowneth thee with loving kindness and tender mercies; who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle’s” (Psalm 103:2-5).

God answers prayer today. And He will answer you if you keep trusting and praying.

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**WORDS OF**  
*Comfort*

**T**he Bible contains wonderful words of promise, which assure the sick and afflicted that God will hear and answer prayer. In Psalm 50:15, we find these encouraging words: “Call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.”

Many, in times of distress, have proved God’s promises to be true. Faith in God’s Word is the only sure way to solve the problems that come to people. Jesus indicated the great love of God, and His interest in every detail concerning our lives, when He said, “Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows” (Luke 12:6-7).

When Jesus walked the shores of Galilee, He manifested His compassion by healing all who were brought to Him. The report given was, “The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear” (Matthew 11:5). This was a direct fulfillment of the prophecy spoken hundreds of years before by Isaiah, who said, “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.” (See Isaiah 53:4-5 and Matthew 8:16-17.)

## WHAT AN ASSURANCE THE SCRIPTURES GIVE IN TIMES OF SICKNESS, TEST, AND TRIAL!

The Lord also commissioned the Apostles to lay hands on the sick and pray the prayer of faith, with the promise that those prayed for “shall recover.” And they did! (See Mark 16:18 and Acts 28:8.)

Christ’s healing virtue is just as powerful and effective today as when He walked on this earth. Those who trust wholly in the Lord and believe His promises find that God still heals the sick and solves problems.

If you are sick and afflicted, turn to the Book of James. Read and obey the instructions given there: “Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. 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 5:13-15).

Consecrate your life to God. Wholeheartedly yield your will to Him. And if you steadfastly hold on in faith, the Lord will fulfill His promise.

In Exodus 15:26 we are told: “I am the LORD that healeth thee.” There is no sickness the Lord cannot heal. This is made clear in the Word of God: “Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?” (Jeremiah 32:27). And in Luke 1:37 we read, “With God nothing shall be impossible.”

What an assurance these Scriptures give in times of sickness, test, and trial! We can claim the promise: “Ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full” (John 16:24).

The Word also tells us that “if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him” (1 John 5:14-15).

If you are sick, the Lord can heal you. If you are not saved and do not know the love and grace of God, the Lord can save you. Repent, give your heart and life to God, and experience the joy of sins forgiven.

Sometimes afflictions are not immediately removed when people pray. If you have not received God’s answer, never doubt His