

THE GREAT PHYSICIAN

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“And Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Those who are well do not need a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.’” (Luke 5:31-32)

A physician is one who seeks to heal the sick. Jesus makes that point in the passage quoted above. The occasion for Jesus’ statement took place at the house of Matthew the tax collector soon after Jesus called him to be one of His disciples. Matthew had invited a great number of tax collectors and other folks. The scribes and Pharisees murmured to Jesus’ disciples that He ate and drank with tax collectors and sinners. Jesus used the analogy of the sick needing a physician to explain why He was calling sinners to repentance.

Sinners need the spiritual healing that Jesus offers. Sin brings sickness to the soul that will result in spiritual death and eternal separation from God (Rom. 6:23; Rev. 20:14-15). David wrote, *“Lord, be merciful to me; heal my soul, for I have sinned against You”* (Psa. 41:4). The means by which God brought healing to mankind was through Jesus Christ. Isaiah prophesied of Him, *“But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed”* (Isa. 53:5). Peter applied this healing to those who have put their faith in Jesus: *“who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness – by whose stripes you were healed”* (1 Pet. 2:24).

We must beware of putting our faith in man to heal our souls. Man is useless to give us the answers we need to solve the problem of sin. When man fills our ears with useless human wisdom to attempt to solve the troubles of the soul, we should say with Job, *“But I would speak to the Almighty, and I desire to reason with God. But you are forgers of lies, you are all worthless physicians. Oh, that you would be silent, and it would be your wisdom”* (Job 13:3-5). We must seek the Lord and His wisdom to guide us through the dark and confusing maze that sin can make of our lives. Jesus, who is the light of the world, provides the light of life for those who walk in His light (Jn. 8:12; 9:5; 1 Jn. 1:7).

Everyone finds themselves in need of Jesus, the great Physician, for all have sinned (Rom. 3:23). Bring your sin-sick soul to Him who gave His life so that you could be forgiven of sin and be in fellowship with God. Eternal health for the soul is the prescription we need today.

*The great Physician now is near, the sympathizing Jesus;
He speaks the drooping heart to cheer; O hear the voice of Jesus.
All glory to the dying Lamb! I now believe in Jesus;
I love the blessed Savior’s name; I love the name of Jesus.
-- William Hunter*