

Life Lab #7 — Types of Healing

Chris Goldsmith

Jesus, The Healer

Types of Healing

All types of healing fall under one main category: **Covenant Healing**. To understand Covenant Healing, or any benefit resulting from a covenant, we must first understand what constitutes a covenant.

What is a covenant?

In modern society, the word “covenant” has lost some of the fullness and richness that it had in Bible times. In order to rediscover its meaning we will consider its definitions in English, Hebrew, and Greek.

English

In English the word “covenant” signifies a mutual understanding between two or more parties, each binding himself to fulfill specified obligations; a legal contract; a binding agreement; a written agreement. It also refers to a solemn agreement to do or not to do a certain thing.

O.T. Hebrew

Strong's Concordance defines the Hebrew word Beriyth as a “Compact” which implies the thought of cutting a covenant. (Because a covenant was made by passing between two pieces of flesh.)

Gesenius' Hebrew and Chaldee Lexicon to the Old Testament defines the word as a “covenant, pact, or compact.”

Between God and man

- Alliance of friendship (Psalm 25:14)
- Covenant, as a divine constitution or ordinance with signs or pledges (Gen 9:9-17; Ex. 2:24)

N.T. Greek

In the New Testament, there are two Greek words that are translated covenant. Diatheke means a “disposition, arrangement, testament or will.”

Arndt and Gingrich's Lexicon defines this word as “last will and testament...a will that has been ratified. (Galatians 3:15)

Moulton and Milligan's Vocabulary Of The Greek adds that: "...diatheke is properly disposition, an 'arrangement' made by one party with plenary power, which the other party may accept or reject, but cannot alter."

The other word, *Suntntheimai*, means "to put together, place together, to make an arrangement." This word refers to an arrangement between men and is never used to refer to the covenants made by God and presented to man.

3 Basic Elements In Every Covenant

1. Words or Promises (Blessing/Cursing)
2. Blood
3. Seal

Abrahamic Covenant:

The Abrahamic covenant is a covenant that God made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob after the Tower of Babel and the scattering of the descendants of Noah. (Gen 11:10-32, 12:1-3)

The Elements:

Blood:

- Bread & Wine (Gen. 14:18)
Melchizedek appeared to Abraham at the time of the covenant, blessing him and administering communion.
- Animal Sacrifice (Gen. 15:7-17)
When God was giving the covenant promises to Abraham, he commanded him to sacrifice five specific offerings. These were a heifer, a she-goat, a ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon. He was to divide the animals in half and lay the pieces, with the birds, in two rows. God Himself, as a burning lamp and smoking furnace, passed between the pieces of the sacrificial body and blood and thus ratified the promises of the covenant.

Words:

Personal blessing: (Romans 4:18-21)

Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, "So shall your offspring be." Without weakening in his faith, he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead. Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised.

Seal:

The Right of Circumcision

(Acts 7:8; Gen. 17:11; Rom. 4:11)

Mosaic Covenant

The Mosaic Covenant was made with the chosen nation, Israel, after the Exodus, and at Mt. Sinai.

The Elements:

Blood:

The Mosaic Covenant has the fullest and most detailed description of sacrifices of any covenant. This illustrates the significance of the sacrifice of a covenant and typifies the importance of the atoning work of Christ. (Leviticus 1-7)

Words:

Israel was to receive the blessings of the Abrahamic Covenant. The mosaic Covenant was primarily an addition of conditions to receiving those blessings. The promises were conditional. "If you obey my commands..."

- Exodus 15:26: He said, "If you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you."
- Exodus 23:25: Worship the LORD your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you.
- Numbers 21:4-9: They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, [a] to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!" Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people. The LORD said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived.
- Psalms 105:37: He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes.

Seal:

The weekly Sabbath Day.

(Exodus 31:12-17, Ezekiel 20:10-26, Leviticus 19:30, 23:3)

The Abrahamic and Mosaic covenants were based on law or works. The New Covenant is based on Grace! Hebrews 12:24 says, “to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. Heb 8:6 says, “But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises.”

The New Covenant

The New Covenant was made by Christ immediately prior to his death with the 12 apostles representing the House of Judah, Israel, and the New Covenant Church.

The Elements

Blood:

The Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

Words:

The prophets foretold the Messiah’s great healing ministry. Not only would he bring spiritual healing of the soul and spirit, but also physical healing of the body. David spoke of the twin blessings of forgiveness of sins and healing of diseases in Psalms 103:1-4.

Isaiah foretold the fact that Messiah would take all our sickness and disease, as well as our sins, in His body on the tree and that by His stripes we would be Healed (Isaiah 35; 53)

The N.T. writers interpret this to be speaking of the Messiah’s healing ministry, spiritually, as well as physically. (Matthew 8:16-17; I Peter 2:24) The gospels all abound with the healing ministry of Christ, which is a New Covenant Blessing. Today, the healing ministry of Christ continues on in the church. (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 4; I Corinthians 12:1-12; James 5:14-16.

Seal:

The Holy Spirit is spoken of as the seal, the sign, and the executor of the New Covenant.

- Seal: Ephesians 1:13-14, 4:20
- Sign: Mark 16:15-20; Acts 2:1-4
- Executor: John 14:26, 15:26

Types of Healing

The Whole Man

Under the “Canopy” of Covenant Healing there are 3 basic types of healing. Healing of the spirit, soul, and body.

- Spirit:
Healing of the spirit is brought about by forgiveness. By his grace, Christ has saved us and cleansed our spirit of Sin.
- Soul:
Healing of the soul is brought about by cleansing our mind, healing emotional wounds, etc.
- Body:
Healing of the physical body.

For our 3-part man, Christ has given us a 3-part solution. He’s given us Grace for the spirit (Eph 2), Hope for the soul (Heb 6), and faith for the Body (James 5)

Forgiveness

Forgiveness is an amazing antidote! Of course Christ has paid the price for our forgiveness, but he also commands us to forgive others as we’re forgiven. This brings healing as well! Both to you, and to whom ever you forgive!

- Release of Guilt
- Release of Anger
- Release of Bitterness
- Etc.

When you forgive or are forgiven, there is a freedom between you and others, and more importantly, between you and God. Harboring unforgiveness creates tension and can result in hindering your access to God, your relationships with others, and even result in physical sickness, and the presence of demons.

Deliverance

- Demonization (Commonly referred to as Possession)
In such instances, a person would be controlled or at least partially controlled by a demonic spirit. In demonization, demons work internally. Things such as involvement in witchcraft or the occult, pornography, repeated exposure to hatred, envy, and lust (To just name a few) can open the door to demonization.

- Oppression
Oppression seems to be more of an external working of demons. My own experience with warfare and being held down. Share the heavy feeling in a room with demonic activity.

It's important to note that Christians can still be attacked as well as have demonic spirits attached to them even after being saved. It's something that isn't talked about a whole lot today, but is a very real part of our world!

Matthew 10:8 says, "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give."

Faith Healing:

- Healing the Centurions Servant: Mt. 8:5-13
- Healing a Paralytic: Mk. 2:1-12
- Healing the woman with the issue of blood: Lk. 8:43-48
- Restoring sight to two blind men: Mt. 9:27-31

Compassion Healing:

- Healing the man with Leprosy: Mk. 1:40-45
- Healing all their sick: Mt. 14:13-14

Healed by obedience to His Word:

- Jesus told the blind man in John 7 to go wash his eyes in the pool.
- Jesus told the lepers in Luke 17 to go show themselves to the priest.
- Jesus told the man with the withered hand in Matthew 12 to stretch out his hand.
- Jesus said in James 5, if any of you is sick, let **HIM** call for the elders.

God's Timing

- Instantaneous Healing: Many scriptures above. Tuck's leg grew out 3 inches.
- Progressive Healing: Mark 8:28- Jesus prays for the man, asks him if he sees anything. He says yes, men that look like trees, he prays for him again and full healing occurs.

Seemingly unanswered prayers: Talk about reasons that someone may not receive healing.

- Job: God allowed Satan to place boils on Job to test him and his faithfulness to God.
- The wrong tool: Maybe God desires to use someone specific to work through.
- Faulty Diagnosis: Praying for Physical healing, when inner healing is the root problem. Praying for inner healing when deliverance is needed.

Just because someone isn't healed, or healed YET, does not mean there is always a lack of faith or sin in the person's life or the life of those doing the praying! Sometimes the Lord would just have us pray without ceasing!