

Prayer and Divine Healing

Our messianic lifestyle should include prayer for healing. Yeshua expected His followers to be praying for others and for people to experience healing. As believers in the Messiah, we should have personal experiences and encounters with God and healing is one of those. God has always cared about mankind and as creator, He is able to heal and will heal us at times. Sometimes Yeshua healed everyone in the town He went to. God has not changed the Bible says and he is not disconnected from His people. Experiencing God is normal for believers; we should never give up praying and trusting in God.

Perhaps one of the most significant things overlooked by many believers in the Messiah is the powerful work of God in these Messianic times. When Yeshua (Jesus) the Messiah came He often healed everyone that needed healing. Matthew 9:35 CJB, “Yeshua went about all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and weakness.” Isn’t that amazing! Also, Yeshua sent out His 12 Rabbis¹ and He also trained 70 others to go out and pray. It says in Luke that He sent out, “Seventy other talmidim and sent them on ahead in pairs to every town and place where he himself was about to go;” Luke 10:2, CJB. Yeshua told them in verse 9 to, “Heal the sick there, and tell them, ‘The Kingdom of God is near you.’”

Yeshua (Jesus) wasn’t training them for nothing. We see people being healed in the book of Acts and God leading and helping believers in Yeshua in the book of Acts. Praying for others and experiencing God’s power is part of our messianic heritage! Shaul (Paul) said, “For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of words but of power. 1 Corinthians 4:40 CJB. Yeshua said that we receive power through the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8) and God can use us to accomplish healing and miracles through God.

It is an amazing experience to encounter God.

When we pray, we are asking the God of the universe to do something extra ordinary. We are not praying for coincidences or good feelings, but to a God who can do anything. Israel encountered God at Mount Sinai. It was truly an amazing experience.

Ex 19:16,18-19 NKJV

There were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, ... the whole mountain quaked greatly. And when the blast of the trumpet sounded long and became louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice.

The people encountered God and they trembled. There was thunder, lightning, a loud trumpet that got louder and louder, the earth quaked, and they heard God speak (Deut. 4:33). Actually, Israel encountered God every day, didn’t they? Maybe in not such a dramatic way as in Exodus 19. A cloud stood over the Tent of Meeting by day and a fire by night for 40 years not to mention that God gave them food and water every day in the wilderness.

Since the Messiah has come; shouldn’t this messianic time be even more dramatic and filled with personal experiences of God. 2 Cor 3:7-8 NKJV, “But if the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away, how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious?”

God cares about us and loves us.

Since the inception of time, God has always wanted us to be in relationship with Him and receive His blessings. God placed man in the garden, but man went his own way. God reached out to man and made promises to man and to Israel.

¹ The modern-day word for a Jewish teacher is rabbi. Yeshua was training teachers. Yeshua had a problem with calling people a rabbi in His time because it meant “great one.” No one should be called a great one except for God. Rabbi no longer means “great one,” but better describes the early Jewish teachers of our faith. They were all Jewish.

In this messianic scripture we see God's love for those who love Him. "The Lord your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing." Zephaniah 3:17 CJB.

In Ex 15:26 NKJV God tells the people of Israel: "I am the Lord who heals you." In the scriptures we see God healing and also Yeshua healing people miraculously. As I previously stated, at times it says that Yeshua healed all the people! Yeshua cared about people. God cares about us.

We are also sent out to pray for others. Mark 16:17-18 NKJV, "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ... they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." The Bible says that God is the creator; can there be anything too difficult for Him? Adam talked with God, Noah talked with God, Abraham talked with God, and Moses talked with God. I've heard people say that God no longer speaks to us and no longer heals – don't they respect God? Is God anything less now than He was in the Old Testament portion? Malachi 3:6 CJB says, "I, ADONAI, do not change." Yeshua says that we will also do God's works through Him; John 14:12. The Bible says that Yeshua will not change; Hebrews 13:8.

In praying for people God will sometimes answer our prayers. Sometimes the answer is yes, and sometimes it is no. Sometimes the answer is not yet, but no matter what - God loves us. Ultimately, we will be completely whole in the new heaven and earth.

Yeshua (Jesus) was our example and He sometimes healed everyone in the town He was visiting. God wants to heal; we see many healings in both the Old and New Testament portions of the Bible. When we understand that God loves us it will increase our faith. When we know that God has compassion, we will want to pray. Luke 12:6-7 NKJV, "Are not five sparrows sold for two copper coins? And not one of them is forgotten before God. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered."

Yeshua loves faith and wonderful things happened in the presence of faith and **expectation**. Expectation is important – it is a component of faith. Perhaps people who don't want prayer, don't believe it will help; their expectation is low. Yeshua didn't do many mighty works in His home town because of their unbelief. Matt. 13:58

The centurion's servant was healed; he had great expectation and faith. The centurion said to Yeshua, "But say the word, and my servant will be healed;" Luke 7:7 NKJV. Yeshua marveled at (admired)² the centurion's faith (verse 9). Yeshua is not asking us to have a ton of faith nor is faith a formula for pleasing God. **There are a lot of things that please God not just faith.** Faith is important, but we are not asked to have lots of faith. If we have a little faith like that of a tiny mustard seed Yeshua said, God can use that to do amazing things it says in Luke 17:6. I am satisfied with having some faith when I pray for people. I know God can heal them and I know it's not up to me.

As we can see, God is a powerful God who is not disconnected from His people and the world. Man said that He can manage things on His own and so we have lots of pain and brokenness in the world. But when we come back to God He is there for us. He loves us and has demonstrated His love for us in the past and still does mighty works for mankind. The Holy Spirit helps us to pray for others too; we need the Holy Spirit. God wants to heal and there is no limit to what He can do. Experiencing God is normal for believers. God cares for us and has compassion for man. We should never forget that and we should trust Him and pray with expectation. "With God everything is possible;" Matthew 19:26 CJB; so, we should never give up trusting in God, praying, and asking God for His help and healing.

² Definition from the Greek for the word marveled is from Strong's Dictionary.