

## Hopeful Helps From the “Health Zone”

04-21-2025 for the Daily News

One of the foremost issues confronting most Americans these days is finding solutions to the almost continuous health challenges facing most of us. Watch any TV show of interest to adults, and one soon sees that the sponsors of such shows are mainly drug companies, touting the latest potion or pill available to treat one of the countless “*ills that flesh is heir to.*”

Back in the 80’s we became interested in seeing if we could get help for healing from our spiritual side, because so many TV ministers preached spiritual healing. They cited countless scriptures describing how Jesus in his earthly ministry healed “every disease” He prayed against, and later in the scriptures he tells us, “greater things than these shall ye do because I go to my Father.” John 5:20.

But there’s a problem; hear and there we hear about healings happening in various ministries, but one condition stands in the way of making healing a daily occurrence in most churches, and that is the presence of *unbelief*.

An often cited scripture in this regard is Mark 11: 25: Whosoever shall say unto this mountain, ‘be thou plucked up and planted in the sea,’ and shall not doubt but believes the words he says will come to pass, he shall have whatsoever he says.”

And Australian evangelist Wayne Gwilliam added “you can lay hands on the guy until he goes bald, but nothing will happen *unless you believe*.

In my “God chasing” days, I saw many elaborate methods of laying on hands, as if the right technique made a difference. Oral Roberts would grasp the head of the sick one in both hands and shout “Healed!” He got results for healing, because he *believed* and his actions showed it.

The bottom line is that most prayers for healing in full gospel churches seem ineffective. And some forbid even trying healing in services, believing it has “passed away” with the death of the disciples

The grace ministries cite another cause for poor results, namely, ignoring that Jesus has already “borne our sickness and carried our diseases” in His own body on the cross. Isaiah 53:5 So praying for healing that is already proclaimed, *finished*, is saying that Jesus’ finished work on the cross was a failure. Pastor Joseph Prince insists we should pray believing that the healing is already ours.

In his recent book, “The Spiritual Health Zone” renowned nutritionists, Dr. Don Colbert, explores another blocker of healing, self-condemnation. He learned this visiting with his patient, pastor Kenneth Copeland. When Colbert informed Ken that one of his blood values was elevated which could lead to a possible stroke, Copeland replied, “why don’t you rephrase that statement, putting some faith into it.” Your first version was fear driven and actually put a curse on me, by saying it could kill me.”

Colbert’s revision went, “This lab value is just a little out of range; it should come down with the diet and supplement changes I suggest in as little as six months.”

“That’s more like it,” said Copeland.

Looking back on the many consultations I’ve had from doctors, I can see that many of their diagnoses come in the form of a curse; such as, “this thing could be fatal if condition X isn’t met. Here is the perfect scripture relating to this: “Speaking the truth in love,” Eph 4:15, ‘let us speak in faith one to another.’”

Jesus was the master of this kind of love-loaded speech. Remember his words to the woman he saved from being stoned for adultery: “Neither do I condemn you; Go and sin no more lest a worse thing come upon you.” John 8:11

That wasn’t a threat; it was a loving way of warning her of the danger of that life style. So my point here is simply the huge rewards awaiting us if we abandon negative fear-filled speech, and replaced it with love-driven, faith-filled, hope- creating words.