

# Healing Vision Statement

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*The LORD be exalted, who delights  
in the well-being of His servant.—Psalm 35:27*

Having been reconciled to the Father through Jesus, we discover and experienced Him as Jehovah-Rapha, the LORD Who Heals.<sup>1</sup>

Healing is consistent with the One who called Himself the Resurrection and the Life, who came that we might experience abundant life.<sup>2</sup> Healing is consistent with His character, revealed in His names, incarnated in Jesus Christ.

Our first healing is reconciliation with the Father who is reconciling all things to Himself.<sup>3</sup> In His ongoing work of creative redemption from the effects of the Fall, He heals, restores, and transforms the people He created. He makes us whole. Our healings include physical, spiritual, and emotional healing.

## **I. Names of God**

- *Elohim*—our Creator (Genesis 1:1)
- *Jehovah-rapha*—the LORD Who Heals (Exodus 15:26)
- *Jehovah-shammah*—the LORD is There (Ezekiel 48:35), always present to us in affliction
- *El Roi*—the God Who Sees (Genesis 16:13) all our pain and suffering, all our wounds, and who will one day render justice
- *Jehovah-mekoddishkem*—the LORD Who Sanctifies (Exodus 31:13), who sets us apart and makes us holy

## **II. Incarnation**

Jesus healed as an integral part of His ministry. He treated sickness as an enemy. He responded to faith in the one needing healing but didn't require it. He commissioned His apostles, then His disciples, and finally all followers, to preach the gospel and to heal. He taught that his followers would do the works—and greater ones—than He did.<sup>4</sup>

## **III. God's Unchanging Nature**

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<sup>1</sup> Exodus 15:26; Romans 5:1

<sup>2</sup> John 10:10

<sup>3</sup> Colossians 1:20

<sup>4</sup> Acts 10:38; Luke 9:1-2; 10:1-9; John 14:12

- Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.<sup>5</sup> He still heals and it's *normally* His will to heal. He invites us to ask for it and left specific instructions for healing in case of sickness;<sup>6</sup>
- He heals out of compassion, as a Man of Sorrows, acquainted with many griefs, a man of suffering, familiar with pain; who is full of grace and mercy.<sup>7</sup>
- He heals according to His sovereign purposes;
- He doesn't always heal but may speak a word to us.<sup>8</sup> We can ask him for this word rather than guess or assume anything;
- Healing doesn't depend only on our faith, but our faith plays an important role in on our collaboration with God in our healing journey;
- Jesus is a great high priest empathizes with us. We can approach Him when we need mercy and grace;<sup>9</sup>
- He heals to restore that which was lost in the Fall or stolen, killed, or destroyed by the enemy;
- He heals in many ways, choosing the time, place, people, gifts, and circumstances. He doesn't always heal all at once;
- Healing can come through the divine and miraculous or human instrument; through spiritual gifts and prayer or medical intervention;
- Before seeking any healing course of action, it's wise to consult God first.<sup>10</sup> It's also wise to consider James 5:15-16 and seek prayer. Together, wait and pray as long as is reasonable to arrive at unity and discern what the Spirit indicates;
- We honor God by honoring our bodies<sup>11</sup> and pursuing a healthy lifestyle. We're not to neglect laws of health and then presume upon God's grace for healing;
- It's appropriate to pursue normal avenues of healing through doctors, medicine, and counseling. If these do not complete healing, spiritual help may be indicated. It's appropriate to pursue healing through prayer and ministry and doctors simultaneously; neither is more spiritual than the other. This doesn't necessarily mean a lack of faith;
- Lack of healing may indicate a sin (personal, corporate, or national) or spiritual root which should be investigated; medicating physical symptoms for spiritual sickness will be ineffective;
- When God doesn't heal, He may reveal the purpose of the affliction; if not, ask.<sup>12</sup>

*May we walk with the Lord Jesus as He continues to bring good news to the afflicted, binds up the brokenhearted, proclaims liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners, and comforts those who mourn.—Isaiah 61:1-2*

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<sup>5</sup> Hebrews 13:8

<sup>6</sup> James 5:14-16

<sup>7</sup> Isaiah 53:3, Psalm 145:8

<sup>8</sup> 2 Corinthians 12:9

<sup>9</sup> Hebrews 4:15

<sup>10</sup> 2 Kings 1:1-4

<sup>11</sup> 2 Corinthians 6:20

<sup>12</sup> 2 Corinthians 12:9-10