

'Christ's Kingdom Coming through Health Care'

God's heart is to bring transformation to health care; to realign it with His Kingdom purposes, so that He would be glorified.

Around the world today, we are seeing Christian health care workers seeking the Lord for revelation of Biblically based health care and healing. Our desire is to see Biblical Health Care taught and practised in the health care system of this nation and beyond. This would bring His fullest healing and wholeness to individuals, communities and nations and fulfil God's redemptive purpose for health care.

This seminar will look at the foundations and pray for the reformation of health care in this nation. The Lord Jesus Christ has given us authority to deal with the ungodly counterfeit foundations and we are confident that He will restore the true foundations.

From the beginning of time, God has shown His shalom; His grace, mercy and tender care of man's physical, emotional, social and spiritual well being. Health care began from this foundation and has developed in the last 2,000 years in obedience to Christ's command to,

"Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.'"
Luke 10:9

God created man in His likeness and then provided him with a companion, a helper – someone to do life with, not just to ensure procreation but so that he wouldn't be lonely or lacking any good thing. There are a myriad ways that the Lord God Almighty could have created the woman but instead he chose the physical act of anaesthetizing Adam and operating to remove a rib and then close up the flesh. Graciously and mercifully, He minimized the trauma to Adam. God reined in His power and treated man gently and carefully so that we would learn to do likewise.

God affirmed His own creation so that we should treasure and care for life and all that He had made. He placed us in a wonderful garden where we could learn to care for and nurture it.

Even after the fall, God didn't confront Adam and Eve in his great power and authority – He came walking in the garden looking for them even though He must have ached at what they had just done. It seems that He was concerned to minimize the trauma of the cursing that was the mandatory consequence of their actions. He understands our frailty. He pronounced the curses and immediately covered their nakedness with animal skins, which indicated that the shedding of blood would be necessary to cover our spiritual nakedness. God's plan of redemption is entwined with caring for every aspect of man's life. He is the Great Physician.

At the beginning of His earthly ministry, Jesus declared His mission statement, the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy from Is 61,

*"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me,
Because He has anointed Me
To preach the gospel to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives
And recovery of sight to the blind,*

*To set at liberty those who are oppressed;
To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.*" Luke 4: 18-19

Christ's mission on earth was to demonstrate the Kingdom of God. His healing miracles revealed the grace and love of the Father for a fallen world.

The Lord Jesus Christ was the Prince of Peace. The Hebrew word, shalom encompasses wholeness, completion, fulfilment and prosperity.

One commentary writes that shalom means,

"a rich state of affairs that inspires joyful wonder at its Creator and Saviour & opens doors and welcomes the creatures in whom he delights. **Shalom, in other words, is the way things ought to be.**" ¹

Christ's mission statement in Luke 4 is an excellent definition of the many aspects of shalom. It encompasses all of the variances of meaning and demonstrates His compassion and concern for the needy. Jesus then instructed His disciples to imitate Him in caring for the whole needs of man, to bring shalom to them.

The Lord Jesus Christ is, by definition then, **the foundation of health care**. Health care is an expression of His love and compassion for man, an expression of shalom.

The dictionary defines 'foundation' as:

"the act of founding or establishing or creating, especially the establishment of an institution with provisions for future maintenance."²

God has continued His work of healing in health care; He founded it and is continuing to support and provide for it. We can only wonder at what He would do in a city that is cleansed and transformed.

The Bible states that:

*"He will be the sure **foundation** for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the LORD is the key to this treasure."*
Is 33:6

God has called many Christians to work in health care around the world and has revealed principles of healing to those whose hearts are after Him. Many breakthroughs in medical science have arisen from the dedicated service of Christian practitioners including Edward Jenner, Joseph Lister, Florence Nightingale, Ida Scudder and many others. A friend wrote of Jenner,

"that the great man was always conscious of the presence of God."³

What a heritage we have in Him. God has intervened in the history of medicine time and time again. He sent Florence Nightingale to care for soldiers in the Crimean war and as a result health care was transformed around the world. He has put men and women in strategic places and situations to bring shalom to the world.

However, we have not fully appreciated our Christian heritage. We are inclined to think that our work is isolated in time rather than an integral part and continuum of all that God has accomplished in health care and all that He purposes to do in and through our work now and into the future.

Satan's goal has been to separate the Lord Jesus Christ from His healing work in health care. Divisions have developed to separate sacred and secular and theology and science. Evidence based medicine is considered to be a 'pure' science, meaning that it is not mixed with religion or spirituality. This concept

denies the Lordship of Christ in healing. Without Christ at the centre, health care can only result in partial or even counterfeit healing because healing in the fullest sense of the word requires salvation – a new creation.

Paul declared that any foundations created outside of Christ would be 'revealed with fire' & 'burned up' on the day of judgement. These foundations are then false or counterfeit and will not stand on that day. They need to be discerned and dealt with in Christ. It is our responsibility to deal with the sin in ourselves and corporately in the city of health care. Jesus spoke to cities that they should repent (Matt 11:21), He even wept over Jerusalem (Lk 13:34) and I believe that He weeps over the city of health care.

It is also our responsibility to look to God for His wondrous and creative ideas and ways of practicing in the health professions. He is the creator, the source of all wisdom and understanding and will reveal it to those who humbly wait upon Him and give glory to Him. This will be our prayer today that Biblical health care would come forth from God, be developed by His people in health care and implemented in practice to bring true shalom to the peoples and bring glory to Him.

The health care system generally does not acknowledge the Lord Jesus Christ as the healer. Moreover, it is cursed today through abortion and euthanasia which are an abomination to Him. However, despite the inroads that the devil has made in health care, Christ is still gracious & merciful; people are healed, lives are saved, miracles happen. Godly men & women work in this unredeemed structure, their presence, prayers & faith holding back God's judgement.

Francis Frangipane declared that,
"the revelation of Christ in us as individuals, and the power of Christ displayed corporately through us, can turn (even) our worst cities back toward God!"⁴

References

All scripture references are from the NIV unless otherwise specified.

¹ *[Not the Way It's Supposed to Be: The Breviary of Sin](#)*, Cornelius Plantinga Jr, p. 10

² Dictionary <http://www.answers.com> March 2006

³ "Doctors Who Followed Christ", Dan Graves, page 75, Kregel

⁴ "Is Any City Beyond Transformation" Francis Frangipane, APN Website http://ausprayernet.org.au/trans_articles2.php, March 2006

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Biblical Health Care

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The hope of His calling

- *Ephesians 1:17-23*
- *the riches of the glory of His inheritance -vs 18*
- *He put all things under His feet -vs 22*
- *that in all things He may have preeminence - Colossians 1:18*
- *Eph. 2:8-10 – created for good works, that we should walk in them*
- *1Thess. 2:12 – that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own Kingdom & glory*

The Redemptive Purpose of Healthcare - Healing

*" The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me,
Because He has anointed Me
To preach the gospel to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives
And recovery of sight to the blind,
To set at liberty those who are oppressed;
To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."
Luke 4: 18-19*

Ungodly roots of medicine

- *The wealth and pride of medicine*
- *Scientific intellectualism*
- *Pagan roots of medicine*
- *Isaiah 2: 6-8, 11-12*
- *Verse 6 – filled with eastern ways and soothsayers*
- *Vs 7 – full of silver and gold*
- *Vs 8 – full of idols, worship the work of their own hands*
- *Vs 11-12 - pride*

Counterfeit Foundations

Asklepios (Aesculapius)



– god of medicine and healing (Greek and Roman)

- pseudo-Christ figure

- *he was born of a mortal woman by the god Apollo*
- *he had healing powers and could even raise the dead*
- *Zeus killed him but he was deified*
- *He was known as a 'saviour' to his disciples*

- caduceus is a counterfeit of the serpent that Moses raised up in desert and is used in most medical logos.

"The symbols contain spiritual dimensions, wrapped in centuries of mysticism and occultism...they point the way to an 'alternative doctrine' —all grounded in ancient pagan and mystical belief structures which have been 'resurrected' during the last number of decades. Steeped in the philosophies of pagan mystery religions and secret societies, this 'previously underground' religious foundation forms a spiritual alternative to the Biblical worldview; fully equipped with alternative histories, alternative ways of salvation, alternative gods, and alternative

realities.”

Carl Teichrib, Canadian researcher

Plato and the Greek philosophers

- *Separated the sacred and secular*
- *Temporal and eternal*
- *Physical and spiritual*

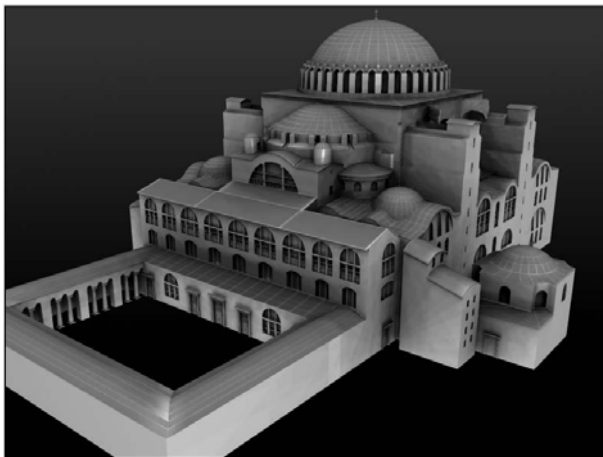
Hebrew Worldview

- *God in all, through all and above all*
- *Not a divided universe*
- *No sacred/secular divide*
- *Related to creation (more “indigenous” worldview)*
- *More relational and communal than individualistic*
- *Shalom*

First Hospitals

- built by church in 4th Century in the Byzantine Empire in response to Christ’s commandment to:

***“Heal the sick who are there and tell them,
‘The kingdom of God is near you.’” Luke 10:9***



Bringing Back the Ark

- *1Chron. 12:38 – Come to Hebron to crown Jesus Lord of health care*
- *1Chron. 13:3 – let us bring the ark of our God back to us, for we have not inquired of it since the days of Saul*
- *Chapter 15 – the ark brought up to Jerusalem, the place where it was to dwell*

God's Glory and presence in health care

- *How can we see it?*
- *Exodus 33:12-23*
- *14 – My presence will go with you*
- *18 - Lord, show us your glory*
- *2 Kings 22:8 – they found the Book*

Biblical Health Care

- *Is health care based upon Biblical truth, love and righteousness.*
- *It will acknowledge that God is the healer (Psalm 103:3), and that wholeness of body, soul and spirit can only be found in Jesus Christ.*
- *It will be implemented and outworked by God's people in love, humility and faith, who are anointed and consecrated to Him, who will seek God's face for the Holy Spirit's revelation in health care.*
- *It will recognize and incorporate Biblical principles and practice of health, healing and wholeness.*
- *It will aim to bring glory to God and bring His Kingdom in health care. ("Bringing back the ark of God into health care")*
- *Ex 25:22 He will meet with us/ speak with us – about everything – the whole of health care*
- *Ps 25:9 the humble – He teaches His way*
- *12 the fear of the Lord*
- *Psalm 85:8-13 I will hear what God the Lord will speak - peace, salvation, glory, mercy, truth, righteousness*
- *the land will increase*

Healing the land of health care

- *Restoration of Hebrew worldview*
- *Based on love, peace, truth, righteousness and justice*
- *Shalom – wholeness and completeness in relationship with God, others & creation*

"In the Bible, shalom means universal flourishing, wholeness, and delight – a rich state of affairs that inspires joyful wonder at its Creator and Saviour & opens doors and welcomes the creatures in whom he delights.

Shalom, in other words, is the way things ought to be."

Cornelius Plantinga, Jr.

Prayer

- *Repentance*
- *Consecration and dedication to the process of developing Biblical Health Care*
- *Declare that Jesus is Lord of health care*
- *Pray for the resurrection of the Godly foundations of health care*
- *Pray for new revelation in medicine and health sciences to treat AIDS, cancer, malaria and other diseases*
- *Pray for new beginnings in health care inline with Biblical principles– new systems of health care; new initiatives for indigenous health care; new approaches to medical and health care education; new approaches to finances*
- *Pray for revival in health care in our nation – for many health workers to come to a knowledge of the living Christ; many patients to meet the Lord in their time of need*
- *Pray that healthcare will be rebuilt on a firm foundation of Christ*
- *Pray that government and administration will begin to function from a Biblical worldview*
- *Pray that the drought of health care workers and finances will be turned around. Pray that there will be health care workers called to serve in rural and remote areas of the nation.*

- *Pray that health care will come into alignment with God's redemptive purposes.*

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