

Shall We Pray for the Sick?

“Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.”

James 5:14-15

“Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases.”

Ps. 103:3

Scriptural Admonishments To Pray

- 1 Prov. 3:5-8 (Following God brings health)
- 2 Ps. 41:3 (God will sustain us in our illness)
- 3 Ps. 103:2-4 (God not only forgives, he also heals)
- 4 Isa. 53:5 (Healing comes from Jesus’ stripes)
- 5 Jer. 17:14 (Healing is encouraged)
- 6 Mal. 4:2 (God can bring healing)
- 7 Matt. 4:24; 8:14-16; 14:14; 15:30; 19:2; 21:14; Mark 1:34; 3:10,11
- 8 (Healing was a major part of Jesus’ ministry)
- 9 Matt. 10:1,8 (God gave His disciples power over unclean spirits... and
- 10 the ability to heal all kinds of sicknesses)
- 11 Mark 16:15-18 (The disciples were sent out with instructions to heal)
- 12 Mark 10:46-52 (We are invited to ask for healing)
- 13 Acts 3:6,7 (Healing resulted in 5,000 joining the church)
- 14 Acts 5:16; 8:5-8 (Healing was ongoing in the early church)
- 15 James 5:13-16 (James admonishes anointing if someone is sick)
- 16 3 John 1:2 (God wants us to enjoy good health)
- 17 1 Cor. 6:19 (Our Bodies are to be temples of Holy Spirit)

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The Recovery of the Sick

21 *(This is a helpful overview of the subject of healing and healing prayer)*

22 **But only as we live in obedience to His word can we claim the**
23 **fulfillment of His promises.** The psalmist says, "If I regard iniquity in
24 my heart, the Lord will not hear me." Psalm 66:18. If we render to Him
25 only a partial, halfhearted obedience, His promises will not be fulfilled
26 to us. {CCh 303.3}

27 **In the word of God we have instruction relative to special prayer**
28 **for the recovery of the sick. But the offering of such prayer is a**
29 **most solemn act, and should not be entered upon without careful**
30 **consideration. In many cases of prayer for the healing of the sick,**
31 **that which is called faith is nothing less than presumption. {CCh**
32 **303.4}**

33 **Many persons bring disease upon themselves by their self-**
34 **indulgence. They have not lived in accordance with natural law or**
35 **the principles of strict purity.** Others have disregarded the laws of
36 health in their habits of eating and drinking, dressing, or working.
37 Often some form of vice is the cause of feebleness of mind or body.
38 **Should these persons gain the blessing of health, many of them**
39 **would continue to pursue the same course of heedless transgression**
40 **of God's natural and spiritual laws, reasoning that if God heals**
41 **them in answer to prayer, they are at liberty to continue their**
42 **unhealthful practices** and to indulge perverted appetite without
43 restraint. **If God were to work a miracle in restoring these persons**
44 **to health, He would be encouraging sin. {CCh 304.1}**

45 **It is labor lost to teach people to look to God as a healer of their**
46 **infirmities, unless they are taught also to lay aside unhealthful**
47 **practices.** In order to receive His blessing in answer to prayer, **they**
48 **must cease to do evil and learn to do well. Their surroundings must**
49 **be sanitary, their habits of life correct.** They must live in harmony
50 with the law of God, both natural and spiritual. {CCh 304.2}

51 **To those who desire prayer for their restoration to health, it should**
52 **be made plain that the violation of God's law, either natural or**
53 **spiritual, is sin, and that in order for them to receive His blessing,**
54 **sin must be confessed and forsaken. {CCh 304.3}**

55 The Scripture bids us, "Confess your faults one to another, and pray
56 one for another, that ye may be healed." James 5:16. To the one asking
57 for prayer, let thoughts like these be presented: "We cannot read the
58 heart, or know the secrets of your life. These are known only to
59 yourself and to God. **If you repent of your sins, it is your duty to**
60 **make confession of them."** Sin of a private character is to be
61 **confessed to Christ,** the only mediator between God and man. For "if
62 any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the
63 righteous." 1 John 2:1. Every sin is an offense against God and is to be
64 confessed to Him through Christ. **Every open sin should be as openly**
65 **confessed. Wrong done to a fellow being should be made right with**
66 **the one who has been offended. If any who are seeking health have**
67 **been guilty of evilspeaking, if they have sowed discord in the home,**
68 **the neighborhood, or the church, and have stirred up alienation**
69 **and dissension, if by any wrong practice they have led others into**
70 **sin, these things should be confessed before God and before those**
71 **who have been offended.** "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and
72 just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

73 1 John 1:9. {CCh 304.4}

74 **When wrongs have been righted, we may present the needs of the**
75 **sick to the Lord in calm faith, as His Spirit may indicate.** He knows
76 each individual by name, and cares for each as if there were not another
77 upon the earth for whom He gave His beloved Son. Because God's love
78 is so great and so unfailing, **the sick should be encouraged to trust in**
79 **Him and be cheerful. To be anxious about themselves tends to**
80 **cause weakness and disease.** If they will rise above depression and
81 gloom, their prospect of recovery will be better; for "the eye of the
82 Lord is upon them" "that hope in His mercy." Psalm 33:18. {CCh
83 304.5}

84 In prayer for the sick **it should be remembered that "we know not**
85 **what we should pray for as we ought." Romans 8:26. We do not**
86 **know whether the blessing we desire will be best or not. Therefore**
87 **our prayers should include this thought: "Lord, thou knowest**
88 **every secret of the soul.** Thou art acquainted with these persons. Jesus,
89 their Advocate, gave His life for them. His love for them is greater than
90 ours can possibly be. **If, therefore, it is for Thy glory and the good of**
91 **the afflicted ones, we ask, in the name of Jesus, that they may be**
92 **restored to health. If it be not Thy will that they may be restored,**
93 **we ask that Thy grace may comfort and Thy presence sustain them**
94 **in their sufferings."** {CCh 305.1}

95 God knows the end from the beginning. He is acquainted with the
96 hearts of all men. He reads every secret of the soul. **He knows whether**
97 **those for whom prayer is offered would or would not be able to**
98 **endure the trials that would come upon them should they live. He**
99 **knows whether their lives would be a blessing or a curse to**
100 **themselves and to the world. This is one reason why, while**
101 **presenting our petitions with earnestness, we should say,**
102 **"Nevertheless not my will, but Thine, be done."** Luke 22:42. Jesus
103 added these words of submission to the wisdom and will of God when
104 in the Garden of Gethsemane He pleaded, "O My Father, if it be
105 possible, let this cup pass from Me." Matthew 26:39. And if they were
106 appropriate for Him, the Son of God, how much more are they
107 becoming on the lips of finite, erring mortals! {CCh 305.2}

108 **The consistent course is to commit our desires to our all-wise**
109 **heavenly Father, and then, in perfect confidence, trust all to Him.**
110 We know that God hears us if we ask according to His will. **But to**
111 **press our petitions without a submissive spirit is not right; our**
112 **prayers must take the form, not of command, but of intercession.**
113 {CCh 305.3}

114 **There are cases where God works decidedly by His divine power in**
115 **the restoration of health. But not all the sick are healed. Many are**
116 **laid away to sleep in Jesus.** John on the Isle of Patmos was bidden to
117 write: "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth:
118 Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their

119 works do follow them." Revelation 14:13. **From this we see that if**
120 **persons are not raised to health, they should not on this account be**
121 **judged as wanting in faith.** {CCh 305.4}

122 **We all desire immediate and direct answers to our prayers, and are**
123 **tempted to become discouraged when the answer is delayed or**
124 **comes in an unlooked-for form. But God is too wise and good to**
125 **answer our prayers always at just the time and in just the manner**
126 **we desire. He will do more and better for us than to accomplish all**
127 **our wishes. And because we can trust His wisdom and love, we**
128 **should not ask Him to concede to our will, but should seek to enter**
129 **into and accomplish His purpose.** Our desires and interests should be
130 lost in His will. These experiences that test faith are for our benefit. By
131 them it is made manifest whether our faith is true and sincere, resting
132 on the word of God alone, or whether depending on circumstances, it is
133 uncertain and changeable. Faith is strengthened by exercise. We must
134 let patience have its perfect work, remembering that there are precious
135 promises in the Scriptures for those who wait upon the Lord. {CCh
136 305.5}

137 Not all understand these principles. **Many who seek the Lord's**
138 **healing mercy think that they must have a direct and immediate**
139 **answer to their prayers or their faith is defective. For this reason,**
140 **those who are weakened by disease need to be counseled wisely,**
141 **that they may act with discretion. They should not disregard their**
142 **duty to the friends who may survive them, or neglect to employ**
143 **nature's agencies for the restoration of health.** {CCh 306.1}

144 Often there is danger of error here. **Believing that they will be healed**
145 **in answer to prayer, some fear to do anything that might seem to**
146 **indicate a lack of faith. But they should not neglect to set their**
147 **affairs in order as they would desire to do if they expected to be**
148 **removed by death. Nor should they fear to utter words of**
149 **encouragement or counsel which at the parting hour they wish to**
150 **speak to their loved ones.** {CCh 306.2}

151 Those who seek healing by prayer **should not neglect to make use of**
152 **the remedial agencies within their reach. It is not a denial of faith**
153 **to use such remedies as God has provided to alleviate pain and to**
154 **aid nature in her work of restoration. It is no denial of faith to co-**
155 **operate with God, and to place themselves in the condition most**
156 **favorable to recovery.** God has put it in our power to obtain a
157 knowledge of the laws of life. This knowledge has been placed within
158 our reach for use. We should employ every facility for the restoration
159 of health, taking every advantage possible, working in harmony with
160 natural laws. **When we have prayed for the recovery of the sick, we**
161 **can work with all the more energy, thanking God that we have the**
162 **privilege of co-operating with Him, and asking His blessing on the**
163 **means which He Himself has provided.** {CCh 306.3}

164 **We have the sanction of the word of God for the use of remedial**

165 **agencies. Hezekiah, king of Israel, was sick,** and a prophet of God
166 brought him the message that he should die. He cried unto the Lord,
167 and the Lord heard His servant and sent him a message that fifteen
168 years should be added to his life. Now, **one word from God would**
169 **have healed Hezekiah instantly; but special directions were given,**
170 **"Let them take a lump of figs, and lay it for a plaster upon the boil,**
171 **and he shall recover."** Isaiah 38:21. {CCh 306.4}
172 **When we have prayed for the recovery of the sick, whatever the**
173 **outcome of the case, let us not lose faith in God. If we are called**
174 **upon to meet bereavement, let us accept the bitter cup,**
175 **remembering that a Father's hand holds it to our lips. But should**
176 **health be restored, it should not be forgotten that the recipient of**
177 **healing mercy is placed under renewed obligation to the Creator.**
178 When the ten lepers were cleansed, only one returned to find Jesus and
179 give Him glory. Let none of us be like the unthinking nine, whose
180 hearts were untouched by the mercy of God. "Every good gift and
181 every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of
182 lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." James
183 1:17. 547 {CCh 306.5}

184

Further Information

God Can Heal the Sick

187 This world is a vast lazar house, but Christ came to heal the sick, to
188 proclaim deliverance to the captives of Satan. He was in Himself health
189 and strength. **He imparted His life to the sick, the afflicted, those**
190 **possessed of demons. He turned away none who came to receive**
191 **His healing power.** He knew that those who petitioned Him for help
192 had brought disease upon themselves, yet He did not refuse to heal
193 them. And **when virtue from Christ entered into these poor souls**
194 **they were convicted of sin, and many were healed of their spiritual**
195 **disease as well as of their physical maladies. The gospel still**
196 **possesses the same power, and why should we not today witness the**
197 **same results?** {CH 30.1}

198 Christ feels the woes of every sufferer. When evil spirits rend a human
199 frame, Christ feels the curse. When fever is burning up the life current,
200 He feels the agony. And He is just as willing to heal the sick now as
201 when He was personally on earth. **Christ's servants are His**
202 **representatives, the channels for His working. He desires through**
203 **them to exercise His healing power.** {CH 30.2}

204

205 **The power of Christ to stay disease has been revealed in the past in**
206 **a remarkable manner.** Before we were blessed with institutions where
207 the sick could get help from suffering, by diligent treatment and earnest
208 prayer in faith to God, **we carried the most seemingly hopeless cases**
209 **through successfully. Today the Lord invites the suffering ones to**

210 **have faith in Him. Man's necessity is God's opportunity** [Mark 6:1-
211 5 quoted].... {3SM 295.3}

212

213 Christ has empowered His church to do the same work that He did
214 during His ministry. Today He is the same compassionate physician
215 that He was while on this earth. We should let the afflicted understand
216 that in Him there is healing balm for every disease, restoring power for
217 every infirmity. **His disciples in this time are to pray for the sick as**
218 **verily as His disciples of old prayed. And recoveries will follow, for**
219 **"the prayer of faith shall save the sick."** James 5:15. We need the
220 Holy Spirit's power, the calm assurance of faith that can claim God's
221 promises.—The Review and Herald, June 9, 1904. {CH 210.3}

222

223 **Why is it that men are so unwilling to trust Him who created man,**
224 **who can, by a touch, a word, a look, heal all manner of disease?**
225 Who is more worthy of our confidence than the One who made so great
226 a sacrifice for our redemption? **If the professed followers of Christ**
227 **would, with purity of heart, exercise as much faith in the promises**
228 **of God as they repose in Satanic agencies, they would realize in**
229 **soul and body the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit.** Christ
230 condescended to take our nature, that he might reach to the very depths
231 of human woe and degradation, to elevate and ennoble our race. With
232 such evidence of his incomparable love, how can any turn from the
233 God of light, the God of power, and give heed to Satan, the author of
234 all our woes? {RH June 27, 1882, par. 18}

235

236 *Spiritual Examination Should Precede Praying For The Sick*

237 **Praying for the sick is a most solemn thing, and we should not**
238 **enter upon this work in any careless, <hasty> way. Examination**
239 **should be made as to whether those who would be blessed with**
240 **health have indulged in evil speaking, alienation, and dissension.**
241 **Have they sowed discord among the brethren and sisters in the**
242 **church? If these things have been committed they should be**
243 **confessed before God and before the church. When wrongs have**
244 **been confessed, the subjects for prayer may be presented before**
245 **God in earnestness and in faith, as the Spirit of God may move**
246 **upon you.** {Ms26a-1892.8}

247

248 *We Must Pray For the Sick*

249 The question has been asked by some, "Has Sister White healed the
250 sick?" I answer, "No, no; Sister White has often been called to pray for
251 the sick, and to anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord Jesus, and
252 with them she has claimed the fulfillment of the promise, "The prayer of
253 faith shall save the sick." **No human power can save the sick, but,**
254 **through the prayer of faith, the Mighty Healer has fulfilled His**
255 **promise to those who have called upon His name.** No human power

256 can pardon sin or save the sinner. None can do this but Christ, the
257 merciful physician of body and soul. {3SM 295.1}

258 **It has often been my privilege to pray with the sick. We should do**
259 **this much more often than we do. If more prayer were offered in**
260 **our sanitariums for the healing of the sick, the mighty power of the**
261 **Healer would be seen. Many more would be strengthened and**
262 **blessed, and many more acute sicknesses would be healed.** {3SM
263 295.2}

264

265 **When you neglect to offer prayer for the sick, you deprive them of**
266 **great blessings; for angels of God are waiting to minister to these**
267 **souls in response to your petitions.** In every possible and pleasant
268 way, those who know the truth should seek to reveal the power of the
269 grace of Christ. As they exemplify truth in their daily walk and
270 conversation, they will exert a holy influence, and the grace of Christ
271 will cooperate with human effort. Working intelligently for the
272 recovery of body and soul from the results of sin, they will be true
273 workers together with Christ and will be instruments in His hands to
274 show forth His praise and salvation. {MM 195.1}

275

276 Every visit you make, **be sure and pray if there is any sick where**
277 **you call. Pray for the sick that God would raise them up, for you**
278 **know not who shall be greatly blessed in the kingdom of**
279 **God.** {Lt261-1899.7}

280

281 *Many Are Needing Healing of the Soul*

282 Many are suffering from maladies of the soul far more than from
283 diseases of the body, and they will find no relief until they come to
284 Christ, the wellspring of life. **The burden of sin, with its unrest and**
285 **unsatisfied desires, lies at the foundation of a large share of the**
286 **maladies the sinner suffers.** Christ is the Mighty Healer of the sin-sick
287 soul. These poor, afflicted ones need to have a clearer knowledge of
288 Him whom to know aright is life eternal. They need to be patiently and
289 kindly yet earnestly taught how to throw open the windows of the soul
290 and let the sunlight of God's love come in. Complaints of weariness,
291 loneliness, and dissatisfaction will then cease. Satisfying joys will give
292 vigor to the mind and health and vital energy to the body. When the
293 gospel is received in its purity and power, it is a cure for the maladies
294 that originated in sin. The Sun of Righteousness arises, "with healing in
295 His wings." . . . The love which Christ diffuses through the whole
296 being is a vitalizing power. Every vital part--the brain, the heart, the
297 nerves-- it touches with healing. By it the highest energies of the being
298 are roused to activity. It frees the soul from the guilt and sorrow, the
299 anxiety and care, that crush the life forces. With it come serenity and
300 composure. It implants in the soul joy that nothing earthly can destroy--
301 joy in the Holy Spirit--health-giving, life-giving joy. **Our Saviour's**

302 **words, "Come unto Me, . . . and I will give you rest," are a**
303 **prescription for the healing of physical, mental, and spiritual ills.**
304 Though men have brought suffering upon themselves by their own
305 wrongdoing He regards them with pity. In Him they may find help. He
306 will do great things for those who trust in Him. . . . If human beings
307 would open the windows of the soul heavenward, in appreciation of the
308 divine gifts, a flood of healing virtue would flow in. **The burden of**
309 **sin, with its unrest and unsatisfied desires, lies at the very**
310 **foundation of nine-tenths of all the maladies the sinner suffers.**
311 Christ is the mighty healer of the sin-sick soul. These poor afflicted
312 ones need to have a clearer knowledge of Him whom to know aright is
313 life eternal. They need to be patiently and kindly, yet earnestly taught
314 how to throw open the windows of the soul and let the sunlight of
315 God's love come in to illuminate the darkened chambers of the mind.
316 {ML 155.6}

317

318 *Healing Can Bring Conversions*

319 **On the sickbed Christ is often accepted and confessed; and this will**
320 **be done oftener in the future than it has been in the past,** for a quick
321 work will the Lord do in our world. Words of wisdom are to be on the
322 lips of the physician, and Christ will water the seed sown, causing it to
323 bring forth fruit unto eternal life. {6T 233.1}

324

325 *We May Pray With Others for the Sick*

326 As to **praying for the sick, it is too important a matter to be**
327 **handled carelessly. I believe we should take everything to the Lord,**
328 and make known to God all our weaknesses and specify all our
329 perplexities. **When in sorrow, when uncertain as to what course to**
330 **pursue, two or three who are accustomed to pray should unite**
331 **together** in asking the Lord to let His light shine upon them and to
332 impart His special grace; and **He will respect their petitions, He will**
333 **answer their prayers.** If we are under infirmities of body, it is
334 certainly consistent to trust in the Lord, making supplications to our
335 God in our own case, and if we feel inclined to ask others in whom we
336 have confidence to unite with us in prayer to Jesus who is the Mighty
337 Healer, help will surely come if we ask in faith. I think we are
338 altogether too faithless, too cold and lukewarm. {MM 16.2}

339

340 *Jesus Turned Away None Who Needed Healing*

341 This world is a vast lazar house, but Christ came to heal the sick, to
342 proclaim deliverance to the captives of Satan. He was in Himself health
343 and strength. He imparted His life to the sick, the afflicted, those
344 possessed of demons. **He turned away none who came to receive His**
345 **healing power. He knew that those who petitioned Him for help**
346 **had brought disease upon themselves, yet He did not refuse to heal**
347 **them.** And when virtue from Christ entered into these poor souls they

348 were convicted of sin, and many were healed of their spiritual disease
349 as well as of their physical maladies. The gospel still possesses the
350 same power, and why should we not today witness the same results?
351 {CH 30.1} (*Note that we are instructed to educate as part of seeking*
352 *healing on behalf of others in our day.*)

353

354 *Healing and Faith*

355 In praying for the sick, it is essential to have faith, for it is in
356 accordance with the Word of God. "The effectual fervent prayer of a
357 righteous man availeth much." **So we cannot discard praying for the**
358 **sick**, and we would feel very sad if we could not have the privilege of
359 approaching God, to lay before Him all our weakness and all our
360 infirmities, to tell the compassionate Saviour all about these things,
361 believing that He hears our petitions. {19MR 227.2}

362 **Sometimes answers to our prayers come immediately; sometimes**
363 **we have to wait patiently and continue earnestly to plead for the**
364 **things that we need**, our cases illustrated by the case of the
365 importunate solicitor for bread. "Which of you shall have a friend, and
366 shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three
367 loaves; for a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have
368 nothing to set before him? And he from within shall answer and say,
369 Trouble me not; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in
370 bed; I cannot rise and give thee. I say unto you, Though he will not rise
371 and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity
372 he will rise and give him as many as he needeth." -228- {19MR 227.3}
373 This lesson means much more than we imagine. **We are to keep on**
374 **asking, even if we do not realize the immediate response to our**
375 **prayers.** "And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and
376 ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that
377 asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh
378 it shall be opened." {19MR 228.1}

379 We need grace, we need divine enlightenment, that through the Spirit
380 we shall know how to ask for such things as we need. If our petitions
381 are indited of the Lord, they will be answered.--Letter 17, 1892.

382

383 *Healing and the Will*

384 **The Lord has shown me that many who are always complaining,**
385 **and are apparently feeble, are not in so bad a condition as they**
386 **think. Some of them have a powerful will, which, if exercised in the**
387 **right direction, would control the imagination, and be a potent**
388 **means of resisting disease; but it is too frequently the case that the**
389 **will is on the wrong side, and stubbornly refuses to yield to reason.**
390 **That will has settled the matter: invalids they are**, and the attention
391 given to invalids they will have, irrespective of the judgment of others.
392 {CTBH 102.1 }

393 **Thousands are sick and dying around us who might get well and**

394 **live, if they would. But their imagination controls them. They fear**
395 **they will be made worse** if they engage in any physical labor, when
396 this is just the change they need. **They should exercise their will-**
397 **power and rise above their difficulties, engage in useful**
398 **employment suited to their strength, and forget that they have**
399 **aching backs,** sides, lungs, and heads. { CTBH 102.2 }

400

401 The power of the will is not valued as it should be. Let the will be kept
402 awake and rightly directed, and it will impart energy to the whole being
403 and will be a wonderful aid in the maintenance of health. It is a power
404 also in dealing with disease – {2MCP 690.1}

405 **By the exercise of the willpower in placing themselves in right**
406 **relation to life, patients can do much to cooperate with the**
407 **physician’s efforts for their recovery. There are thousands who can**
408 **recover health if they will. The Lord does not want them to be sick.**
409 **He desires them to be well and happy, and they should make up**
410 **their minds to be well.** – {2MCP 690.2}

411 **Often invalids can resist disease simply by refusing to yield to**
412 **ailments and settle down in a state of inactivity. Rising above their**
413 **aches and pains, let them engage in useful employment suited to**
414 **their strength. By such employment and the free use of air and**
415 **sunlight, many an emaciated invalid might recover health and**
416 **strength.**—The Ministry of Healing, 246 (1905). – {2MCP 690.3}

417

418 *Healing and Gratitude*

419 **Nothing tends to promote health of body and of soul then does a**
420 **spirit of gratitude and praise.** It is a positive duty to resist
421 melancholy, discontented thoughts and feelings—as much a duty as it
422 is to pray. If we are heaven-bound, how can we go as a band of
423 mourners, groaning and complaining all along the way to our Father’s
424 house? {MH 251.3}

425

426 How often those who are in health forget the wonderful mercies that
427 are continued to them day by day, year after year. They render no
428 tribute of praise to God for all His benefits. But when sickness comes,
429 God is remembered. The strong desire for recovery leads to earnest
430 prayer, and this is right. God is our refuge in sickness as in health. **But**
431 **many do not leave their cases with Him; they encourage weakness**
432 **and disease by worrying about themselves. If they would cease**
433 **repining and rise above depression and gloom, their recovery**
434 **would be more sure.** They should remember with gratitude how long
435 they enjoyed the blessing of health; and should this precious boon be
436 restored to them, they should not forget that they are under renewed
437 obligations to their Creator. When the ten lepers were healed, only one
438 returned to find Jesus and give Him glory. Let us not be like the

439 unthinking nine whose hearts were untouched by the mercy of God. --
440 Testimonies for the Church, vol. 5, p. 315 (1885).

441

442 *Healing and Obedience*

443 **In order to be purified and to remain pure, Seventh-day Adventists**
444 **must have the Holy Spirit in their hearts and in their homes.** The
445 Lord has given me light that **when the Israel of today humble**
446 **themselves before Him, and cleanse the soul-temple from all**
447 **defilement, He will hear their prayers in behalf of the sick and will**
448 **bless in the use of His remedies for disease.** When in faith the human
449 agent does all he can to combat disease, using the simple methods of
450 treatment that God has provided, his efforts will be blessed of God. **If,**
451 **after so much light has been given, God's people will cherish wrong**
452 **habits, indulging self and refusing to reform, they will suffer the**
453 **sure consequences of transgression. If they are determined to**
454 **gratify perverted appetite at any cost, God will not miraculously**
455 **save them from the consequences of their indulgence. They "shall**
456 **lie down in sorrow." Isaiah 50:11.** Those who choose to be
457 presumptuous, saying, "The Lord has healed me, and I need not restrict
458 my diet; I can eat and drink as I please," will ere long need, in body and
459 soul, the restoring power of God. Because the Lord has graciously
460 healed you, you must not think you can link yourselves up with the
461 self-indulgent practices of the world. Do as Christ commanded after
462 His work of healing--"go, and sin no more." John 8:11. Appetite must
463 not be your god. **The Lord gave His word to ancient Israel, that if**
464 **they would cleave strictly to Him and do all His requirements, He**
465 **would keep them from all the diseases such as He had brought**
466 **upon the Egyptians; but this promise was given on the condition of**
467 **obedience.** Had the Israelites obeyed the instruction they received, and
468 profited by their advantages, they would have been the world's object
469 lesson of health and prosperity. The Israelites failed of fulfilling God's
470 purpose, and thus failed of receiving the blessings that might have been
471 theirs. But in Joseph and Daniel, in Moses and Elijah, and many others,
472 we have noble examples of the results of the true plan of living. Like
473 faithfulness today will produce like results. To us it is written: "Ye are
474 a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar
475 people; that ye should show forth the praises of Him who hath called
476 you out of darkness into His marvelous light." 1 Peter 2:9. {9T 165.1}

477

478 You may say, **"Why not, then, take hold of the work, and heal the**
479 **sick as Christ did?" I answer, You are not ready.** Some have
480 believed; some have been healed; but there are many who make
481 themselves sick by intemperate eating or by indulging in other wrong
482 habits. When they get sick, shall we pray for them to be raised up, that
483 they may carry on the very same work again? **There must be a**
484 **reformation throughout our ranks; the people must reach a higher**

485 **standard before we can expect the power of God to be manifested**
486 **in a marked manner for the healing of the sick. . . .** {MM 15.4}

487 If we will take hold of the Master, take hold of all the power He has
488 given us, the salvation of God will be revealed. **Let me tell you that**
489 **the sick will be healed when you have faith to come to God in the**
490 **right way.** We thank God that we have the medical missionary work.
491 Wherever we carry the gospel, we can teach the people how to take
492 care of themselves.--G.C.B., April 3, 1901. {MM 16.1}

493

494 Good deeds are twice a blessing, benefiting both the giver and the
495 receiver of the kindness. **The consciousness of right-doing is one of**
496 **the best medicines for diseased bodies and minds.** When the mind is
497 free and happy from a sense of duty well done and the satisfaction of
498 giving happiness to others, the cheering, uplifting influence brings new
499 life to the whole being. {MH 257.1}

500 **Let the invalid, instead of constantly requiring sympathy, seek to**
501 **impart it.** Let the burden of your own weakness and sorrow and pain
502 be cast upon the compassionate Saviour. **Open your heart to His love,**
503 **and let it flow out to others.** Remember that all have trials hard to
504 bear, temptations hard to resist, and you may do something to lighten
505 these burdens. **Express gratitude for the blessings you have; show**
506 **appreciation of the attentions you receive. Keep the heart full of the**
507 **precious promises of God, that you may bring forth from this**
508 **treasure, words that will be a comfort and strength to others. This**
509 **will surround you with an atmosphere that will be helpful and**
510 **uplifting.** Let it be your aim to bless those around you, and you will
511 find ways of being helpful, both to the members of your own family
512 and to others. {MH 257.2}

513 If those who are suffering from ill-health would forget self in their
514 interest for others; if they would fulfill the Lord's command to minister
515 to those more needy than themselves, they would realize the
516 truthfulness of the prophetic promise, "Then shall thy light break forth
517 as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily." {MH
518 258.1}

519

520 *Tithing, Troublemaking and Healing*

521 We should **first find out if the sick one has been withholding tithes**
522 **or has made trouble in the church.**--U. T. {HL 237.4}

523

524 **I was shown at Minneapolis that the Lord would come in to their**
525 **families and would visit for the things that there transpired, with**
526 **affliction and death unless they stood firm between God and his**
527 **people.** You remember I said in the tabernacle before Elder Butler,
528 yourself, and those present. I had things to say to Elder Butler, but ye
529 cannot bear them now. **It was this; his stubbornness and unbelief**
530 **was sinful and God would bring his afflicting hand heavily upon**

531 **him if he did not repent and have another spirit, and if he still held**
532 **his perversity and stubbornness, he would come nearer still to him**
533 **in affliction.** And this he would do to the ones to whom he had given
534 light and they had closed their eyes and ears, and confederated together
535 to make of none effect the warnings and messages of light and truth for
536 his people. – {1888 848.1}

537

538 *Prayer For Healing Is Sometimes Answered Through Education*

539 **Should all the sick be healed by prayer, very few would improve**
540 **their opportunities to become acquainted with right ways of eating,**
541 **drinking, and dressing.** Those connected with our sanitariums should
542 realize the duty resting upon them to give the patients an education in
543 the principles of healthful living. {MM 260.1}

544 The sick have their lesson to learn. They must be denied those
545 preparations of food that would retard or prevent their recovery to
546 health. They must learn the science of self-denial, eating simple food
547 prepared in a simple way. They should live much in the sunlight, which
548 should find its way to every room of the building. Lectures on health
549 topics should be given. These lectures will open the blinded
550 understanding, and truths never before thought of will be fastened on
551 the mind.--Letter 63, 1905. {MM 260.2}

552

553 The remark is often made, by one and another, "Why depend so much
554 on sanitariums? Why do we not pray for the miraculous healing of the
555 sick, as the people of God used to do?" In the early history of our work
556 many were healed by prayer. And some, after they were healed,
557 pursued the same course in the indulgence of appetite that they had
558 followed in the past. They did not live and work in such a way as to
559 avoid sickness. They did not show that they appreciated the Lord's
560 goodness to them. Again and again they were brought to suffering
561 through their own careless, thoughtless course of action. How could the
562 Lord be glorified in bestowing on them the gift of health? {YRP 201.2}

563 **When the light came that we should have a sanitarium, the reason**
564 **was plainly given. There were many who needed to be educated in**
565 **regard to healthful living. A place must be provided to which the**
566 **sick could be taken, where they could be taught how to live so as to**
567 **preserve health. . . .** {YRP 201.3}

568 **Lectures should be diligently kept up as a means of teaching the**
569 **patients how to prevent disease by a wise course of action. By**
570 **means of these lectures the patients may be shown the**
571 **responsibility resting on them to keep the body in the most**
572 **healthful condition because it is the Lord's purchased possession.**
573 Mind, soul, and body are bought with a price. . . . "Therefore glorify
574 God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians
575 6:20). . . . {YRP 201.4}

576 In the providence of God, instruction has been given that sanitariums

577 be established, in order that the sick may be drawn to them, and learn
578 how to live healthfully. The establishment of sanitariums is a
579 providential arrangement, whereby people from all churches are to be
580 reached, and made acquainted with the saving truth for this time.--
581 Manuscript Releases, vol. 7, pp. 378, 379.

582

583 "The sick may look to the great Healer as they do all that is possible to
584 be done on their part, cooperating with Him who so loved the world
585 that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him
586 should not perish, but have everlasting life. He who would be healed
587 must cease to transgress the law of God. He must cease to lead a life of
588 sin. **God cannot bless the one who continues to bring upon himself**
589 **disease and suffering by neglecting and violating the laws of**
590 **heaven. But the Holy Spirit comes with a healing power to those**
591 **who cease to do evil and learn to do well.** {LLM 31.3}

592 "I think I have answered the question, why do we not pray for the
593 healing of the sick, instead of having sanitariums? The education of
594 many souls is at stake. In the providence of God, instruction has
595 been given that sanitariums be established, in order that the sick
596 may go to them, and learn how to live healthfully. The establishment
597 of sanitariums is a providential arrangement, whereby people from all
598 places are to be reached and made acquainted with the truth for this
599 time. It is for this reason that we urge that sanitariums be established in
600 many places outside of our cities." {LLM 31.4}

601

602 *Healing and the Laws of Health*

603 While Satan is constantly doing his utmost to take advantage of men's
604 ignorance and to lay the foundation of disease by improper treatment of
605 the body, it is best for those who claim to be sons and daughters of God
606 to avail themselves while they can of the opportunities now presented
607 to gain a knowledge of the human system and how it may be preserved
608 in health. We are to use every faculty of mind which God has given us.
609 **The Lord will not work a miracle to preserve anyone in health who**
610 **will not make an effort to obtain knowledge within his reach**
611 **concerning this wonderful habitation that God has given.** By study
612 of the human organism, we are to learn to correct what may be wrong
613 in our habits and which, if left uncorrected, would bring the sure result,
614 disease and suffering, that make life a burden. The sincerity of our
615 prayers can be proved only by the vigor of our endeavor to obey God's
616 commandments. {CH 504.1}

617

618 **Many have expected that God would keep them from sickness**
619 **merely because they have asked Him to do so. But God did not**
620 **regard their prayers, because their faith was not made perfect by**
621 **works. God will not work a miracle to keep those from sickness**
622 **who have no care for themselves, but are continually violating the**

623 laws of health and make no efforts to prevent disease. **When we do all**
624 **we can on our part to have health, then may we expect that the**
625 **blessed results will follow, and we can ask God in faith to bless our**
626 **efforts for the preservation of health.** He will then answer our prayer,
627 if His name can be glorified thereby. But let all understand that they
628 have a work to do. **God will not work in a miraculous manner to**
629 **preserve the health of persons who are taking a sure course to**
630 **make themselves sick, by their careless inattention to the laws of**
631 **health.** {CME 35.2}

632 **Those who will gratify their appetite, and then suffer because of**
633 **their intemperance, and take drugs to relieve them, may be assured**
634 **that God will not interpose to save health and life which are so**
635 **recklessly periled.** The cause has produced the effect. Many, as their
636 last resort, follow the directions in the Word of God, and request the
637 prayers of the elders of the church for their restoration to health. **God**
638 **does not see fit to answer prayers offered in behalf of such, for He**
639 **knows that if they should be restored to health, they would again**
640 **sacrifice it upon the altar of unhealthy appetite.**--Medical Ministry,
641 pp. 13, 14. {CME 35.3}

642
643 We need to learn that **indulged appetite is the greatest hindrance to**
644 **mental improvement and soul sanctification.** With all our profession
645 of health reform, many of us eat improperly. Indulgence of appetite is
646 the greatest cause of physical and mental debility, and lies largely at the
647 foundation of feebleness and premature death. Let the individual who is
648 seeking to possess purity of spirit bear in mind that in Christ there is
649 power to control the appetite. {CH 130.1}

650
651 It is **not the will of God that men and women should die**
652 **prematurely, leaving their work unfinished.** He would have us live
653 out the full measure of our days, with every organ free to do its allotted
654 work. **Many complain of the providences of God when disease and**
655 **death remove members of the household; but it is unjust to charge**
656 **God with what is but the sure result of their own transgression of**
657 **natural laws.** {CTBH 90.1 }

658
659 *Healing and Natural Remedies*

660 Those who seek healing by prayer **should not neglect to make use of**
661 **the remedial agencies within their reach. It is not a denial of**
662 **faith to use such remedies as God has provided to alleviate pain**
663 **and to aid nature in her work of restoration.** It is no denial of
664 faith to co-operate with God, and to place themselves in the condition
665 most favorable to recovery. God has put it in our power to obtain a
666 knowledge of the laws of life. This knowledge has been placed within
667 our reach for use. **We should employ every facility for the**
668 **restoration of health, taking every advantage possible, working in**

669 **harmony with natural laws.** When we have prayed for the recovery of
670 the sick, we can work with all the more energy, thanking God that we
671 have the privilege of co-operating with Him, and asking His blessing
672 on the means which He Himself has provided. {CCh 306.3}

673

674 **I have seen so much of carrying matters to extremes, in praying for**
675 **the sick, that I have felt that this part of our experience requires**
676 **much solid, sanctified thinking, lest we shall make movements that**
677 **we may call faith, but which are really nothing less than**
678 **presumption.** Persons worn down with affliction need to be counseled
679 wisely, that they may move discretely; and while they place themselves
680 before God to be prayed for that they may be healed, **they are not to**
681 **take the position that methods of restoration to health in**
682 **accordance with nature's laws are to be neglected. If they take the**
683 **position that in praying for healing they must not use the simple**
684 **remedies provided by God to alleviate pain and to aid nature in her**
685 **work, lest it be a denial of faith, they are taking an unwise position.**
686 **This is not a denial of faith; it is in strict harmony with the plans of**
687 **God.** When Hezekiah was sick, the prophet of God brought him the
688 message that he should die. He cried unto the Lord, and the Lord heard
689 His servant and worked a miracle in his behalf, sending him a message
690 that fifteen years should be added to his life. Now, **one word from**
691 **God, one touch of the divine finger, would have cured Hezekiah**
692 **instantly, but special directions were given to take a fig and lay it**
693 **upon the affected part, and Hezekiah was raised to life. In everything**
694 **we need to move along the line of God's providence. The human agent**
695 **should have faith and should cooperate with the divine power,**
696 **using every facility, taking advantage of everything that, according**
697 **to his intelligence, is beneficial, working in harmony with natural**
698 **laws; and in doing this he neither denies nor hinders faith. {CH**
699 **382.1}**

700

701 The true method for healing the sick is to tell them of the herbs that
702 grow for the benefit of man. Scientists have attached large names to
703 these simplest preparations, but true education will lead us to teach the
704 sick that they need not call in a doctor any more than they would call in
705 a lawyer. They can themselves administer the simple herbs if
706 necessary. **To educate the human family that the doctor alone**
707 **knows all the ills of infants and persons of every age, is false**
708 **teaching, and the sooner we as a people stand on the principles of**
709 **health reform, the greater will be the blessing that will come to**
710 **those who would do true medical work.** There is a work to be done in
711 treating the sick with water and teaching them to make the most of
712 sunshine and physical exercise. Thus in simple language we may teach
713 the people how to preserve health, how to avoid sickness. This is the
714 work our sanitariums are called upon to do. This is true science. {SpM

715 137.2} (1885) 5T 443 (*This is not meant to be understood as a final*
716 *statement on the use of physicians, for she herself went to physicians*
717 *and used "rational remedies judiciously." Read further in this*
718 *document.*)

719

720 There are many ways of practicing the healing art; but there is only one
721 way that Heaven approves. **God's remedies are the simple agencies of**
722 **nature, that will not tax or debilitate the system through their**
723 **powerful properties. Pure air and water, cleanliness, a proper diet,**
724 **purity of life, and a firm trust in God, are remedies for the want of**
725 **which thousands are dying;** yet these remedies are going out of date
726 because their skillful use requires work that the people do not
727 appreciate. Fresh air, exercise, pure water, and clean, sweet premises,
728 are within the reach of all, with but little expense; but drugs are
729 expensive, both in the outlay of means, and the effect produced upon
730 the system. {CD 301.2}

731

732 God's miracles do not always bear the outward semblance of miracles.
733 Often they are brought about in a way which looks like the natural
734 course of events. **When we pray for the sick, we also work for them.**
735 **We answer our own prayers by using the remedies within our**
736 **reach.** Water, wisely applied, is a most powerful remedy. As it is used
737 intelligently, favorable results are seen. **God has given us intelligence,**
738 **and He desires us to make the most of His health-giving blessings.**
739 We ask that God will give bread to the hungry; we are then to act as
740 His helping hand in relieving hunger. We are to use every blessing God
741 has placed within our reach for the deliverance of those in danger.
742 {2SM 346.3}

743 **Natural means, used in accordance with God's will, bring about**
744 **supernatural results. We ask for a miracle, and the Lord directs**
745 **the mind to some simple remedy.** We ask to be kept from the
746 pestilence that walketh in darkness, that is stalking with such power
747 through the world; we are then to cooperate with God, observing the
748 laws of health and life. **Having done all that we possibly can, we are**
749 **to keep asking in faith for health and strength.** We are to eat that
750 food which will preserve the health of the body. **God gives us no**
751 **encouragement that He will do for us what we can do for ourselves.**
752 **Natural laws are to be obeyed. We are not to fail of doing our part.**
753 God says to us, "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.
754 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good
755 pleasure" (Philippians 2:12, 13). {2SM 346.4}

756 We cannot disregard the laws of nature without disregarding the laws
757 of God. **We cannot expect the Lord to work a miracle for us while**
758 **we neglect the simple remedies He has provided for our use, which,**
759 **aptly and opportunely applied, will bring about a miraculous**
760 **result.** {2SM 346.5}

761 Therefore, pray, believe, and work.--Letter 66, 1901. {2SM 347.1}

762

763 **In every case treatment is to be accompanied by prayer. Many who**
764 **are sick have never exercised faith. They do not know how to**
765 **believe. But if they will look to Jesus, believing that the great**
766 **Healer can cure the sin-sick soul and the diseased body, they will**
767 **not be disappointed.** God is exalted and honored by him who
768 in faith wrestles in prayer. **Our institutions must be fragrant**
769 **with prayer.** Pray, "If it is for Thy glory to do this, heal for Thy
770 name's sake." This is not weakening to our faith. {Ms67-1899.16}

771

772 Physicians who pray, as well as work to restore the **sick** make deep
773 impressions upon the minds of those they attend. **Our prayer and**
774 **painstaking effort is not by any means to be confined to those who**
775 **believe the doctrines we believe to be truth. God will bless the**
776 **afflicted one, believer or unbeliever.** Many not of our faith have often
777 longed to understand what they should do to be saved. The hour of their
778 greatest peril may be the hour of their resolve to accept Jesus Christ as
779 their personal Saviour. {Ms67-1899.14}

780

781

782 An Example of Natural Remedies

783 *Eucalyptus*

784 I received your letter today, for which I thank you. I am very sorry to
785 learn that Sister Hare is not well. **I cannot advise any remedy for her**
786 **cough better than eucalyptus and honey. Into a tumbler of honey**
787 **put a few drops of the eucalyptus, stir up well, and take whenever**
788 **the cough comes on.** I have had considerable trouble with my throat,
789 but whenever I use this I overcome the difficulty very quickly. I have to
790 use it only a few times, and the cough is removed. If you will use this
791 prescription, you may be your own physician. If the first trial does not
792 effect a cure, try it again. The best time to take it is before retiring. {
793 14MR 339.1 }

794

795 Healing and Using Rational Remedies Judiciously

796 In regard to **the matter of prayer for the sick, many confusing ideas**
797 **are advanced. One says, "He who has been prayed for must walk**
798 **out in faith, giving God the glory, and making use of no remedies.**
799 If he is at a health institute he should leave it at once." {2SM 345.1}

800 I know that these ideas are wrong, and that if accepted they would lead
801 to many evils. {2SM 345.2}

802 On the other hand, **I do not wish to say anything that might be**
803 **interpreted to mean a lack of belief in the efficacy of prayer.** {2SM
804 345.3}

805 **The path of faith lies close beside the path of presumption.** Satan is
806 ever seeking to lead us into false paths. He sees that a misunderstanding

807 of what constitutes faith will confuse and disappoint. He is pleased
808 when he can persuade men and women to reason from false premises.

809 {2SM 345.4}

810 **I can pray for the sick only in one way—"Lord, if it be in**
811 **accordance with Thy will, for Thy glory and the good of the one**
812 **who is sick, heal the sufferer, we pray. Not our will, but Thine be**
813 **done."** {2SM 345.5}

814 Nehemiah did not regard his duty as done when he had mourned and
815 wept and prayed before the Lord. He did not only pray. He worked,
816 mingling petition and endeavor. {2SM 346.1}

817 **It is no denial of faith to use rational remedies judiciously.--**
818 **Manuscript 31, 1911.** {2SM 346.2}

819

820 *Surgeries*

821 **Before performing a critical operation, let the physician ask for the**
822 **aid of the Great Physician.** Let him assure the suffering one that God
823 can bring him safely through the ordeal, that in all times of distress He
824 is a sure refuge for those who trust in Him.—The Ministry of Healing,
825 118 (1905). {2SM 284.2}

826

827 **Jesus is Present in the Operating Room—The Saviour is present in**
828 **the sickroom, in the operating room;** and His power for His name's
829 glory accomplishes great things.—Manuscript 159, 1899 (Manuscript,
830 "The Privileges and Duties of a Christian Physician"). {2SM 284.3}

831

832 It is our privilege to use every God-appointed means in correspondence
833 with our faith, and then trust in God, when we have urged the
834 promise. **If there is need of a surgical operation, and the physician**
835 **is willing to undertake the case, it is not a denial of faith to have the**
836 **operation performed.** After the patient has committed his will to the
837 will of God, let him trust, drawing nigh to the Great Physician,
838 the Mighty Healer, and giving himself up in perfect trust. The Lord will
839 honor his faith in the very manner He sees is for His own name's glory.
840 "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on
841 Thee: because he trusteth in Thee. Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in
842 the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength" (Isaiah 26:3, 4).—
843 Manuscript 67, 1899 (General Manuscript). {2SM 284.4}

844

845 **Who has been by your side as you have performed these critical**
846 **operations? Who has kept you calm and self-possessed in the crisis,**
847 **giving you quick, sharp discernment, clear eyesight, steady nerves,**
848 **and skillful precision? The Lord Jesus has sent His angel to**
849 **your side to tell you what to do. A hand has been laid upon your**
850 **hand. Jesus, and not you, has guided the movements of**
851 **your instrument.** At times you have realized this, and a wonderful
852 calmness has come over you. You dared not hurry, and yet you worked

853 rapidly, knowing that there was not a moment to lose. The Lord has
854 greatly blessed you.—Testimonies for the Church 8:187, 188 (To the
855 medical superintendent of the Battle Creek Sanitarium, 1899). {2SM
856 285.1}

857

858 As you looked to God in your critical operations, **angels of God were**
859 **standing by your side, and their hands were seen as your hand**
860 **performing the work with an accuracy that made the**
861 **beholders surprised.**—Letter 73, 1899 (To the physician addressed in
862 the preceding item). {2SM 285.2}

863

864 **Christ is the greatest medical missionary that ever lived. He never**
865 **lost a case. He understands how to give strength and guidance to**
866 **the physicians in this institution. He stands beside them as they**
867 **perform their difficult surgical operations.** We know that this is
868 so. He has saved lives that might have been lost had the knife swerved
869 a hair's breadth. Angels of God are constantly ministering to those for
870 whom Christ has given His life. {2SM 285.3}

871

872 God gives the physicians of this institution skill and efficiency because
873 they are serving Him. They know that their skill is not their own, that it
874 comes from above. **They realize that there is beside them a**
875 **divine Watcher, who gives wisdom to His physicians, enabling**
876 **them to move intelligently in their work.**—Manuscript 28,
877 1901 (Words addressed to workers at the St. Helena Sanitarium). {2SM
878 285.4}

879

880 *Regarding Malaria*

881 I did wish you could have been with us. It is a treat to have all the
882 oranges we want. **I use lemon juice freely. It is the best thing you**
883 **could use for rheumatism, and for your head, and for**
884 **malaria.** {Lt119-1896.9} *(Note the paragraph which follows regarding*
885 *the use of Quinine. Ellen White counseled against its use at times, but*
886 *responded on at least one occasion that someone could have used it*
887 *without denying his faith. Malaria is a killer and professional care*
888 *should be immediately sought if one contracts the disease!)*

889

890 **Drug medication, as it is generally practiced, is a curse. Educate**
891 **away from drugs. Use them less and less, and depend more upon**
892 **hygienic agencies; then nature will respond to God's physicians—**
893 pure air, pure water, proper exercise, a clear conscience. Those who
894 persist in the use of tea, coffee, and flesh meats will feel the need of
895 drugs, but **many might recover without one grain of medicine if they**
896 **would obey the laws of health. Drugs need seldom be used.** [In
897 harmony with these words was Mrs. White's counsel when asked
898 concerning the use of quinine in the treatment of malaria. Her son, who

899 traveled with her and assisted her, reports the following: {2SM 281.4}
900 **“One time while we were in Australia, a brother who had been**
901 **acting as a missionary in the Islands, told mother of the sickness**
902 **and death of his first-born son.** He was seriously afflicted with
903 malaria, and his father was advised to give him quinine, but in view
904 **of the counsel in the testimonies to avoid the use of quinine he**
905 **refused to administer it, and his son died.** When he met Sister White,
906 he asked her this question: **‘Would I have sinned to give**
907 **the boy quinine when I knew of no other way to check malaria and**
908 **when the prospect was that he would die without it?’** In reply
909 **she said, ‘No, we are expected to do the best we can.’**”—W. C.
910 White letter, September 10, 1935.—[Compilers.]—Counsels on Health,
911 261 (1890). {2SM 282.1}

912

913 *X-Ray To Diagnose*

914 It was on Sabbath day, February 13, 1915, that Mrs. White met with the
915 accident that confined her to her couch thereafter and hastened her
916 death. As she was entering her study from the hallway, about noon, she
917 apparently tripped, and fell. Her niece, Miss May Walling, who for a
918 time had been acting as her nurse, was close by in the hallway, and
919 hastened to her assistance. As efforts to help her to her feet proved
920 unavailing, Miss Walling raised her into a chair, drew the chair through
921 the hallway into the bedroom, and finally got her onto the bed, and
922 summoned a physician from the St. Helena Sanitarium. {LS 442.3}

923 **A preliminary examination by Dr. G. E. Klingerman was followed**
924 **by a more thorough examination by means of the X-ray, and this**
925 **revealed unmistakably an intracapsular fracture of the left femur.**

926 It was of course impossible to determine when the break in the bone
927 had taken place,—whether before the fall, thus causing Mrs. White to
928 drop to the floor, or as the result of the fall. {LS 442.4}

929

930 *X-Ray Treatments*

931 For several weeks I took **treatment with the X-ray for the black spot**
932 **that was on my forehead. In all I took 23 treatments, and these**
933 **succeeded in entirely removing the mark.** For this I am very
934 grateful. {Lt30-1911.9}

935

936 *X-Ray Cautions*

937 Several times I have been instructed that much of the elaborate, costly
938 machinery used in giving treatments, did not help in the work as much
939 as is supposed. With it we do not get so good results as with the simple
940 appliances we used in our earlier experiences. The application of water
941 in various simple ways is a great blessing. {PC 217.5}

942 **I have been instructed that the X-ray is not the great blessing that**
943 **some suppose it to be. If used unwisely, it may do much harm.** The
944 results of some of the electrical treatments are similar to the results of

945 using stimulants. There is a weakness that follows.... {PC 217.6}

946

947 *Vaccinations*

948 On another occasion during a smallpox epidemic, **Ellen White was**
949 **vaccinated and urged her workers to also take this step.**—D. E.
950 Robinson, in E. G. White, *Selected Messages*, book 2, p. 303. 13 For a
951 full and balanced discussion, see Dr. Mervyn Hardinge’s book *Drugs,*
952 *Herbs, and Natural Remedies.*

953

954 [Compiler’s Note: There is not certainty in this regard. So, please don’t
955 take this mention of her vaccination as established, nor as her
956 wholesale support of vaccination. She did not write of this herself, it
957 came from a second party. In addition, not all vaccinations are of
958 natural origin and or efficacious; not all vaccines have been equally
959 tested for long-term impact. Ellen White spoke of judicious use of
960 “rational” remedies. We must apply the same standard. Is something
961 rational, and then is it being used judiciously.]

962

963 “It is easy to misunderstand the broad scope of her message,” wrote Dr.
964 Mervyn Hardinge in his book *A Physician Explains Ellen White’s*
965 *Counsel on Drugs, Herbs, and Natural Remedies.* “Ellen White was
966 one of the drug/health reformers, attempting to change the brutal,
967 nonsensical manner in which orthodox medicine operated. It
968 administered potent drugs for most any illness, minor or major. . . .
969 Drugging, together with bloodletting, blistering, and purging, killed the
970 sick by the thousands.”¹ Hardinge points out, however, that **Ellen**
971 **White did not forbid the use of *all* drugs. “Her intent was that**
972 **people employ harmless physiological remedies whenever feasible .**
973 **. . [but] we should not consider her a drug nihilist even though**
974 **many often try to portray her as one.”²**

975

976 *Healing Is Not Always for Our Good*

977 Many **would not endure the time of trial**, and will therefore be laid
978 away.--U. T. {HL 238.5}

979

980 We know of instances where the Lord has laid a case of diseased
981 humanity upon the heart of His people and put within them a longing of
982 soul, and they have prayed most earnestly for recovery and have
983 supposed they had a right to claim the promise, and yet the sick died.
984 The Lord, who sees the end from the beginning, understood that should
985 He work by His power to heal, the divine will would be misunderstood.
986 {2SM 347.4}

¹ Mervyn G. Hardinge, *A Physician Explains Ellen White’s Counsel on Drugs, Herbs, and Natural Remedies* (Hagerstown, Md.: Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 2001), p. 169.

² *Ibid.* p. 192,193.

987 **At times, restoration would not be best, either for the friends or for**
988 **the church, but would result in wild enthusiasm and fanaticism,**
989 **leading some to the conclusion that impulse is the ground of our**
990 **faith.** The only safe course is to follow the written Word. After you
991 have done all you can for the sufferer, place the case in the hands of the
992 Lord. It may be that death will be for His glory. **The Lord permits**
993 **some to die who for months and years have lingered in sickness. He**
994 **sees fit to give His suffering ones rest.**--Manuscript 67, 1899. {2SM
995 348.1}

996
997 I would come before the Lord with this petition: "Lord, we cannot read
998 the heart of this sick one, but thou knowest whether it is for the good of
999 his soul and for the glory of thy name to raise him to health. In thy
1000 great goodness, compassionate this case, and let healthy action take
1001 place in the system. The work must be entirely thine own. We have
1002 done all that human skill can do; now, Lord, we lay this case at thy feet,
1003 work as only God can work, and if it be for thy good and for thy glory,
1004 arrest the progress of disease and heal this sufferer."

1005 . . . But after **I have prayed earnestly for the sick, what then? Do I**
1006 **cease to do all I can for their recovery?--No, I work all the more**
1007 **earnestly, with much prayer that the Lord may bless the means**
1008 **which his own hand has provided;** that he may give sanctified
1009 wisdom to co-operate with him in the recovery of the sick.--U. T.,
1010 March 11, 1892. {HL 239.4}

1011

1012 *Sometimes Our Prayers Are Not Answered*

1013 *Healing Not Always God's Plan*

1014 **It is not always safe to ask for unconditional healing.** Let your
1015 prayer include this thought: "Lord, Thou knowest every secret of the
1016 soul. Thou art acquainted with these persons; for Jesus, their advocate,
1017 gave His life for them. He loves them better than we possibly can. **If,**
1018 **therefore, it is for Thy glory and the good of these afflicted ones to**
1019 **raise them up to health, we ask Thee in the name of Jesus, that**
1020 **health may be given them at this time."** In a petition of this kind,
1021 **no lack of faith is manifested.** {CH 375.1}

1022 The Lord "doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of
1023 men." Lamentations 3:33. "Like as a father pitieth his children, so the
1024 Lord pitieth them that fear Him. For He knoweth our frame; He
1025 remembereth that we are dust." Psalm 103:13, 14. He knows our heart,
1026 for He reads every secret of the soul. **He knows whether or not those**
1027 **for whom petitions are offered would be able to endure the trial**
1028 **and test that would come upon them if they lived.** He knows the end
1029 from the beginning. **Many will be laid away to sleep before the fiery**
1030 **ordeal of the time of trouble shall come upon our world. This is**
1031 **another reason why we should say after our earnest petition;**
1032 **"Nevertheless not my will, but Thine, be done."** Luke 22:42. Such a

1033 **petition will never be registered in heaven as a faithless**
1034 **prayer.** {CH 375.2}

1035 The apostle was bidden to write, “Blessed are the dead which die in the
1036 Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from
1037 their labors; and their works do follow them.” Revelation 14:13. **From**
1038 **this we can see that all are not to be raised up; and if they are not**
1039 **raised to health they should not be judged as unworthy of eternal**
1040 **life.** If Jesus, the world’s Redeemer, prayed, “O My Father, if it be
1041 possible, let this cup pass from Me,” and added, “nevertheless not as I
1042 will, but as Thou wilt” (Matthew 26:39), how very appropriate it is for
1043 finite mortals to make the same surrender to the wisdom and will of
1044 God. {CH 375.3}

1045
1046 The Lord has often instructed me that **many little ones are to be laid**
1047 **away before the time of trouble. We shall see our children again.**
1048 **We shall meet them and know them in the heavenly courts.—**
1049 Selected Messages 2:259 (1899). {LDE 255.3}

1050
1051 *Our Pride May Hinder Answers*

1052 God desires us to trust implicitly in Him, and if it is for our good and
1053 His name's glory to do the work, it will be done. We are to wait. The
1054 power of the Lord is limitless. **We poor mortals need to purify our**
1055 **souls, that when the Lord works for us, it will not ruin us. This is**
1056 **the reason that so few of the sick are healed. If they were [healed],**
1057 **men would be elevated in self-esteem.** We must learn from Jesus to
1058 be meek and lowly of heart, and we shall find rest unto our souls. {UL
1059 375.7}

1060
1061 **I was ... shown that God could not glorify His name by answering**
1062 **the supplications of His people and raising my husband to health in**
1063 **answer to their prayers while we were at Dansville. It would be like**
1064 **uniting His power with the powers of darkness. Had God been**
1065 **pleased to manifest His power in restoring my husband, the**
1066 **physicians at “Our Home” would have taken the glory which**
1067 **should be given to God.** {Ms5-1866}

1068 Said the angel, “**God will be glorified in the restoration of His**
1069 **servant to health. God has heard the prayers of His servants. His**
1070 **arms are beneath His afflicted servant.** God has the case, and he
1071 must, although afflicted, dismiss his fears, his anxiety, his doubts and
1072 unbelief, and **calmly trust in the great, yet merciful God who pities,**
1073 **loves, and cares for him.** He will have conflicts with the enemy, but
1074 should ever be comforted with the remembrance that a stronger than his
1075 enemy has charge of him, and he need not fear. By faith rely on the
1076 evidences God has been pleased to give, and he will gloriously triumph
1077 in God.” {Ms5-1866}

1078

1079 *Failure to Accept Light Hinders Healing*

1080 You may say: **“Why not, then, take hold of the work, and heal the**
1081 **sick as Christ did?”—I answer, You are not ready. Some have**
1082 **believed; some have been healed; but there are many who make**
1083 **themselves sick by intemperate eating or by indulging in other**
1084 **wrong habits.** When they get sick, shall we pray for them to be raised
1085 up, that they may carry on the very same work again? **There must be a**
1086 **reformation throughout our ranks; the people must reach a higher**
1087 **standard before we can expect the power of God to be manifested**
1088 **in a marked manner for the healing of the sick.** { 1888 1745.7 }

1089

1090

Who Shall We Pray For

1091 **In this matter of praying for the sick, I could not move in exactly**
1092 **the same lines as my brethren.** I have been considering many things
1093 that have been presented to me in the past in reference to this subject.
1094 **Suppose that twenty men and women should present themselves as**
1095 **subjects for prayer at some of our camp-meetings.** This would not
1096 be unlikely, for those who are suffering will do anything in their power
1097 to obtain relief, and to regain strength and health. **Of these twenty, few**
1098 **have regarded the light on the subject of purity and health reform.**
1099 They have neglected to practice right principles in eating and drinking,
1100 and in taking care of their bodies, and some of these who are married
1101 have formed gross habits, and indulged in unholy practices while of
1102 those who are unmarried some have been reckless of life and health,
1103 since in clear rays the light has shone upon them; but **they have not**
1104 **had respect unto the light, nor have they walked circumspectly; yet**
1105 **they solicit the prayers of God's people,** and call for the elders of the
1106 church. Should they regain the blessing of health, many of them would
1107 pursue the same course of heedless transgression of nature's laws,
1108 unless enlightened and thoroughly transformed. They solicit the prayers
1109 of God' people, and call for the elders of the church. But little is known
1110 of their home or private life. **Sin has brought many of them where**
1111 **they are,—to a state of feebleness of mind and debility of body.**
1112 **Shall prayer be offered to the God of heaven for his healing to come**
1113 **upon them, then and there, without specifying any condition? I say,**
1114 **No, decidedly no. What then shall be done? Present their cases**
1115 **before Him who knows every individual by name.** {GCDB,
1116 February 26, 1897 par. 2}

1117

1118 You feel afflicted over the course that some have pursued in praying
1119 for the sick. This [praying for the sick] is a very delicate question, and
1120 to many minds, I fear, will not be satisfactorily settled. I have tried to
1121 act upon the light the Lord has given me in the fear of God. I have
1122 **prayed for several, presenting a very urgent petition,** for it seemed
1123 to me it would glorify God for them to be raised up to health, and I
1124 **would not take a denial. To all appearances several for whom I**

1125 **have prayed have been in the last moments of their existence.** My
1126 prayer was very urgent, for it seemed to me that my petition must be
1127 answered, and they were raised up to health. **Now a number of these**
1128 **cases have resulted in something very different than could be**
1129 **desired; for the course of several has proved that it would have**
1130 **been better had they died.** One, after having grown to years, became a
1131 notorious thief, another became licentious, and another, though grown
1132 to manhood, has no love for God or His truth. **I have been troubled**
1133 **over these things, and years ago took the position that if I had any**
1134 **duty to pray for the sick, I would come before the Lord with a**
1135 **petition** of this kind: "Lord, we cannot read the heart of this sick
1136 **one; but Thou knowest whether it is for the good of his soul and for**
1137 **the glory of Thy name to raise him to health.** In Thy great goodness,
1138 compassionate this case, and **rebuke disease, and let healthy action**
1139 take place in the system. The work must be entirely Thine own. We
1140 have done all that human skill can do. Now, **Lord, we lay this case at**
1141 **Thy feet.** Work as only a God can work, and, if it be for his good and
1142 Thy glory, arrest the progress of disease and heal this sufferer."
1143 {19MR 226.1}

1144
1145 You inquire if we **should pray for none that are sick except those in**
1146 **the third angel's message, or pray for all that shall make**
1147 **application,** et cetera. James 5 is our rule to follow. "Is any sick among
1148 you? let him call," et cetera. It is those that are among us. **God had**
1149 **shown me those who keep God's commandments are to have**
1150 **nothing to do [in anointing and special prayer] for the sick of those**
1151 **who are daily trampling them underfoot,** unless it is in some special
1152 case where souls are convicted of the truth and are decided to move out
1153 upon it. **The partition wall between commandment keepers and**
1154 **those who trample them underfoot should be kept.--Lt 4, 1857**
1155 (Quoted in 1BIO 404.) {PaM 233.5}

1156
1157

How Shall We Pray For Them

Among Believers

1159 I saw that Brother Bates erred again in praying for the sick before
1160 **unbelievers.** I saw if any among us were sick and called for the elders
1161 of the church to pray over them, we should follow the example of
1162 JESUS. **He went into an inner chamber, and we should go into a**
1163 **room by ourselves separate entirely from unbelievers, and then the**
1164 **atmosphere would not be polluted by them.** By faith we could take
1165 hold on God and draw down the blessing. **I saw that God's cause was**
1166 **dishonored and reproached in western New York at the general**
1167 **conference by praying for the sick in the midst of unbelievers.** I also
1168 saw that Brother Bates erred in attending the washing of saints' feet and
1169 the communion among believers. It only caused reproach to come on
1170 the cause of God. I saw that the example of JESUS should be followed.

1171 He took His disciples away alone, separate from the wicked, and first
1172 washed their feet, and then gave them to eat of the broken bread to
1173 represent His broken body and gave them to drink of the juice of the
1174 vine to represent His spilled BLOOD. {12MR 247.1

1175

1176 *In a Quiet Manner*

1177 **Our Saviour was the light of the world; but the world knew him**
1178 **not. He was constantly employed in works of mercy, shedding light**
1179 **upon the pathway of all; yet he did not call upon those with whom**
1180 **he mingled to behold his unexampled virtue, his self-denial, self-**
1181 **sacrifice, and benevolence.** The Jews did not admire such a life; they
1182 considered his religion worthless, because it did not accord with their
1183 standard of piety. They decided that Christ was not religious in spirit or
1184 character; for their religion consisted in display, in praying publicly,
1185 and in doing works of charity for effect. They trumpeted their good
1186 deeds, as do those who claim sanctification. They would have all
1187 understand that they were without sin. But the whole life of Christ was
1188 in direct contrast to this. He sought neither honor nor applause, **His**
1189 **wonderful acts of healing were performed in as quiet a manner as**
1190 **possible, although he could not restrain the enthusiasm of those**
1191 **who were the recipients of his great blessings.** Humility and
1192 meekness characterized his life. And it was because of his lowly walk
1193 and unassuming manners, which were in such marked contrast to their
1194 own, that the Pharisees would not accept him. {RH January 18, 1881,
1195 par. 17}

1196

1197 **Jesus shunned display. During all the years of His stay in Nazareth,**
1198 **He made no exhibition of His miraculous power.** He sought no high
1199 position and assumed no titles. His quiet and simple life, and even the
1200 silence of the Scriptures concerning His early years, teach an important
1201 lesson. The more quiet and simple the life of the child,—the more free
1202 from artificial excitement, and the more in harmony with nature,—the
1203 more favorable is it to physical and mental vigor and to spiritual
1204 strength. {DA 74.3}

1205

1206 *By bringing them into Christ's presence*

1207 Christ has all power in heaven and in earth. **He is the Great Physician,**
1208 **upon whom we are to call when suffering from physical or spiritual**
1209 **disease.** Over the winds and the waves and over men possessed with
1210 demons, He showed that He possessed absolute control. To Him have
1211 been given the keys of death and of hell. Principalities and powers were
1212 made subject to Him, even while in His humiliation.... {1SM 83.2}

1213 **Why do we not exercise greater faith in the Divine Physician? As**
1214 **He worked for the man with the palsy, so He will work today for**
1215 **those who come to Him for healing.** We have great need of more
1216 faith. I am alarmed as I see the lack of faith among our people. **We**

1217 **need to come right into the presence of Christ, believing that He**
1218 **will heal our physical and spiritual infirmities.** { 1SM 83.3}
1219 We are too faithless. Oh, **how I wish that I could lead our people to**
1220 **have faith in God! They need not feel that in order to exercise faith**
1221 **they must be wrought up into a high state of excitement. All they**
1222 **have to do is to believe God's Word, just as they believe one**
1223 **another's word. He hath said it, and He will perform His Word.**
1224 **Calmly rely on His promise, because He means all that He says.**
1225 **Say, He has spoken to me in His Word, and He will fulfill every**
1226 **promise that He has made.** Do not become restless. Be trustful. God's
1227 Word is true. Act as if your heavenly Father could be trusted.... { 1SM
1228 83.4}

1229

1230 *Sometimes Short and to the Point, With Faith*

1231 **The prayer of faith in the sickroom, short and right to the point,**
1232 **prepares the way for the grace of God to speak to the soul.** Even
1233 unbelievers feel this—to them—strange and new influence, and realize
1234 that God can and will hear their prayers. **You cannot know, you who**
1235 **pray in the sickroom, what will be accomplished, and what has**
1236 **been accomplished, by the prayer of faith.** By simple prayer the
1237 **sick have been encouraged to believe that God will look with**
1238 **compassion upon them, else that prayer would never have been**
1239 **offered** in their behalf. A ray of light penetrates to the hopeless soul,
1240 and becomes a savor of life unto life. {21MR 43.2}

1241

1242 *With A Willingness to Accept God's Will*

1243 **<It is not always safe to> ask for unconditional healing.** Let your
1244 prayer include this thought, "Lord thou knowest every secret of the
1245 soul. Thou art acquainted with these persons, for Jesus their Advocate,
1246 gave His life for them. He loves them better than we possibly can. **If**
1247 **therefore it is for Thy glory, and the good of these afflicted ones to**
1248 **raise them up to health, we ask in the name of Jesus that health**
1249 **may be given them at this time."** In a petition of this kind, no lack
1250 **of faith is manifested.** {Ms26a-1892.8}

1251

1252 In prayer for the sick **it should be remembered that "we know not**
1253 **what we should pray for as we ought." Romans 8:26. We do not**
1254 **know whether the blessing we desire will be best or not. Therefore**
1255 **our prayers should include this thought: "Lord, thou knowest**
1256 **every secret of the soul.** Thou art acquainted with these persons. Jesus,
1257 their Advocate, gave His life for them. His love for them is greater than
1258 ours can possibly be. **If, therefore, it is for Thy glory and the good of**
1259 **the afflicted ones, we ask, in the name of Jesus, that they may be**
1260 **restored to health. If it be not Thy will that they may be restored,**
1261 **we ask that Thy grace may comfort and Thy presence sustain them**
1262 **in their sufferings."** {CCh 305.1}

1263 God knows the end from the beginning. He is acquainted with the
1264 hearts of all men. He reads every secret of the soul. **He knows whether**
1265 **those for whom prayer is offered would or would not be able to**
1266 **endure the trials that would come upon them should they live. He**
1267 **knows whether their lives would be a blessing or a curse to**
1268 **themselves and to the world. This is one reason why, while**
1269 **presenting our petitions with earnestness, we should say,**
1270 **"Nevertheless not my will, but Thine, be done."** Luke 22:42. Jesus
1271 added these words of submission to the wisdom and will of God when
1272 in the Garden of Gethsemane He pleaded, "O My Father, if it be
1273 possible, let this cup pass from Me." Matthew 26:39. And if they were
1274 appropriate for Him, the Son of God, how much more are they
1275 becoming on the lips of finite, erring mortals! {CCh 305.2}
1276 **The consistent course is to commit our desires to our all-wise**
1277 **heavenly Father, and then, in perfect confidence, trust all to Him.**
1278 We know that God hears us if we ask according to His will. But to
1279 **press our petitions without a submissive spirit is not right; our**
1280 **prayers must take the form, not of command, but of intercession.**
1281 {CCh 305.3}
1282
1283 All that we are required to do is **to ask God to raise the sick up if in**
1284 **accordance with His will,** believing that He hears the reasons which
1285 we present and the fervent prayers offered. **If the Lord sees it will best**
1286 **honor Him, He will answer our prayers. But to urge recovery**
1287 **without submission to His will is not right.** {CH 377.3}
1288
1289 We have united in earnest prayer around the sickbed of men, women,
1290 and children, and have felt that they were given back to us from the
1291 dead in answer to our earnest prayers. **In these prayers we thought we**
1292 **must be positive, and if we exercised faith, that we must ask for**
1293 **nothing less than life. We dared not say, "If it will glorify God,"**
1294 **fearing it would admit a semblance of doubt.** We have anxiously
1295 watched those who have been given back, as it were, from the dead.
1296 **We have seen some of these, especially youth, raised to health, and**
1297 **they have forgotten God, become dissolute in life, causing sorrow**
1298 **and anguish to parents and friends,** and have become a shame to
1299 those who feared to pray. They lived not to honor and glorify God, but
1300 to curse Him with their lives of vice. {Pr 233.1}
1301 **We no longer mark out a way, nor seek to bring the Lord to our**
1302 **wishes. If the life of the sick can glorify Him, we pray that they may**
1303 **live, nevertheless, not as we will but as He will.** Our faith can be just
1304 as firm, and more reliable, by committing the desire to the all-wise God
1305 and, without feverish anxiety, in perfect confidence trusting all to Him.
1306 We have the promise. We know that He hears us if we ask according to
1307 His will.—(Counsels on Health, 378, 379.) {Pr 233.2}
1308

1309 The Holy Spirit indites all genuine prayer. I have learned to know that
1310 in all my intercessions the Spirit intercedes for me and for all saints; but
1311 His intercessions are according to the **will of God**, never contrary to
1312 His will. “The Spirit also helpeth our infirmities”; and the Spirit, being
1313 God, knoweth the mind of God; therefore in every prayer of ours **for**
1314 **the sick, or for other needs, the will of God is to be regarded.** “For
1315 what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is
1316 in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of
1317 God” (1 Corinthians 2:11). {YRP 26.2}

1318 **If we are taught of God, we shall pray in conformity to His**
1319 **revealed will, and in submission to His will which we know not.** We
1320 are to make supplication according to the will of God, relying on the
1321 precious Word, and believing that Christ not only gave Himself for but
1322 to His disciples. The record declares, “He breathed on them, and saith
1323 unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost” (John 20:22). {YRP 26.3}

1324

1325 The Prayer of Faith

1326 James 5:14-16 (NKJV) 14 “Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for
1327 the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with
1328 oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the
1329 sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he
1330 will be forgiven. 16 Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray
1331 for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer
1332 of a righteous man avails much.”

1333

1334 Psalms 107:17-20 (KJV) 17 “Fools because of their transgression, and
1335 because of their iniquities, are afflicted 18 Their soul abhorreth all
1336 manner of meat; and they draw near unto the gates of death. 19 Then
1337 they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and he saveth them out of their
1338 distresses. 20 He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them
1339 from their destructions.”

1340

1341 *God is Willing to Restore the Sick*

1342 **“God is just as willing to restore the sick to health now as when the**
1343 **Holy Spirit spoke these words through the psalmist.** And Christ is
1344 the same compassionate physician now that He was during His earthly
1345 ministry. In Him there is healing balm for every disease, restoring
1346 power for every infirmity. **His disciples in this time are to pray for**
1347 **the sick as verily as the disciples of old prayed. And recoveries will**
1348 **follow; for “the prayer of faith shall save the sick.”** We have the
1349 Holy Spirit’s power, the calm assurance of faith, that can claim God’s
1350 promises. The Lord’s promise, **“They shall lay hands on the sick, and**
1351 **they shall recover” (Mark 16:18), is just as trustworthy now as in**
1352 **the days of the apostles.** It presents the privilege of God’s children,
1353 and our faith should lay hold of all that it embraces. **Christ’s servants**
1354 **are the channel of His working, and through them He desires to**

1355 **exercise His healing power.** It is our work to present the sick and
1356 suffering to God in the arms of our faith. We should teach them to
1357 believe in the Great Healer.” {MH 226.1}

1358

1359 Christ, in His prayer to the Father, says, “The glory which thou gavest
1360 me I have given them.” [John 17:22.] His disciples in this time are to
1361 pray for the sick, as verily as did His disciples of old. And the sick will
1362 recover; for “the prayer of faith shall save the sick.” [James 5:15.]

1363 **Christ is ready to give His disciples special earnestness in offering**
1364 **effectual, fervent prayers and special experiences in answer to**
1365 **these petitions.** {Lt168-1902.5}

1366

1367 *Faith is Necessary*

1368 **In praying for the sick, it is essential to have faith; for it is in**
1369 **accordance with the word of God.** “The effectual fervent prayer of a
1370 righteous man availeth much.” James 5:16. **So we cannot discard**
1371 **praying for the sick, and we should feel very sad if we could not**
1372 **have the privilege of approaching God, to lay before Him all our**
1373 **weaknesses and our infirmities,** to tell the compassionate Saviour all
1374 about these things, believing that He hears our petitions. **Sometimes**
1375 **answers to our prayers come immediately; sometimes we have to**
1376 **wait patiently and continue earnestly to plead for the things that**
1377 **we need,** our cases being illustrated by the case of the importunate
1378 solicitor for bread. “Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto
1379 him at midnight,” etc. This lesson means more than we can imagine.

1380 **We are to keep on asking, even if we do not realize the immediate**
1381 **response to our prayers.** “I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given
1382 you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.
1383 For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to
1384 him that knocketh it shall be opened.” Luke 11:9, 10. {CH 380.1}

1385 We need grace, we need divine enlightenment, that through the Spirit
1386 we may know how to ask for such things as we need. If our petitions
1387 are indited by the Lord they will be answered. {CH 380.2}

1388 There are precious promises in the Scriptures to those who wait upon
1389 the Lord. **We all desire an immediate answer to our prayers and are**
1390 **tempted to become discouraged if our prayer is not immediately**
1391 **answered. Now, my experience has taught me that this is a great**
1392 **mistake. The delay is for our special benefit. We have a chance**
1393 **to see whether our faith is true and sincere or changeable like the**
1394 **waves of the sea.** We must bind ourselves upon the altar with the
1395 strong cords of faith and love, and let patience have her perfect work.
1396 Faith strengthens through continual exercise. This waiting does not
1397 mean that because we ask the Lord to heal there is nothing for us to do.
1398 On the contrary, we are to make the very best use of the means which
1399 the Lord in His goodness has provided for us in our necessities. {CH
1400 380.3}

1401
1402 Jesus is your strength. He knows that your strength is small. He knows
1403 that you have no powers only as it comes from the Lord God of heaven.
1404 The Lord loves you, and He will not turn away your **prayer**. He has
1405 said, The **prayer of faith** will save the **sick**. Christ is the Restorer.
1406 Satan is the Destroyer. All that mortals can do is to follow implicitly
1407 the Word of the Lord. In this they do their part. Will the Lord fail in
1408 doing His part? Press your petitions to the throne of grace, and then
1409 wait, trustfully, hopefully. God grant you victory after victory
1410 through **prayer and faith** in Him who stands behind the
1411 promise. {Lt127-1898.8}

1412

1413 *There Must Be Unity*

1414 We must have greater confidence and earnestness in practicing a “Thus
1415 saith the Lord.” We are not to listen to any voice that will benumb our
1416 senses in regard to the white garment of character that we must put on.
1417 There is to be no party spirit. We are to be united with God and with
1418 one another. Then the **prayer of faith** will heal the **sick**. {Lt94-
1419 1898.13}

1420

1421 *The Prayer of Faith Does Not Negate the Use of Simple Remedies*

1422 “**We believe in the prayer of faith; but some have carried this**
1423 **matter too far**, especially those who have been affected with
1424 fanaticism. **Some have taken the strong ground that it was wrong to**
1425 **use simple remedies. We have never taken this position, but have**
1426 **opposed it.** We believe it to be **perfectly right to use the remedies**
1427 **God has placed in our reach, and if these fail, apply to the great**
1428 **Physician, and in some cases the counsel of an earthly physician is**
1429 **very necessary.** This position we have always held.” {2SG 135.1}

1430

1431 Again, **do not let the idea prevail that the Health Retreat is a place**
1432 **where the sick are healed by the prayer of faith. There are**
1433 **instances when this will be done, and we need to have faith in God**
1434 **constantly. Let no one think that those who have abused themselves**
1435 **and taken no intelligent care of themselves can come to the Health**
1436 **Retreat and be healed by the prayer of faith, for this is**
1437 **presumption.** I see so little wisdom, so little good common sense
1438 exercised by some of our brethren that my heart is sick, sore, and
1439 distressed. They do not have sensible ideas and do not honor God. They
1440 have need of a divine touch. **If the idea should once prevail that the**
1441 **sick can come to the Institute to be cured by the prayer of faith,**
1442 **you will have such a state of things there that you cannot now**
1443 **discern** even if I should point it out to you in the best English language
1444 I could command. We need more of God, brethren, greater humility.—
1445 Letter 57, 1886, pp. 2, 3. (To Brethren Rice and Gibbs, December 17,
1446 1886.) {7MR 370.2}

1447

1448 *Prayer of Faith Should Be Used For Serious Cases*

1449 **I understand the text in James is to be carried out when a person is**
1450 **sick upon his bed;** if he calls for the elders of the church, and they
1451 carry out the directions in James, anointing the sick with oil, in the
1452 name of the Lord, praying over him the prayer of faith. We read, “The
1453 prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and
1454 if he hath committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.” **It cannot be**
1455 **our duty to call for the elders of the church for every little ailment**
1456 **we have, for this would be putting a task upon the elders.** If all
1457 should do this, their time would be fully employed,—they could do
1458 nothing else; but **the Lord gives us the privilege of seeking Him**
1459 **individually in earnest prayer, of unburdening our souls to Him,**
1460 keeping nothing from Him who has invited us, “Come unto me, all ye
1461 who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” O how
1462 grateful we should be that Jesus is willing and able to bear all our
1463 infirmities and strengthen and heal all our diseases if it will be for our
1464 good and for His glory. **Some died in the days of Christ and in the**
1465 **days of the apostles because the Lord knew just what was best for**
1466 **them. I would not speak one word to lessen your faith and perplex**
1467 **and worry you.** There is never danger of our being too much in earnest
1468 and having too much confidence and trust in God. Be of good courage;
1469 look to Jesus constantly. {PC 28.2}

1470

1471 *Prayer of Faith Can Be Short and To the Point*

1472 **The prayer of faith in the sickroom, short and right to the point,**
1473 **prepares the way for the grace of God to speak to the soul.** Even
1474 unbelievers feel this—to them—strange and new influence, and realize
1475 that God can and will hear their prayers. You cannot know, you who
1476 pray in the sickroom, what will be accomplished, and what has been
1477 accomplished, by the prayer of faith. **By simple prayer the sick have**
1478 **been encouraged to believe that God will look with compassion**
1479 **upon them, else that prayer would never have been offered in their**
1480 **behalf.** A ray of light penetrates to the hopeless soul, and becomes a
1481 savor of life unto life. {21MR 43.2}

1482

1483 *Affairs Should Be Set In Order*

1484 **Many who seek the Lord's healing mercy think that they must have**
1485 **a direct and immediate answer to their prayers or their faith is**
1486 **defective. For this reason, those who are weakened by disease need**
1487 **to be counseled wisely, that they may act with discretion. They**
1488 **should not disregard their duty to the friends who may survive**
1489 **them, or neglect to employ nature's agencies for the restoration of**
1490 **health.** {CCh 306.1}

1491 Often there is danger of error here. **Believing that they will be healed**
1492 **in answer to prayer, some fear to do anything that might seem to**

1493 **indicate a lack of faith. But they should not neglect to set their**
1494 **affairs in order as they would desire to do if they expected to be**
1495 **removed by death. Nor should they fear to utter words of**
1496 **encouragement or counsel which at the parting hour they wish to**
1497 **speak to their loved ones. {CCh 306.2}**
1498

1499 In praying for the sick, we are to pray that if it be God's will, they
1500 may be raised up, but if not, that He will give them His grace to
1501 comfort, His presence to sustain them in their suffering. Many who
1502 should set their house in order, neglect to do it when they have
1503 hope that they will be raised to health in answer to prayer. Buoyed
1504 up by a false hope, they do not feel the need of saying words of
1505 exhortation to their children, parents, or friends, and it is a great
1506 misfortune. Accepting the assurance that they should be healed
1507 when prayed for, they dare not make a reference as to how their
1508 property should be disposed of, how their family is to be cared for,
1509 or express any wish concerning their matters of which they would
1510 speak if they thought they should be removed by death. In this way
1511 disasters are brought upon the family and friends. For many things
1512 are left unmentioned, because they fear expressions on these points
1513 would be a denial of their faith that should be understood. **Believing**
1514 **that they will be raised to health by prayer, they fail to make use of**
1515 **hygienic measures that are in their power to use, fearing that it**
1516 **would be a denial of their faith.** I thank the Lord that it is our
1517 privilege to cooperate with Him in the work of restoration, availing
1518 ourselves of all possible advantages in the recovery of health. **It is no**
1519 **denial of our faith to place ourselves in the condition most**
1520 **favorable to recovery. { SpM 7.1 }**
1521

1522 *An Example of the Prayer of Faith Answered*

1523 Since writing the foregoing we appointed a special season of prayer for
1524 my husband. Our brethren assembled at the chapel to engage
1525 in prayer to God for his restoration to health. Brother Haskell's family,
1526 my husband, Sister Ings, and myself united in prayer at Brother
1527 Haskell's home. We followed the directions given us in James the fifth
1528 chapter and made supplication to God. [Verse 14.] Our hearts were
1529 softened by the Spirit of God, and our prayers and tears mingled. **We**
1530 **brought our sick in the arms of our faith to Him** who was ever
1531 touched with human woe, who had never listened indifferently to the
1532 cry of the afflicted and distressed. **The Lord heard our cries. The**
1533 **Lord graciously answered our prayers for the sake of Jesus. His**
1534 **presence and power were in the room.** Our hearts were made joyful
1535 in God. We had asked for health of body and soul, and our prayers
1536 were answered. Our hearts were filled with joy and our lips with praise.
1537 Everyone in the room was greatly blessed. We glorified God by
1538 praising Him. Our captivity was indeed turned. We slept but little that

1539 night, for we were too happy to sleep. Jesus was precious, very
1540 precious to us, and we consecrated ourselves unreservedly to God. My
1541 husband is the happiest man that lives, for he knows that the Lord has
1542 come very near to him and wrought for him in a most wonderful
1543 manner. {Lt10-1877.3}

1544

1545 *The Healing Sister Frances Howland*

1546 “Soon after quite a number of us were assembled at the house of
1547 Brother Howland in Topsham. Sister Frances Howland, a very dear
1548 friend of mine, was sick with the rheumatic fever and under the doctor's
1549 care. Her hands were so badly swollen that we could not distinguish the
1550 joints. **As we sat together speaking of her case, Brother Howland**
1551 **was asked if he had faith that his daughter could be healed in**
1552 **answer to prayer. He answered that he would try to believe that**
1553 **she might, and presently declared that he did believe it possible.**
1554 **We all then knelt in earnest prayer to God in her behalf. We**
1555 **claimed the promise, ‘Ask and ye shall receive.’** {LS80 198.4}

1556 “The blessing of God attended our prayers, and we had the assurance
1557 that God was willing to heal the afflicted one. **Elder D. cried out, ‘Is**
1558 **there a sister here who has the faith to go and take her by the hand**
1559 **and bid her arise in the name of the Lord?** {LS80 199.1}

1560 “Sister Frances was lying in the chamber above, and **before he ceased**
1561 **speaking Sister Curtis was on her way to the stairs. She entered the**
1562 **sick room with the Spirit of God upon her, and taking the invalid**
1563 **by the hand said, ‘Sister Frances, in the name of the Lord arise and**
1564 **be whole.’ New life shot through the veins of the sick girl, a holy**
1565 **faith took possession of her, and obeying its impulse, she rose from**
1566 **her bed, stood upon her feet, walked the room praising God for her**
1567 **recovery.** She was soon dressed and came down into the room where
1568 we were assembled, her countenance lighted up with unspeakable joy
1569 and gratitude. {LS80 199.2}

1570 “The next morning she took breakfast with us. Soon after, as Elder
1571 White was reading from the fifth chapter of James, for family worship,
1572 the doctor came into the hall, and, as usual, went up stairs to visit his
1573 patient. Not finding her there, he hurried down and with a look of alarm
1574 opened the door of the large kitchen where we were all sitting, his
1575 patient in our midst. He gazed upon her with astonishment and at length
1576 ejaculated, ‘So Frances is better!’ {LS80 199.3}

1577 “Brother Howland answered, ‘The Lord has healed her,’ and the reader
1578 resumed his chapter where he had been interrupted, ‘Is any sick among
1579 you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over
1580 him.’ The doctor listened with a curious expression of mingled wonder
1581 and incredulity upon his face, nodded, and hastily left the room. The
1582 same day Sister Frances rode three miles and returned home in the
1583 evening; although it was rainy she sustained no injury, and continued to
1584 rapidly improve in health. In a few days, at her request she was led

1585 down into the water and baptized. And although the weather and the
1586 water were very cold, and her disease rheumatic fever, she received no
1587 injury, but **from that time was free from the disease, and in the**
1588 **enjoyment of her usual health** {LS80 200.1}

1589

1590 Ellen White's Mother Was Healed In Answer To Prayer

1591 "At that meeting I learned that my mother had stepped upon a rusty nail
1592 which had passed through her foot. **She had tried every remedy, but**
1593 **nothing removed the inflammation, or relieved the pain.** We went
1594 immediately to Gorham, and found her foot dreadfully swollen. The
1595 neighbors had proposed every remedy they could think of, but they
1596 accomplished nothing. Mother was threatened with lock jaw. The next
1597 morning we united in prayer for her. **I believed that God would**
1598 **restore her to perfect soundness. She was unable to kneel. With a**
1599 **deep sense of my unworthiness, I knelt at my mother's feet and**
1600 **besought the Lord to touch her with his healing power. We all**
1601 **believed that the Lord heard prayer. With the Spirit of the Lord**
1602 **resting upon me, I bid her in the name of the Lord rise up and**
1603 **walk.** His power was in the room, and shouts of praise went up to God.
1604 **Mother arose and walked the room, declaring that the work was**
1605 **done, that the soreness was gone, and that she was entirely relieved**
1606 **from pain.** That day she rode thirty-eight miles to Topsham to attend a
1607 conference there, and had no more trouble with her foot." {LS80
1608 261.1}

1609

1610 *The Prayer Of Faith Brought Healing To Alma McKibbin*

1611 "A few days later a nurse from the sanitarium came to call on Marian.
1612 The door of my room was slightly ajar, and I heard her say, "Your
1613 brother had his examination, and the doctor discovered that he has
1614 tuberculosis in an advanced stage."

1615 I heard no more. A merciful stupor came over me, and for hours I lay
1616 like one in a deep sleep. When I became fully conscious again, it was
1617 day and Sabbath.

1618 A dear friend came to visit me. She was the wife of Professor Hafford,
1619 one of the teachers. Bad news travels fast, and my friends already knew
1620 the doctor's diagnosis. Mrs. Hafford was kind and very comforting. It
1621 was the custom in those days to have small cottage prayer meetings on
1622 Sabbath afternoons. One was held in the next block.

1623 "How would you like to go to prayer meeting this afternoon?" asked
1624 Mrs. Hafford. "Two of the brethren will come and carry you over on a
1625 cot." And this they did.

1626 How I enjoyed that meeting. The prayers and testimonies warmed my
1627 heart and restored a degree of courage and strength to my broken spirit.
1628 At its close Sister Hafford stood up and said, "We have all heard the
1629 report that has come from the sanitarium. I have never believed that
1630 Sister McKibbin will never be well again. **I spent most of last night in**

1631 **prayer for her and her husband, and I am deeply impressed that if**
1632 **we pray for her in faith, she will be healed. Do any of you have**
1633 **faith to pray with me?"**

1634 Dear old Brother McElhany, uncle of one of our former General
1635 Conference presidents, J. L. McElhany, came and stood beside her.
1636 **Together they knelt by my cot and prayed simple, sincere petitions**
1637 **such as come up before God as sweet incense and are heard.**

1638 **Sister Hafford took me by the hand and said, "Sister McKibbin, in**
1639 **the name of Jesus of Nazareth, rise up and walk."**

1640 **I rose up and walked, and I have been walking ever since.** Praise the
1641 Lord! The next day I wrote two letters, one to my husband and one to
1642 my mother. These alone were proof of the wonderful blessing I had
1643 received, for I had not been able to write even one sentence for more
1644 than six months, not since that dreadful day when I left an unfinished
1645 letter on my desk. {Alma McKibbin, *Step By Step* 53,54}

1646

1647 Medical Missionaries Are Needed

1648 Christ is the same compassionate physician now that He was during
1649 His earthly ministry. In Him there is healing balm for every disease,
1650 restoring power for every infirmity. **His disciples in this time are to**
1651 **pray for the sick as verily as the disciples of old prayed. And**
1652 **recoveries will follow;** for "the prayer of faith shall save the sick." We
1653 have the Holy Spirit's power, the calm assurance of faith, that can claim
1654 God's promises. **The Lord's promise, "They shall lay hands on the**
1655 **sick, and they shall recover" Mark 16:18, is just as trustworthy**
1656 **now as in the days of the apostles.** It presents the privilege of God's
1657 children, and our faith should lay hold of all that it embraces. **Christ's**
1658 **servants are the channel of His working, and through them He**
1659 **desires to exercise His healing power. It is our work to present the**
1660 **sick and suffering to God in the arms of our faith.** We should teach
1661 them to believe in the Great Healer. The Saviour would have us
1662 encourage the sick, the hopeless, the afflicted, to take hold upon His
1663 strength. {CCh 303.2}

1664

1665 We cannot heal. We cannot change the diseased conditions of the body.
1666 **But it is our part, as medical missionaries, as workers together with**
1667 **God, to use the means that He has provided. Then we should pray**
1668 **that God will bless these agencies.** We do believe in a God; we
1669 believe in a God who hears and answers prayer. He has said, "Ask, and
1670 ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened
1671 unto you."--Medical Ministry, p. 13. {CME 35.1}

1672

1673 **It is labor lost to teach people to look to God as a healer of their**
1674 **infirmities, unless they are taught also to lay aside unhealthful**
1675 **practices. In order to receive His blessing in answer to prayer, they**
1676 **must cease to do evil and learn to do well.** Their surroundings must

1677 be sanitary, their habits of life correct. They must live in harmony with
1678 the law of God, both natural and spiritual. {CCh 304.2}

1679 To those who desire prayer for their restoration to health, it should be
1680 made plain that the violation of God's law, either natural or spiritual, is
1681 sin, and that in order for them to receive His blessing, sin must be
1682 confessed and forsaken. {CCh 304.3}

1683

1684 In the early history of our work, many were healed by prayer. And
1685 some, after they were healed, pursued the same course in the
1686 indulgence of appetite that they had followed in the past. They did not
1687 live and work in such a way as to avoid sickness. They did not show
1688 that they appreciated the Lord's goodness to them. Again and again
1689 they were brought to suffering through their own careless, thoughtless
1690 course of action. How could the Lord be glorified in bestowing on them
1691 the gift of health? {CH 469.2}

1692 **When the light came that we should begin sanitarium work, the**
1693 **reasons were plainly given. There were many who needed to be**
1694 **educated in regard to healthful living. As the work developed, we**
1695 **were instructed that suitable places were to be provided, to which**
1696 **we could bring the sick and suffering who knew nothing of our**
1697 **people and scarcely anything of the Bible, and there teach them**
1698 **how to regain health by rational methods of treatment without**
1699 **having recourse to poisonous drugs, and at the same time surround**
1700 **them with uplifting spiritual influences.** As a part of the treatment,
1701 lectures were to be given on right habits of eating and drinking and
1702 dressing. Instruction was to be given regarding the choice and the
1703 preparation of food, showing that food may be prepared so as to be
1704 wholesome and nourishing and at the same time appetizing and
1705 palatable. {CH 469.3}

1706

1707 I have been instructed that little companies who have received a
1708 suitable training in evangelical and medical missionary lines, should go
1709 forth to do the work to which Christ appointed His disciples. Let them
1710 labor as evangelists, scattering our publications, talking of the truth to
1711 those they meet, **praying for the sick, and, if need be, treating them,**
1712 not with drugs, but with nature's remedies, ever realizing their
1713 dependence on God. As they unite in the work of teaching and healing,
1714 they will reap a rich harvest of souls. {1NL 140.7}

1715

1716 **Healing Prayer Part of Literature Work**

1717 The warning message is to be carried to all parts of the world. Our
1718 books are to be published in many different languages. With these
1719 books, humble, faithful men are to go forth as colporter evangelists,
1720 bearing the truth to many who otherwise would never be enlightened.
1721 **Those who take up this line of work should go prepared to do**
1722 **medical missionary work. The sick and suffering are to be helped.**

1723 **Many for whom this work of mercy is done will hear and accept**
1724 **the words of life.** Many will be healed by the prayer of faith, and will
1725 go forth to advocate the precious principles of health reform. {PUR,
1726 November 6, 1902 par. 12}

1727

1728 Instructive Examples of Healing

1729 *A Crippled Man Was Healed After the Day of Pentecost*

1730 The disciples of Christ had a deep sense of their own inefficiency, and
1731 with humiliation and prayer they joined their weakness to His strength,
1732 their ignorance to His wisdom, their unworthiness to His righteousness,
1733 their poverty to His exhaustless wealth. Thus strengthened and
1734 equipped, they hesitated not to press forward in the service of the
1735 Master. {AA 57.1}

1736 A short time after the descent of the Holy Spirit, and immediately after
1737 a season of earnest prayer, Peter and John, going up to the temple to
1738 worship, saw at the gate Beautiful a cripple, forty years of age, whose
1739 life, from his birth, had been one of pain and infirmity. This
1740 unfortunate man had long desired to see Jesus, that he might be healed;
1741 but he was almost helpless, and was far removed from the scene of the
1742 great Physician's labors. His pleadings at last induced some friends to
1743 bear him to the gate of the temple, but upon arriving there, he found
1744 that the One upon whom his hopes were centered, had been put to a
1745 cruel death. {AA 57.2}

1746 His disappointment excited the sympathy of those who knew for how
1747 long he had eagerly hoped to be healed by Jesus, and daily they brought
1748 him to the temple, in order that passers-by might be induced by pity to
1749 give him a trifle to relieve his wants. As Peter and John passed, he
1750 asked an alms from them. The disciples regarded him compassionately,
1751 and Peter said, "Look on us. And he gave heed unto them, expecting to
1752 receive something of them. Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I
1753 none." As Peter thus declared his poverty, the countenance of the
1754 cripple fell; but it grew bright with hope as the apostle continued, "But
1755 such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise
1756 up and walk. {AA 58.1}

1757 **"And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and**
1758 **immediately his feet and ankle-bones received strength. And he**
1759 **leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the**
1760 **temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.** And all the people
1761 saw him walking and praising God: and they knew that it was he which
1762 sat for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple: and they were filled
1763 with wonder and amazement at that which had happened." {AA 58.2}

1764 "And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the
1765 people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's,
1766 greatly wondering." **They were astonished that the disciples could**
1767 **perform miracles similar to those performed by Jesus. Yet here**
1768 **was this man, for forty years a helpless cripple, now rejoicing in the**

1769 **full use of his limbs, free from pain, and happy in believing in**
1770 **Jesus.** {AA 58.3}

1771 When the disciples saw the amazement of the people, Peter asked,
1772 "Why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though
1773 by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?" He
1774 assured them that the cure had been wrought in the name and through
1775 the merits of Jesus of Nazareth, whom God had raised from the dead.
1776 "His name through faith in His name," the apostle declared, "hath made
1777 this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by Him
1778 hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all." {AA
1779 59.1}

1780

1781 *Prayer Brought Healing for Father Andrews*

1782 In the course of our labors, my husband and I visited Father Andrews,
1783 who was suffering intensely with inflammatory rheumatism. We prayed
1784 for him. **I laid my hands on his head, and said, "Father Andrews,**
1785 **the Lord Jesus maketh thee whole."** He was healed instantly. He
1786 **got up, and walked about the room, praising God, and saying, "I**
1787 **never saw it on this wise before. Angels of God are in this room."**
1788 {SpTB02 57.2}

1789

1790 *A Healing at the Sanitarium*

1791 **One of the first one that came to the sanitarium the first few weeks**
1792 **was one that was taken very sick.** Well now, we thought that one
1793 should not die, that it would be against the sanitarium. They sent for
1794 me. I said, "What is it?" They said, "Here is this woman that is going to
1795 die, she is picking the bedclothes nigh unto death." **I said, "What have**
1796 **you done for her?" "We have done what we could."** Then I said,
1797 **"Let us take hold of the mighty Healer."** Now I know that prayers
1798 are being offered for the sick here. I know that. So we knelt down
1799 and asked the Lord not to discourage us in our first efforts to do
1800 the best we could to relieve the sick. I tell you we were in earnest
1801 about it. {Ms132-1909.8}

1802 **I felt that case could not be given up, although every appearance**
1803 **was that she was in the last stage of sickness. So they prayed, and**
1804 **while praying, her senses seemed to come to her and she said, "Is**
1805 **this Sister White?" "Yes." "Well," said she, "I am glad to see you."**
1806 **We were glad to hear that from her lips. Well, she lived for years,**
1807 **and I do not know but she is living now.** {Ms132-1909.9}

1808 I want to tell you, **if we are trusting in God and doing our part, that**
1809 **it is possible to relieve the sick, then we can ask the Lord to bless**
1810 **our efforts to restore the sick and suffering ones. We know and Dr.**
1811 **Paulson knows that He has heard such prayers again and again. If**
1812 **it is the will of God, we know that His light will shine upon the sick**
1813 **one, and we know that He hears prayer because He hears prayer**
1814 **over and over again.** And now with the knowledge we have of how to

1815 treat the sick, and they get knowledge by coming to the sanitarium as to
1816 how they can treat themselves when sick, it is a wonderful gain by
1817 coming to the sanitarium. They can see what was done for them
1818 while sick and suffering, and they got relief by simple means which
1819 God has provided the suffering one. And more than that, they can have
1820 an evidence that there is a God back of the human agency and that He
1821 works in behalf of the sick and suffering. {Ms132-1909.10}

1822

1823 *The Healing of William Hyde*

1824 “At this time Brother Wm. Hyde was very sick with bloody dysentery.
1825 His symptoms were alarming, and the physician pronounced his case
1826 almost hopeless. **We visited him and prayed with him, but he had**
1827 **come under the influence of certain fanatical persons, who were**
1828 **bringing dishonor upon our cause. We wished to remove him from**
1829 **their midst, and petitioned the Lord to give him strength to leave**
1830 **that place. He was strengthened and blessed in answer to our**
1831 **prayers,** and rode four miles to the house of Brother Patten. But after
1832 arriving there he seemed to be rapidly sinking. {LS80 200.2}

1833 “**The fanaticism and errors into which he had fallen through evil**
1834 **influence seemed to hinder the exercise of his faith. He gratefully**
1835 **received the plain testimony borne him, and made humble**
1836 **confession of his fault.** Only a few who were strong in faith were
1837 permitted to enter the sick room. **The fanatics whose influence over**
1838 **him had been so injurious, and who had persistently followed him**
1839 **to Brother Patten's, were positively forbidden to come into his**
1840 **presence, while we prayed fervently for his restoration to health.** I
1841 have seldom known such a reaching out to claim the promises of God.
1842 **The salvation of the Holy Spirit was revealed, and power from on**
1843 **high rested upon our sick brother and upon all present.** {LS80
1844 200.3}

1845 “**Brother Hyde immediately dressed and walked out of the room**
1846 **praising God, with the light of heaven shining upon his**
1847 **countenance.** A farmer's dinner was ready upon the table. Said he, ‘If I
1848 were well I should partake of this food; and as I believe God has healed
1849 me, I shall carry out my faith.’ He sat down to dinner with the rest and
1850 ate heartily without injury. **His recovery was perfect and lasting.**
1851 {LS80 201.1}

1852

1853 *The Healing of Sister Meade*

1854 Just as the meeting closed, Sister Meade, who had been afflicted with a
1855 slow fever, requested us to pray for her. We went into a room by
1856 ourselves, Brethren Holt, Wheeler, Stowell, James, and self. **After I**
1857 **had anointed her with oil we prayed over her, and she was healed**
1858 **every whit and fell prostrate by the power of God.** That night we got
1859 into a rowboat and went on the pond about one mile to Brother
1860 Meade's. His sister was there with a very sick child. We anointed it

1861 with oil and prayed over it, and God heard our prayers.--5MR 239.
1862 {PaM 234.1}

1863

1864 *The Healing of Ellen White*

1865 Tenney and his wife, and Brethren Stockton and Smith came to our
1866 house at my request to pray that the Lord would heal me. We had a
1867 most earnest season of prayer, and we were all much blessed. I was
1868 relieved, but not restored. **I have now done all that I can to follow**
1869 **the Bible directions, and I shall wait for the Lord to work**, believing
1870 that in His own good time He will heal me. My faith takes hold of the
1871 promise, "Ask, and ye shall receive" (John 16:24). I believe that the
1872 Lord heard our prayers. I hoped that my captivity might be turned
1873 immediately, and to my finite judgment it seemed that thus God would
1874 be glorified. I was much blessed during our season of prayer, and I
1875 shall hold fast to the assurance then given me: "I am your Redeemer; I
1876 will heal you." -- Ms 19, 1892. {RY 137.2}

1877

1878 *God Honored the Faith of the Sick One*

1879 A case was held up before me of _____, **a minister; eighty miles he**
1880 **was sent for, to pray for a sick sister who sent for him in**
1881 **compliance with the teaching of James. He went and prayed in**
1882 **earnest, and she prayed; she believed the minister to be a man of**
1883 **God, a man of faith.** Physicians had given her up to die of
1884 consumption. **She was healed immediately.** She arose and prepared
1885 supper, a thing she had not done for ten years. **Now the minister was**
1886 **vile, his life was corrupt, and yet here was a great work. He took**
1887 **the glory all to himself.** {2SM 347.2}

1888 Then again the scene mentioned above passed before me. **I saw that**
1889 **the woman was a true disciple of Christ; her faith was that she**
1890 **should be healed.** I saw their prayers: One was misty, dark, fell
1891 downward; the other prayer was mixed with light or specks which
1892 looked to me like diamonds, and arose upward to Jesus and He sent it
1893 up to His Father like sweet incense, and a beam of light was
1894 immediately sent to the afflicted one and she revived and strengthened
1895 under its influence. **Said the angel, God will gather every particle of**
1896 **true, sincere faith; like diamonds shall they be gathered up and will**
1897 **surely bring a return or answer; and God will separate the**
1898 **precious from the vile.** Although He bears long with the hypocrite and
1899 sinner, yet he will be searched out. Though he may flourish with the
1900 honest a while like the green bay tree, yet the time will come when his
1901 folly will be made manifest, and he be brought to confusion.--Letter 2,
1902 1851. {2SM 347.3}

1903

1904 *Insanity Healed*

1905 After we came to Battle Creek we found so much to do we could not
1906 write letters. There were meetings days and evenings and very great

1907 interest manifested. Quite a number have been converted and
1908 backsliders have been reclaimed. The very sick have been raised up.
1909 One sister named Davis from Fairhaven, Massachusetts, has been
1910 **hopelessly insane for years, sometimes violent, tearing everything**
1911 **about her. If the truth or religious subjects were mentioned she**
1912 **would begin to rave. In answer to prayer she has been healed and is**
1913 **now in her right mind, sitting at the feet of Jesus.** She now attends
1914 our meetings. The gloom of despair no longer leaves its dark shadow
1915 upon her, and her face is all aglow with hope and faith and the love of
1916 God. She is a very intelligent, excellent woman when in her right mind.
1917 Her testimonies in meeting are so cheering and intelligent. The Lord
1918 has done wonderful things, whereof we are glad. {Lt28-1872.8}

1919

Spurious Healings

1921 Men under the influence of evil spirits will work miracles. **They will**
1922 **make people sick by casting their spell upon them, and will then**
1923 **remove the spell, leading others to say that those who were sick**
1924 **have been miraculously healed.** This Satan has done again and again.-
1925 -2SM 53 (1903). {LDE 166.3}

1926 Wonderful scenes, with which Satan will be closely connected, will
1927 soon take place. God's Word declares that Satan will work miracles. **He**
1928 **will make people sick, and then will suddenly remove from them**
1929 **his satanic power. They will then be regarded as healed.** These
1930 works of apparent healing will bring Seventh-day Adventists to the
1931 test.--2SM 53 (1904). {LDE 166.4}

1932 **Satan can, through a species of deceptions, perform wonders that**
1933 **will appear to be genuine miracles.** It was this he hoped to make a
1934 test question with the Israelites at the time of their deliverance from
1935 Egypt.--2SM 52 (1907). {LDE 167.1}

1936

Blessings in Suffering

1938 When Paul prayed that the thorn in his flesh might be removed, the
1939 Lord answered his prayer, not by removing the thorn, but by giving him
1940 grace to bear the trial. "My grace," He said, "is sufficient for thee." Paul
1941 rejoiced at this answer to his prayer, declaring. "Most gladly therefore
1942 will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest
1943 upon me." **When the sick pray for the recovery of health, the Lord**
1944 **does not always answer their prayer in just the way they desire.**
1945 **But even tho they may not be immediately healed, He will give**
1946 **them that which is of far more value,--grace to bear their sickness.**
1947 {ST, November 18, 1903 par. 17}

1948

Lessons From The Months Of Suffering

1950 I have been passing through great trial in pain and suffering and
1951 helplessness, but through it all I have obtained a precious experience
1952 more valuable to me than gold. When I was first convinced that I must

1953 give up my cherished plans to visit the churches in Australia and New
1954 Zealand, I felt to seriously question whether it was my duty to leave
1955 America and come to this far-off country. My sufferings were acute.
1956 Many sleepless hours of the nights I spent in going over and over our
1957 experience since we left Europe for America, and it has been a
1958 continual scene of anxiety, suffering, and burden bearing. Then I said,
1959 What does it all mean? {RY 142.2}

1960 I carefully reviewed the history of the past few years and the work the
1961 Lord gave me to do. Not once did He fail me, and often He manifested
1962 Himself to me in a marked manner, and I saw I had nothing of which to
1963 complain, but instead precious things running like threads of gold
1964 through all my experience. The Lord understood better than I the
1965 things that I needed, and I felt that He was drawing me very nigh to
1966 Himself, and I must be careful not to dictate to God as to what He
1967 should do with me. **This unreconciliation was at the beginning of
1968 my sufferings and helplessness, but it was not long until I felt that
1969 my affliction was a part of God's plan. I found that by partly lying
1970 and partly sitting I could place myself in position to use my
1971 crippled hands, and although suffering much pain I could do
1972 considerable writing. Since coming to this country I have written
1973 sixteen hundred pages of paper of this size.** {RY 142.3}

1974 Many nights during the past nine months I was enabled to sleep but two
1975 hours a night, and then at times darkness would gather about me; but I
1976 prayed, and realized much sweet comfort in drawing nigh to God. The
1977 promises, "Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you" (James
1978 4:8), "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord
1979 shall lift up a standard against him" (Isaiah 59:19), were fulfilled to me.
1980 I was all light in the Lord. **Jesus was sacredly near, and I found the
1981 grace given sufficient, for my soul was stayed upon God, and I was
1982 full of grateful praise to Him who loved me and gave Himself for
1983 me.** I could say from a full heart, "I know whom I have believed" (2
1984 Timothy 1:12). "God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted
1985 above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to
1986 escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (1 Corinthians 10:13). Through
1987 Jesus Christ I have come off more than conqueror, and held the vantage
1988 ground. {RY 143.1}

1989 **I cannot read the purpose of God in my affliction, but He knows
1990 what is best, and I will commit my soul, body, and spirit to Him as
1991 unto my faithful Creator.** "For I know whom I have believed, and am
1992 persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto
1993 Him against that day" (2 Timothy 1:12). -- Letter 7, 1892. {RY 143.2}

1994

1995 Prayer for Healing From Ungodly Practices

1996 A brother said, "Thank God for the answer to prayer. In every
1997 emergency, here is help and relief for the burdened and distressed. I
1998 want to love God and keep his commandments. God has answered my

1999 prayers, even mine. Jesus has great power. When he was upon earth he
2000 healed the sick. He will surely hear the prayer of faith, if we come
2001 sincerely and humbly before him. **I want to be an entire Christian, a**
2002 **temperate man in all my habits. I want to lay aside every thing that**
2003 **will prove injurious to health, or demoralizing in its effects. I have**
2004 **used tobacco from a child. I have tried to leave off the pernicious**
2005 **habit, but it has seemed impossible.** The physicians have said it
2006 would kill me. I know I cannot do this in my own strength, but God
2007 will help me, and in him I trust. **Here goes my idol, tobacco! [Here he**
2008 **threw a large package of tobacco upon the ground.] Now I hope to**
2009 **be more worthy of worshipping a pure and holy God! My Saviour,**
2010 **preserve me from this debasing appetite! Purge me from this**
2011 **polluting habit! Supported by your prayers, brethren, and clinging**
2012 **to God myself, by faith, I shall be victor.** Brethren, do not forget to
2013 pray for me." {RH, May 25, 1876 par. 31}

2014 Before proceeding with the testimonies of this meeting, I will say that
2015 we afterwards went to the tent where this brother, Bro. Strong, made
2016 his home. We found the tent's company in prayer. **We earnestly**
2017 **besought God in behalf of our brother, that strength and grace**
2018 **might be given him, through Jesus' name, to overcome this strong**
2019 **appetite for tobacco. We felt the assurance that it would be done.**
2020 The blessing of the Lord rested upon us while we prayed. August 17,
2021 Bro. Jordan reported that Bro. Strong was firm in the truth. **He had had**
2022 **no appetite for tobacco since we united in prayer to God for him.**
2023 He was cheerful in the Lord, and felt that through the all-powerful help
2024 of Jesus he had gained a great victory in overcoming his appetite for
2025 tobacco. He is a happy man. We will now return to the meeting. {RH,
2026 May 25, 1876 par. 32}

2027

2028

Illustrations of Healing From Others

2029 This, in short, is the way I have prayed for the sick. Our little Gracie
2030 became ill with a terribly fatal disease, so common in malarious
2031 districts -- enlarged spleen. The doctors pronounced her condition quite
2032 hopeless. One day a Chinese Christian woman came in with her little
2033 child of about the same age as our Gracie, and very ill with the same
2034 disease. The poor mother was in great distress, for the doctor had told
2035 her also that there was no hope. She thought that if we would plead
2036 with the doctor he could save her child. At last Mr. Goforth pointed to
2037 our little Gracie, saying: "Surely, if the doctor cannot save our child,
2038 neither can he save yours; your only hope and ours is in the Lord
2039 Himself." The mother was a poor, hard-working, ignorant woman, but
2040 she had the simple faith of a little child. Some weeks later she called
2041 again, and told me the following story: "When the pastor told me my
2042 only hope was in the Lord, I believed him. When I reached home I
2043 called my husband, and together we committed our child into the Lord's
2044 hands. I felt perfectly sure the child would get well, so I did not take

2045 care of him more than of a well child. In about two weeks he seemed so
2046 perfectly well that I took him to the doctor again, and the doctor said
2047 that he could discover nothing the matter with him." That **Chinese**
2048 **child is now a grownup, healthy man. And our child died. Yet we**
2049 **had prayed for her as few, perhaps, have prayed for any child.**
2050 **Why, then, was she not spared? I do not know. But I do know that**
2051 **there was in my life, at that time, the sin of bitterness toward**
2052 **another, and an unwillingness to forgive a wrong.** This was quite
2053 sufficient to hinder any prayer, and did hinder for years, until it was set
2054 right. **Does this case of unanswered prayer shake my faith in God's**
2055 **willingness and power to answer prayer? No, no!** My own child
2056 might just as reasonably decide never again to come to me with a
2057 request because I have, in my superior wisdom, denied a petition. Is it
2058 not true, in our human relationships with our children, that we see best
2059 to grant at one time what we withhold at another? "What I do thou
2060 knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter."—Rosalind Gorforth,
2061 (Missionary with the China Inland Mission), *How I Know God Answers*
2062 *Prayer*

2063
2064 On one of the early visits to the city of Linchang, a woman came with a
2065 little child whose foot was terribly burned. The whole foot was badly
2066 swollen, the inflammation reaching some distance up the leg. The child
2067 was feverish, and seemed in a serious condition. It happened that on
2068 that trip I had forgotten to bring the simple remedies which I was
2069 accustomed to take out with me, so the woman was told nothing could
2070 be done. But she begged so piteously that I could not turn her away;
2071 and lifting up my heart in prayer I asked the Lord to guide me, if there
2072 was anything I could do. **Even while I prayed the thought of a**
2073 **bread poultice came to mind. This remedy seemed almost absurd. I**
2074 **had never heard of such a thing being used before under like**
2075 **circumstances, but I resolved to try it.** Twice a day the foot was
2076 cleansed and put in the poultice, and it was really wonderful to see how
2077 it healed. We were there ten days, and when we left the foot was almost
2078 completely well. The mother, father, the child herself, and indeed the
2079 whole family, became Christians. On a later visit I examined the foot,
2080 and found not even the sign of a scar remaining. I told this incident to
2081 a medical doctor, and he said: "Why, there is no miracle in that! It was
2082 just up-to-date hygiene—giving nature a chance by cleanliness!" **I**
2083 **replied: "Doctor, to me the miracle lay, not in the poultice, but in**
2084 **God's telling me what to use; and now it is to me all the more a**
2085 **miracle of prayer,** since you say it was up-to-date hygienic
2086 treatment."—Rosalind Goforth

2087
2088 Soon after coming to China the Rev. Hunter Corbett, one of the most
2089 devoted and saintly of God's missionaries, gave a testimony which later
2090 was used of God to save the writer from giving up service in China and

2091 returning home to Canada. Dr. Corbett said that for fifteen years he
2092 had been laid aside every year with that terrible scourge of the East—
2093 dysentery; and **the doctors at last gave a definite decision that he**
2094 **must return at once to the homeland and forsake China. But, said**
2095 **the grand old man: "I knew God had called me to China, and I also**
2096 **knew that God did not change. So what could I do? I dared not go**
2097 **back on my call; so I determined that if I could not live in China I**
2098 **could die there; and from that time the disease lost its hold on me."**
2099 This testimony was given over twenty-five years ago, when he had
2100 been almost thirty years in China! In January, 1920, when well-nigh
2101 ninety years of age, this beloved and honored saint of God passed to
2102 higher service. For several years I had been affected just as Dr.
2103 Corbett had been, and each year the terrible disease seemed to be
2104 getting a firmer hold upon me. At last, one day my husband brought me
2105 the decision of the doctors, that I should return home. And as I lay there
2106 ill and weak, the temptation to yield came. But, **as I remembered Dr.**
2107 **Corbett's testimony, and my own clear call, I felt that to go back**
2108 **would be to go against my own conscience. I therefore determined**
2109 **to do as Dr. Corbett had done—leave myself in the Lord's hands --**
2110 **whether for life or death. This happened more than twenty years**
2111 **ago, and since then I have had very little trouble from that dread**
2112 **disease.** Yes, the deeper the need, and the bitterer the extremity, the
2113 greater the opportunity for God to show forth His mighty power in our
2114 lives, if we but give Him a chance by unswerving obedience at any
2115 cost. "In the day when I cried thou answeredst me, and strengthenedst
2116 me with strength in my soul" (Ps. 138:3).—Rosalind Goforth, *How I*
2117 *Know God Answers Prayer*

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Path2Prayer Ministries. Write Dan: path2prayer@gmail.com SPS 3-2018*

New Quote

Before there were any sanitariums amongst us, my husband and I began work in medical missionary lines. We would bring to our house cases that had been given up by the physicians to die. When we knew not what to do for them, we would pray to God most earnestly, and He always sent His blessing. He is the mighty Healer, and He worked with us. We never had time or opportunity to take a medical course, but we had success as we moved out in the fear of God and sought Him for wisdom at every step. This gave us courage in the Lord. {Ms49-1908.26}

Thus we combined prayer and labor. We used the simple water treatments, and then tried to fasten the eyes of the patients on to the great Healer. We told them what He could do for them. If we can inspire the patients with hope, this is greatly to their advantage. We want all that have any part to act in our sanitariums to have a firm grasp on the power of the Infinite. We

believe in Him and in the power of His Word. When we do our best for the recovery of the sick, we may then look for Him to be with us, that we may see of His salvation. We put too little confidence in the power of the hand that rules the world. {Ms49-1908.27}