SAVED, HEALED & DELIVEERED



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SECTION 1: SOZO

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

(John 3:16)

Most every believer knows that scripture by heart, and if a poll was taken this scripture would probably be the most recognized even by non-believers. But what about the next verse, John 3:17?

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. (John 3:17)

The word saved in this scripture is the Greek word sozo (pronounced sode'-zo), and it means to save, that is deliver or protect (literally or figuratively): - heal, preserve, save (self), do well, be (make) whole (Strong's, G4982).

In the New Testament, the word sozo is used 110 times. See a few of the ways it is used in scripture in the examples below. The underlined word in each of these scriptures is sozo.

Sometimes it is used to describe Jesus saving us from our sins:

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall <u>save</u> his people from their sins.

(Matthew 1:21)

It is used to describe physical healing:

And he said unto her, Daughter, they faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

(Mark 5:34)

It is also used to describe being saved from physical harm:

And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, if thou be Christ, save thyself and us. (Luke 22:39)

And other times it is the word used in the context of deliverance:

They also which saw it told them by what means he that was possessed of the devils was <u>healed</u>. (Luke 8:36)

It means all of those things and more, but to a lot of Christians they believe salvation is just about going to Heaven when they die. They miss the bigger picture. They don't know, or believe, that the salvation Jesus offers is more than going to Heaven, it also means healing for our bodies, removal from physical danger and deliverance from demonic possession and oppression here on this Earth!

After Jesus was baptized in the Holy Spirit, He spent time in the desert being tempted by Satan before working His way to the synagogue in His hometown of Nazareth. In Luke, we see Jesus was asked to speak in the synagogue and He turned to Isaiah and read the following:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

(Luke 4:18-19)

This scripture defines the ministry of Jesus. This is why He came to Earth. He preached the gospel, healed the brokenhearted, delivered the captives, opened the eyes of the blind and freed the bruised. This scripture defines sozo!

Sozo was realized when Jesus walked the Earth and established when He was beaten and crucified. Salvation, healing and deliverance became available

when Jesus sacrificed Himself for us over 2,000 years ago. Everything in Luke 4:18-19 was accomplished!

After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst. Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put it upon hyssop, and put it to his mouth. When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head and gave up the ghost.

(John 19:28)

We must have the Word established in us and understand what we have through the finished work of Jesus to receive the free gift of sozo. We don't have to earn salvation, we don't have to beg for healing, and we don't have to seek inner healing for deliverance! We have those things already!

Check on Learning

1. In your own words, define what the sozo is.

2. When did salvation, healing and deliverance become available to us?

SECTION 2: SAVED

Being ingrafted into the Body of Christ is one of the gifts offered through sozo to everyone who believes. It means spending eternity with God once we pass from this world. When a person accepts Jesus into their heart to be their Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit comes and dwells inside of them.

And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

(Ezekiel 36:27)

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God?

(1 Corinthians 6:19a)

When we accept Jesus into our heart, His Spirit not only indwells us, He gives us the opportunity for a brand new life here on earth.

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that ye may have it more abundantly.

(John 10:10)

His Spirit brings the very attributes of God into our lives as well. When the Spirit enters us at salvation, God's character comes with Him and exists inside of us. Even when we don't feel His fruit in us it is there. The closer we get to God the more His fruit becomes evident in us.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, faith, meekness, temperance, against such there is no law.

(Galatians 5:22-23)

He gives us the opportunity to trust in Him and not live in fear. The Holy Spirit does not bring fear, but instead brings God's power.

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. (2 Timothy 1:7)

What Jesus offers can be found throughout the scriptures. He healed those who needed healing, He cast out demons of oppression and possession and He brought salvation to a lost world! If you read the gospels, you will see His ministry consisted of meeting people where they were at. It's no different today, what a person needs spiritually, physically or emotionally can be met by Jesus when comes into their heart! It's not just about going to Heaven when you die, but also getting your needs met to ensure your abundant life starts now!

Check on Learning

- 1. Who comes to kill, steal and destroy?
- 2. Who comes to give us an abundant life?

SECTION 3: HEALED

Healing exists today because sickness exists. Without sickness, healing wouldn't be needed, therefore we can say that healing was designed by God to counter sickness. It's worth mentioning again a scripture stated before from the book of John because it states clearly where death and disease comes from.

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that ye may have it more abundantly. (John 10:10)

Satan is the thief, and sickness entered the world when he tricked Eve, followed closely by Adam, into eating the forbidden fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Before that event, there was no sickness in all creation. What God created was good, not evil (see Genesis 1:10, 12, 18, 21 & 25)!

If you look up all the definitions of the word good in the Bible, you'll see that word always points to positive things. Good by nature cannot be bad. The definition of good used in the Genesis scriptures above is: <u>something that functions properly</u>; good, better, well, goodness, goodly, best, merry, fair, prosperity, precious, fine, wealth, beautiful, fairer, favor, glad (Strong's, H2896).

Something that functions properly means there is no hindrance to its operation. The human body functions properly when there is no hindrance, or sickness, to its operation. God created us to operate with no hindrances.

Scripture tells us that one of the benefits of sozo is healing in our bodies, because Jesus took our infirmities upon Himself when He was beaten beyond recognition.

Who his own self (Jesus) bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes <u>ye were healed</u>. (2 Peter 2:24)

If healing wasn't God's will then why did Jesus go around healing people? It was God's will to heal people back then and it's His will to heal people today because God is the same yesterday, today and always!

Who (God) will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. (1 Timothy 2:4)

The word saved in this scripture is sozo! It is God's will for everyone to be saved, healed and delivered!

Healing is received through a variety of ways, and below are scriptures showing some examples. I'm not claiming that these are the only ways to be healed, but here are a few.

1. Healing by Faith

And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and though she had spent all her living on physicians, she could not be healed by anyone. She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, and immediately her discharge of blood ceased.

(Luke 8:43-44)

And he (Jesus) said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

(Luke 8:48)

This woman was healed by faith. She knew that if she could just touch the hem of Jesus' clothes she would be healed. Even after twelve years of dealing with the issue, she had faith that she could still be healed, and she knew the only way it would happen is through Jesus.

How many people out there today have tried every medicine or surgery to be healed of some horrible disease? How many feel they are out of options? Friend, we are never out of options. Any of us can have the faith for healing because we have the Word of God and His Spirit inside us that point to a healing Savior! Get into the Bible and read healing scriptures! Pray for the revelation of healing! Don't give up until you receive it!

2. Gifts of Healing

These gifts are mentioned in Paul's letter to the Corinthians.

For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: but all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

(1 Corinthians 12:8-11)

From this scripture we see that there are gifts the Holy Spirit will use, through people, to benefit others. Gifts of healing are where a person, operating by the Holy Spirit, releases healing to someone in need. Make no mistake, it is the Holy Spirit manifestation through the person doing the healing. We see an example of this in Acts.

And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him. (Acts 28:8)

Luke, who was a doctor, was with Paul when Paul laid his hands on Publius' father. Don't miss this! God healed this man through Paul's hands and not the physician's. While medicine can sometimes help, nothing is quicker and more powerful than a touch from God!

Why do you think God gave man the wisdom to understand the human body and healing remedies to help it recover? Because if He didn't there would be a lot more dead people today because they didn't have the faith or someone to lay hands on them to be healed. If it weren't for doctors, unbelievers wouldn't stand a chance against serious diseases. God, in His infinite mercy even decided to take care of people that don't believe He heals today by giving men and women wisdom on how the body operates. Talk about a gracious God!

There are a lot of diseases out there that medicine can't heal, but no disease or sickness is stronger than faith or a Holy Spirit gift of healing! While we all want to be healed because of faith in God and His healing through Jesus' finished work, we would probably all take healing however we can get it. Just know that healing is part of sozo!

Check on Learning

1.	The human body functions properly when there is noits operation.	to
2.	In your own words, explain healing by faith.	
3	In your own words, explain the aifts of healing	

SECTION 4: DELIVERED

As stated earlier, Jesus came to bring deliverance to those in captivity.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to...preach deliverance to the captives... (Luke 4:18)

Part of sozo is deliverance. The Greek word for deliverance used here is aphesis (af'-es-is) and Thayer defines it simply as *release from bondage or imprisonment*.

There are many things that people can and have been delivered from and nothing exists that is too power for God to deliver you from. People who have used drugs for 30 years can be delivered. A person who suffers from Alzheimer's who seems mentally gone can be delivered. Even a person who has died can be delivered from death and brought back to life!

And when he (Jesus) thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him and let him go.

(John 11:43-44)

Jesus ultimately delivered those of us who believe from darkness and into light, meaning before we were saved we lived in darkness where we couldn't see a way out but after receiving Jesus we are placed in the light where we can clearly see. The event of Lazarus being dead and placed in a tomb also symbolizes this. His body was placed in a dark tomb and he had no life until the stone was removed and Jesus spoke life into his body!

Another type of deliverance comes in the form of being released from the grip of the enemy who is either possessing or oppressing someone.

When a person is demonically possessed, a demon literally resides in the person and takes control of them. Demon possession does happen. We see multiple examples of this in the Bible and here are a couple.

And his (Jesus') fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with diverse diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatic, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them

(Matthew 4:24)

The term "possessed with devils" means to literally be under the power of a demon.

And behold, a man from the crowd cried out, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. And behold, a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly cries out. It convulses him so that he foams at the mouth, and shatters him, and will hardly leave him. While he was coming, the demon threw him to the ground and convulsed him. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit and healed the boy, and gave him back to his father.

(Luke 9:38-39,42)

Jesus wasn't the only person who cast out demons. In fact, we as believers should also be casting out demons from those who are possessed.

And these signs shall follow them that believe; <u>In my name shall</u> they cast out devils, they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

(Mark 16:17-18)

It's in Jesus' name, or by his work of sozo (saved, healed and delivered), people can be delivered from demon possession!

Oppression is different than possession. In possession a demon takes complete control of a person, but in oppression an enemy simply hinders a person either physically, emotionally or both.

Here is an example of physical oppression.

Then a demon-oppressed man who was blind and mute was brought to him (Jesus), and he healed him, so that the man spoke and saw. (Matthew 12:22)

The man was physically oppressed by a demon, but we see that Jesus healed him.

Emotional oppression is where an enemy oppresses someone in their mind. An emotionally oppressed person can't seem to see a way out of the situation they're in and often don't realize the role an enemy is playing in their situation.

Oppression can keep a Christian from realizing the things the enemy is whispering in their ear are all lies. They believe badly about themselves. In the end, it hinders a believer from moving forward in their Christian life and call.

Whether possession or oppression, Jesus healed them! And since Jesus is in us we can cast out the devils, too!

Check on Learning

- 1. What does deliverance mean?
- 2. By whose authority are we able to cast out demons?

3. What is the difference between possession and oppression?