

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT- Sermon 6
By The Most Reverend Michael Davidson
The Gifts of Doing (Hands)
Gifts of Healing: 1 Cor. 12:9

Please Note: We believe in medical doctors. God has called them, like Luke, to minister to the sick. But be careful when selecting a doctor. In light of many New Age Medical practices one must be discerning. A good book to read: *Can You Trust Your Doctor?* By John Weldon. This is a complete guide to New Age Medicine and its threat to your family. Another good book is, *Christian Healing* by Canon Mark Pearson. This is a practical and comprehensive guide.

1. **Its DIVINE Source:** Gifts manifested by The Holy Spirit through a person and not just ones own soulish or persuasive powers (manipulation or witchcraft!). Often operates with faith, knowledge and discernment and imparts faith to one needing healing.
2. **Its MULTIPLE Manifestations:** *Always in the plural form* (1 Cor. 12:9; 12:28; 12:30). Healing operates on more than one level due to different kinds of sickness. Note: Jesus had power over all manner of sickness and gave the 12 collectively this power (Mat. 10:1).
3. **Its VARIOUS Levels:**
 - a. Instant: Mat. 8:3-And immediately his leprosy was cleansed; Mk. 1:31-Immediately the fever left.
 - b. Gradual: We need healing in spirit, soul and body. Sometimes there is a deeper need than the physical-inner healing of attitude and heart. Here discernment is needed. Note 1 Cor. 11:27-43-The Eucharist. Here we see some are sick and die due to not discerning the body of Christ. They need illumination and understanding. Ja. 4:5:14-16-shows a connection between sin and sickness. 3 Jn. 2-be in health as your soul prospers. *We don't want to just pray for symptoms* (psychosomatic problems). At times we have to persevere. The Holy Spirit may be leading us to the real source of the sickness: Unforgiveness, some hidden sin, etc.
4. **Its VARIOUS Methods:**
 - a. Calling for the Elders and anointing with oil (Ja. 5:14-15; Mk. 6:13): Prayer of faith heals.
 - b. Eucharist (1 Cor. 11:27-34): Healing related to the body and blood of Christ (Eph. 5:30).
 - c. Laying on of hands (Mk. 16:16-18; Mt. 19:19): All believers can do this.
 - d. The spoken word (Lu. 7:1-10): Power in the Word. Bringing someone else for healing.
 - e. Jesus' garments, Peter's shadow (Mk. 6:56): Point of contact. As many as touched Him were healed (Acts 5:15-16).
 - f. Handkerchiefs and aprons from Paul (Acts 19:11-12): Special miracles.
5. **Its SPECIAL Calling:** How do you know if you have the gifts of healing?
 - a. By the inner **witness** of the Spirit.
 - b. By the ability to believe God for healing: Ro. 12:3-8-measure of faith.
 - c. Great compassion for the sick: Mat. 20:34; Mk. 1:41; Lu. 7:12-14.
 - d. By Results: Your prayers bear fruit.
 - e. By recognition and demand from others: They see the fruit of this gift in your life.
 - f. By laying on of hands by the leadership: (1 Tim. 1:18; 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:6).
6. **Its LOVING Purpose:** God loves His people-He gives! It rectifies the curse of the Law (1 Jn. 3:8; Gal. 3:13); Confirms the message of salvation by signs and wonders (Heb. 2:3-4; Mk.

16:15-20)

7. **Its SPECIFIC Target:** Satan and Sin-the source of sickness.
 - a. Satan: Acts 10:38-Jesus came to heal those oppressed by the devil.
 - b. Sin: Sickness is the symptom of spiritual sickness (Deut. 28:58-61).
We live in a fallen world and suffer the results. Everyone will die but the ultimate healing is the Resurrection!
8. **Its BIBLICAL Basis:**
 - a. Redemption: Included in the Atonement of Christ: Ex. 15:25-26; Ps.105:37; 103:2-3; Mat. 8:16
 - b. Faith: Receive according to your faith: 2 Cor. 5:7; Mk. 11:24.

Jesus said at one time, What do you want me to do for you? Why ask this? Sometimes people do not want to be healed. They have become so 'institutionalized' in their sickness that to be healed means one must change, go to work, etc. So we too must ask ourselves,

DO I WANT TO BE HEALED? WILL I TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY LIFE AFTER HEALING?