THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SIN AND SICKNESS

IS SICKNESS FROM GOD?



John 5: "....stop sinning or something worse may happen...."

John 9: "...blindness is due neither to his sin nor that of his parents...."

It is NOT: steal a car, get the measles. Commit Adultery, get cancer.

Sin = lack of wholeness

God wants to restore wholeness to humanity

The means to restore wholeness is REDEMPTION!

2Cor.5:8





THE HEALING DILEMMA

- In Christ's day doctors were viewed with suspicion
- Medical healing and faith healing were seen as incompatible
- Jews began to see medical healing as a gift from God
 - Medical + faith seen as the answer by some Jews, especially in the Diaspora
- Peter and John were seen as faith healers

They quickly dispelled that notion by giving the Lord the credit

FATHER AND SON

- Peter is talking ONLY to Israelites, not to gentiles
- Peter says the power to do miracles belongs only to YHWH
- However God has glorified His Son Yeshua
- Father gives power to son as an agent, but does not give up the power
- Yeshua wrongly cast into a Greek mold
- Greek gods would give power to sons, thus losing that power for themselves
- Result: Jesus seen as relevant, His Father as irrelevant







CHRIST IS GOD'S SHALIACH

- Shaliach = agent, proxy
- Father does not surrender power, but makes his son an agent of that power
- Peter characterizes Christ NOT as an equal, but as God's servant
- Peter lays the same charge of killing God's Messiah on the crowd near the cripple
- The author of life was given the death sentence!

PONTIUS PILATE

- 5th in the series of governors to rule over Judea
- Came into power in 26 A.D.
- > Rigid, reckless, ruthless
- Removed from power by Caesar in 36 A.D.
- So we have a 10 year date range for the ministry of Christ and when this incident with Peter occurred
- > Holoklerian = perfect healing = wholeness
- It is Yeshua who restores humanity to wholeness





FOR THEY KNOW NOT

WHAT THEY DO.

- Acts 3:17 Peter invokes essentially THE same words as Christ on the cross: forgiveness for His fellow Jews, due to the ignorance of their actions
- The <u>ONLY</u> Gospel we find "Father forgive them.." is in Luke; so that's why we find Peter's words to the same effect in Acts
- The solution for their guilt is always the same: REPENT !

THE CONVERSION ERROR

DANGER WRONG WAY **TURN BACK**

- CJB vs.19 "...repent and <u>turn</u>..."
- KJV vs. 19 "....repent.. and be <u>converted</u>....."
- Peter did not make a call to convert, he made a call to TURN
- Convert = metamorphose or change to something else
- Turn = rotate, pivot
- Understanding the original languages and associated cultures are the keys

What it meant to Bible authors is what is should mean to us



- The word and concept of CONVERSION needs to be removed from Believers' vocabulary
- > The concept is NOT in the Bible, nor is the word
- Paul was a "convert"?
- A.D. Nock says that conversion is a great change whereby the old is wrong, and the new is right
- Thus the Hebrew religion of the Torah and Tanach was wrong, and the gentile Christian religion of the NT was right

DID PAUL CONVERT?



- Krister Stendahl urged his fellow Christians to stop using the term conversion and instead use "call"
 He said it was clear that Peter and Paul continued to see themselves as part of Judaism
 If Peter and Paul converted, then why did they continue to go to the Temple? Celebrate the Biblical
 - Feasts? Continue in vow offerings?

PAUL'S WORLDVIEW



Some gentiles had become God-fearers: followed the God of Israel but did not become national Jews

- Paul was against those who demanded that gentiles had to become Jews to worship Christ (convert)
- Convert makes it that Christianity was created by Christ for something for people to convert to



ADOPTION



- Strefo = having something to do with turning
- > 1Thes.1:9 "You turned to (epistrefo) God from idols"
- Epistrefo > converso > convert
- Roman adoption
- Adopted person makes a mutual commitment to the family
- No blood ties, but family imputes family status on the adopted person

Romans 2:25 – 3:6