God's Healing Foreword

The Scriptures reveal that God sometimes allows sickness to afflict individuals for a special purpose. With this exception, the sickness that we suffer is the result of physical or spiritual sins. Divine healing is God's forgiveness of those sins. God the Father personally intervenes when He extends healing to those who call upon Him in times of sickness or injury. This divine intervention can be directed toward anyone at any time, as God wills, because Jesus Christ paid the price for healing from every sickness with the stripes of scourging that He received before His crucifixion. When God heals us, our sins are forgiven through the stripes of the sufferings of Jesus Christ. Miracles of healing are often granted. The Scriptures teach that one who desires to be healed by God should call for the elders of the church to anoint him or her with oil in the name of Jesus Christ and to pray for God's healing and intervention. Trusting God in faith for healing is a personal matter between each individual and God.

What is God's will concerning healing? When we read the accounts in the New Testament, we find that Jesus did a lot of healing. We also find that the Apostles performed a lot of miracles. It is important to grow in grace and knowledge, because God is giving us greater riches; a great calling. That's why it's so important to keep our minds focused on the goal: to be in the Kingdom of God having to attain to the resurrection of the dead. If a person is at the point of death but is faithful and believing in the promises of Christ, we have to understand that it is *God's will* that we die in the faith

Health trials can *draw us closer to God, and increase our faith, love, and belief in God* regardless of what the circumstances may be. Sometimes it's very difficult. That's why we need to pray for each other and ask God to intervene. Philippians 2:1: "Now then, if *there be* any encouragement in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of *the* Spirit, if any *deep* inner affections and compassions, fulfill my joy, that you be of the same mind..." (vs 1-2). Out of all these tragedies and difficulties that come along, this is what God wants us to do. "...Having the same love, being joined together in soul, minding the one thing. *Let* nothing *be* done through contention or vainglory, but in humility, each esteeming the others above himself. Let each one look not *only* after his own things, but *let* each one also *consider* the things of others" (vs 2-4).

A special thanks goes to Bonnie Orswell, Laila Patterson and Nancy Spaller for producing the transcripts.