

## Hope in the Living God

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Psalm 30

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### Synopsis:

In Scripture healing isn't an end in itself—as if God's only job was to make us feel better. Healing is a *sign* pointing to the living God, who in Jesus Christ *has been* with us, *is* with us, and *will raise us bodily*. For this we give thanks and praise.

### I.

#### Healing

Psalm 30:2 You have healed me

Why did Jesus *heal* people?

NT examples: man born blind (John 9)

Why didn't Jesus heal *everyone*?

Plenty of blind people

Why not all those I pray for in hospital?

Why doesn't Jesus heal *me*?

Where rubber meets the road

Why not those I love?

READ Three New Testament Texts

Matthew 11:2-6

John 9:2-3

John 11:3-4

Healing points to the resurrection of the body

\*The Old Testament does not teach bodily resurrection, but it points to the LORD,

-who won't abandon a good creation

-who heals the sick

Today I want to look at a healing psalm with you, a sign pointing to Jesus Christ, who declared the coming Kingdom of God

### II.

#### The Past

Psalm 30:7 You hid your face, I was dismayed

What do you do when you're sick?

Being Sick:

-no one likes being sick

-how do you feel when you're sick?

READ 6-7a (Health)

- Remember when you were young?
- Remember when you were at your fittest?
- \*We are indestructible!

READ 7b-10 (Illness)

- Seasick? Want to die!
- Depressed? Want to die!
- Make a deal with God
- Finally HELP! (Hebrew text is emphatic)

Notice:

- God is with the psalmist in health *and* illness
- Even in pain, crying out acknowledges God
- God will never leave you, even if you can't see, hear
- What do we do when we're sick?
  - Cry out to God
  - If you're sick, cry out, tell God, HELP!
  - Psalms aren't polite, they're direct

Psalmist: God *was* with me!

### III.

#### **The Present**

Psalm 30:1 I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up

What do we do when we're healed?

READ 1-5

- Psalm is written and performed after healing (pattern)
- Dedication of the temple (John 10:22; Talmud says Judas)
- praise and thanks (with hand Ps 116:17)
- Raise God; raised me
- God is with the psalmist after he's healed
- Enemies: sickness isn't natural
- Sheol = figurative, shadowy place of dead
- Pit = grave
- brings in friends = community healing
- Anger of God =
  - sickness isn't from God, but God is involved; sovereignty issue here
- Notice comparison: *moment* versus *lifetime*

What do we do after we're healed?

- praise God
- do something

- call in people
- \*Goal of healing is the praise of God
- back to Jesus in Matt, John = God's glory

Psalmist: God *is* with me

#### IV.

##### **The Future**

Psalm 30:12 O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever

What does healing signal?

Hint in OT in praise of God

NT = Sign of coming kingdom, hint at resurrection of the body

Healing now is a down payment for future bodily resurrection

READ 11-12

- praise now
- praise forever

What do we do after we're healed?

- praise God now for his coming Kingdom
- Look forward to a God with us past, present, future

E.g. Steve Olmstead- ultimate healing (ALS)

Used to be disappointed when God didn't heal now

Steve cured me; God heals maybe now (sign) but surely later

Goal of healing is the *praise* of the living God

Romans 8:38-39 Nothing separates you from living God

SICK = God was with you

HEAL = God is with us

FUTURE = God will be with us

READ Heidelberg Catechism Q1