

Covid-19: Has that been all?

What the New Testament says about sickness and getting healed

Neither the New Testament nor the Bible in general gives a blanket answer to the question of what is the cause of suffering and disease. Every case is different, some things are in the dark, and sometimes all human suffering remains a mystery.

But there is a simple and direct answer to the question of who can heal and who can help.

«I am the Lord, your healer» – thus God had it already proclaimed to the Old Testament people (Ex 15:26). And in another passage it says: «I will heal them» (Jer. 33,6), and: «The Lord says: I will heal him». (Is. 57,18+19)

In the life of Jesus Christ, both God's power and his willingness to heal the sick was then very clearly revealed. The reports in the New Testament are so impressive that one can say in summary: The restoration of the sick was the most important trademark of the Lord Jesus. Anyone who reads his life report in the gospel of Mark does not have to make much effort. Only in the first six chapters we find an almost uninterrupted sequence of healing reports. And when a contemporary of Jesus asked whether he was really the Savior promised by God, he received the brief answer: «Just pay attention to what is happening in front of your eyes: The blind seeing and the paralyzed walking...» (Mt. 11,4+5)

Covid-19 has reminded us how vulnerable we are. Perhaps this plague will soon be history, and so be it. But even then, many other diseases will remain, and new ones may come. Premiums for our health insurance will continue to rise, and the quality of our hospitals and care facilities will remain a topic of heated debate.

Isn't it good to know someone who brings healing for even the most serious ailments - and doesn't even charge a fee for it?

Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil. The one who trusts in this Lord can experience amazing things - especially in questions of sickness and healing.

(Matthias Czerny, April 2020)

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