

A TEACHING ARTICLE BY PETER HORROBIN INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR OF ELLEL MINISTRIES



HEALING & DESTINY

very single human being is known and loved by God. Every single one has been created by Him for a purpose. Each has a destiny to fulfil. It is in the fulfillment of our destiny purpose that we can know the greatest joy, and experience what it really means to be alive in God.

But we live in a fallen world, where Satan, as the god of this world, is a thief and a destroyer who seeks to rob people of their joy and their destiny in whatever way he can. We have all suffered the consequences of Satan's work and we see it all around us in messed up lives. When Jesus saw the sick He was filled with compassion for them.

Jenny had suffered greatly in her youth. She had never known the privilege of being encouraged to be herself and grow to womanhood in the security of Godly parenting. She had been deprived, abused and had become a victim of the cruelty of others. When God healed her, and she began to walk in her destiny as a woman of God, she began her testimony by saying, "I never even imagined that life could be this good!"

Till that moment Jenny's identity had been in her pain and the consequences of her suffering. But when God lifted her eyes from the horizon of her personal pain, she began to see, for the first time, that she, too, was precious to God - He not only loved her for who she was and was interested in her healing, but saw that she, too, had a destiny to fulfil. Her joy knew no bounds as step by step she allowed God to not only heal her, but also give her a purpose to live for. The joy of the Lord became her strength. Jenny was discovering the joy that comes from being in relationship with God.

God created each of us to enjoy relationship with Him - that is why the primary dimension to our humanity is spiritual. For, as Jesus tells us in the story of His encounter with the woman at the well in John 4, God IS Spirit. We cannot, therefore be in relationship with Him unless we also are alive in Him as spiritual beings. It is through our spirit that God intended us to be able to fully know Him and experience the dynamic reality of His divine energy flowing into every area of our being, equipping us for the loving purposes for which He had made us. That is why it is so important to be born again – for our spirit, which had become dead to God through sin, to be made alive in Him again.

As human beings, however, we are not just spirit, we are also flesh. People often think that the flesh is simply the physical body that each of us has, but the flesh is much more than the body. The flesh also embraces that part of our personality that we call the soul – the mind with which we think, our emotions with which we feel and react and our will with

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which we make decisions. Our body is that amazing and wonderful "machine" through which God intended us to be able to fulfil our destiny purpose as human beings.

That is why Paul, when writing to the Thessalonians (1 Thess.5:23), prayed that they would be whole in spirit, soul and body – for, in reality, we can be "sick" in spirit, soul and body! Paul understood something very important about our created order, that we can be limited and restricted in potential when things go wrong with each area of our humanity. A diseased body, a sick soul or a crushed spirit can all have a similar effect – they prevent us from walking in our destiny.

It is not surprising, therefore, that right at the beginning of His ministry, Jesus began to bring healing to people in need. He wanted them to know the fullness of God's love and care for them. His mission statement was taken from Isaiah 61, where the prophet had said that the Sovereign Lord would bring good news to the poor, healing for the brokenhearted and freedom for those in prison.

Jesus was not just interested in telling us the good news of heaven for when we died, but He was equally concerned in enabling us to truly live while here on earth! As the Lord's Prayer expresses it so clearly, it is God's desire for us to enjoy His Kingdom blessing here on earth as well as in heaven!

When God first gave me the vision for the work that has become known as Ellel Ministries, He gave me Luke 9:11 as the key verse for the ministry. The second part of this verse tells us that Jesus welcomed the people, proclaimed the Kingdom and brought healing to those in need.

Welcoming the people means show them love – not just with words, but in practical ways as well. Jesus even fed the five thousand! Proclaiming the Kingdom is all about letting people know that God's Kingdom authority is greater than that presided over by the god of this world - that is why Jesus was able to cast out demons and set the captives free. When we live under the authority of the King, we can experience the greatest possible freedom, as we exercise our freewill to fulfil our Kingdom destiny. And He healed people so that they would no longer be limited by their condition and restricted from walking in their destiny. In John 8:31 Jesus tells us that if we obey His teaching, we will know the truth and the truth will set us free.

God has not only given me a passion to see people enter into the freedom that Jesus won for them on the cross, but also to see them walk in their destiny. Healing is not an end in itself, but the means through which God releases us from our past so that we can have a present and a future.

David was trapped by the sins of his past. He daily suffered the condemnation of the enemy telling him that God could never use him because of what he had done. He believed Satan's lies, had no joy and slowly descended into a pit of despair and medication, living a life without hope. While he was not physically ill, he was sicker than many people that are! Condemned by his past he had given up hope of a future. He was being robbed of his destiny.

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David is typical of many people whom God has healed – he discovered that Jesus not only came to be his Savior, but that He was also healer and deliverer. Today David is more alive than he has ever been, living a fulfilled life and walking in His destiny.

I long to see the Body of Christ rise up in the dynamic of God's love and healing, restored in relationship with God and set free to serve Him, knowing the wonderful joy of God's transforming love and power. Healing and destiny are inseparable – when we know the one we begin to experience the other!