Jehovah-Rapha, The Lord, Our Healer

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Speaker: C. Elijah Bronner

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Transcribed by Tech-Synergy
C. Elijah Bronner: If we are going to be kept well, it's because God keeps us well.

Female: You are listening to BrothersoftheWord.com. This is the sermon titled, “Jehovah-Rapha, The Lord, Our Healer” by C. Elijah Bronner. This sermon is number 7862.

(Music Playing: 00:00:19 - 00:00:31)

Female: And now for, Jehovah-Rapha, The Lord, Our Healer Part 2.

C. Elijah Bronner: Thank you for joining Brothers of the Word because, brother, you need the word.

We are just so excited and delighted to have you join us. We love you so much. Thank you for taking the time out to worship with us today. Well, I would like to share just a little humor.

A man, he was playing and he said, “Lord, how long is a million years to you?” “Only a second,” God replied. “Lord, how much is a million dollars to you,” the man asked. “Only a penny,” God answered. “Then, Lord,” the man prayed, “may I have a penny?” “Of course,” God replied, “just a second.”

Praise God. We are doing a series entitled “Closer” and Closer has two dimensions to it. The first part of drawing closer is in the word and so we've been doing a series entitled “Abiding in the Word” and the second part of Closer will be “Abiding in Prayer”. But while we're abiding in the word -- we're still on Abiding in the Word and as we have walked through Abiding in the Word, we began to discuss some areas, some wonderful areas to establish our hearts in God’s word.

The first area that we ventured into and went through was Psalms 91. We began to establish our heart with Psalms 91. I thought the timing was perfect and we established our hearts with God’s protection. We established our hearts with God’s word for our protection found in Psalms 91. The second area, which is also perfect right about this time, is healing. Now, we are establishing our heart where God’s word for healing is concerned.

For a few weeks, we're going to be walking through all the healing scriptures in the bible, especially all of the key ones – all
of the key healing scriptures. This is a perfect time to establish your heart where healing is concerned.

We began over in the book of Exodus, Chapter 15 and we read the entire passage of Exodus 15. Today, we'll begin with verse 26, Exodus 15:26, and it reads, “And said, ‘If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all of his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon you, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee.”

We’re using as a subject for this healing series Jehovah-Rapha, the Lord, our healer – Jehovah-Rapha, the Lord, our healer. This is part two. Notice, he says there that, “I am the Lord that healeth thee. I am the Lord that healeth thee.” That is actually present tense. “I am the Lord that healeth thee.” That’s in the present tense, which means that he always heals. He always heals. He’s continuously healing. It’s the present tense that we’re drawing, healing into our bodies all the time. God is always healing. He’s always healing. I love that. He is the Lord that healeth thee. That healing is continually at work in our bodies.

00:04:44

The word “Rapha” actually means “to cure”, means “heal”, means “repair”, means “to restore health”. “I am the Lord that healeth thee, Jehovah-Rapha, the one who heals.” In the original Hebrew, that’s the way it reads, “The one who heals.” “The one who heals,” was actually the Hebrew word doctor – rofe. The Hebrew term, “rofe”, is actually doctor. He’s the Lord, our physician. He’s the great physician. He’s the Lord, our healer. “I am the Lord, your physician,” is what he was saying there in Exodus 15:26. “I am the Lord, your physician. I am the Lord, your physician.”

God brought roughly 3.6 million people out of Egypt and the bible records not one feeble person was among them. Man, that’s a wonderful physician. That’s God as our physician. No one was sick. God literally covenanted himself to Israel and God covenanted himself to Israel with such a promise that he attached his name to it to make it sure.
Not only that he promised to heal us, he attached his name and says, “I am Jehovah, the healer. I am the Lord, your healer.” He put his name with it to make sure that it would stand, that it is sure that it is steady, that it is consistent. So God attached his name because that covenant means a lot to him. He covenanted himself to us as our healer, as our physician. If we are going to be kept well, it’s because God keeps us well. If we are going to be healed, it’s because he heals us.

True health comes from God. True health comes from God. He is our healer. He is our physician. We always go to him first. If anything ever happens, always go to God first. Always go to God first. He’s the great physician. He made these bodies, he created these bodies, and he knows how to keep us well. He’ll lead you and guide you and he’ll teach you, he’ll speak to you, he’ll lead you where your health is concerned. So he’s a great physician. He’s a great physician.

Now, healing is the power of God that drives sickness and disease out of the body. That’s what healing is. Divine healing is the power of God that drives sickness and disease out of the body. Now, divine health is God’s life flowing through our bodies that keeps us well. We are kept well by God’s life flowing through our bodies and it is bringing life and health to every fiber of our being. That’s what divine health is, when God’s life is flowing through your body, keeping you well. Divine healing is when the power of God removes sickness and disease.

But anyway, either way it goes, he’s our great physician. Whether he’s keeping us well or whether he’s removing sickness and disease, he is Jehovah-Rapha. God has always provided graciously for his people where healing is concerned and he provides graciously for us today and we have this wonderful, wonderful covenant of healing. He has provided it in his word.

Now, the bible says in Psalms 107 verse 20 that he sent his word and healed us, delivered us from our destruction. Now, Jesus is the living word. He sent Jesus. He also sent the living word because the written word actually reveals the living word. The written word reveals Jesus. They’re both one and the same. We’re healed through the written word and we are healed through the living word. Praise God. Either word brings healing and life to our bodies.
Avy(ph), I have a video, I’d like to show it this time. If you have the video ready, you can roll it.

00:09:32

Female (Video): My name is Evangelist LaShea McKinney. This is my father, Apostle S.E. McKinney. I am his personal assistant. I work with him hand-in-hand in ministry. We have grown immensely in 33 years. All of a sudden, my body began to show signs of sickness and I had ignored it for about a year. Then, after a year, I started getting worse even though I was speaking to my body, but I wasn’t seeing any results and instead of getting better, I was getting worst. So I asked my father, “Okay. What should I do?” He said, “Go on to the hospital and find out what’s going on,” and that’s what I did. When I got there -- I took about two or three of the ladies from the ministry and we were in the waiting room. They had taken the blood work and I think I stayed there about five hours. And then what happened was, when the doctor came in, he said, “I have good news and I have bad news.”

I said, “The good news is I don’t have cancer,” and he said, “I can't say that.” But long story short, he gave me a piece of paper and he told me, “This is a doctor I need you to call, a cancer specialist,” and I did on that Monday. When I called, I didn’t have the money at that time to actually -- I didn’t have any insurance. I didn’t have the money to get an examination or to even see him. I got a telephone call from one of our pastor friends who told me that she had already made an appointment for me to go to the Greenville School of Medicine. When I got there, they diagnosed me with lymphoma cancer and the doctor said I had only 30 days to live.

They had given me a breathing apparatus. They said I was breathing like a 93-year-old woman. My liver was 200 times larger than what it was supposed to be and so was my spleen. I didn’t have the energy or the breath to do anything. I remember walking by the mirror before I lied down and I saw the shadow of death and fear gripped my heart and I knew by the looks of things I wasn’t going to make it. Instead of fighting, I succumbed to it. I remember that day, when I was lying on the couch and he came to me and he didn’t sound too nice, he didn’t show any pity, because he knew that I was going to fight for my life and he said, “You’re going to die if you don’t get up from
here.” He said, “You’re a minister of the gospel and you have to
know that the devil is fighting you because of what you are
doing positive in the kingdom.” He said, “Physician, get up and
heal yourself.” That’s exactly what he said.

I grabbed my bible and I began to walk back and forth. I read
something from Gloria Copeland that talked about how we
should take the word like medicine and that we should use it
just like we would medicine and use it three times a day and if
situation get worse, to double the dosage. I would never forget
that and that’s what I did. I had 30 days to live now. For 28
days, I walked three times a day and I got my bible and I quoted
every scripture and I prophesized and spoke them over my life.
I didn’t feel anything different in 28 days, but at the end of those
28 days, something happened. I don’t know what it was, but I
knew faith kicked in. Yes, faith kicked in and I said, “He was
wounded for the change transgressions. He was (00:13:11)
iniquities and the chastisement of my peace was on him.”

With those strides, I am healed and I knew that day that I was
healed. I had 2 more days to go in the 30 days. That 30th day, I
went back to the doctor and they looked at the exam and they
took x-rays again and they brought in one specialist, and they
brought in two specialists, they kept looking. Five specialists
came in that day, I'll never forget it. They were talking among
themselves, but I didn't know what they were saying. So finally,
he came over to me, he said, “This is what it looked like 30 days
ago. Where is the cancer? It’s not here.”

We have to understand that the word of God is for us, that it's
not just something out there or something in the bible. This is a
(00:14:08) and it comes to life when we take it. That’s what
Gloria always says, if somebody’s giving you a cake, it’s not
yours until you receive it. Well, the word of healing is for us, but
we have to receive it. It’s important for us to take it and when
we do, it becomes life.

power that is locked in God’s word. When we take God’s word
and put it in our heart, that healing manifests in our flesh.
When we get it in there in sufficient quantity and when it dawns
our spirit, the healing that’s in that word is manifested in our
bodies. That’s the power of God. That’s the power of God that’s
in his word that removes sickness and disease from our bodies.
So that’s why in this series I'm going scripture by scripture, showing you God’s healing word. These are scriptures you should write down and study and begin to confess over your body and over your life because it is medicine. It is medicine. It’s taking God’s medicine and it keeps us well. It keeps us well. So this is such a great area to establish your heart in this wonderful covenant of healing that we have, Jehovah-Rapha, the Lord, our healer.

Now, notice in this one verse we’re looking at, Exodus 15:26, Exodus 15:26 is a pivotal verse because it is the covenant of healing in the Old Testament. So this is where it actually begins. It begins in Exodus 15:26. This is where God made the covenant with his people that he would keep them well, that he would be their physician, that he would be their doctor. He says, “If you will listen to me, if you will do what’s right, you keep my word,” he says, “I won’t allow the plagues that came on the Egyptians to come on you. I’m the Lord that healeth thee.”

So notice what he says there in verse 26, he says, “If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God --” The first thing you do, you have to listen to his voice. God will lead you. God will speak to you. Always ask God. Always seek his word. Listen for his voice and whatever he tells you to do, do it. He is the great physician. So we listen to his voice. God’s always prompting us to live healthier lives. I believe, especially from the natural realm, God will lead you and direct you toward things that promote life and health concerning your body. So we listen to his voice and there are some things that we can do to take better care of ourselves. All of us deserve some self-care and so you have to work in cooperation with God’s spirit because God’s spirit will always lead you toward health and wellbeing.

He made these bodies, he designed these bodies, and so he knows what you should be taking. He knows that these bodies are created to move. God knows everything about the body and so he will lead you by his wisdom. He'll show you what to do. God will show you what to do and we have to apply the wisdom we receive from God and apply a little self-care to our lives. I believe there are some areas that we should apply self-care, taking care of ourselves by getting proper rest, putting
nourishing food in our bodies, drinking enough water, not stressing out, laughter, getting out in the fresh air and sunshine, having loving relationships. All of those things are part of self-care that God leads us in.

You’d be surprised one of the greatest healing agents in the world is love, just forgiving people and loving people. Studies even show that those who have had heart attacks that if they would get a dog, they have a 50% less chance of having a second heart attack just because they have a dog in the house. Why is that? Because that dog gives unconditional love. Love is a powerful healing agent that even a dog promotes healing because of the affection, the rubbing, the loving. Love is a powerful healing force and that’s why Jesus only taught love, that’s why the bible only teaches love. God’s always moving us toward health and wellbeing, that’s why we love our neighbor as ourselves. It does something for the whole body. Love is the most powerful medicine in the world. Love is one of the greatest healing agents in the world.

Laughter – I've taught a number of times the power of laughter. Listen to this. This is Proverbs 17:22. It says, “A joyful heart worketh an excellent cure.” Listen to these little secrets. “A cheerful heart makes a quick recovery.” You can literally laugh yourself well. You can get so happy and so joyous that it makes you well. It brings health and healing to your body. Laughter makes you well. Laughter recovers you. That’s why God's word tells you to rejoice. “Again, I say rejoice, rejoice forevermore.”

00:20:01

See, God knows this. God knows this about the human body and so many of the instructions he gives us are for our own health and wellbeing. It’s just wonderful the way they all work together and that’s why he says, “If you hearken to my voice, if you keep my word, you're not going to be sick. I'm your physician and I know what’s best for your body. I know what’s best for you health. If you listen to me and follow my instruction, you won’t have to worry about being sick.” God is a wonderful physician. He's a wonderful physician and we love him.

I've been so blessed. I've probably at least 10 times in my life where I've had illness. God always led me to a natural cure. He
always healed me and he would just -- just to give an example. A few weeks ago, I had an ear infection because I had had a cold and I had an ear infection as a result and I did a little research and I found out that lemon juice kills and destroys ear infection. So I poured lemon juice in my ear and sure enough, it killed the infection. I went to the doctor just to have it checked out. He checked my ears out. He said, “I don’t see anything at all.” Well, God had already showed me, God had already taught me lemon juice kills ear infection. I said, “Man, that is far for lemon juice, because it’s acidic, it changes the PH of the ear so bacteria and infection can't live in the ear with lemon juice in there.” It was a simple cure but worked like a charm.

God knows there’s so much in earth that works for cures and remedies and promotes health and healing. God knows where it is. He knows what it is. It's just little, simple things, little adjustments. God can tell you to go to bed a little earlier, that’ll lower your blood pressure. God can say, “Drink a little bit more water. Do a little bit more walking. Go on and do some breathing exercise.” You’d be surprise just minor adjustments that we can make in our lives that promote life, health and healing. That’s why he says, “If you listen to my voice and you follow my instruction, you don’t have to worry about being sick.” Isn’t God wonderful? Isn’t he a wonderful healer? He's our physician. He’s Jehovah-Rapha. He’s the Lord, our healer.

There was one time one of my daughters had a really bad infection and it had gotten into her internally. We did take her to the doctor and the doctor had said, “We’re going to give it a few days and if it doesn’t come out, we’re going to have to operate,” because they were going to have to cut it out. I was at home and it just so happened -- I had just watched a documentary and in the documentary, they were talking about how they had used the concoction of honey and garlic to heal soldiers back in some of the World Wars. That was before they had antibiotics and so forth, and so they used honey. They used honey. They put honey on the soldiers.

I had come across this documentary about honey and garlic and what it did for infection and I told my wife about it. So my wife said, “Make it.” Sure enough, I went out and got raw honey and garlic. I made the concoction. We applied it to my daughter. The next day, we were taking her back to the doctor and the thing burst in the car, all the infection ran out of her. We took
her to the doctor. They did not have to do any surgical procedures, everything was fine. God let me to see the documentary on honey and garlic that prevented my daughter from being cut on and I just rejoiced. I said, “That’s my healer. He is my physician. He’s the Lord, our healer. He’s Jehovah-Rapha.”

God has so many creative ways of bringing healing to us. He’s not one-dimensional. God can use any and every thing available to bring healing to us. I honestly believe that he uses three things. He uses his word. He uses divine healing so he can heal you divinely through spiritual means, through his word. He can heal you naturally through natural means. And he can heal you through medical science. I believe that God’s wisdom can work in any of those three areas. God can use anything. He can use anything.

Even in our text in Exodus 15, Moses healed the waters because God showed him the tree to use for the water. It was a particular tree. God said, “Put this tree in the water. It’ll heal the waters,” and he did. Folks, that tree is Calvary. If we put Calvary in the bitter waters of disease and sickness, it makes it sweet with healing and righteousness. When we can look at the cross, oh man, praise God.

00:24:53

Jesus went through something bitter. He even said, “Lord, let this bitter cut pass from me.” It was a bitter experience for him but it came a sweet experience for us, from that bitterness on his end, sweetness of righteousness and healing, deliverance, we received on our end. The Lord showed Moses a tree and when he put it in the bitter waters, they were made sweet. God is an awesome healer. God is an awesome healer. He’s Jehovah-Rapha, the Lord, our healer. Praise God. Praise God.

Those of you who are joining us live online -- man, I am just so excited. I’ve been studying healing for 30 years and so I’m learning something new each and every day. God’s revealing himself in so many wonderful ways and I just want to pray for you. I just want to pray for you that God’s healing power and his virtue will operate in your life and he’ll lead you and guide you by his wisdom promoting life and health and holiness in your body each and every day. Praise God.
Let’s pray. Father, we just thank you so much. Thank you for your word, Lord. We love you. We thank you just for Exodus 15:26. “If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you that I brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee.” Father, we just thank you for being Jehovah-Rapha, for being our great physician. Thank you for leading us and guiding our steps. We thank you for leading us and letting us be at the right place at the right time to have the right food, the right nourishment, the right nutrients. We thank you for being our shield, shielding us from sickness and from disease and from viruses and from pestilences. Father, we just thank you for being our physician. We thank you for this wonderful covenant of holiness and health and healing that we have with you and this in Jesus’ mighty name we pray. Let every heart say, “Amen.” Amen.

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