

Pt. 8 – Healing Acts

Sermon Title: **Pt. 8 – Healing Acts**

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C. Elijah Bronner: God partners with us to carry out his work in the Earth.

Female: You are listening to BrothersoftheWord.com. This is Part 8 of the series titled, "Healing Acts," by C. Elijah Bronner. This sermon is number 7887.

(Music Playing: 00:00:12 - 00:00:24)

And now for "Healing Acts" Part 8.

C. Elijah Bronner: Thank you for joining Brothers of the Word because brother you need the Word. We welcome all of you joining us by television and those of you joining us online at BrothersoftheWord.com or social media. Welcome to today's service. Always a wonderful delight and joy to have you to tune in and join us.

I would like to share just a little humor during a visit to a mental asylum, a man asked the director, he says, how do you determine whether or not a patient should be institutionalized? Well said the director, we fill up a bathtub then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup, and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub. Oh, I understand said the man. A normal person would use the bucket because it's bigger than the spoon or the teacup. No, said the director. A normal person would just pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?

Well, we're sharing Part 8 of something we've been studying over in the Book of Acts. We've been studying acts of healing over in the Book of Acts and so we entitled this series Healing Acts and this is Part 8. We'll look at a couple of verses over in Chapter 19, Acts Chapter 19 Acts, and we'll read just two verses there. Acts 19:11 and 12, and notice what it reads there. Acts 19:11 and 12, it says, And God wrought or worked special miracles by the hands of Paul so that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons and the diseases departed from them and the evil spirits went out of them.

I just want you to notice here in verse 11, notice what it says "And God wrought or work special miracles by the hands of Paul." This really spoke to me and what it said to me is that God didn't do these miracles by himself. He used Paul. Notice by the hands of Paul, God worked special miracles by the hands of Paul and so, it lets us know that God works in us. God works with us. God works through us. God works through us. God

worked miracles by the hands of Paul, by the hands of Paul. So I want you to see the partnership there. The Bible says that we are co-laborers together with God. God allows us to partner with him, to do his work, to carry out his assignments in the earth. And so, it's not just all God, it's not just all us, we work together. We work together, we are co-laborers with God. Isn't that awesome? God is your coworker, God is your coworker. And so, he partners with us. He allows us to partner with him to accomplish his work in the earth. You are partners with almighty God. You are partners with almighty God.

Sometimes you know when God works through us. We feel like we are doing it not realizing is the awesomeness of God. There's a story of a little mouse and this giant elephant and they were in a village walking across this little rickety bridge over a deep ravine and as they walked across the bridge, the bridge began to shake violently and they made it to the other side. The little mouse turned to the elephant. He said boy, "we shook their bridge didn't we?" And so, that's how we are with God. We are with to God. We think we're doing it but it's really the awesomeness of God. The power of God, the greatness of God and he allows us to work with him. He allows us to work with him, have a part in his work in the earth.

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One of the great pastors in America, Pastor Robert Morrison. When he was younger, he was on his way to China to be a missionary and he was traveling by ship and the captain of the ship gave him a hard time. And as he was leaving the ship, the captain said to him. He said you don't actually think you're going to make an impression on China do you? Pastor Morrison replied, he said no sir, but I believe God will. So, he was going but he was trusting God to be an operation in partnership with him and that God would do the work and God would use him. God will use his hands.

Notice, God works special miracles by the hands of Paul. And so, there's a unique partnership. There's a unique cooperation. We are co-laborers together with God. We are co-laborers together with God. There was a little boy, he was excited about this new hospital that his city had plans to build in his community and he wanted to raise money to help build this hospital and the hospital was going to cost \$30 million. The

little boy began going door to door selling pencils for five cents, and he knocked on a lady's door and she answered. He said ma'am, he said would you buy one or two pencils from me for five cents each? He said I'm helping to build a hospital in our community and it's going to \$30 million and so I'm out selling pencils to build this hospital. The woman says -- she says son that's a mighty big goal for just one kid selling pencils for five cents. He said, oh no, ma'am. He said look across the street. You see that little boy over there. He's also helping me. He's selling pencils for five -- he said, there's two of us together. There's two of us working on this.

This little boy had a lot of confidence in his partner. He a lot of confidence that he wasn't alone that he was working with someone. How much more confidence do we have God's our part? We are whole laborers together with God. God works special miracles by the hands of Paul. God and Paul Partners. We are partners with God. We are co-laborers with God. God uses us. God works in us through us. God works by us.

So it's a wonderful thought. Notice that it says that God works special miracles by the hands of Paul. Hands represent what you do. It represents your work. Let us know that God is ready to assist us. God is ready to give us success. He worked miracles by the hands of Paul meaning that I'll bless what you do, I'll cause what you do to prosper. God will do the miracle through your hands. God will do the miracle through your hands. God will do the miracle through your hands. He'll do the miracle through your hands.

It's amazing that when Jesus did the miracle of multiplication and he fed the 5000, really it was more like 20,000 people there. Jesus took the bread and the loaves, the fish, he broke them but Jesus did not give them directly to the crowd. He broke them and gave them to the disciples. The disciples gave to the crowd. So notice between Jesus and the crowd is room for ministry. And so, he gave it to the disciples as the disciples gave it to the people, the miracle began to happen. It was Jesus given to the disciples, the disciples to the people and during that giving that process, the multiplication miracle was happening.

And so, God worked the miracle through their hands. Jesus let it go through their hands. He worked the miracle. He wanted them to be a part of the miracle. He wanted them to be a part of

the ministry and so between God and people, there's always room for ministry and that's why we are co-laborers together with God. God works miracles through our hands. God works miracles through our hands. Man, that's an awesome thought, God works miracles through our hands. God tells us what to do. God leads us, God guides us, God empowers us, God inspires us. Ask God, ask God, ask God. Depend on him, he'll lead you and he will guide you.

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He will inspire you. He will empower you. God will work the miracle through your hands. God will work the miracle through your hands, his power working through our hands, his power working through our hands. He prospers what we do and we have this wonderful partnership with God. And so that's what the first thing I gleaned here in Acts Chapter 19. God worked special miracles through the hands of Paul. What a partnership God. God partners with us to carry out his work in the earth.

Listen to this verse. This is Philippians 4:13. Notice what it says and I want you to hear the partnership. I want you to hear the partnership. I can do all things through Christ, which strengtheneth me. Notice the partnership, notice I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. That's God's power working through our hands. Here's something interesting that John Maxwell said about this verse. He said noticed the verse, "I can." Notice the first two words of the verse, "I can."

He said that's positive thinking. I can, I can, that's positive thinking. The next word is do. I can do, I can do. Now notice that, that's positive action. Positive thinking move to positive action. I can positive thinking, I can do positive action. I can do all things that's positive faith. You know, some people would say I can do some things but no I can do all things that's positive faith. So positive thinking positive action positive faith. Notice this. I can do all things through Christ positive power.

Well, that's the power. The power is the linking with Christ. He's the power. He's the source and it's God's power working through our hands. God's power working through our hand. John Maxwell said when we measure our possibilities, we should do so not by what we see in ourselves but by what we see of God in us. We cannot even imagine what God wants to do in our life. So when you're looking at possibilities, don't look at

possibilities based on you in and of yourself, you look at possibilities based on God working in you and through you and for you and by you. You look at God's power. He's your partner. It's you and God. It's you and God. How do you think David ran up against the Goliath? Because David knew it was he and God against Goliath. It was not David against Goliath. It was God and David against Goliath. David knew that. He knew who his partner was.

He knew his partner, partnership. He understood that we're co-laborers together with God. We don't do anything aside from God. We have no power aside from God. Jesus said if you abide in me, he said the branch can't bear any fruit unless it's abiding in the vine. He says everything that you can do or if you're going to have any success if there's going to be any fruitfulness, it has to be because you're in me. He's the source, he's letting us know he is the source. And so, he's our partner, he's our partner. So I just saw that great partnership there. God doing mighty things through our hands. God doing mighty things through our hands. That's a wonderful partnership we have.

Now look back at Acts 19:11 and 12 again. Notice it says and God worked special miracles by the hands of Paul. So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons and the diseases departed from them and the evil spirits went out of them. Now, I want you to notice here. God did something special. Everybody say special. God did something special. God did something special. God works special miracles by the hands of Paul. This had never been done before, this had never been done before. Special actually means unusual. These were unusual miracles. Now notice a miracle in and of itself is unusual. The pure definition of a miracle means that it's something that's unusual. So a miracle itself is unusual, but this is an unusual unusual. That's what double unusual.

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It's an unusual miracle. So God, I like this. I want you to get the picture of this. God is getting to the point where he's having fun. Guys just having fun. God didn't want to do ordinary miracles. Listened to what he said. God doesn't want to do ordinary miracles. He can even get to a point where miracles become ordinary. God wanted to do unusual miracles, something that was already unusual and he even wants to do

that in the unusual way. God's having fun. I can actually see God chuckling with this. God is chuckling with this. God is probably saying you know, I've healed my people a whole lot of different ways. Jesus anointed with clay and spitting eyes and he spoke to people and all of that but I want to do something that's never been done. I want to do something that's never been thought. I want to do something that's really ingenious and creative.

I want to do something new. I want to do something unusual, something they don't see every day. You don't see this every day. This is not normal, this is something different. This is something new and I want to do it this way something unusual something unusual something unusual, something special, unusual, uncommon, something extraordinary. One translations said God did extraordinary miracles through the hands of Paul, extraordinary, uncommon, special. One translation says something that is quite out of the ordinary. Over and above the ordinary is uncommon.

God did something unusual. God did something unusual and God did that to show us that he's not limited. He's not limited. He also did it to show us that he can express his love for us in so many different unique ways. Ways you never thought of ways, ways you've never seen. In other words, God said I like to surprise you. I like to surprise. I like to surprise you and do things for you, you never thought of, you never imagined, you never dreamed of. You never even asked me about -- I saw God getting a kick out of this. God is actually having fun. God is having fun. And so, God said I want to do something unusual. I want to shake things up a little bit. I want to shake things up a little bit. So God, he can express his love for us in ways that are so unique, creative, we've never experienced before.

God is saying that he never gets old. God never gets old. He never gets stale. He never gets boring. God does wonders. He has uncommon favor. God has uncommon favor. God has uncommon favor. It's a favor you haven't seen before. It's not normal. It's not usual. It is unusual, unusual. God does unique creative new innovative things special, special miracles by the hands of Paul.

Now what was actually happening here. Paul was a tentmaker. So what was happening while Paul made tents, what people

would do, they would bring to Paul, if somebody had a sick relative or something. What they would do they would take a handkerchief and Paul would wrap the handkerchief around his head sort of like a bandana. So he would just wrap around his head so while he made tents that bandana was around his head which means he sweated in it etc. and when he would be done, they would take that bandana lay it on the sick person. Person would be instantly healed. They would be healed because the power of God, the anointing of God transmitted in that cloth that was on Paul's body. And God was just smiling. Said, I want to do something different.

I want to do something different that they've never seen and so people would bring aprons. They will bring aprons or actually they will bring even like towels and so Paul would just guard these things around his body while he worked during the day. He would just guard them. One translation said they actually brought scarves, because they put scarves around his neck and so he would just work in all of these cloth materials and at the end of the day, they take them back to the sick people, lay them on the sick people. People would be healed; people would be healed.

God's doing something unusual. He's showing uncommon favor. God's got a kick out. God's just having fun healing his people. He's healing these people in a way they've never seen unusual miracles by the hands of Paul. God is doing unusual unusual things, unusual things. You know, we're living in unusual times today. We are living in unusual times today and I want you to know that God is doing unusual things. God is working on usual miracles. God is working unusual miracles quite out of the ordinary, extraordinary, over and above the ordinary, uncommon, uncommon, uncommon.

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He's doing something special. You know, you are special. You are special to God and God is simply saying I want to do something special for you because you are special to me. Because you are special to God, God is doing special things for you. God is doing special things for me because he works unusual, unusual, uncommon, extraordinary miracles in our lives. He says to us, don't allow yourself to become old, stale, and boring. No, ask God for fresh ideas. This is how God

operates, notice that. Ask God for fresh ideas. Ask him for fresh ideas. Ask him for fresh ideas for any area of your life.

Allow the Holy Spirit to fill you and give you fresh ideas for any area of your life. Notice God does unusual, out of the ordinary, extraordinary, things that haven't been done or seen, fresh and exciting, new and innovative, unique. Ask God for fresh ideas. Ask God to give you fresh ideas for any area of your life. Do something fresh, do something new, do something different, uncommon, special, do something special above and beyond the ordinary extraordinary. Extraordinary simply means adding a little extra. Add a little extra on it, do something, put a little different twist to it, add a little extra.

You'll be surprised, you would be surprised. People have taken ideas and just put a little twist on them. They put a new spin on an old idea, they make it fresh and innovative and new but it was an old idea, I just put a lot new spin on it, little something extra. That's what extraordinary is. It's a departure from the normal old ways of thinking in the old routine that you're used to. God does unusual miracles. So do something new, do something unusual, man do something unusual, do something fresh, do something fresh and new, and exciting. Do something unusual in your marriage. Do something special for your spouse.

I want you to do something special, shake it up a little bit, change things up a little bit. Take off the old bathrobe with holes in it and don't just come out with the rollers in your hair, you had the same old wave, that old net you've been wearing on your hair for 30 years, get rid of that old net. Do something new and innovative and creative and do something different. Man, do something different. Go to Victoria Secret and just surprise your husband. Do something innovative. Do something new, do something creative, do something unusual, do something unusual, do something new.

Man, find creative ways. This is God's MO(ph). It's his method of operation. God breathes new, creative, unique. He does unusual things. He doesn't want us to become bored and stale and old but no God bring something to keep us fresh. To keep us excited, to keep his passionate about life. Do something new, do something new. Do something new, do something out of the ordinary, do something fresh, do something fresh. God has

creative ways of making an impact and it's a display of his wandering, his splendor and his awesomeness and his glory. These are different expressions and manifestations of his grace. Man, make the most of the moment you're in right now. Make the most of the moment that you are in right now.

Stop pushing it off way out into the future. Make the most of the moment. Don't wait until everything is right or till I get this or that person. No, make the most of the moment that you're in right now. Live a big life right now. Live a big life right now. Love big, listen big, learn big, serve big, pray big, dream big. You will never see this day again. This day that you're in right now, you will never see this day again. Take advantage of it, maximizes moment that you're in right now. You're in a special moment. This is a special day, make an impact, make a difference right now in this moment. Love, encourage, bless, do good now in this moment.

You will never get this day again. Do something uncommon, do something unusual, do something uncommon. What are you doing that's out of the ordinary? What are you doing that's out of the ordinary? What can you do at work that's out of the ordinary? I talked to a young man. He works for a company. He told me that he's the number-one salesperson at his job. He said when everybody else is on break. He said I'm working.

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He said I'm on the phone calling potential customers. When everybody else is loafing and goofing off, I'm on the phone calling them. He said, I'm doing something different. I don't waste my time. What are you doing that's uncommon? What are you doing that's different? What are you doing that is different, that's extraordinary? This is the spirit of God. This is how God operates. What are you doing extraordinary? God does extraordinary miracles not just normal miracles. These are unusual miracles that God. Oh man. God is just having fun. Just doing it with the twist, doing it with the twist. I love it.

Michael Jackson didn't just kick. He kicked with the twist. He put a twist on that kick. He put a twist on that kick and it made him the greatest dancers that has ever lived because he was extraordinary. He took something that was common and made it extraordinary. What are you doing to live an uncommon life?

What are you doing to have uncommon faith? What are you doing to have uncommon prayer? You ought to pray more than the ordinary person, pray more than the ordinary person. You got to be more generous than the ordinary person. You don't serve an ordinary God. He's extraordinary. He breathed his Spirit into you and he lives on the inside of you and he's your partner. God does unusual, uncommon, extraordinary things. It's the extraordinary things that are remembered in life.

Nobody remembers the average stuff. You only remember the extraordinary things. You only remember the extraordinary things. You want to remember the extraordinary things. You only remember the extraordinary things and I think God did extraordinary miracles through the hands of Paul just to wake people up and say, hey wake up, get out of the old, boring, stale ways of doing things and be created. Do something unique, do something new, do something extraordinary. Make the most of the moment you're in right now. Make the most --

You ought to take uncommon action. This is something William Arthur Ward wrote. He says study while others are sleeping. Work while others are loafing. Prepare while others are playing. Dream while others are wishing and someone else added learn while they partied. Save while they spend. Train while they sleep then live like they dream. You want to have uncommon faith. We are living in a time now where you need uncommon faith. The world is full of fear. The world is full of bad news and the world is over. Wham with doom and gloom but this is the time to be positive.

This is the time to be full of faith and expectancy, seizing opportunities, and possibilities. This is a time to be focusing on the good. Terry Ford(ph) said that when you focus on the good the good gets better. I like that. When you focus on the good, the good gets better. Refuse to be moved by what you see or by what you feel or by what others say if it contradicts God's word. So this is the time to have uncommon faith, uncommon love uncommon action. This is the time to have an uncommon attitude. Be grateful and be joyful and be generous. Have an uncommon attitude instead of having a to-do list, have a to-be list. Be loving, be kind, be fun, be peaceful, be grateful, be joyful, be generous. Be generous with people.

Mother Teresa said never let anyone come to you without leaving better and happier. Never let anybody encounter you throughout the day. They don't leave you better and happier. Everybody you come into contact with should leave you better and happier. That's who you are, that's who you are. It's an uncommon attitude. You have an uncommon joy. You have an uncommon peace. You have an uncommon generosity because you serve an uncommon God.

Oh man, I'm about to jump off of this platform. I'm excited, I'm having fun. I'm having fun, I'm going to stop right here. I'm going to force myself to quit. Man, uncommon. God is uncommon. He's doing unusual miracles through our hands. He expresses himself through our lives. We should live unusual lives. The Bible calls us actually peculiar people because once you're born again, once you're filled with God's spirit, you don't operate the way that the world operates you become peculiar people, special people, different people, unique people. Praise God.

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