The Everlasting Covenant of Peace: 6

A Covenant of Health & Healing

Isaiah 54.10

"For the mountains shall depart and the hills be removed, but My kindness shall not depart from you, nor shall My covenant of peace be removed.."

Let me remind you what we have been saying these last few weeks about the Covenant of Peace

- It is a covenant cut in blood Jesus blood ratified the covenant.
- It is an everlasting covenant. It shall never be removed, that means it lasts forever, it is still in force today.

We began a few weeks ago looking at shalom in the light of its' meaning the whole well-being and welfare of man. So far we have seen that *shalom* includes:

- our safety & protection
- harmony in regards to our relationships (i) with God and (ii) towards others
- · soundness and clarity of mind.

Today we are going to look at shalom – our covenant of health & healing

Isaiah 53.5

In Isaiah we read that Jesus took the chastisement for our peace. Jesus died so that we could have peace. This same verse puts it quite clearly

".. the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed" It is by His stripes, by His wounds that we receive healing.

In the previous verse (v4) we read:

"Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.."

There are two important words we need to understand in this verse, they are *griefs* and *sorrows*.

griefs – (Heb. *choliy #2483*); literally means maladies, sicknesses, diseases, anxieties, weaknesses and griefs. BDB* gives us a one word definition – sickness

sorrows – (Heb. *makob #4341*); literally means anguish, affliction and pain (physical and mental).

*(BDB – Brown, Driver & Briggs Hebrew Lexicon)

When Jesus went to the cross he took our sicknesses, diseases and our pains. This word translated *borne* can alternatively mean 'accept, take upon, carry away'. What we have here is the image of Jesus taking our sin upon Himself, accepting our sicknesses and pains as well, and carrying them far away from us.

If He took them to give us peace, then health and healing must form part of the Covenant of Peace.

Psalm 29.11

"The Lord will give strength to His people; The Lord will bless His people with peace"

Them that are afflicted and without strength – He blesses with peace.

Isaiah 40.29

"He gives power to the weak (faint and fatigued), and to those who have no might He increases strength"

The Lord gives His *shalom* to the weak and sick, weary and fatigued and rejuvenates them, restores them and blesses them with peace.

Jeremiah 30.12-17

Jerusalem was suffering tough times, things were getting worse and worse.

- Her people were in exile.
- There were no medicines for healing
- There were those with 'incurable' diseases

But God promises (v17) "I will restore health to you, and heal you of your wounds"

In **Jeremiah 31.25**, God says, "For I have satiated (*fully satisfied, filled to the full*) the weary soul, I have replenished every sorrowful soul"

Jeremiah 33.3-6

Although these verses are addressed to Jerusalem, it typifies the church, you and me.

- · God invites us to call on Him.
- He promises that He will answer us
- He will show us great and mighty things

(vs6) I will bring it (Jerusalem) health and healing, I will heal them and reveal to them the abundance (overflow) of peace.

Even though the situation was bad, people had many diseases and afflictions, there was no medicine for healing – yet God says I will give an abundance of peace that brings health and healing.

Mark 5.34

The woman with a flow of blood, pressed through and touched Jesus – (she called on the Lord)

Her faith drew on the virtue that was in Him and she was healed of her affliction.

"Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction"

Every one that came to Jesus for healing were recipients of peace. Jesus came preaching peace -

Luke 4.18-19

The message Jesus was anointed to preach is recorded in this verse

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable Year of the Lord"

God sent Jesus (the Prince of Peace – Isaiah 9.6) to preach to Israel the message of peace.

Ephesians 2.17

"And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near"

Isaiah 57.19

"I create the fruit of the lips: Peace, peace to *him who is* far off and to *him who is* near," Says the LORD, "And I will heal him."

– proclaiming peace to those who are afar off – I will HEAL them.

As He went about preaching the good news of peace, He healed all those who were oppressed by the devil (Acts 10.36,38)

Health and healing are part of our Covenant of Peace