Devotion #240

**Do You Know You Are Sick?**

**Matthew 9:12 (NASB)***"It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick.”*

Life certainly is different from what it was a year ago. This time last year we had heard about COVID but were not worried about its effects. A year later, we are still dealing with it. It has been a strange and stressful year for many people. The strangest part is we are told there are many who may be sick who don’t even know it. We are told that a person can carry the virus and show no signs of having it. A strange evaluation, but, none-the-less, that is what we have in front of us.

But what about those who have a sickness that they really don’t know they have? I’m talking about the sickness of sin that leads to eternal death. Many, many people live their lives everyday, doing what they do, believing they are fine spiritually. Or they make the decision to not have anything to do with those who profess the need for spirituality and reject the thought altogether. Either way, they reject the notion that they could be carrying a sickness that they don’t believe they have.

But the truth is, the sickness of sin is real. How do I know its real? Not because a doctor said so but because the Lord Himself told us that is so. In context of the verse for today, the Lord was asked to dine with tax collectors and the group of people who were known in the community of Hebrews as sinners. That’s what the Jewish leaders called anyone who was not a Jew. So when these religious leaders saw Jesus eating with the people who were so-called cursed by God, they were aghast.

But the Lord lovingly, mercifully, and graciously responds to their critical statement with the truth that healthy people don’t need a doctor - only the sick need a doctor. What Jesus was telling these religious leaders was the people he was with welcomed Him because they knew they were sick spiritually. They knew they were outside of hope spiritually if God didn’t help them. They had come face to face with the reality that they were doomed to a life of eternal bondage if they didn’t seek the true spiritual physician, the Lord Jesus Himself.

But, sadly, the very ones who were supposed to know they were sick, rejected that truth. They believed they were the most healthy spiritually simply because they were of the house of Israel. Afterall, they were of Abraham’s seed or lineage, therefore, they were safe spiritually, so they thought. But Jesus clarifies for them that they are indeed the ones who are sick, yet they were blind to that truth.

The truth is that we are all sick from sin. (Romans 3:23) We are all hopelessly lost and on our way to hell because of our sin. (Romans 6:23) A person can live life believing they are healthy spiritually, all the while denying the truth that their soul is in great jeopardy.

Not all medical assumptions are able to be 100% validated, but what is 100% accurate and verifiable is that every soul is sick with sin. **Romans 3:10-12 (NASB)** “As it is written, ‘THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE; THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD; ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE.’"

The question is: Do you know you are sick? Do you know that your soul is headed to eternal damnation if you do not turn your life over to the only One who can save you? Many people tire of hearing this message, which is partly why the religious leaders crucified Jesus. But the truth still is, with 100% verification, that every soul is doomed without the forgiving, saving, redeeming work of Jesus. That is the message from the Great Physician. This is the message of the Bible. Jesus came to heal the spiritually sick and give sight to the spiritually blind. Do you know that’s you? Turn to Him today for spiritual healing and assurance of a home in heaven for eternity. Do not die in your sickness, or your eternal home will be in hell not heaven.