

How Does God Heal a Broken Heart?

Focus: How God restores us through Christ's suffering, forgiveness, and peace.

Key Verse: "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." —
Psalm 147:3

Text: NAS 2020

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: We learned last Wednesday that **the LORD God Almighty** works **through His word of Law** to **break hard hearts**. How? When we are sinning and unconcerned, the LORD works through His Law to ♦*overwhelm us with guilt* and ♦*move us to godly sorrow!* Therefore, let us keep comparing our lives with God's word!

This sermon warns us about having **UN**godly sorrow; *then it moves to much good news for brokenhearted sinners.*

1. **Is All Sorrow Godly Sorrow? No!** Let's consider **the people of Israel** at the time of Hosea (8th century BC):
 - a. The LORD blessed them: **Hosea 2:8** "...it was I myself who gave her [Israel] the grain, the new wine, and the oil... Which they used for Baal." ☹ // Their worship of Baal *dishonored* the LORD!
 - b. The LORD removed His blessings: **2:9** "...I will take back My grain at harvest time And My new wine in its season." // Do we deserve the same?

- c. The LORD named their sins: **4:2** “...murder, stealing, and adultery.” // Are we also continuing in one or more sins – *without repentance*?
- d. The LORD stated the root problem: **4:6** “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.” // What is the way of escape? *God’s word of truth!*
- e. The LORD described their foolishness: **4:10** “...they gave up devoting themselves to the LORD... My people consult their wooden idol...” // *They were so far gone!*
- f. The LORD described their roadblock: **5:4** “Their deeds will not allow them To return to their God.” // **James 4:8b** “Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.”
- g. Israel **said right things** for *wrong reasons*: **6:1** “Come, let’s return to the LORD.... He has torn us, but He will heal us; He has wounded us, but He will bandage us.” // They *pretended* to be sorry!
- h. But the LORD knows every heart: **6:4** “...your loyalty is [insincere] ...like the dew which goes away early.” // The LORD also knows *our hearts!*
- i. They **did right things** for *wrong reasons*: **8:13** “They sacrifice the flesh and eat it, But the LORD has taken no delight in them.” // They refused to be *dead serious* about God’s word of Law 😞.

2. **Is There Good News for the Brokenhearted? Yes!**

- a. **Psalm 34:18** “The LORD is near to the brokenhearted And saves those who are crushed in spirit.”

- b. **Micah 7:18-19** “Who is a God like You, who pardons wrongdoing And passes over a rebellious act...? He does **not** retain His anger forever, **Because** He delights in mercy. He will again take pity on us; He will trample on our wrongdoings.... You will cast all their sins Into the depths of the sea.” // Corrie ten Boom wrote: “God buries our sins in the depths of the sea and then puts up a sign that reads, ‘**No fishing.**’”¹ // Thanks be to God!

3. **Who Heals the Brokenhearted? The LORD!**

- a. **Psalm 147:3** “He heals the brokenhearted And binds up their wounds.”
- b. **Jeremiah 30:17** “...I will restore you to health And I will heal you of your wounds...”

4. **What Medicine Heals? Jesus’ precious blood!**

- a. A most beautiful prophecy of Jesus’ healing work: **Isaiah 53:5-6** “**He was pierced for our offenses, He was crushed for our wrongdoings; The punishment for our well-being was laid upon Him,** And by His wounds we are healed. All of us, like sheep, have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; **But the LORD has caused the wrongdoing of us all To fall on Him.**” // Jesus paid our penalty 😊 and opened the way to heaven 😊!
- b. A powerful declaration of Jesus’ healing work: **1 Peter 2:24** “**...He Himself [bore] our sins in His body... on the cross, [Why?]** so that we might die

¹ <https://quotefancy.com/quote/789887/Corrie-ten-Boom-God-buries-our-sins-in-the-depths-of-the-sea-and-then-puts-up-a-sign-that>

to sin and live for righteousness [to live in repentance]; by His wounds you were healed."

5. **Who Is an Example of Spiritual Healing?** The man crucified next to Jesus who was saved!
- He confessed *his sins* and *Jesus' innocence*: **Luke 23:41** "...**we** indeed are suffering justly, for **we** are receiving what we deserve for our crimes; but **this man** [Jesus] has done nothing wrong."
 - He confessed his faith: **Luke 23:42** "Jesus, **remember me** when You come into Your kingdom!" // He trusted in Jesus as the Christ!
 - He received the heart-healing medicine: **Luke 23:43** [Jesus] said to him, "Truly I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

6. **What are the Blessings of a Healed Heart?**

- Rest for our souls: **Matthew 11:28** [Jesus said:] "Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened [by your sins], and I will give you [spiritual] rest."
- Peace with God: **Romans 5:1** "...having been justified [participle aorist passive] by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ..."

Let Us Pray: Father in heaven, we thank You for breaking our hard hearts through the Law and turning us from our sins. And then healing our broken hearts through the good news of Jesus' finished work! *Keep us resting in Jesus for heaven!*

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