

The violent take it by force

I can dogmatically say, (I know it might make some people cringe!) that healing is always the will of God. Jesus paid for all our sicknesses on the cross, and now it is no longer a question of “does God want to heal me?” but it is a matter of “Will I believe and receive what has already been paid for and given” (Isa. 53:4,5 – Matt. 8:16,17 – Mark 11:24 – 1 Pet. 2:24). But though healing is the will of God, it doesn’t mean that it will happen automatically.

We can see during Jesus’ ministry that the people who received their miracle were willing to do whatever it took to get a hold of it. For example, people walked for days through deserts to hear Jesus and be healed, and obviously some of them were carrying sick people with them... try to imagine that! We also remember a little woman who had to press through a crowd despite her lack of strength and against the law and traditions of the day who forbade her to appear in public much less touch a rabbi, yet she pressed through and ended up on all fours to touch the hem of Jesus’ garment. How about the four friends who carried their paralyzed buddy on a stretcher but when they were told that there was no way to get in through the door, they refused to give up and found themselves on the roof, opening a hole to lower the man in front of Jesus... easier said than done! I also love the story of blind Bartimaeus who, when he heard that Jesus was close by, refused to shut up but screamed even louder to get His attention. But it wasn’t his loud voice that got Jesus’ attention but his faith, a violent faith that refused to yield to people’s intimidation. When called upon, he further demonstrated his faith by leaving his coat behind, a coat which identified him as a blind beggar, it was his disability benefits and the handicap placard of the day.

How easy it is to read through these stories without seeing the huge sacrifice each of them made, we can ignore the fact that everyone of them refused to take no for an answer and pressed through against impossibilities, crowds, feelings, voices and opinions. Did you notice that all these people were spiritually violent.

“And from the days of John the Baptist until the present time, the kingdom of heaven has endured violent assault, and violent men seize it by force as a precious prize, it is sought with most ardent zeal and intense exertion.” Matt 11:12 Amplified Version

There is no doubt, healing is part of the Kingdom of Heaven because often when someone gets healed or delivered, Jesus would say “the kingdom of Heaven has come near you”.

What is spiritual violence?

When most people think of spiritual violence, they automatically think of doing spiritual warfare, binding and loosing, while screaming on the top of their lungs. But simply put, spiritual violence is resisting the devil, putting pressure on him by doing the opposite of what he wants you to do. Spiritual violence comes in different sizes and colors, it expresses itself in different ways.

For example, If the devil tries to get you into fear, spiritual violence will be staying in peace, and worshipping God. If the devil tries to get you to accept your sickness, spiritual violence will look like someone getting angry on the inside and pushing against the symptoms by doing what the devil said you cannot do. Spiritual violence will make you get into the Word, until you hear a Rhema Word from God, or may be like the crazy four friends, spiritual violence might be to do something totally out of the norm, something crazy that could bring the disapproval and rejection of others but you do it knowing it is what Holy Spirit is leading you to do. And in all cases, spiritual violence will refuse to take NO for an answer and will refuse to quit before it sees the manifestation of God's promise.

Let me make it clear... I am not talking here about getting into works to earn your healing, but I am talking about a violent faith that is willing to fight to defend what Grace has already given.

This is an excerpt from a message preached at the conference "Healing is Here 2018". To watch the totality of this message click on the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rMPjFZl755g&t=7s>