

IOM AMERICA PODCAST

IDENTITY MATTERS:

#20 VISION FOR THE PHYSICAL AREA OF LIFE

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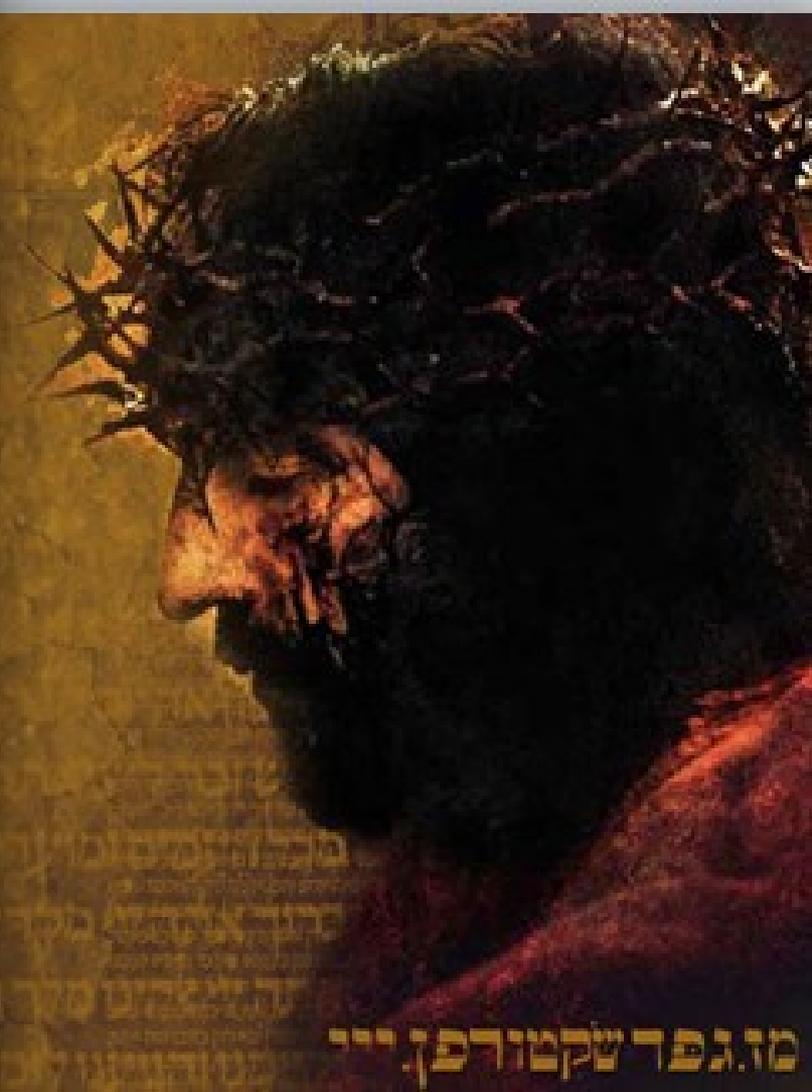




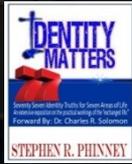
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Vision For The Physical Area Of Life

2 Corinthians 12:7-10
Scripture Reading
(Please Stand)



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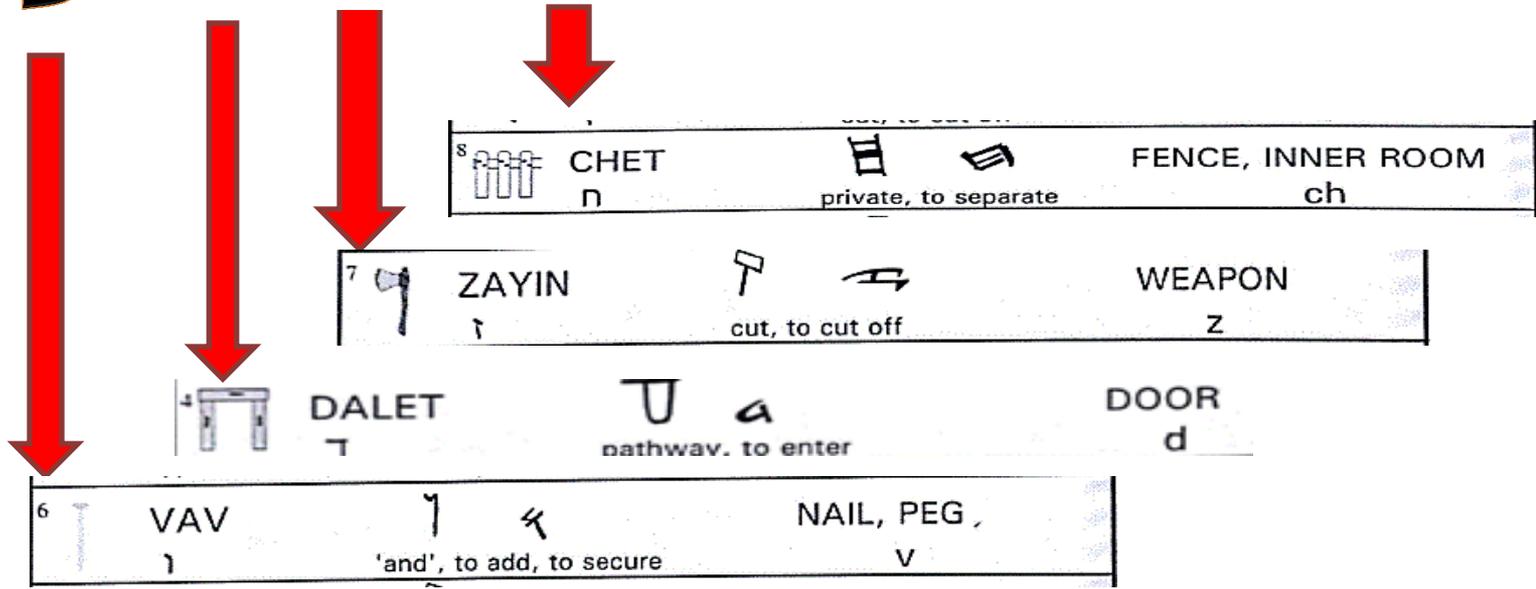
Viewing Life Through Our Bodies

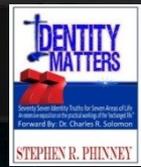
I know few who do not want physical health. We typically view life through the state of our physical bodies. This of course is not a good way to view life! Many who have health are quick to judge others regarding their lack of health, and many who are unhealthy have to face that judgment but the truth being said – it is these believers who have fabulously rich lives in terms of meaning and identity in Christ, oftentimes are more effective, purposed at communicating the “sufferings of Jesus.”

Vision

To separate and cut a pathway that is secure.

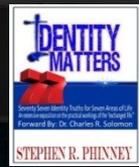
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Vision For Health

The vision for physical health has been such a major factor in the development of the church, that there are many Christian denominations formed around this deception. Some church branches claim health like it is some kind of “right” for the believer. Well, that twisted principle works with “healthy people” but not so much with the impaired. Don’t get me wrong, I do believe in physical healings of Jesus but not as a “name it and claim it” doctrine of life. When physical healings occur, God is to be glorified and that is the purpose of such physical miracles – but I am not of the belief that we should order God around like He is some type of healing slave.



Grace And Weaknesses

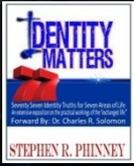
Without question we know that Paul desired earnestly to be freed from this physical ailment that continued to buffet his body but Jesus's response is simply put – My grace is sufficient for you (Paul), for power is perfected in weakness. Jesus was more interested in Paul connecting with the truth that the power of Christ within him is literally made perfect by his acceptance of the weakness that it is housed in. Christ was more interested in life within by making use of his physical limitation. That should be our perspective in all physical difficulties. Since Paul got this message instantly, he decided to actually start “boasting” about his weakness and as soon as he did that he became well content with the external issues that prompted his physical weakness: insults, distresses, persecutions with difficulties.



Don't get me wrong, health is of God but so is the lack of it. Just as a farmer makes plans to grow his crop, the farmer still must accept the rain falling on the just and the unjust. The prayers & intensions of farmers go up to God for a sturdy and health crop but they too must accept that droughts and floods are a measurement of God's grace as well. Once the farmer accepts the fact that he is not God and he has no control over such environmental weaknesses, he becomes a blessed man – thankful in all things. To cooperate with God requires thanksgiving and that means that we ensure, as best we are able, that our bodies are given proper amounts and kinds of measurements of health.

Trusting Our Maker

Our vision of health should be invested in taking care of our bodies as best as we can through proper eating, sleeping, walking, cleaning and common sense protection. Outside of this, we entrust our physical health to our Maker and Creator. Wellbeing, however, may not always mean health or the ability to claim it. Some of God's greatest servants are those whose bodies were anything BUT healthy. One of my all-time favorite characters is Hudson Taylor – who suffered with lung problems until his death, which actually is what God used to take his life when his mission was done. This is only one of millions of testimonies through the ages – each having a sense of well-being in that they recognized God's gracious sovereignty in the matter of their earth suits, and yielded themselves to Him for His greater joy and glory within them.



God's Idea

- *The LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes him mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? (Exodus 4:11)*
- **Stop believing the lies that certain branches of the church are proclaiming – that all Christians are suffering physical limitations due to Satan's attacks! It is the Lord Himself that said that He is the one who makes the man mute or deaf or seeing or blind!**
- **And let's not forget the trials of Job, as well as Jeremiah, in regard to physical health! Both being examples of God selecting affliction of health by making use of the enemy but in keeping our doctrines righteous – God came up with the idea. The LORD said to Satan, *"From where do you come?"* Then Satan answered the LORD and said, *"From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it."* The LORD said to Satan, *"Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil."* (Job 1:7-8)**

IDENTITY DOES MATTER

*In summary, in order to have a Godly vision of the physical area of life, we much consider the seven identity truths of viewing life: **repentance, identification, discipline, obedience, fruit of the Spirit, victory and vision.** Without the appropriation of each in the one area – indwelt Christians are quick to twist the scriptures and life of Christ to indulge their morbid beliefs of the self-life.*

Thank You For Joining Us!

