



The Principle of Seed Time and Harvest

For
Healing

Pastor Jim Bristow

THE PRINCIPLE FOR SEED TIME & HARVEST FOR HEALING

BY JIM BRISTOW

At the age of 17, I was diagnosed with a stomach condition called ulcerative colitis. This disease was the result of years of emotional stress and inner conflict. I was placed on medication to treat the disease. The strong medication produced side effects. One of the side effects was a condition called "moon face." My body would retain water causing my face to swell up round like a moon. I was given a strict diet to follow. My doctor said that I would have to take medication for this disease religiously for the rest of my life. I was a born again Christian. Many in the church I was attending told me that my condition was my "cross to bare." This meant that God had given it to me in order to make me humble. I struggled with the question of why a loving God would place this disease on me that cost hundreds of dollars every month for medication. At times I became too weak or was in too much pain to pray or read the Bible. Was there any hope for a better life?

In 1988 I felt a call to the ministry. I applied and was accepted to a Bible college in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma called Rhema. For the first time in my life I heard some Good News that gave me hope. I learned that Jesus Christ came to give me life more abundantly. I learned that Jesus always did the will of God. Everywhere that Jesus went, He healed the sick. Could this really apply to me?

In my Bible classes, I heard the Good News that it was God's will to heal me. Faith to believe I could be healed was being planted in my heart. For the first time in my life, I had hope. I did not have to suffer with this disease for the rest of my life. I was learning a simple principle that, if applied, would help me obtain my healing. That principle was **Seed Time and Harvest**. I was the soil and God's Word was the seed. I began to plant scriptures that spoke of healing in the soil of my heart. I wrote I Peter 2:24 on a 3x5 index card. **"Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness, by whose stripes ye were healed.** This scripture said that by the stripes of punishment upon Jesus back, I was healed. So if I was healed, that meant that I am healed. I memorized this verse and looked at it often. I meditated on it all throughout the day. As a farmer who desires a crop of corn plants corn seed, I began planting healing seed in order to receive my harvest of healing. Although I could not see any physical changes in my body, I knew that the seed was growing in the soil of my heart. Weeks and months went by. One day I was particularly discouraged. It seemed like there was no change taking place in my condition. I knew that it was God's will for me to be healed and walk in health. I had planted the healing seed in my heart. One day as I was praying, I heard the Lord speak these words to me. "The seed is planted, but it requires water and sun in order to grow." Instantly, I knew what was missing. Until that day, I could never imagine myself being healed and walking in health. I knew that I had to change the image I saw of myself from always being sick and tired, to being healthy and well. Within days, the symptoms began to disappear. Along with daily meditating on I Peter 2:24, I began to picture myself as being healed and being free from having to take medication. As I meditated on I Peter 2:24, I would imagine what it would be like to walk throughout the day free of the pain and discomfort of the disease. This was the water and sun that the seed required in order to grow. The seed grew into a tree. My harvest of healing had come.

I discovered the principle of **Seed time and Harvest**.

First, I had to see from God's Word that it was His will to heal me and for me to have health.

Secondly, I had to plant the seed in my heart by memorizing and meditating on I Peter 2:24.

Thirdly, I had to water the seed and give it sun by developing an image of myself as being healed and free of the disease. Today, I am healed of the disease that was a heavy yoke on my shoulders for many years. To God be all the glory! Jesus Christ is the **Healer** and **Great Physician**. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

The Good News is that what God did for me, He can do for you. Are you sick and tired of being sick and tired? Do you have a sickness in your body that is robbing you of the joy of your salvation? Begin by planting the seed. Meditate on a verse in the Bible that promises you healing and health. Water the seed and give it sun by developing an image of yourself as being healed and walking in health. Don't get discouraged if you don't see immediate results. The seed is growing. You will have your harvest of healing. The seed of healing will eventually grow into a strong tree. This is the principle of **Seed time and Harvest for Healing**.

God's Word is called the incorruptible seed. "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. I Peter 1:23

As we meditate on healing scripture, we begin to develop an image of our selves as being healed. "But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass (mirror) the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." 2 Cor. 3:18

God's way of providing healing for us is through the principle of **Seed time and Harvest**.

"While the earth remaineth, **seedtime and harvest**, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." Genesis 8:22