

# Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1333

August 23, 2020

Jeremiah 8:22, “[*Is there*] no balm in Gilead; [*is there*] no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?”

The above verse is talking about sickness and what can be done for it. This passage is using physical sickness and comparing it to spiritual sickness. The verse talks of balm, a physician, health, and recovery.

1. **Balm.** A balm is something that comforts. For the physical body it is a rub that soothes aching muscles or provides another medical benefit. It can also simply be a sweet odor that is pleasant to smell. The balm provides comfort and relieves.

One of the main balms in Biblical times was olive oil. It was used as an ointment and medicine that was applied to the body. Our spiritual balm is the word of God. The word of God is referred to as olive trees.

Gilead was probably known for balms from Genesis 37:27, “*And they sat down to eat bread: and they lifted up their eyes and looked, and,*

*behold, a company of Ishmeelites came from Gilead with their camels bearing spicery and balm and myrrh, going to carry [it] down to Egypt.”* The balm out of Gilead was taken into Egypt. Balm has to be taken and delivered and applied for it to be of any effect.

Today our spiritual balm is the word of God. Just like a physical balm has to be taken out of the jar or tube and applied, the word of God has to be opened, and applied. It will never provide any comfort or lead to salvation if not applied.

2. **Physician.** Sometimes we need more medical care than we can provide ourselves. Perhaps the illness is too great or the injury too severe for us to heal alone. When that happens, we seek out a physician.

The greatest illness of all is sin. There is no way we can ever rid ourselves of sin without the greatest physician of all— Jesus. Jesus refers to Himself as a physician. In the Matthew 9 and Mark 2 the Pharisees were talking about how Jesus had gone to eat with publicans and sinners. Jesus had to eat with sinners or He would have always eaten alone. He responded to them in Matthew 9:12, “*They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.*”

The people then, and today as well, are sick with a disease for which Jesus has the only cure. That disease is sin. Yet people are rushing into activities, media, and places that totally expose them to sin. If left untreated, it will lead to spiritual death, which is the second death.

The only book of the Bible to mention the “second death” is Revelation. No doubt this was serving as a “final” warning since it’s in the last book of the Bible. The second death is to be lost eternally in hell. There is no doubt of what this means. Revelation 21:8, “*But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.*”

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Munfordville Church of Christ  
104 Back St — P.O. Box 322  
Munfordville, KY 42765  
(270) 524-3345

[www.munfordvillechurchofchrist.com](http://www.munfordvillechurchofchrist.com)

Marty Edwards, Minister  
577 Possum Trot Road  
Hardyville, KY 42746  
(270) 528-1298

[martywedwards@gmail.com](mailto:martywedwards@gmail.com)

Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM



—Continue to remember **Alice Thrasher, Jean Coffey, Steve Seaton, Brad Terry, Enola Zigler, Clay Bozarth, Vicki McDaniel, Joanna Locke, Louise Greer, Archie & Judy Manning. Shirley Edwards and Joanna Lock** are in

rehabilitation in Horse Cave.

—Due to increased Covid-19 concerns, our 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday is the only service at the building. The Sunday and Wednesday evening services will be at 6:00 p.m. on YouTube.

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What a terrible and unimaginable fate to eternally suffer the second death. Jesus brings us salvation which permits us to avoid the second death. Revelation 2:11, *“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.”* The second death cannot hurt us at all when we are “treated” by Jesus, the greatest physician of all. What other physician can permit us to avoid death, spiritually speaking, and then offers eternal life? No earthly physician can. Only Jesus, the physician who heals our soles can do this.

**3. Health & Recovery.** We appreciate good health when we are suffering physically. There are going to be many things in life that will lower and harm our health— disease, accident, or just simply growing old. To be healthy or to recover from something making us sick feels wonderful.

With salvation we bring health and recovery to our souls. We all at one time have been in sin. Romans 3:23, *“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”* All of us at times have suffered spiritual sickness, but we need to do all we can to remain spiritually healthy. We obey the LORD initially to get out of the spiritual sickness, but then we practice things that keep us healthy such as study, prayer, attendance, etc.

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Sunday, August 16, 2020		
Classes	--	--
Preaching	18	Ezekiel 8:1-18
Contribution	\$1266.00	
Evening	--	Mark 4:1-23
Wednesday, August 19, 2020		
Classes	--	Isaiah 42:-1

Visitors— Aug 16 (AM) Jean Philpot (Northtown, KY)

## *Bible Quiz*

Isaiah said to sing what unto the LORD?

Last Week’s Answer— Follow me (Mark 2:14)

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What if our bodies were as healthy or sickly as our souls? John wrote to Gaius in III John 2, *“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”* If someone wished our spiritual health upon our bodies, what kind of condition would we be in?

—Marty Edwards❖

## —God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)