

[00:00:01] *hope: Welcome to the Hope Church Glasgow Sunday podcast. We pray you encounter God's love afresh. Find out more about us@hopechurchglasgow.org or find us on Facebook and Instagram.

[00:00:13] John: I had the beautiful chance at Gloria in the Cowshed, somebody just newly saved. And I said, oh, tell me your story.

And they're just fresh in the revelation of Jesus. They were from Poland. They came for this conference and they had never. The guy had never experienced him. And he was just telling me about how when Jesus came in his life, he was able to look back and see how Jesus was always with him. And I said, yes, I have that same revelation of, you know, now that I know Jesus, I can look back and he was so on fire. He was like 20 something. He said, tell me your story. And I don't usually go into my story in such detail, but I went into detail telling him my history with God.

[00:01:00] Speaker C: And it was so good to remember.

It was so good to think back

[00:01:05] John: and remember what, what Jesus has done.

[00:01:09] Speaker C: And, and this.

[00:01:10] John: That's what this psalm is, is all about.

[00:01:13] Speaker C: Bless the Lord, bless his holy name and forget not his benefits, because there's a lot of benefits to, to the Lord.

[00:01:24] John: He's the source of all life.

[00:01:27] Speaker C: And walking with him, he gives and

[00:01:30] John: he gives and he gives. He gives of himself and he does things in our life.

And I know that these teenagers are so happy to hear that the Lord gives because you guys have your whole

[00:01:43] Speaker C: lives in front of you to receive from the Lord. Charis is like, no, please.

[00:01:51] John: Every once in a while I'm going to give pop quizzes to the back and make sure.

So you better pay attention because if I fire off a question, if you get it, there will be extra biscuits.

Just a few of the blessings in here. He forgives, he heals, he redeems, he crowns us with steadfast love. He satisfies.

So we've covered a whole bunch of those. If you've not caught some of those sermons, they are online on the podcast, please go back and remember with us. Go back and catch some of those because there's some real goodies.

And next week we're also going to be talking about he who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagles.

So come back next week.

[00:02:42] Speaker C: But this week we are talking about

[00:02:45] John: the heart of healing, because it says in here, in verse three, he forgives all your iniquities and heals all your diseases.

He heals all your diseases. Is that good news or what?

Yeah. Now I'm gonna come at this at a slightly different angle with healing. There's so much we could do. We could teach on healing for long time. There are whole conferences on this. There's people like Randy Clark.

[00:03:21] Speaker C: He.

[00:03:22] John: He does excellent teaching on healing. You can get books on healing from, you know, all number of sources.

And some of them are really, really excellent, maybe some of them not so excellent. But the. The heart of healing is what I want to talk about today.

And the heart of healing is that healing is always an outpouring of divine love.

Healing is always an outpouring of divine love.

Charis, what's the heart of healing?

Bo.

[00:04:03] Speaker C: Oh, Chance started you. Yes. The heart of. Yes. Well done.

Well done.

[00:04:10] John: Divine love. The outpouring of divine love. That's one extra biscuit. Well done.

[00:04:18] Speaker C: Five.

[00:04:18] John: We'll give them five more chances.

Well done. Well done.

Right, so the heart of divine love. I want to tell you guys a little story. When I was at Gloria in the cowshed, there was this guy. He looked a little bit like a lion. He was from the Netherlands. Netherlands. Because he. He had a. He had a mane, right? He just had this hair.

You know exactly who I'm talking about, huh, Lucy? He had this curly hair that was, like, flowing back here. I was not jealous, okay? Honestly, as I'm telling it, I realized there might sound like I'm very jealous. No, I'm happy with my hairstyle, right? But this guy, he had his thing going on.

[00:05:04] Speaker C: It was like, wow.

[00:05:06] John: And, you know, every time he walked, it was like, you know, a lion shaking this

mane. It was. It was.

[00:05:18] Speaker C: I am in the room, you know, and anyway, this beautiful wife, just.

[00:05:23] John: This couple was just amazing. And on the last night, we were sipping around, you know, with a wee drum on the couch, and.

[00:05:31] Speaker C: And I said.

And they were talking about their story,

[00:05:35] John: and he was telling his story, and he said, naturally, he's an introverted person, but he had gone to a play 13 years before he had actually properly met his wife. He knew who she was, but she was in this play, and she was dancing, and he had never met her. And he said he was just captivated by this. This girl dancing on the screen. And he was just like, wow.

Wow.

And he had not spoken to her for 13 years, but he had seen, you know, so he was really young when this had happened, but he had.

So he was captivated.

[00:06:16] Speaker C: So when he finally did see her

[00:06:18] John: and finally did meet her, he. He already was, like, overwhelmed with love for her.

[00:06:26] Speaker C: So they were outside sitting on a

[00:06:29] John: picnic table with A bunch of their friends. And as it happened, their friends all ended up leaving them and left him alone with her.

[00:06:37] Speaker C: And she said, oh, you know, tell me a little bit about what you do.

[00:06:40] John: And she says, well, my passion is I write songs. And he had written a song of worship to the Lord. It was something like, you're more beautiful than the moon. You're more beautiful than the stars. I want to spend my life with you. You know, this kind of deep, intimate worship.

[00:07:00] Speaker C: But when she sat there with her,

[00:07:01] John: he said, I write these songs, and I'd love to sing one for you right now. And she's like, oh, okay. And he said, this was completely out of my character. Normally, I'm very, very reserved. I'm actually very introverted.

But she said, yes.

[00:07:16] Speaker C: And I just sang this song.

[00:07:17] John: I looked her right in the eye and just sang this song to her.

[00:07:22] Speaker C: 10 minutes. They had talked 10 minutes, and he just said, you know, you

are more beautiful. And he's singing the song with all of his heart.

[00:07:31] John: And she said, the gravity of that moment, I had never had anything like that. She said, I was just shocked.

Here's this guy and. But blown away, really, really touched. And she felt the weight of this, this.

And then in the same conversation, he had said, yeah, I remember you. And we were just children, and you were dancing, you know, 13 years ago.

And he was. And she was just, like, maybe a

[00:08:01] Speaker C: little scared, but, like, mostly just she

[00:08:05] John: felt something really significant shaking.

[00:08:09] Speaker C: And I said, can you sing the song? Can you sing it? Can you sing it for us?

[00:08:12] John: And he's like, well, do you have a guitar?

[00:08:14] Speaker C: I'm like, I have a guitar.

[00:08:15] John: So I ran and got the guitar,

[00:08:16] Speaker C: put the guitar in his hands.

[00:08:18] John: And he tells us about the lyrics. You know, something like what I said to you. And he starts singing it. And as he sings, I am just wrecked. I start to see the light, the. The divine light happening on that picnic table.

And it was like, you know, when Jesus is born.

There was a great darkness, but a spiritual light dawned at the birth of Jesus.

Some people caught glimpses of it. The shepherds and the wise men, they caught glimpses of it, and they followed that light.

The light is a metaphor for a spiritual reality that in the heavenly places, there was a darkness over the world

[00:09:05] Speaker C: in a fallen state.

And when the divine presence himself, God himself, pierced that darkness in the spiritual realm, it was just intense, bright, divine glory.

And not everybody could see it, but he who had spiritualized could see the light on that child in that moment.

Well, I saw that Same light in that picnic table. And I. And I. And I was having this revelation when God says God is love, that there are times when his essence, that is love, is expressed and cuts through the darkness with glorious light.

And as he sang this song, it was like the light of that moment was still resonant on the song.

And I was affected by the warmth of the light of love, divinely love that had manifested itself in a love song written for Jesus, but expressed on the earth.

A husband for a wife.

This. This tearing of darkness and divine love entering into our world.

And that's what Jesus called kingdom, the kingdom of God.

And I sat there and listened to the song and we all just wept, not even maybe completely understanding why, but. But he sung it, you know, and then I shared that with them. I said, you know, this is what I've just seen. And we were all like, whoa.

[00:11:00] John: And he's like, I'm gonna sing it again.

[00:11:04] Speaker C: He sang it again and we all just worshiped. I couldn't understand the words, but it didn't matter because there was love released on the world.

And there was this sort of invitation and this deep longing that I'm sure some of you feel right now to want to connect with that love being released on the world. In the world.

[00:11:33] John: Friends, healing is an expression of that.

[00:11:40] Speaker C: When Jesus walked around on the world

[00:11:44] John: and you have blind barimarius calling out

[00:11:48] Speaker C: and saying, heal me.

You know, when you have the friends letting their invalid through roof, and you have lepers who have been running around shouting unclean about themselves all of their lives and women in the same state because they've had a flow of blood. And these people come to Jesus and Jesus stretches out their hands and makes them well. And in the spiritual realm, great light of divine love pierces the darkness. It rips it wide open with the voice of a father, expressed through a touch that says, I love.

This is who I am.

Sometimes when we talk about healing, it can get lost in an ocean of mechanics.

This is what we do, this is what we don't do, or questions, you know, why it doesn't happen. And, you know, I want to talk a little bit about some of that stuff, but. But we can never lose the heart of God in this, which is divine love. He wants to touch his people. He wants to see his people set free. And the kind of healing that we're talking about here in the scriptures is more than just physical. It's emotional, it's spiritual, it's psychological. It's the whole thing that God invites us into now, if healing is an

[00:13:36] John: expression of divine love, I'm aware that people who have been contending for their healing and have not seen it can

[00:13:47] Speaker C: ask the question, does that mean I'm not loved?

Does that mean that God hasn't loved

[00:13:56] John: me in this situation, that I've not seen his breakthrough?

And I want to cover that because that is categorically not the conclusion that we should come to.

[00:14:12] Speaker C: God, it says in Romans 5:8, demonstrated his love for us in this While

[00:14:19] John: we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

[00:14:25] Speaker C: The one place that we are meant to go when we're asking the question

[00:14:31] John: is, does God love me?

Is the person of Jesus.

[00:14:37] Speaker C: When Jesus said, if you've seen me, you've seen the Father, he was saying, if you want to know what the Father's like, if you have any questions about what he is like, look at me, look at my actions.

And what did Jesus do?

He came. He did not push away the sinful people, the prostitutes, the lowly, the tax collectors. He ate with them and drank with them. He fellowshiped with them, he taught them, he called them to follow him.

And ultimately he came as man and always said yes to the Father.

He said, I'm going to do what none of you could have done. You've all broken your covenant with the Father, but I am going to come and as you, and I'm going to say, yes, yes, yes, holding you in my life. The ultimate act of love is Jesus saying yes to the Father on our behalf constantly.

And those men who were used to rejecting the Father, when Jesus came reflecting the Father, they rejected him.

And as mankind continuously and persistently rejected Jesus, cutting him down or trying to, Jesus accepted all of that, even to the point of allowing them to hang him on a cross.

They were making a statement of, we reject the Father.

And Jesus, holding all of humanity, allowed them to do that. They, and even hanging on the cross, said, father, forgive them, for they know

[00:16:24] John: not what they do.

The point is that Jesus, in his

[00:16:31] Speaker C: greatest weakness, when he had emptied himself,

[00:16:36] John: it says in Philippians two, of all

[00:16:39] Speaker C: the trappings of heaven, and took on the weakness of man fully, so that

he was fully man. In that state of being utterly weak,

[00:16:50] John: he held you and me in his heart, so that when he stood righteous before the Father, you and me would be held.

[00:16:58] Speaker C: The message is this. I would rather die than be apart

[00:17:01] John: from any one of you for one

[00:17:03] Speaker C: moment, that this is the heart of the Father.

[00:17:09] John: So if we are wondering, you know, is it that I've done something wrong, that I'm still waiting for my healing.

Is it that God doesn't love me as much as he loves this other person who was healing? And those questions come.

We have to look at the cross, the outstretched arms of Jesus, and remember those verses. It says he's put his sins as far as the east is from the west. How high. Remember how high and how wide and how vast his love is for us.

And by faith, we allow those showers of divine love to wash over us in our need, before we've received our healing.

Scripture says he heals all of our diseases.

So if you're waiting, you need to know that you are already in that stream of divine love flowing from the cross.

You're not excluded.

He's pouring out his divine love over you now, and I pray for revelation for you, that you would know that you are in that stream and that you wouldn't feel the need to strive in that place.

Now, part of the promise of this verse is that you will get a new body.

You will get a new body.

You will be in a place where every tear is wiped away.

And even Jesus, when he was hanging from the cross, the Father didn't rescue him.

He didn't heal his broken body while he hung there, but he did something greater. He rescued him by raising him from the dead into a glorified body that can never again suffer, decay or die.

And the good thing is that this is not just Christ's story. It's ours.

That every one of us have a promise that we too will get to stand in that same place with bodies that do not suffer, decay or die.

Some verses that talk about this. Philippians 3:20, 21.

But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will

transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body by the power that enables him even to subject all things to Himself.

Romans 8:23.

And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies, and the pinnacle of the promise. In Revelation 21:4.

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more.

Neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.

God is faithful to heal all our diseases.

Now I want to.

As I was worshiping this morning, I had this moment just remembering my mother.

My mother and my father both had quite extreme brokenness in their lives.

And my mother, when they got divorced, we lost all the money. You know, it all sort of went. We were fairly well off growing up. And then my father had a serious addiction to alcohol and crack cocaine, and everything between the lawyers, the divorce, and mismanagement and drugs, everything went up in smoke.

And it was a very, very difficult time.

Well, my mom, she ended up needing to drive Ubers for a while to make a living, and she was.

How old was she in that time? Late 60s.

Late 60s. And she. She really. Her health wasn't that great, and she had diabetes, and her vision started to deteriorate, and she went to the doctor, and the doctor said, your vision, I think you're going to have to lose your license. I'm going to schedule a visit to the optometrist. But you have. I forget. I wish I could remember exactly what it was. I think it was macular degeneration or.

Or actually, it was a detached retina. That's what it was.

And she had one eye. She had lost almost all of her vision. And the other eye, she was getting big gray spots in front of her vision. And I was on the phone with her, and she was saying, I don't know what I'm gonna do. I'm not gonna be able to drive. I'm gonna lose my license. I don't know how to get around. Where she lived in Florida was really difficult and prayed for her over zoom.

And I had just been on a Randy Clark mission trip. So, you know, sometimes when you're around these things, your faith is actually bolstered.

And I was seeing lots of it, and so I was praying for her, and I was going for it and saying, you know, check it now. Check it now.

[00:22:59] Speaker C: She said, oh, I think it's a little bit better. I think it's a little bit better.

[00:23:02] John: Over the course of about an hour,

[00:23:04] Speaker C: it got to the stage where she

[00:23:06] John: could close her good eye and read

[00:23:09] Speaker C: off the pages of a book.

Read well.

[00:23:12] John: And I'm like.

[00:23:14] Speaker C: I'm like, you couldn't do that before, you know, because I was walking. But I was so perplexed. I was confused because I honestly didn't expect it to happen.

I mean, I thought I had faith, but then when it happened, I realized I hadn't had the faith.

[00:23:30] John: You know, it's like, I didn't expect this. And so I'm shocked.

[00:23:33] Speaker C: She goes back to the doctor, and

[00:23:35] John: the doctor says, yeah, no, you're fine. I don't know what the deal is. You can keep your license.

[00:23:41] Speaker C: I said, can you get that in writing?

[00:23:43] John: She went back, got it in writing.

[00:23:44] Speaker C: And I'm like, this is crazy, you know?

[00:23:47] John: And she'd experienced this wonderful healing.

[00:23:50] Speaker C: But then several years later, she went into the hospital.

[00:23:54] John: I get a call from my brother, and she's in the other room. My brother says, I'm in the er, and she had been complaining of pains, and she's telling them, I think I'm going to die. And she did. She died suddenly, very suddenly. My dad had died seven years earlier, also extremely suddenly.

And they can be perplexing.

And every once in a while, I have a picture of my mom with this knowing smile looking at me like it's like she's got this knowing smile. Like, you'll see how good it is.

It'll all make sense.

And there's just zero worry and zero anxiety. It's like, one day you're gonna get it.

And it's like the look on her face, it just speaks volumes to me of peace and assuredness. And I'm just kind of like, oh,

[00:25:05] Speaker C: it just produces this and this refreshing feeling. And I had that this morning.

And I had a picture of my dad, too. You know, these guys have gone through

[00:25:15] John: so much, so much struggle, living in a fallen world. You know, when it talks about the world became fallen, there were thorns and thistles. And that's a metaphor for sometimes just the struggle that each and every one of us go through. We get these cuts and these bruises, and sometimes we do it to one another.

And over time, we can just start to feel worn down.

But there will be a moment when all of that is wiped away,

[00:25:46] Speaker C: and it will make sense.

[00:25:49] John: Everything we've ever suffered, everything we've ever

[00:25:53] Speaker C: gone through, all the trials, all of the questions, all of that stuff, it'll make sense.

We will be fully restored. And I think ultimately, that's what the Bible talks about when it says, he heals all your diseases.

He's the God who does that. And yes, one day it will happen, but every once in a while, we get to reach out into the future and pull that future miracle, that future reality into the present by faith.

And we get to enjoy it now.

And, you know, there's that verse, it says we want to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

And that's why we contend with for this. It's not so that we can endorse ourselves as better Christians or be more spiritual or be seen as the spiritual church or any of that stuff. It's a. Because God wants to pour his heart out on humanity. Why? Because he loves us.

And he. And he died so that we could enter into his kingdom and see that kingdom released in us.

That you would be free and healed of your diseases. That your neighbors would be free, free and healed from your diseases.

There's a lot of discussion around healing. You know, was healing done in the atonement? Do we have a legal right to it?

Maybe we do, maybe we don't. I'm not really sure.

I know that when we. When we think that we do actually, we practice that more often.

I tend to think that we do

[00:27:35] John: have a legal right.

[00:27:36] Speaker C: But what I would say is if you focus on the legal right, you can miss the heart of it, which is divine love being poured out.

And if you realize the heart of healing, which is that God loves people and he wants to pour himself out on people, he wants to see them restored and freed, then you are able to stand under the stream of that for yourself. And you are able to participate with that stream of love to the world, those rivers of living water which is the life of Christ in you through you coming out. It was like that picture that I had in worship of Jesus clothing us. That's the reality of who you are. He has clothed you in himself.

That's true for every single one of us.

That's why we are a kingdom of priests. Because he has clothed you himself, the great high priest.

You have now become unified with Jesus and a priest to the world.

So when the Lord wants to do something in this world, he chooses to

[00:28:48] John: use you and me.

[00:28:50] Speaker C: That doesn't mean that we always step up to the plate. A lot of times we're distracted, we're hurting, but that's why we gather together and encourage one another. Remind each other, you know who he is.

[00:29:11] John: Any attempt to divorce healing from divine love is just. We just have to avoid that like the plague.

This is not transactional to the Lord and what this will do if we lay hold of us. If you've never had the boldness to pray for healing, wait and see what happens when you get a revelation of the divine stream of God's love for people.

[00:29:53] Speaker C: Just as this crazy Dutch guy had

[00:29:57] John: a boldness that was so uncharacteristic to

[00:30:01] Speaker C: sing this song to the love of his life. Because he just thought, what if she doesn't hear this from me? I just need her to hear this. I need her to know how loved she is.

[00:30:14] John: What if you hear the heart of the Father for the world around you?

[00:30:19] Speaker C: What kind of faith will that produce?

What kind of boldness will that produce?

[00:30:26] John: It's not to try to get you

[00:30:28] Speaker C: to do more here.

[00:30:29] John: That is not the heart of what I'm trying to say.

[00:30:32] Speaker C: But maybe some of you want to walk in this. You'd like to walk in this, and you just don't know how. How can God. How can I pray for the sick?

[00:30:41] John: How can I be more bold?

[00:30:42] Speaker C: How can I have more faith if that's you? The greatest remedy to that is just stand under the waterfall of God's love.

[00:30:52] John: Let him give you revelation how much he loves you and how much he loves the world around you.

Because we are commanded to heal the sick, and that makes it quite difficult if we don't have that key.

How am I supposed to heal the sick? I can't heal the sick.

[00:31:09] Speaker C: I pray for loads of people and they don't get healed.

[00:31:13] John: But the reality is, if you lay hold of this peace, the love of God does not fail.

Scripture says, and you cannot fail to be that conduit of love. If people go away and they don't

[00:31:30] Speaker C: physically get healed, but they experience that love through you, man, you will have done your job.

[00:31:38] John: You don't have to walk away feeling disappointed.

[00:31:41] Speaker C: You will have done your job. Because the aim was to love.

And yes, we want to see that come with power, because love is powerful. But it might not happen the way

[00:31:53] John: that you think it's going to happen.

[00:31:54] Speaker C: It might not happen when you think

[00:31:55] John: it's going to happen.

[00:31:56] Speaker C: But that's okay. You stand in the stream of that love.

[00:32:00] John: Love does not fail.

Rachel's father in law. My father in law. Rachel's dad's going to be here next week. He hates it when people, when the preachers say, say this with me and then get everybody to say it. So next week we're going to do a lot of that.

[00:32:18] Speaker C: I need you all to pretend like you love that more than anything. Say, love doesn't fail.

That's great.

[00:32:25] John: I don't usually do that, but we need to just gear up.

Yeah, that's 35 minutes on the button. Ian was like, Hey, 35 minutes. Well done, Ian. That's. That's great,

[00:32:42] Speaker C: friends.

[00:32:44] John: This is the message. If you have no love, you don't have anything. First Corinthians 13 talks about if you're. If you're moving in.

[00:32:54] Speaker C: All signs, all wonders, all miracles, all

[00:32:57] John: prophecies, all knowledge, all wisdom, all this stuff.

[00:33:01] Speaker C: If you're the charismatic of charismatics, if

[00:33:04] John: you got it all sorted, you're a walking mountain of power.

[00:33:08] Speaker C: But you don't have love. You don't have anything.

[00:33:13] John: You don't have it.

His love is the place of Boldness. It's the place of power and it's the place where we all want to be.

[00:33:21] Speaker C: Amen.

[00:33:23] John: All right, let's pray.

Father, we just want to say thank you for the realities of your love.

Thank you. That as much as we could talk about it, write books about it, meditate on it, we just get a nibble compared to that eternal source.

And so we're just blown away, God, we just.

We thank you that even that nibble is a feast.

Even that nibble that we get is like a massive feast.

And so we're just. We just say thank you. Thank you that when we take a little nibble of your love as we eat it, it just multiplies in us.

Even as we took a small, little bit of bread and you said, this is your body, we took a small bit of juice and you said, this is your blood. We know the life was in the blood and you are the body.

We thank you, Lord, for that inclusion in you. And I just pray, spirit of revelation, would you continue to bring revelation to each person here, each person listening to this later? Each person connected our.

To our. Our church family and, and Glasgow and Scotland and beyond. Would you allow there to be a new revival that comes in. In re. In a revelation of who you are, God, that we would walk in you with your boldness and your power and we just say we're completely dependent on you. Thank you that you've done everything required for this. In Jesus name, amen.

[00:35:15] *hope: Thank you for listening to this podcast from Hope Church Glasgow. There are loads more to listen to wherever you normally find your podcasts or you can find out more about us@hopechurchglasgow.org have a hopeful day.