

ABATT
Jehovah Rapha
Christian Life Assembly
Jim Hoffman

1

Jehovah Rapha

In one sentence –
What do you believe about
Divine (supernatural,
miraculous) Healing?

2

Jehovah Rapha

**God heals supernaturally as it
suits His purposes and glorifies
Him!**

3

Jehovah Rapha

- **Doug Clay** - was elected chief executive officer of the General Council of the Assemblies of God at the 57th General Council in August, 2017.
- **James T. Bradford** is senior pastor of Central Assembly of God in Springfield, Missouri, and former general secretary of The General Council of the Assemblies of God.
- **George P. Wood** is executive editor of Assemblies of God Publications, including Influence magazine, and coordinator of Religious Freedom Initiatives.
- **Alton Garrison** serves as the assistant general superintendent of the Assemblies of God.

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Divine Healing



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God can heal anyone of anything.

God still heals today, and He always heals His children.

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Jehovah Rapha

Phil 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. 23 For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. 24 Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more useful for you. NKJV

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Jehovah Rapha

- **Healing in the OT** – “Jehovah Rapha” means “The Lord Who Heals”.
- While there are a few Divine “healings” in the O.T., there are relatively few compared to the examples given in the N.T.
- Hezekiah, Naaman, Miriam, Sara, and Hannah all experienced divine healing, but the list of those healed in the O.T. is not long.

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Jehovah Rapha

- Psalm 103:2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget none of His benefits; 3 Who pardons all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases;
- Look at what verse #3 above says – “Who heals **all** your diseases”.
- It could not be more obvious that one of the ways God heals his people is by taking them home to heaven; otherwise verse #3 could not read “all”.

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- **Jesus' ministry of healing** – who can deny that Jesus' ministry and miracles were filled with Divine healing?
- An abundance of examples, and methods.
- People came to him, and He went to them – sometimes he used spit to cure blindness, sometimes He used mud, and other times did not so much as utter a word, but simply willed a healing to occur.

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Jehovah Rapha

- **The Apostles' ministry of healing** – throughout the book of "The Acts of the Apostles".
- The acts of the Apostles were surely intended to confirm this radical new message from God.
- It is one thing to say, "God sent me to preach" and another to have your message confirmed by miraculous signs and wonders.

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Why was the book we usually call "Acts" named "The Acts of the Apostles"?

Acts 14:3 Therefore they spent a long time there speaking boldly with reliance upon the Lord, who was testifying to the word of His grace, granting that signs and wonders be done by their hands.

NASB

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Jehovah Rapha

The very first book of the New Testament, James, does not instruct the church to "call for the healer" when sick, but implores the ill to "call for the Elders" of the church and anoint with oil.

James - 50 A.D.	Titus - 65.
First Thessalonians - 52-53.	Second Timothy - 66.
Second Thessalonians - 52-53.	Mark - 66.
Galatians - 55.	Matthew - 67.
First Corinthians - 57.	Hebrews - 67.
Second Corinthians - 57.	First Peter - 67-68.
Romans - 57-58.	Second Peter - 68.
Philippians - 62-63.	Jude - 68.
Colossians - 62-63.	Apocalypse - 68.
Philemon - 62-63.	John - c. 85.
Ephesians - 62-63.	Epistles of John - 90-95.
Luke - 63.	
Acts - 64.	
First Timothy - 65.	

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- James 5:14 Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; 15 and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him. NASB

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Jehovah Rapha

- Paul describes one of the spiritual gifts as "gifts of healing". (plural)
- If you have the gift of "helps" you can help at any time, on the spot, and do it effectively in the power of the Holy Spirit. (This is true of all the "service" gifts.)
- However, where is the person who can "heal" on command whenever asked?

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- 2nd Timothy 4:20 Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus. NASB
- 1st Timothy 5:23 No longer drink water exclusively, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments. NASB
- If Paul could heal on command why would he leave Trophimus and Timothy in such conditions?

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- Paul’s thorn in the flesh – Paul evidently had an illness of some sort that stayed with him.
- 2nd Cor 12:7 Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself! 8 Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me. 9 And He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. 10 Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ’s sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong. NASB

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Jehovah Rapha

- There is ample anecdotal evidence that God can, and does, still heal in miraculous fashion.
- But, to say that He can and that He does, is not to say that He heals in this life all the time.
- If that were the case, then there would have been lots more people in the worship service this morning – including Donna Hemler!

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Jehovah Rapha

- We get reports from the mission fields in 3rd world countries that miraculous healings occur, more or less, regularly.
- Not all the sick in developing world are healed, but it sure seems like there are more miraculously healed where the gospel is relatively new.
- Could it be that God is using “signs and wonders” to confirm His gospel preaching?

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Jehovah Rapha

- God heals supernaturally as it suits His purposes and glorifies Him!
- If divine healings are not to further His purposes and extend His glory, then why have divine healing at all?
- Surely, we would all agree that it would always be far better to “go home” and be with Christ than it would ever be to stay here.

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- We knock, we seek, we ask, and most of all we trust.
- Any fair discussion of divine healing amongst Christians must include “God can”, but we don’t know when “He will”.
- God always heals His people – and taking a believer home ought not to be seen as a “cop out” on healing. It is the best we can receive!

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- Do not fall for the trap of “if you just had enough faith, you would be healed” teaching.
- That is a cruel statement to make and one that is born of ignorance.
- If that sort of “name it and claim it” teaching were true, then why do all those who proclaim it get sick and die?

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Jehovah Rapha

God heals supernaturally as it suits His purposes and glorifies Him!

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Questions

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