

Hebrews 10:23 - Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful.

When you flip a light switch, are you surprised when the light actually comes on? When you buckle your seat belt and start your car, are you shocked when the motor revs up and the car moves forward? It doesn't require excessive faith to do these things because we have come to expect them, to anticipate that this is how they work.

There is a term I love called "anticipatory faith." This is simply expecting that God will fulfill His Word. Hebrews 11:6 tells us that without faith, it is impossible to please God, because those who come to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.

Traveling as we do on an employee standby basis has been a great object lesson in practicing anticipatory faith. Just last week, we were in London two days after Christmas in the midst of swarms of people eager to get home. The flight we needed to take to San Francisco was overbooked and we had Philippe's 90-year-old mother with us. But we thanked God in anticipation of His provision and walked right onto that plane to first-class seats.

Likewise, there is such a thing as anticipation in healing - an act of faith that anticipates results. Yet so often we tend to focus on the condition or the diagnosis rather than on God's provision for our healing. His Word tells us specifically and continually throughout the Old and New Testaments that God is our Healer and is able to heal all of our diseases.

In the gospel of John, Jesus says, "You may ask Me for anything in My name and I will do it;" "If you remain in Me and my Word remains in you, ask whatever you wish and it will be done for you." What if we were just to anticipate the fulfillment of His Word? Imagine how delighted God would be! After all, He watches over His Word to perform it. He wants us to expect Him to answer!

The late great faith healer Kathryn Kuhlman had a gift of anticipatory faith that caused her to sometimes employ a rather startling practice of actually assigning a date for a person's healing. On that day, she would believe that a person was being healed and ask the person to believe for a miracle.

The Bible tells us that today is the day of salvation - and that word also means healing and deliverance. Will you agree that Jesus is able TODAY to take and heal your disease, your infirmity, your burden? He is willing.

Come to Him and look forward to everything He has for you as you put your trust in Him. He who promised is faithful. If He said it, He will do it.