

JOSEPH PRINCE

THE  
HEALING  
POWER  
OF THE  
HOLY  
COMMUNION

A 90-DAY DEVOTIONAL



EMANATE  
BOOKS

## DAY 12

# BY HIS STRIPES

*[Christ] Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.*

—1 Peter 2:24

In His redemptive work, our Savior didn't want you to be saved from just your sins. If that was all He wanted to accomplish, the shedding of His perfect, atoning blood alone would have been enough. In the Old Testament, when the children of Israel brought their sacrificial animals to the priests as atonement for their sins, the animals never suffered. They were killed humanely using a method known today as *shechita* to ensure they died swiftly and painlessly.<sup>1</sup>

But our Lord Jesus didn't die a quick, painless death. He suffered like no other, going through hour after hour of unimaginable torture before He finally died. T. J. McCrossan, a Greek scholar, highlighted that in the original Greek text, 1 Peter 2:24 actually says, "by whose stripe you were healed." He explained that the word *stripe* was in the singular and not plural form, because Jesus was scourged till there was not even one sliver of skin left on His back. His back was one bloody stripe, one big gaping laceration.<sup>2</sup> According to some accounts, scourging could be so brutal that even the internal organs of the victims could be seen.<sup>3</sup>

The Bible tells us that our Lord Jesus was so badly mutilated He did not even look like a man anymore (Isa. 52:14). I believe the people who were present had to look away and hide their faces because they could not bear to look at His grotesque, quivering form (Isa. 53:3).

My friend, He loves you so much. He went through all that torture because a punishment was required for your well-being and health, and He allowed the punishment to fall upon Himself (Isa. 53:5 AMP). He endured it all. The unimaginable pain, the utter degradation. And the Bible tells us why: it was “for the joy that was set before Him” (Heb. 12:2).

The joy? What was the joy set before Him that gave Him such strength to endure the cross? It was His love for you! It was the joy of seeing you well, of seeing you set free from pancreatic cancer, set free from leukemia, set free from rheumatoid arthritis, set free from Lou Gehrig’s disease. Whatever condition you or your loved one might have, Jesus has taken it all. He wants you to know how precious you are to Him and how loved you are today.

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### TODAY’S THOUGHT

Just by knowing what Jesus did for you, I believe healing has begun in your body. Whatever disease you might have been diagnosed with, Jesus bore it on His own body so you would not have to suffer it. If you are sick right now, and maybe you are reading this from your hospital bed, say this: “Thank You, Lord Jesus, You went through all that *for me*.”

### TODAY’S PRAYER

Lord Jesus, thank You that You are showing me Your heart of love unveiled through the unimaginable suffering and death You endured for my sake. Thank You for enduring the full punishment of the cross, for going through all that pain and suffering for the joy of securing my well-being and health. I believe and declare that by the stripes You bore, I am healed. Amen.