

Bible and Medicine

In Moses era

Science and religion were together

If anyone has a...serious...disease, that person must be brought to Aaron the priest or to one of his sons who is a priest. The priest is to examine that person. When the priest examines that person, he shall pronounce them ceremonially unclean/clean.(Leviticus 13:2-8)

In Galileo era

Science and religion had conflict

Galileo persecution

Galileo was persecuted by the Catholic Church in the 17th century for publicly defending the heliocentric model (sun-centered), which contradicted Church doctrine and interpretations of scripture at that time.

In present era

Now science and religion are together

Science and religion can exist together by focusing on their distinct domains:

Science on the natural world through evidence and experimentation, and religion on spiritual experiences and values.

First surgery done by God

So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep⁽ⁱ⁾; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh⁽ⁱⁱ⁾. (Genesis 2:21)

⁽ⁱ⁾Present day terminology- general/local anesthesia, etc.

⁽ⁱⁱ⁾Present day terminology- surgery by the doctor, etc.

Physical therapy – physical exercise

When Jesus healed 38 years old man- said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.” and he took up his bed and began to walk⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾. (John 5:8-9)

⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾Present day terminology- After surgery doctors advice physiotherapy, etc.

Diet

Jesus makes a dead girl live and then- *He told them to give her something to eat.*

(Mark 5:43)

Afterward he (Saul) ate some food and regained his strength. (Acts 9:19)

Daniel's diet - *Let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink.* (Daniel 1:12)

Not overeating

If you are a big eater, put a knife to your throat. (Proverbs 23:2)

Medicine under God's plan

In parable of Good Samaritan- *He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine.* (Luke 10:34)

Use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses.(1 Timothy 5:23)

Prayer before taking medicine just like praying before meal like Jesus.

Taking the five loaves and the two fish, having looked up to heaven, He spoke a blessing. (Matthew 14:19)

In some Christian hospitals priest say prayer before certain surgery.
There are some witnesses (in non-Christian countries) that in missionary hospitals they have more/good healings of patients.

Medicine-without God's plan

(King of Israel)- *Asa developed a serious foot disease. Yet even with the severity of his disease, he did not seek the LORD's help but turned only to his physicians.* (2 Chronicles 16:12)
A woman who had suffered from bleeding for twelve years. She had spent all her money on physicians, but no one was able to heal her. (Luke 8:43)

Hospitals

He (Samaritan) went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine^(iv). and took him to an inn, and said to the innkeeper^(v) 'Take care of him, and on my return I will repay you for any additional expense.' (Luke 10:34-35)

^(iv)Present day terminology- medication, etc.

^(v)Present day terminology- hospitals, etc.

Difference between miracle and healing.

a) Miracle- Jesus heals from the disease usually immediately.

Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages...and he healed every kind of disease and illness. (Matthew 9:35). [Please note-first confession by the patient or their relatives then healing by Jesus!]

b) Healing- not immediate but takes time may be hours, days, months or so.

e.g. 7 days – Miriam:

Miriam was leprous; Moses cried out to the LORD for healing - Let her be confined outside the camp for seven days. (Numbers 12:10-14)

Sustains/restore on sickbed:

The LORD sustains them on their sickbed and restores them from their bed of illness. (Psalm 41:3)

c) Healing works through someone - (according to God's plan):

God's ministers-

Prophet Elisha told to Naaman to heal by washing seven times in the Jordan River. (2 Kings 5:1-19)

Healer- Spirit gives the gift of healing. (1 Corinthians 12:9)

Medicine, doctor's advice, etc.

Doctors are under God's plan

Among 40 authors of Bible, Dr Luke was only non-Jewish author who wrote Gospel of Luke and Book of Acts.

Where Christian missionaries went in the world, they took with them hospitals and educational institutions.

Watch- saved person's healing is sure for lifetime but unsaved person's healing has no assurance!

Guaranteed formula-Salvation first then healing.

Heal me, LORD, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved. (Jeremiah 17:14)

AMEN

Ross Nazirulah