

Things Hard To Understand (#10)

Is It Wrong To Seek Medical Care?

Text: 1 Peter 2:21-24

Introduction:

1. Some time ago a couple in Lee's Summit lost a child through stillbirth, then a few weeks later the mother died. Though such is tragic, why was it a prominent news story? The husband had convinced his wife that it was against God's will to seek medical care. The child and mother died without ever consulting a medical professional.
2. "Why would anyone do that?!" Aside from the sorrow and horror of the event, we realize that this man did what he thought his faith demanded of him. All of us should live by faith, no matter what the consequences (Acts 4:17-21). But we also need to realize that an uneducated or mislead faith is disastrous (1 Timothy 1:5-15; Acts 23:1).
3. Our lesson today will explore the question, "Should we seek medical care?" In looking to this, we realize that there are sincere individuals who disagree... but what does God really say?

Discussion:

I. Examination of Pertinent Passages:

1. 1 Peter 2:24 / Isaiah 53:5

2. James 5:14-15

3. Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8; James 1:17

II. Some observations

1. What does the Bible say about medicine? (Condemned or condoned?)
 - (1) Exodus 21:19 – a responsibility to use current healing means available
 - (2) Jeremiah 8:22 – a reference to physicians without condemnation
 - (3) Luke 4:23 – Jesus refers to physicians in a non-condemning manner
 - (4) Colossians 4:14 – Paul refers to Luke as a "beloved physician"
2. What is meant by Jesus words in Matthew 9:12?

Conclusion:

1. It is a tragedy indeed that lives are lost because of sincere but erroneous people such as the man in Lee's Summit.
2. It is even a greater tragedy when we realize that the truth is readily available.