"When Jesus heard it, he saith unto them, They that are whole have no need of <u>the physician</u>, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." Mark 2:17 KJV

If sin brings heaviness until things are right, you truly are a child of God. Sin does not bother the unrighteous and some even feel righteous about it. Adultery and abortion are committed without remorse. Satan stirs up anger to cause believers to feud to disrupt fellowship in the Church, because thereby he can he can waylay the Gospel! How many believers do you know no longer fellowship, because of petty differences? I'm not talking about heresy, but perceived slights and personality conflicts? Before you fault another, examine yourself by God's Word! "And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye;



and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye. Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? God is able to make him stand. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves." Are any of us perfect in thought or deed? "From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?" If believers are offended or hurt because of another, it is generally because of pride. Our thoughts should parallel Christ's on the Cross. "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Pride and lust keep us from confessing sin to God and our faults to one another. I must "endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." Healing from the wounds of sin only come from the Great Physician who restores our fellowship with Himself and one another. "But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another." If we harbour anger towards another believer, we have slipped into the darkness. Regular checkups catch infestations before they can fester into disease and sickness. "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the Truth is not in us." As soon as we sin, we should seek out the Great Physician. His touch heals and gives power to forgive and forget. Forgiveness brings peace. So what if I'm wronged! "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." I shouldn't let bitterness ruin my relationship with the Son. "Great peace have they which love Thy law, and NOTHING shall offend them." All wrongs are righted by the KING of Kings. Plague surrounds us and we must wash hourly to keep sin from destroying our lives. We can't help contacting sin, but only foolish pride will keep us in sin. The Great Physician will heal us if we but ask. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we believe not, yet He abideth faithful: He cannot deny Himself." Don't let guilt keep you from confession!

> The great Physician now is near, The sympathizing Jesus; He speaks the drooping heart to cheer, Oh! hear the voice of Jesus. *-William Hunter 1859*

Are there things festering in your life? Are you getting regular checkups? There is a "Balm in Gilead." The Doctor is in!

"My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And He is the propitiation (atoning sacrifice) for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." I John 2:1-2 KJV