

# From Here to There

Leanna Bolden Eternally Speaking Now

"He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins."

Colossians 1:13-14

In March I wrote about the **life-changing** experience my family had with Covid-19. (<u>read here</u>) This month, I'm ready to share the incredible, **transforming**, **divine appointment** I personally had with someone one-on-one while in the hospital.

After my husband was hospitalized for four days, I had my own bout with the virus, including three separate trips to the Emergency Room. On my second visit, a CT scan revealed potentially dangerous inflammation of my intestines. I was shocked. Some of the concerns expressed by the radiologist indicated the possibility of serious, long-term medical conditions.

When I got home, I resorted to my regular list of things to do when confronted with physical affliction:

- 1. Search the Scriptures for insight on the specific diagnosis
- 2. Examine my 'go-to' resources to discover any spiritual roots to the diagnoses (<u>read</u> here to learn about spiritual roots to disease)
- 3. Peruse the internet for healthy, practical ways to combat the condition

#### What I found was profound.

There is a direct correlation, medically and spiritually, between various **intestinal irritations** and two things:

- 1) not being at peace with life's issues, and
- 2) ANGER.

When I first discovered this, I could easily name some of life's issues with which I was **not at peace**. (Who *isn't* at peace with some issue of life nowadays?)

Regarding **anger**, though, I was **confused**. Most who know me would not describe me as **angry**. I don't have **outbursts of rage** and tend to be very patient with others. That said, after years of repenting through the spiritual roots of many **diseases**, I knew from experience that we don't necessarily connect right away with an underlying sin.

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked.

Who can know it?" Jeremiah 17:9

I committed all this to prayer and repented of any agreements I'd made with **anger**, even though I didn't see evidence of an **anger stronghold** in my life. **Yet**.

A week passed, and I continued through the tiring process of getting through Covid. The unusual pain increased, and my abdomen was tender to the touch, so I returned to the E.R. On my way there, after asking my family to pray, my sister texted this note:

"God be with you, and He IS!

Hmmm...wonder what divine appointment awaits?"

She had no idea. Neither did I, but God did.

When I arrived, the hospital staff informed me that they didn't have any beds available. Because I was Covid-positive, they didn't want me around others, so they asked me to wait in a secluded room. It was no bigger than eight square feet.

There I remained, isolated, in a tiny area with only a **cluttered** desk and an **empty** chair. As I slumped with fatigue in my own chair, I looked at the **vacant** one in front of me and was reminded that I was not alone. The Holy Spirit nudged me to "pull up the chair" (<u>read here</u>) and chat with Him for a while.

He then led me into a beautiful exchange that has affected me every day since. It was a **loving, sanctifying** conversation about **ANGER**.

"Well, Lord," I began. "It seems I'm here," I stated, putting my left hand out in front of me.

"But I want to get over there," I said, placing my right hand in the air across from my left.

"How do I get from here", I asked, emphasizing my left hand, "to there?" I concluded, shaking my right hand.

My two hands represented opposite ends of a massive valley within me. There was a chasm in my heart, separating where I was (knowing that I had anger deep within) and where I wanted to be (set free from its effects on my body and soul). Because I'd learned a week prior that intestinal inflammation could be rooted in anger, I wanted to do my part, if any, to remove its effects; but I felt helpless-- stuck in spiritual darkness.

With my hands out and palms up, tired and too weak to fight, I asked, "How do I get **freedom**? How do I get **healing**?"

His Spirit reminded me of the answer He's retaught me countless times. (How is it we're so forgetful? Thank You, Lord for Your patience with us.)

The solution is simple, and it's found in 1 John 1:9.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

We confess our sins. He forgives and cleanses.

As I rested in that tiny room with the **not-so-empty** chair that day, my **divine appointment** was with the Holy Spirit Himself. He took me a step further than where I was a week before, **revealing** all the specific things with which I was **not at peace**. I listed each one, confessing **discontentment**, **frustration**, and **lack of trust in God**.

After I confessed and repented,
the Lord removed the junk that was **blinding** me from further **truth**.
He then **exposed** the common denominator
of every situation I'd listed that had made me **angry**:
all of them were things I could not change.

I cannot change the fact that sin exists.
I cannot change the fact that my son will face heart-wrenching difficulties.
I cannot change the fact that our country is unraveling and falling apart.
I cannot change the fact that I don't know the future...and can't control it. The list went on.

The sneaky, creepy stronghold of anger that had kept me in obscurity was finally uncovered:

I have been angry
that I cannot change
the things that cannot be changed.

Does this sound as **ridiculous** to you as it does to me?

What a never-ending **fight**. It's a **trap**. This is how the devil works. Do you see the **tricky vortex** into which he lured me? What's worse, I'd been agreeing with him all along. Well, **no longer**. After 45 minutes of sweet **communion** with the Lord our Healer that day in the hospital, I was **liberated**. In more ways than one.

The Holy Spirit called to mind some Scriptures to combat **anger** and **feeling out of control**. His Word is our **prescription** for **restoration**.

"Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger..." James 1:19

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding..." Proverbs 3:5

As soon as I finished speaking those verses out loud, the nurse came in and took me to my room. After examination, the doctor ordered another CT scan of my abdomen, only 6 days since the first scan that had sparked **grave** concern.

Would you like to know what happened?

The scan came back **completely clear**.

No inflammation, no mild colitis, no diverticulosis, *nothing*.

My intestines were **totally healthy**.

I know exactly Who did that, and I know precisely when He did it.

When we confess our sins to the Lord, He is faithful to **forgive** and **purify** us. Then we speak His Word-- which is **life**-- over our struggle or issue of sin. Consequently, as our soul **prospers**, our body becomes more **healthy**.

"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers." 3 John 1:2

### **CHALLENGE**

God's **healing** is a mystery. Sometimes it's immediate, other times it takes years, and sometimes it's on the other side of heaven. While it may appear differently for each of us and may work out uniquely in various situations, His Word is still true: *God heals. Physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually.* 

So, what do we do as we await His **mending** in our souls and bodies? Apply God's Prescription:

Pull up a chair for Him.
Confess our sin to Him.
Speak the Word over that sin.
Choose to not walk in it anymore.
Repeat as often as needed until symptoms go away.

He is **faithful** to move us from *here* to *there*, as He bridges the gap between where we are in a **stronghold** and where we want to be in Christian **freedom**.

"No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."

1 Corinthians 10:13

No **chasm** is too big for God to bridge.
Whatever the sin may be,
He is **able** to get us **from here to there**.

## **BONUS**

Did you know that the word **fret** in the Bible means to be **angry**?

I always thought it meant to be worried or anxious. While these do overlap, the definition of **anger** is distinct, with the meaning of **fret** (as found in Psalm 37) extending even farther to include:

to burn, be kindled, incensed, earnestly angry.

Feel free to use the link below to read Psalm 37 and be blessed by God's truths and promises in the face of fury and **fretting**.



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