**Fourfold Gospel**

**The PITCHER: Christ our HEALER**

This symbol represents a pitcher containing oil to anoint the sick for healing that comes through obedience to God's Word.

**I. the relationship of divine healing**

**and the atonement**

1. Healing comes from Christ's overpowering of sin on the .

*"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed." 1 Pet. 2:24*

2. The power that healed and restored Christ is the same power that can heal and restore us as well. The divine power of healing is ONLY from Christ and not in a person. People are just instruments used by Christ to be healed by his power.

*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. Rom. 8:11*

He is no shadowy, cloudlike form, but He has flesh and bones as we have. That is our Christ, a living physical Christ, and He is able and willing to share His physical life with you, by breathing His strength into you. (A.B. Simpson, *The Fourfold Gospel,* 42)

**II. the significance of prayer and**

**anointing by the elders**

1. Elders of the church in the modern context for healing are those

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2. Receiving healing involves four important roles:

, , , and .

*[13] Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. [14] Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. [15] And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. [16] Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.*

*James 5:13-16*

The purpose of healing isn't just for us to feel better. It’s all about Jesus and proclaiming his name to the nations. It’s not for comfort or to make our lives easier but to be a witness when it is needed. We could be sick or hurt because of sin or even because God is going to use it in a way to share about him to others.

*As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him.*John 9:1-3

**III. THE MINISTRY OF HEALING IN THE LOCAL CHURCH**

The role of the local church is to teach a correct and Biblical view of healing.

1. Christ heals in ways. God is the sustainer and provider . The most natural way of healing is in nature and by the way God has already created us.

*For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*Col. 1:16-17

God can also use medicine and medical professionals to heal as well. It's nice to have Tylenol or aspirin around but we still need to rely on God first while on medication.

2. Christ says my grace is and may not heal for his glory.

*[7] So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. [8] Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. [9] But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. [10] For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Corinthians 12:7-10*

3. Reasons why we're not healed:

It could be , not God's timing yet, or it could be for us to think about heaven more.