

Actually deliverance and healing are so closely related that the healing of the daughter of Abraham with the crippled spine was achieved by first dealing with the spirit of infirmity (Luke 13:11). How does one deal with a spirit of infirmity? Surely no serious Bible student believes that the Lord would have let that foul spirit stay in the daughter of Abraham during His ministry to her? The discernment of the spirit of infirmity is clearly part of the diagnosis of the problem - indeed the root cause. The Lord's declaration,

"Woman, you have been LOOSED from your infirmity
(v.12 lit)

is clearly a **deliverance command** which is followed by the laying-on-of-hands for **physical restoration** (v.13).

One might argue that the cripple at Lystra was saved for eternal life through the ministry of the apostle Paul and we would not deny that. We see no problem with the view that this man received a full salvation from the Lord, both spiritual and physical, because, as the scripture says,

"This man heard Paul speaking, who, looking intently at him and seeing that he had faith to be **SAVED**, said in a loud voice 'Stand upright on your feet!' And he leaped up and walked." (Acts 14:9-10).

The bottom line is that **evangelism, deliverance and healing are all SALVATION MINISTRIES** provided through the saviourhood of our Lord Jesus Christ (1 John 3:8).

(ii) **Deliverance is obtained through the Sacrifice on the Cross of Jesus**

There is nothing new about this. All we need to do is accept the testimony of Matthew:

"When evening came they brought to Him **MANY DEMONISED**, and he expelled the spirits with a word, and He healed all those with illnesses, so that that which was spoken through Isaiah the prophet who said 'He took our infirmities and bore our diseases' was fulfilled" (Matt. 8:16-17 lit.).

One cannot have the truth spelled out much clearer than that. When Matthew links the substitutionary atonement of the Messiah from Isaiah 53:4-6 with Jesus' ministry of deliverance (first) and healing he makes it clear that Jesus' **SIN-BEARING, SICKNESS-BEARING** and **PAIN-BEARING**, legally established in Isaiah (check the literal Hebrew in your Bible footnotes), is put into practical effect in the New Testament - even before the Victory of the Cross is physically completed.