

**“Those who are
well have no
need of a
physician, but
those who are
sick”**

Luke 5:31





Jeremiah 17:14

“Heal me,
O LORD
and I shall be healed;
save me,
and I shall be saved:
for thou art my praise”

Implications of the Lord Christ being the True Physician and we being His patients

“His healing is also forgiveness, for his mission is to sinners, not to the hypocrites or self-righteous”

Bede the Venerable

1. We are all born with a corrupt nature and predispositions to various sinful inclinations: Anger, Addictions, Sexual perversions, etc.
2. No patient can heal himself no matter how hard he may try. His only hope is to trust himself to a good physician.



3. Patients are not blamed for their illnesses, only for not seeking help or for negligence in receiving the medicine.
4. The beginning of the process of our healing is our response to the question: Do you want to be made well?



5. It's when I suffer and fail that I need to run to my doctor not to avoid him because of the sense of shame.
6. The church being a hospital for the sick. It is where the True Physician administers His medicine.



7. The medicine of forgiveness against the damaging effects of sin: guilt, shame, and fear.
8. The True physician applies His medicines with wisdom. Some medicines soothe and others are bitter, yet all are designed to heal.



9. He may allow “a thorn in the flesh” as a preventive medicine to protect St. Paul from the deadly illness of pride.

10. Communion is called the “medicine of immortality”; it’s not a prize for the righteous.



11. The dearer the passion of sin, the more painful the therapy of it.

- “Just as the excision of the wart gives a sharp pain to the skin of the body, so then must there be some anguish in the recovering soul which had a strong bent to evil” *St. Gergory of Nyssa*



12. The way to recovery is by reversing what was done: “How, then, are the sick to be made strong? It is by undergoing a great change and reversal of their previous behavior, by which they had brought upon themselves serious illness and many sins. Ignorance, the mother of intractability, is driven out by knowing the Truth” *Irenaeus of Lyons*

