

Is psychosomatic healing practiced in charismatic churches?

Cessationists teach that God's gifts have ceased, whereas continuationists teach that gifts are for today (1 Co 12:4–30).

When one prays for healing, God can answer *yes* or *no*. When God heals, he should rightfully get the glory (Jn 9:1–3).

Norman L. Geisler wrote:

Healings occur in various religions. So they have no apologetic value. Furthermore, many events claimed to be supernatural are only psychosomatic. Whether something actually happens in the body, these fall into the category of false miracles...and must be differentiated from true ones....So it is in the interest of the apologetic enterprise to differentiate supernatural and psychological healings...

...The Bible recognizes the effect of the mind on one's health: "A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones" (Prov. 17:22)...

...Since God has created us as mind-body unities, he should get the credit when this marvelous relationship of mind affecting body is used to bring healing. However, it is a serious overclaim to call these cures supernatural.¹

God gave man a body with the ability to heal. Factors conducive to health include: proper diet (Ac 27:34) and exercise (1 Ti 4:8), temperance (Jer 35:5–8), obedience (Pr 4:20–22) and a good attitude (Pr 17:22). Factors destructive to health include: moral looseness (Pr 7:22–27), wickedness (Ps 55:23) and debauchery (Tt 1:12).²

¹ Geisler, N. L. (1999). Healings, Psychosomatic. In Baker encyclopedia of Christian apologetics (pp. 300–301). Baker Books.

² Thomas Nelson Publishers. (1996). Nelson's quick reference topical Bible index (p. 278). Thomas Nelson Publishers.