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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church  
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Series: Book of 3rd John

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Date: 10/9/13  
Text: Ps.41:4  
File: D131009

### **The Book of 3<sup>rd</sup> John (03)** **(A Sick Soul)**

(3 John 2) "Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers."

John talks about a **good healthy soul** in 3 John 2. We will study this doctrinal concept next week. But this lesson is taken from Ps.41:4 and the SICK SOUL of a Church Age Believer (CAB).

(Ps.41:4) "As for me, I said, 'O Lord be gracious (chanan / chen) [Show Grace] to me; **heal** (raphe / kal impv) [Command] my **soul** (nephesh), for I have sinned against You." (David's Plea)

- David used the phrase, as for me, to show that he had fallen from the status of Beatitude healthy soul to a Sick Soul (Ps.41:1).
- David confesses that he has fallen from the sphere of unmerited favor of God because of personal sin (Ps.38:3).
- David has a Sick Soul and in need of God's grace and mercy for healing back to good spiritual health.
- David's path to recovery to a healthy soul begins with **confession of his personal sin.**
  - (Ps.32:1) "How **blessed** is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered?"

(Ps.51:4) "Against You, You only, I have sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are justified when You speak and blameless when you judge." (Luke 15:21; **1 John 1:9**)

(1 Pet.2:24) "And He Himself **bore our sins** in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed." (Isa.53:5)

<b>This lesson will study four signs of a SICK SOUL and recovery to a state of good health.</b>
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- 1. One sign of a sick soul in recovery is after confession of sin and returned to assembly bible study, he is "dull of hearing." (Heb.5:11-14)**

He is struggling with attention, distracted by other interests and inconsistent in his attendance of bible study (Heb.5:11).

(Heb.5:12b) "You have **need again** for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to **need milk** and not solid food."

A healthy soul gets excited about cycling the word of God (1 Pet.2:2; **Luke 24:32**; 2 Tim.3:16-17).

2. **A sickly soul is easily deceived by the craftiness of satan and led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ (2 Cor.11:3) [Eve].**

Peter was another example of this doctrinal principle (Matt.16:21-23; Luke 22:31-32).

Paul warns the church against **“falling away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.”** (1 Tim.4:1; 2 Pet.2:1-2; 2 Tim.2:18; Gal.5:4)

**Paul’s encouragement to Timothy about having a Healthy soul:**

(1 Tim.4:16) “Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.”

3. **A sick soul can be seen in a Church Age Believer’s (CAB) life who no longer endures healthy doctrines because of “itching ears syndrome.”**

(2 Tim.4:3-4) “For the time will come when they will not endure sound (healthy) doctrine; but wanting to have their **ears tickled**, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will **turn away their ears from the truth** and will turn aside to myths.” (1 Tim.3:7-8)

(Heb.10:25) “**Not forsaking our own assembling together**, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.”

4. **A sick soul can wander away from the faith over the frantic search for the Details of Life (DOLs).**

(1 Tim.6:10) “For the love of money is a root of all sort of evil, and some by longing for it have **wandered away from the faith** and pierced themselves with many grief’s.”

Lot and his wife would be one example (Luke 17:32; Gen.19:12-26).

(2 Tim.1:13-14) “**Retain the standard of sound (healthy) words** which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.” (Titus 1:9)