Three New Testament Words for Healing

***Sozo*** – spirit, soul and body(G4982) ***Therapeuo* –** process(G2323); ***Iaomai*** – instantaneous(G2390);

Even though the following three Greek words have all been translated "healing" in the New Testament, they have three distinct and different meanings. That is a bit shocking and challenging to come to grips with. So let's explore the basic Greek meanings of each of these words, and then we will explore the two major words in depth, by providing you a list of each time they show up.

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| **Greek Word** | **Main Definition** | **Number of Uses in KJV** |
| *Sozo* (Strong’s number is G4982) | Salvation – Restoring spirit, soul and body  94 times translated as salvation | 120 times total and of these, only 3 times it is translated “healed” |
| *Therapeuo* (G2323 and G2322) | Therapeutic – To cure through various ways  God provides “Gift**s** of Healing**s**” | 48 times total and of these,  38 times translated “heal” |
| *Iaomai* (G2390) & *Iama* (G2386) | One way of healing  Instantaneous miraculous healing | 32 times total and of these,  28 times translated “heal” |

***Sozo*** (Salvation) includes healing of the entire man, spirit, soul and body, and although salvation does include physical healing (Isa. 53:5), *sozo* seldom speaks directly of physical healing. **Main meaning**: “*save, deliver, protect, heal, preserve, make whole*.”

***Therapeuo*** may be viewed as a sub-component of *sozo*. It involves a host of therapies which can be effective in healing the body and therefore I believe I would put “Gift**s** of Healing**s** (1 Cor. 12:28) in this category.

* **Defined from Kittle (**Theological Dictionary of the New Testament)– “*to heal, serve, to care for the sick, to treat, to cure.”*
* **A Working Definition of *Therapeuo*** – *Therapeua is the wisdom of God which releases cures and provides healing. Therapeua offers a number of approaches for curing a sickness, which include miraculous healing and casting out demons, but is* ***not*** *limited to just these two approaches.*
* [**Every verse with *Therapeuo*** can be downloaded from here](http://www.cwgministries.org/sites/default/files/files/A%20Listing%20of%20Therapeuo.docx).

***Iaomai*** was the healing approach Jesus used almost exclusively. It is instantaneous miracle healing which involves a release of divine healing power, and is often coupled with casting out demons, thus overcoming the forces of darkness and manifesting the kingdom of God. I would view *Iaomai* (instant miracles) as a sub-category within *Therapeua*.

* **Defined from Kittle (**Theological Dictionary of the New Testament)– “*to heal, healing, healer.”*
* **A Working Definition of *Iaomai*** – *Iaomai is the power of God which releases miraculous healing and casting out of demons.*
* [**Every verse with *Iaomai*** can be downloaded from here](http://www.cwgministries.org/sites/default/files/files/A%20Listing%20of%20Iaomai.docx).

**Two of the above Greek words for healing are used by Paul below:**

And it happened that the father of Publius was lying *in bed* afflicted with *recurrent* fever and dysentery; and Paul went in *to see* him and after he had prayed, he laid his hands on him and **healed** (*Iaomai)* him. After this had happened, the rest of the people on the island who had diseases were coming to him and **gettingcured** (*Therapeuo*) – Acts 28:8,9 NASB.

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**Additional Greek Word Studies and a Summary**

1. [Three New Testament Words for Healing](http://www.cwgministries.org/ThreeNTWordsHealing)
2. [Healing - A Demonstration of The Kingdom of God](http://www.cwgministries.org/blogs/healing-demonstration-kingdom-god-coming-near-you)

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