

St. Luke the Physician

The Rev'd. Dr. John Roddam | www.Pleroma.ca

October 18th is the Feast Day of St. Luke the Physician. Luke is the Patron Saint of many churches, schools and hospitals. He was a gentile (non-Jewish) medical doctor who set about to gather an orderly account of Jesus' life. Besides the Gospel that bears his name, he also wrote the Book of Acts, a history of the Early 1st Century Church.

There was a three-fold emphasis in the Primitive Church – Preach, Teach and Heal. The New Testament Book of Acts contains many stories of healing. In fact, Yale Church Historian, Ramsey MacMullin in his book “Christianizing the Roman Empire – AD 100 to 400” chronicles the impact of signs & wonders in the Patristic Era. His central assertion is that the Early Church grew MAINLY through the impact of healing and deliverance. MacMullin drew from non-Christian witnesses exclusively!!

The focus on healing and experiencing signs & wonders has waned over the last few centuries. Pope John Paul I noted that the quietly anti-supernatural Western Church has been impacted by the Post-Enlightenment worldview, commonly called “Empiricism.” Only information derived by the five senses is valid. Since so much of the supernatural is in the realm of the ‘numinous,’ it is suspect and often dismissed.

However, in contrast, the two-thirds world Church is exploding! The Chinese Underground Church sees 35,000 people convert to Christianity PER DAY!! A ministry in Northern India I am closely acquainted with planted 5,500 churches in 2014! In each of these regions, where phenomenal growth is evident, signs & wonders are a key catalyst, including raising the dead! It's like the Primitive Church all over again!!

In 2014, in Halifax, NS, a still-born child was raised from the dead through prayer 28 minutes after the child was delivered. This was medically documented but was never reported in the Chronicle Herald. Why? Because these instances defy Western thinking. In the 1960's, one such raising from the dead led to over 100,000 conversions in Indonesia. BTW, if you're interested, Reinhard Bonnke, the famous East German Evangelist, produced a documentary (DVD) of a beloved African pastor who was raised from the dead. It's available on his website. Check it out!!



Dr. Candi Brown, a Harvard Professor has been writing on the power of Prayer and the impact of the 20th C. Healing Movement. So... our Western defences against supernatural intervention are crumbling! Do a Google search! Find out for yourself!!

In the Great Commission, Jesus told His disciples, “teach them to observe EVERYTHING I’ve commanded you...” Included in this list is the command to heal the sick, cast out demons, raise the dead, etc. This is happening TODAY!! A key to this is found in Jesus’ same final words before His Ascension to Glory – He called the Church to make disciples. In areas where believers are mentored and

trained to move in the Power of God, these signs occur.

This Fall, training will take place in Halifax to equip workers for Healing Rooms. This movement has grown to over 4,000 centres in less than two decades. The Order of St. Luke also has a strong training component. Come and learn how to operate in Kingdom power.