

FACEBOOK POST of 6 October 2020 CORONAVIRUS 'CHAIN PRAYER' CURRENTLY CIRCULATING

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The following so-called 'prayer' which is 'doing the rounds' has been drawn to my attention. This is how it reads –

Father God in the mighty name of Jesus! I pray, speak and **declare** healing all over our land! - We are standing and trusting in your promises. **By your stripes we are healed!** Touch the minds and hearts of our leaders to know when to take the right decisions in this situation and always.
I humbly ask that your will be done in our lives and nations.
I pray a special blessing over the ones that are reading this prayer and all essential workers out there fighting this pandemic.
I declare and decree Victory in Jesus.
Amen, Glory to God.

So, what do I think of it? In truth this could be straight out of the joint **'Word of Faith'** and **'New Apostolic Reformation'** handbook on prayer.

The use of **'By your stripes we are healed'** is the usual misapplication by 'Word of Faith' teachers that this refers to guaranteed healing of our bodies in this life. It does not. In the context of Isaiah 53:5 and 1 Peter 2:24 where the phrase is used it refers to healing from our spiritual problem (condemnation) caused by our 'transgressions', 'iniquities' and 'sins'.

Then, twice we read the word **'declare'** and once the word **'decree'** – as if we have such power to ordain what MUST happen because we have spoken. This is both **'New Apostolic Reformation'** and **'Word of Faith'** nonsense. I referred to it in my recent talk on 'A Pandemic of False Prophets' and quote from the very helpful article located on

<https://fitl.co.za/2020/04/29/a-glossary-of-new-apostolic-reformation-terminology/>

In closing, whatever Paul's problem was that he refers to in 2 Corinthians 12:7-9, he quite rightly brought the matter before the Lord in prayer, BUT, he did NOT 'decree and declare' the resolution to the problem that he wanted – he simply prayed reverently that the problem "might depart" (verse 8) but humbly acknowledged the Lord's response to the prayer that His "grace would be sufficient" (verse 9) because the Lord had a purpose that Paul should be able to "glory" in the midst of his "infirmity" thus displaying divine strength in the midst of his human weakness.