

One Is Your Healer

- By Lowell Fillmore

REMEMBER that there are usually three possible methods of dealing with every question. Two of these are extremes, while the third is a method falling midway between them.

"What shall be my attitude toward doctors and material remedies since I am depending upon God for my health?" This is a question that often puzzles the Truth student. Every person has his choice of three answers.

Some have taken the extreme view that doctors are directly opposed to divine methods, and that they and all their devices should be shunned. Others are inclined to go to the opposite extreme and consider physicians as all-wise and almost superhuman in their ability to cure every ailment. These people run to the doctors for every little ache and pain. Neither of these viewpoints seems wise or satisfactory. The attitude of the Truth student toward the medical profession should be quite different from either of these.

A Truth student should realize that divine healing employs quite a different system from that used by all schools of medicine each having its special methods. Medical science employs drugs, serums, lights, instruments, appliances.

Divine healing employs right thinking and faith in God. The Christian metaphysician depends upon God directly for healing, while the physician depends upon God indirectly. Each school has its own method. There should be no hard feeling between schools, but a patient who is receptive toward spiritual healing should strengthen his faith in the healing power of God by depending upon Him.

There should be no condemnation in the mind of the Truth student for doctors or their methods, nor should he have any criticism for any student who calls on a doctor for help, nor for himself if he should ever feel it necessary to call upon a doctor.

But one who wishes divine healing should fix his faith so firmly on God as the one source of health that he does not waver. He should not divide his attention between the two methods. When a person realizes clearly that his life comes from God he will depend upon God and will feel that it is not necessary to depend upon any other means of healing.

Faith is such a powerful force in man that when he accepts God as the healing agent, so-called miracles will result. Jesus Christ, the great healer, promised that our prayers would be answered according to our faith. While a Truth student should have the most kindly feeling toward

doctors at all times he should not divide his faith between God and them.

We give thanks that there are so many efficient and able physicians, surgeons, and nurses, because the world needs them. Those who are not yet strong enough to trust God must have other help.

I am sure all doctors admit that they do not accomplish the healing but that the invisible forces of nature do the work. The doctor's work is to help make conditions favorable for these forces to do their best. That a person under a doctor's care can receive help through prayer is proved true every day. Often the hand of a surgeon is guided by prayer; but if we who know Truth continue to depend upon material means for our healing, how are we ever going to develop our faith and cultivate the healing power within us? If we would strengthen our faith we must begin to depend upon it and use the power of Spirit within us. The possibilities of spiritual healing are greater than those of any other method, because with God all things are possible.

If a mother did not let her little child try to walk because she feared it would be too difficult for the poor little thing to manage its feet, so far as she is concerned the child would never learn to walk. If we continually protect our faith from actual use by- substituting material remedies for it, how shall we ever make it strong enough to serve us?

Since God life is manifest in every living thing and the effects of God wisdom may be seen on every hand directing the wonders of nature, the seasons, and the courses of the stars, there is no reason why we should not have implicit faith in God, who made us, to keep us in repair.

A man who has faith can endure much greater hardships than one who has no faith. A certain newspaper story tells of a group of men who were lost in the jungle. One had no faith and he died. The others had faith. They came through and got back to civilization. The person who has faith finds it easy to keep his head during great catastrophes. Faith is one of the powers by which man is able to co-operate with God.

According to the measure of our faith divine healing power becomes active in us. One who divides his faith between material remedies and God, doubting God's ability to heal, cannot expect to receive the good results that a unified and awakened faith would produce.

Fear and doubt are both enemies of health. We must be fearless even to the extent that the diagnosis (or the treatment prescribed) by a physician or surgeon does not frighten us, We must cultivate such an abiding faith that even the thought of a hospital-cannot alarm us or shake our faith in God as the supreme healer working within to restore the body to perfection and wholeness. Thus our faith, kept free from

doubt, confusion, or panic works with the power of God to bring about the perfect healing either for ourselves or for others.

We must not fear the doctor or accept his pronouncements as final when they are discouraging. We must realize that there is One who is greater than any material remedy, of whom we say, "Closer is He than breathing, and nearer than hands and feet," and with whom all things are possible. This invisible, all-powerful One accomplished marvelous healings through Jesus Christ two thousand years ago. Jesus testified that it was the Father within Him that did the work. In the Lord's Prayer Jesus referred to Him as "our Father." Since He is our Father He is in every one of us, ready to heal and bless us if we will but call upon Him.

Thousands of people are healed every year through the power of prayer. Thousands of unsolicited testimonials pour in to Unity every year praising God for healings that have been received through this divine power. This being so, we know that the healing power of God is a fact. When we ask for healing, God is ready to heal, but we must make our mental condition right for Him to reach us. Remember how perfect faith healed the woman who merely touched the hem of Jesus' garment.

Worry, greed, anger, grief, and all emotional upsets prevent the divine power from doing its perfect work in us. We must learn to be peaceful, poised, and obedient to the Spirit within. We must be patient and relaxed. We must have faith.

Healing played an important part in Jesus' ministry, and His disciples also did healing. Doubtless the members of the early church depended upon God for their healings. As the years went by the original healing faith seems to have been ignored, until healing came to be thought of as pertaining to the soul and not to the body. To excuse lack of faith some Christians have said that Christ merely did the healing to prove that He was the Son of God. But according to Matthew Jesus said, "Heal the sick," and in Luke we find this: "He sent them forth . . . to heal the sick." Jesus Christ and His healing ministry remain the same yesterday, today, and forever.

There are wonderful healings taking place today. They are often referred to as miracles. But they are not miracles in the true sense, because they are done according to law, but law that is higher than the known laws of nature.

True healing belongs to God. All other methods are but patchwork compared with His true healing power. When a skillful surgeon sets a bone he can do no more. He must wait for the life forces in the body to knit the parts of the bone together. If these bodily forces do not function properly, then there is little he can do to make the bone whole.

When a man cuts his finger he takes for granted that the cut will grow together and heal, and so it does. The healing life in the body is at work all the time, and it heals when it is not too much inhibited by fear and other emotions. It is continually repairing many frazzled and ragged fringes that we never know about. This service of nature is the working out of the perfect idea of God's life in us, and by consciously co-operating with it through harmonious thinking we may keep open the way for God's perfect healing power to work in us in full measure.

Bless the doctors. Bless the hospitals. Bless the remedies, and co-operate in prayer with those whose faith is not strong enough to depend entirely upon God. But we urge every Truth student to strengthen his faith, to cultivate the true healing power within himself and thus be saved body and soul by the Christ indwelling in him; not merely saved after death but saved from error and sickness, saved in perfect health and eternal life, here and now.

SUGGESTIONS FOR DAILY MEDITATION

"With God all things are possible."

God in the midst of me is mighty to heal, to save, and to bless.

The healing power of God's Spirit is now renewing and harmonizing every part of my body, and I am being healed.

I bless the life and substance in this body, because it belongs to God.

My faith is fixed in God, the omnipresent healer.

My body is the pure, holy, perfect temple of the living God .

YE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH

If men everywhere would expect to manifest more life, more health, more nearly perfect expression of energy and vitality instead of allowing themselves to dread ill-health, disease, and death at every indisposition, the mortality tables would soon need revising upward to record higher average ages.

Faith in God as the source of all life and health has usually been counted the opposite of the medical approach to the question of healing. The New York Times, in a column account of the 156th annual meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society, shows that the two are now being combined. We quote the Times:

A demand that the medical profession acknowledge that God and the wisdom of the human body constitute ninety per cent of the hope of patients for recovery, with the doctor contributing only ten per cent by imitating the defensive functions of the body, was made by Dr. Richard C. Cabot, Harvard professor-emeritus, at the 156th annual meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society at the Hotel Bradford.

A large group of physicians attending the medical session which Doctor Cabot addressed, gave the veteran educator an ovation as he urged them to accord recognition to the tremendous healing forces pent up in the body organism, to scorn use of the word "nature" in the healing process, and turn their faith to God. . .

Doctor Cabot, introducing his theme of deism for physicians, called attention to the "compensatory hypertrophy" which medicine has learned acts as a tremendous defense for body ailments. He said in part:

"When you sprain your wrist, it stiffens swells and pains. That is the body's way of forming a splint. When the doctor places a splint on the wrist, it is only to imitate and aid the body forces.

"I remember an autopsy on a man who had been killed by an automobile. He was 65, had never been sick a day in his life and always felt in perfect health. We found his body harboring four usually fatal diseases; but his system had set up defenses which rendered all of them perfectly harmless.

"The body simply has a super wisdom which is biased in favor of life rather than death. It doesn't win every time, and often needs our help—but it is ten times as powerful as medicine's imitation. And it is a force that doesn't make as many wrong diagnoses as I did when I was in practice.

"What is this powerful force? It is God— the healing power on which all of us depend in order to be here today. But this great power that creates and maintains us, also creates and maintains bacteria and we have to learn to live with them and get along with them. Live and learn, live and let live. War floods, and disease are only the result of our own stupidity.

"I earnestly recommend to the medical profession to let the patient know of this great force that is working within him, working on the patient's side, on the doctor's side. It adds to their confidence in their own life, in the doctor, the drugs and therapeutics. It does the medical profession no good to avoid the word 'God.' Why not teach the people the truth ? "