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### HOW IS HEALING ACCOMPLISHED?

<sup>5:1</sup> Healing involves an understanding of what the illusion of sickness is for. Healing is impossible without this.

#### I. The Perceived Purpose of Sickness

1. <sup>1</sup>Healing is accomplished the instant the sufferer no longer sees any value in pain. <sup>2</sup>Who would choose suffering unless he thought it brought him something, and something of value to him? <sup>3</sup>He must think it is a small price to pay for something of greater worth. <sup>4</sup>For sickness is an election; a decision. <sup>5</sup>It is the choice of weakness, in the mistaken conviction that it is strength. <sup>6</sup>When this occurs, real strength is seen as threat and health as danger. <sup>7</sup>Sickness is a method, conceived in madness, for placing God's Son on his Father's throne. <sup>8</sup>God is seen as outside, fierce and powerful, eager to keep all power for Himself. <sup>9</sup>Only by His death can He be conquered by His Son.

2. <sup>1</sup>And what, in this insane conviction, does healing stand for? <sup>2</sup>It symbolizes the defeat of God's Son and the triumph of his Father over him. <sup>3</sup>It represents the ultimate defiance in a direct form which the Son of God is forced to recognize. <sup>4</sup>It stands for all that he would hide from himself to protect his "life." <sup>5</sup>If he is healed, he is responsible for his thoughts. <sup>6</sup>And if he is responsible for his thoughts, he will be killed to prove to him how weak and pitiful he is. <sup>7</sup>But if he chooses death himself, his weakness is his strength. <sup>8</sup>Now has he given himself what God would give to him, and thus entirely usurped the throne of his Creator.

#### II. The Shift in Perception

1. <sup>1</sup>Healing must occur in exact proportion to which the value-less-ness of sickness is recognized. <sup>2</sup>One need but say, "There is no gain at all to me in this" and he is healed. <sup>3</sup>But to say this, one first must recognize certain facts. <sup>4</sup>First, it is obvious that decisions are of the mind, not of the body. <sup>5</sup>If sickness is but a faulty problem-solving approach, it is a decision. <sup>6</sup>And if it is a decision, it is the mind and not the body that makes it. <sup>7</sup>The resistance to recognizing this is enormous, because the existence of the world as you perceive it depends on the body being the decision maker. <sup>8</sup>Terms like "instincts," "reflexes" and the like represent attempts to endow the body with non-mental motivators. <sup>9</sup>Actually, such terms merely state or describe the problem. <sup>10</sup>They do not answer it.

2. <sup>1</sup>The acceptance of sickness as a decision of the mind, for a purpose for which it would use the body, is the basis of healing. <sup>2</sup>And this is so for healing in all forms. <sup>3</sup>A patient decides that this is so, and he recovers. <sup>4</sup>If he decides against recovery, he will not be healed. <sup>5</sup>Who is the physician? <sup>6</sup>Only the mind of the patient himself. <sup>7</sup>The outcome is what he decides that it is. <sup>8</sup>Special agents seem to be ministering to him, yet they but give form to his own choice. <sup>9</sup>He chooses them in

order to bring tangible form to his desires. <sup>10</sup>And it is this they do, and nothing else. <sup>11</sup>They are not actually needed at all. <sup>12</sup>The patient could merely rise up without their aid and say, "I have no use for this." <sup>13</sup>There is no form of sickness that would not be cured at once.

3. <sup>1</sup>What is the single requisite for this shift in perception? <sup>2</sup>It is simply this; the recognition that sickness is of the mind, and has nothing to do with the body. <sup>3</sup>What does this recognition "cost"? <sup>4</sup>It costs the whole world you see, for the world will never again appear to rule the mind. <sup>5</sup>For with this recognition is responsibility placed where it belongs; not with the world, but on him who looks on the world and sees it as it is not. <sup>6</sup>He looks on what he chooses to see. <sup>7</sup>No more and no less. <sup>8</sup>The world does nothing to him. <sup>9</sup>He only thought it did. <sup>10</sup>Nor does he do anything to the world, because he was mistaken about what it is. <sup>11</sup>Herein is the release from guilt and sickness both, for they are one. <sup>12</sup>Yet to accept this release, the insignificance of the body must be an acceptable idea.

4. <sup>1</sup>With this idea is pain forever gone. <sup>2</sup>But with this idea goes also all confusion about creation. <sup>3</sup>Does not this follow of necessity? <sup>4</sup>Place cause and effect in their true sequence in one respect, and the learning will generalize and transform the world. <sup>5</sup>The transfer value of one true idea has no end or limit. <sup>6</sup>The final outcome of this lesson is the remembrance of God. <sup>7</sup>What do guilt and sickness, pain, disaster and all suffering mean now? <sup>8</sup>Having no purpose, they are gone. <sup>9</sup>And with them also go all the effects they seemed to cause. <sup>10</sup>Cause and effect but replicate creation. <sup>11</sup>Seen in their proper perspective, without distortion and without fear, they re-establish Heaven.

### **III. The Function of the Teacher of God**

1. <sup>1</sup>If the patient must change his mind in order to be healed, what does the teacher of God do? <sup>2</sup>Can he change the patient's mind for him? <sup>3</sup>Certainly not. <sup>4</sup>For those already willing to change their minds he has no function except to rejoice with them, for they have become teachers of God with him. <sup>5</sup>He has, however, a more specific function for those who do not understand what healing is. <sup>6</sup>These patients do not realize they have chosen sickness. <sup>7</sup>On the contrary, they believe that sickness has chosen them. <sup>8</sup>Nor are they open-minded on this point. <sup>9</sup>The body tells them what to do and they obey. <sup>10</sup>They have no idea how insane this concept is. <sup>11</sup>If they even suspected it, they would be healed. <sup>12</sup>Yet they suspect nothing. <sup>13</sup>To them the separation is quite real.

2. <sup>1</sup>To them God's teachers come, to represent another choice which they had forgotten. <sup>2</sup>The simple presence of a teacher of God is a reminder. <sup>3</sup>His thoughts ask for the right to question what the patient has accepted as true. <sup>4</sup>As God's messengers, His teachers are the symbols of salvation. <sup>5</sup>They ask the patient for forgiveness for God's Son in his own Name. <sup>6</sup>They stand for the Alternative. <sup>7</sup>With God's Word in their minds they come in benediction, not to heal the sick but to remind them of the remedy God has already given them. <sup>8</sup>It is not their hands that heal. <sup>9</sup>It is not their voice that speaks the Word of God. <sup>10</sup>They merely give what has been given them. <sup>11</sup>Very gently they call to their brothers to turn away

from death: "Behold, you Son of God, what Life can offer you. <sup>12</sup>Would you choose sickness in place of this?"

3. <sup>1</sup>Not once do the advanced teachers of God consider the forms of sickness in which their brother believes. <sup>2</sup>To do this is to forget that all of them have the same purpose, and therefore are not really different. <sup>3</sup>They seek for God's Voice in this brother who would so deceive himself as to believe God's Son can suffer. <sup>4</sup>And they remind him that he did not make himself, and must remain as God created him. <sup>5</sup>They recognize illusions can have no effect. <sup>6</sup>The truth in their minds reaches out to the truth in the minds of their brothers, so that illusions are not reinforced. <sup>7</sup>They are thus brought to truth; truth is not brought to them. <sup>8</sup>So are they dispelled, not by the will of another, but by the union of the One Will with Itself. <sup>9</sup>And this is the function of God's teachers; to see no will as separate from their own, nor theirs as separate from God's.