



Monthly Lesson  
November 2012

### **“Healing Work – Rest in the Spirit”<sup>1</sup>**

If you would begin each day by contemplating in meditation these facets of Being - God, man, body - aligning them spiritually to the truth of Being, and then entering the silence, you would be in pure Being. Start with God; then man<sup>2</sup> as the expression of God's being (having the same quantities and qualities of God), infinite in nature, incorporeal, incorruptible; and Body, the Divine Idea made manifest. Jesus portrayed the Divine Idea of Christ made manifest in the flesh; he was the highest human concept ever seen as the Divine Idea. In Eastern philosophies, this would be Siddhartha Gautama who portrayed Buddha. In every religion of the world, there is always the Divine Idea made manifest, embodied, showing forth in the human scene as the highest human concept of the Word made flesh.

Buddha's mission was different from Jesus' mission. His mission resulted in teaching the nature of error. Buddhism has a term for this hypnotic, mental miasma that is operating in the human scene. It is called *Maya*, and if this is understood to be absolutely without power or presence and seen as nothingness, man can be released from his suffering. As the story is told, Buddha sought out numerous holy men and practiced meditation for many years. During

this time, he tried many different practices such as dietary restrictions, living on very little food until he was just skin and bones. After being a pilgrim on this long search, he finally gave up and sat under a Bodhi Tree. In that experience, he came to a place of helplessness and began to watch his mind. As he watched, the temptations became a living drama that took place before him. He realized then that the entire human scene is a mental projection – it is nothing to be fought, conquered or gotten rid of. It is nothingness! With that realization, his illumination and freedom came, and he and his disciples did wonderful work until later when Maya was seen as something to overcome instead of as “illusion.” Today if we can see the illusory nature of material concepts and open our awareness to the blessed *I*, we will see the Kingdom of God here and now.

The same principle existed in Christian Science regarding the term “mortal mind.” Mrs. Eddy realized that every case or problem presented was mortal mind. It was not a disease, poverty or bad human relationships, but just a mortal mind concept that could be dismissed because in truth, there is only one Mind unconditioned and pure, and the Kingdom of God is here and now. When Mrs. Eddy was asked what mortal mind meant, she said “It is the sum total of all evil, a term denoting nothingness.” When I had an interview with Joel, he asked me the same question and I quoted Mrs. Eddy's definition. She also said “Treat sickness like sin with sudden dismissal.” Mortal mind has no presence or power unless it is identified with and accepted. If you personalize it, believing that those images that come to you are yours, or you feel guilty and think you have to “do something” about the images, then you have personalized them. All evil is impersonal.

In the Garden of Eden allegory, mortal mind was a talking serpent; no one has ever seen a talking serpent. The serpent is a metaphor depicting the temptations that come to us. Joel said that whoever created the term “devil” or

<sup>1</sup> 1991 Asilomar Retreat, Tape V (9108), Side 2

<sup>2</sup> When you see the word “man” used in the Bible, it is being used generically, as in “mankind.”

“Satan” was on the beam. In Sanskrit, Satan means “I resist.” Of course, there is no devil or Satan created by God – it is just aggressive, mental suggestion and resistance to the flow. Behind that concept of “Satan” is the allegory of Lucifer, an angel who became egotistical and fell to earth. If we want to call anything devil or Satan, it should be the personal ego. What is the personal ego? It identifies with human history and personalized thought which is really universal hypnotism. It is not power, it is not presence and you do not have a “big ego.” You just haven’t been alerted to disassociate yourself, step back, and watch the mind as Buddha did. As he watched these pictures with their suggestion of all the horrors on earth, he saw that it was *Maya*, hypnotism. His entire teaching was based on the non-power of *Maya*.

There are two things to know about healing. One is to know the Truth of God’s presence, and the other is to know the nature of error. We need knowledge of both to climb the Holy mountain of revelation, just as we need both legs. The nature of error is that all the evils in this world never have their rise in any person. The person who is the inlet and outlet for a destructive activity is also a victim. The error is always this impersonal devil, Satan, carnal mind, *Maya*, but these are terms denoting nothingness – nothing that God has created, nothing God supports or maintains. So if you can meet one problem where you can see that this aggressive mental suggestion is nothingness, no power, no presence, and then rest in stillness, quietness and confidence – you’ll see error destroy itself or fade out into nothingness in the realization of Omnipresence.

My greatest realization that disease is an illusion to the illumined mind was in a healing that occurred with John. I was reading The Art of Spiritual Healing and I came upon the passage where Joel said “For years after I had learned to recognize that all forms of sin, disease, lack, limitation, depression, or whatnot are mesmeric sense, or hypnotism,

the puzzle was to discover how to break that hypnotism for a person.” Then he said “When you are not thinking thoughts or words, when you are in a stillness, the human mind is stopped – the hypnotism is gone. When you experience this, you will feel Something which transcends the human dimension of life.”<sup>3</sup> I realized that in this state, there were no words, no thoughts, no action but the awareness of the presence of God – the awareness of this transcendental *I*. I thought about my healings – sometimes there were beautiful healings and sometimes Nature took its course. Then I realized what was missing in my healing work; I saw that once the mind is imbued with Truth, we must not get into a dialog or argument with this ego driven mental activity. We must stay focused on the Now and take a listening attitude. Then inner peace comes along with the released sense of Life in God, and our part is finished. Sometimes this has to be repeated if the suggestions return.

That is why no discussion is permitted in the Infinite Way. Joel said that we should never teach through discussion because it leads to argument and argument is mortal mind. So when we are confronted with mortal mind or argument, whether it is interior or exterior, we must withdraw from the battle. Meet it with no words, no thoughts, no action, just that awareness of Infinity, that inner silence and peace.

Returning to the experience with John’s foot, we had worked diligently, metaphysically, and every way we knew how on the appearance of an ugly foot wound. John walked into the room after I had read that passage; I looked down and saw his corrupted foot. Instead of mentally blasting that appearance with words and thoughts, and going over a lot of truths, I rested in the *I*. When John returned to the room 30 minutes later, the problem had

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<sup>3</sup> Both quotes above are from The Art of Spiritual Healing, chapter 5 entitled “What Did Hinder You?” by Joel S. Goldsmith.

been dissolved and the foot was whole. All the corrupted flesh, blood, and the appearance that had seemed so real was absolutely gone in the twinkling of an eye. This was such a lesson to both of us about how the senses fool us. When we see all these discordant pictures, none of them has an externalized reality. An illusion cannot externalize itself; it always remains in the human mental realm and that is where the healing takes place when the unconditioned mind dissolves the concepts and the peace of God is felt.

When you meet an individual who has an illumined mind, they do not pick up the mental or physical sword. They *rest* in the realization of one Presence and one Power – in that / -- and discord disappears. It seems that many people who have problems want us to feel that the problems are very real. But if they succeed in hypnotizing us with the appearance, then we have lost the case. It is only when we have such detachment that we can look at any appearance and realize it is no more real than the horizon line or the mirage on the highway. An illusion can never externalize itself. You are to rest. *“Be still, and know that I am God.”*<sup>4</sup> Just rest. No words, no thoughts, no action – just the awareness of the Presence of God.

This healing has always been one of the great highlights of my experience -- I actually witnessed that an appearance of blood and corrupted flesh was illusory. It had no external activity apart from the hypnotic suggestion; when the appearance disappeared by inner stillness of the Presence of God, I clearly saw it did not exist and never had. “Prayer is an awareness of that which IS by ‘seeing’ it – not making it so.”<sup>5</sup>

There is a very good question on the desk. “What is the spiritual meaning or significance of Jesus being baptized by

John?” There are three baptisms that we experience. The outer baptism, purification by water, symbolizes being born again. But besides the baptism of the water, there is the baptism of the blood, and the baptism of the Holy Spirit. These three are actually one. In this spiritual context, the words “water” and “blood” have different meanings. Remember, the great lights in the Bible were all Hebrews. In the Hebrew temple, there were two steps; one was purification by water, and the other was sacrifice of self-interest symbolized by the blood of the lamb.

The symbol of the water is self-purification and that occurs today through the Word of God, the letter of Truth. We all have 3 experiences along the way that are spiritual experiences, each representing a different degree of illumination. We are all under the tutelage of the Christ, taught by this illumined mind that is omnipresent. Read Jesus’ words in red letters in the Bible’s New Testament – these words are the water. If you read these words over and over, and understand them, you will be purified by His words and you will have that mind that was also in Christ Jesus. When a question or a decision is needed, if you have studied those words, you will be instructed. This is the first Baptism.

As we embrace the living word of God as given through Christ Jesus, we merge into the second Baptism where we willingly lay down our life. *“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”*<sup>6</sup> We sacrifice our opinions for the Truth and begin to live the life of the sacrificial Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world. You may not be able to do the works that Jesus did, or you may be able to do more because he said *“He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do.”*<sup>7</sup> To lose

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<sup>4</sup> Psalm 46:10

<sup>5</sup> Wisdom of the Infinite Way, The Infinite Way by Joel S. Goldsmith

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<sup>6</sup> John 15:13

<sup>7</sup> John 14:12

oneself in the realization that the Kingdom of God is at hand, peopled with children of God, enriches our life experience and sets us free of all fear. What greater experience is there than to have spiritual friends? Once we begin to imbue our minds with truth, we will begin to see “revelings” take place, we will see that carnal mind has no power, no presence, it is not God ordained or sustained.

The third Baptism occurs when the Spirit of God takes over your life; you are immersed in the Spirit and you become the Living Word – “*And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.*”<sup>8</sup> These three baptisms on earth bear witness to the Triune Principle in the invisible: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Life, Truth and Love, the Word made flesh. When you have had that third Baptism of the Holy Spirit so that you are immersed in It, you will see that “*the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*”<sup>9</sup> This is God made manifest in the flesh.

These experiences come as we faithfully follow the Message of Jesus Christ. The great joy is that there comes a time when we are the living Word. So much personal sense has lessened and Christ is so enthroned that we can say like Paul, “*I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*”<sup>10</sup> This is the way of grace and truth in which we rest from all labor as children of God, fulfilling His plan for us. “*And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.*”<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> John 1:14

<sup>9</sup> Hebrews 4:12

<sup>10</sup> Galatians 2:20

<sup>11</sup> Genesis 1:31

*Dear Friend:*

*Now we are entering the Thanksgiving season of gratitude for the abundance and freedom that we enjoy in our country. Also, we have an election coming up to choose who will be our President for the next four years. To keep our freedom, we must vote – this is our privilege as citizens.*

*During this season of Thanksgiving, let us keep focused on God whose government includes All. Each has all, so let us recognize this truth and demonstrate it through good will toward all mankind.*

*Blessings of “My Peace” are yours Now.*

*Virginia*

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