

## DISSOLVING BARRIERS

### *The Healing Work of Christian Science - Part I*

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#### The Sixth Law

Then there is a sixth warp thread which is wholeness. The word whole in the dictionary has exactly the same root as the word health. Health means wholeness. There is a case in the Bible where Jesus said to the patient, 'Wilt thou be made whole?' and then 'Behold, thou art made whole.' The theme of the sixth thread is this recognition that we are made whole.

The great Jan Smuts, famous for many things, wrote a thesis on the philosophy of wholeness. It was a marvellous contribution to human knowledge. The heart of his theme is that wholeness is not made up of bits; wholeness is bigger than the sum total of its parts.

Unless we work from the consciousness of the universe being one whole we shall never understand the bits that it includes. We read the other day an article from a South African newspaper saying that Smuts' philosophy of holism is very relevant for the problems of society today, because it is only by working from the ideal of wholeness that a proper allocation of the parts within the whole can possibly be brought about. It is not a matter of trying to get bits to come together that makes harmony but working from the whole in consciousness.

When you transgress the law and you are brought into the law court you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. It is as though human law recognizes that just saying truth is not enough, it has got to be whole, and it has got to be nothing but the truth.

"I will restore health unto thee .. saith the Lord," (Jer 30:17). I will restore health, wholeness, totality. In that wholeness of Truth our bodies, our affairs, are not many little bits. Our body, for example, is one coordinated, harmonized, compound whole, in which everything fulfils the purpose for which it was intended within the collective totality. It is always an integrated whole.

At one time when we were in California, we had a dramatic experience of this point. As a boy was leaving for school one day, he slammed the door but left his finger in the door and it was severed. His mother took the boy and the finger and rushed to get the doctor to sew them together again, because sometimes, if they do this quickly, it will knit. The boy's mother was not a Christian Scientist, but the grandmother was, and she telephoned to ask me to help her to maintain her thought at a point of spiritual peace during this experience. She told me what had happened and I said, 'Well, there comes into my thought Jesus' words, Thou art made whole 'Oh,' she said, 'made whole, of course, we are made whole if we are made in the image and likeness of God.' So we stayed with that, the grandmother and I. In the meantime the doctor sewed on the finger and day by day the mother took the child to have it dressed, and the finger got blacker and blacker, and at the end of the week the dead tip came away with the bandage. Everybody was pretty sick at heart because neither the doctor's skill nor the grandmother's Christian Science had been effective in this case. But that very weekend the whole family were together and they were amazed to see, under their very eyes, a new finger grow up.

They saw the white of the bone come up first, then the flesh formed, and then the nail. It is very encouraging to have healings like that, but what was really interesting and instructive to us all was to see how and why the healing happened. By trying to stick two broken bits together there was no healing. But by working from the consciousness of the wholeness of Truth which declares to man, "Thou are made whole," then the healing could come about. That is surely the same principle on which Jesus heals the man when he says to him, "Wilt thou made whole?" and then, "Behold, thou art made whole" (John 5).

So how important to work from wholeness. Whatever the proposition in front of us, whether it is a business deal, or wheter we are looking for health, or we are wanting to resolve some ugly relationship, we often think, Now I wonder how I can make that work out? Shall I telephone this man and get him to do this and that? We try to manipulate the bits. That may seem to be

legitimate, but let us first work from Truth and focus on the true view that in God every right endeavour is already whole and perfected, all ready complete. Truth is already true; but we have to come into line with it. The law behind these illustrations is that God is Truth. Truth is integrated wholeness. Because man is the image and likeness of Truth it is this status that gives him his consciousness of what he truly is - a whole man, a new man. Truth makes a new creature whom "old things are are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (II Cor 5:17).

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