

Faith L E C T U R E
~~"A P P E A R E N T H E A L I N G"~~

-by-

MR. CHARLES FILLMORE

-at-

U N I T Y A U D I T O R I U M

913 Tracy Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri,

SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 20, 1912.

-c-

-c-

-----c-----

"God is Spirit, and they that worship him must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth". This teaching by Jesus, of the Character of God, was necessary in his day, as it is in ours, because men have a way of imagining God to be like a man, sitting on a throne, in a far-away heaven.

Jesus wished his followers to have a right understanding of the character of God, then their worship would be righteous. God is Spirit, not material, but that which can be everywhere present at all times. The invisible to the eye, and yet visible to the consciousness. And we must worship this God in Truth; that is, we must have an understanding of the character of God.

Man should not always be in ignorance, he should know. We must understand God as we understand any spiritual prin-

ciple; and the God Spirit is open to investigation. We must investigate; we must take hold of this God Presence exactly as we take hold of our own powers and bring them into expression. God is Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.

The God Spirit will reveal itself to your Spirit when you look in its direction; when you conceive that this Spirit is right here present, and it makes unity with your Spirit when you ask for that Unity, and understand its law.

Now, the law of Spirit, in one of its expressions, is the law of your mind. When your mind works in what we call "absolute ideas", immediately the Absolute Spiritual Presence is with you. You become conscious of another realm inter-

blending with this realm, and you know what spiritually minded people have claimed all down the ages, that man could know and commune with God.

Now, we will every one of us look in the God-direction, with the eye of the Spirit: - "Acknowledge me in all thy ways".

So the most important ways that we have are ways of thinking.

Now, we will think in the direction of God. God is Spirit; God is spiritually here; God is everywhere; God is Mind. Mind thinks, therefore the thoughts of God are right here. I think the thoughts of God when I turn my attention to God, as Omnipresent Spirit. Let your mind run along those

channels; try to realize the presence of God, and to come into the consciousness of God.

will

Now, we, all join in this realization, and when you have the consciousness, then "ask whatsoever ye will in my name, and it shall be done unto you".

(S i l e n c e).

You are all provided with the Weekly Unity, and I will ask you to join in the healing service. The point brought out in this Responsive Service, is asking the Power of the Spirit, the I AM in man, to do healing, to have dominion, that to have authority which inherently belongs to us under all circumstances.

(Responsive Reading).

The subject that will claim our attention this morning is "Absent Healing".

Spiritual Healing has always been practiced and taught. We do not present to you any new Truth. The great modern wave going over the minds of the people, is but a resurrection of what has always been known to them; but it has been confined to the prophets, to the sages, to certain religious devotees, and not understood by the people at large. The law hasn't been comprehended.

Men saw electricity in the sky, and sometimes its effect in Nature, and they attributed it to Jove, or some mighty man in the sky. It was always relegated to a personality, not understood as a Universal Principle.

Exactly the same thing is true of Spiritual Healing. It was supposed to belong to some Saint, or some Shrine, or the bones of a Saint, or something belonging to the personal man or woman.

Now, that all indicates the view which man takes of things from his own viewpoint. Personal man looks out into a personal, material world, and translates everything from his standpoint; but, as we awaken the higher realms of consciousness, that is, as we get to thinking, as thought expresses itself naturally in the Absolute, a different viewpoint comes into our mind. Instead of having the personal expression of these Universal Forces, we see them in their Universal Expression.

That is illustrated in the development of Jesus

Christ's healing. He didn't do his mighty works all at once, but gradually. He got down to a point here, and a point there. He received help from the people he administered to, even.

When the Centurian came to him, and asked that his servant be healed of Palsy, Jesus said, "Certainly, I will go and heal him". All of his healing up to that time had been of a personal character. He had to be in the presence of his patient, lay his hand on him, and command directly the Spirit of evil, or the demon, or the error - because that is what we know that it is - to come out of him. But, when the Centurian said, "Why, it isn't necessary for you to go at all - just speak the word. I know how it is done with my soldiers. I

say to this one, 'go', and he goes, and I say to that one, 'come' and he comes. Why, you are a prophet; you are a spiritual man, and you are healing people of diseases here on every side. Why can't you speak to those diseases, the fever and the palsy and the paralysis, or whatever it may be, just as I speak to my soldiers. Say to them, 'go', and they go, wherever you are. " And that seemed to dawn on Jesus as a new proposition. Why, he said, "I haven't seen such faith as this anywhere, not even among my own immediate followers, these Israelites; and, according to your faith, be it unto you, and the servant is healed; and it is so".

Now, that is an example of how even the healer, the spiritually minded man, gets new concepts of this spiritual

power, as he uses it. As he comes into touch with his patients, he finds that frequently they give him points and hints that he didn't know of before, and a wise healer is constantly getting lessons from his patients. They know just as much as he does - just exactly - but they don't claim as much, that is all. The patient knows just exactly as much as the healer, the only difference is one claims to know, and the other doesn't. That is the only difference.

Now, Jesus, in healing this woman's daughter, recognized that the faith was in her. He didn't say, "My faith healeth you", but, "according to your faith, so be it unto you".

Now, we find in our experience as healers, that we

can't do a thing unless there is some faith in the patient, or in some closely-related friend - someone that has a vital interest in the patient, - and our work is done through this faculty of faith, the quickening of it. And the larger that faith, the easier it is to bring about results.

All healing, then, centers around what is called Faith. Now, faith is a real faculty in Universal Mind, consequently, in man's mind; because we exist as individuals in the Great Universal Mind, and when that Faith in us is quickened, the mind begins to start - it begins to express itself; and the next step is to find a center of faith, or a center of action in the patient, or in his immediate vicinity, in someone that has a mental contact with him. And if these laws are complied with, why the healing always follows. It is

very seldom that there isn't an immediate improvement. Why? Because this Spiritual Principle, which is the foundation of all life, all health, exists everywhere.

As I say, we are not preaching anything new to you, but telling you how to apply an old scientific Truth, a Truth that has always been known by the few.

Now, everybody knows it; everybody understands in a measure how to apply our electrical apparatus. We are not afraid any longer of Jove. Jove has become our servant. Now, if you could think of the different ways in which we are using this mighty electrical power - what comfort it is giving us, how we can turn it on and off, you would be surprised. Now, exactly the same thing is true of that higher potentiality,

this higher Life which we call Spiritual Life. It is just as omnipresent as electricity, and it knows a thousand times more. It not only has force, Life, Energy, but Love - everything that you can conceive as possible to man is in a larger degree possible to this Universal Mind, in which we live, move and have our being.

Then the question with us is, "How can I use it to better advantage; how can I get more out of life?" Well, you say, "I must have Health". Certainly! "I must have Strength". Yes. "I must have Understanding". Yes. And all these come into your consciousness, into your body, through your mind. Therefore, if you can expand your mind, you will have everything that your heart desires. How shall you expand

your mind? By increasing these faculties; and, above all, if you want to know about Divine Mind, you must have Faith in it.

Then, Faith is a power of the man, and it must be cultivated, just as the mathematical faculty is cultivated if you want to know about mathematics.

Now, our Phrenologists have located certain brain areas, and I think it has been accepted by nearly all physiologists that a large development of the ability to figure, to use Mathematics with dexterity, is followed by a brain area, somewhere over the eye, I think, of large capacity; and they can tell, by the external, exterior appearance of the head, one who has developed the power of mathematical quickness.

Now, these brain areas, I think, exist all over the cranium, on the outside, when we exercise in external ways.

Of course, I don't know that there is any exact law in this, but, it seems to me logical that a certain thought along a certain line will build cells corresponding thereto, and those cells must have a place in the body. Consequently, it is natural that we should have certain brain areas. We are told that criminals can be reformed by cutting out certain centers, brain centers, but it is possible for that criminal to begin thinking along the old lines, and create new, anew, those centers, just as the mind can, through a concentrated thought, build any muscle, any lineament; you may say build any kind of a body that it centers itself upon; and all flesh, and all bodies are built from the cells, and the thought works with the cells, remember that; and every time that you have a

thought of Faith in God, you build, somewhere in your brain, a little cell, and that cell begins to vibrate and take on spiritual faith.

Well now, where are these brain areas? There is no finding them on the surface, but here, deep down in what we call the inner man, is the great Undiscovered Country of cellular Life. Physiology, Phrenology - none of these Sciences that deal with the external man, tell us anything about them. We get them in visions and dreams and imaginations and higher reasoning, but nothing in a definite, scientific, orderly, lawful way.

To this we need, then, a spiritual application; we need a law that deals with Spirit in its Abstract or Absolute, and we find that in the teaching of Jesus Christ. We find that

in the various steps that he took in his development, because we develop these powers just as we develop from childhood to manhood. It doesn't come all at once, but, as we get into deeper consciousness, the interior cells of the brain begin to move. They may have been in perfect inaction, but, as the thought of Faith, faith in things Spiritual, stirs within the man, it stirs that inner center. We call it the Faith Center in man, the pineal gland, the half-opened eye, right at the center of the brain, and it has place in your consciousness; and if you will begin right now to think about the Omnipresence of Spirit, the Power of Spirit, the Love of Spirit, the Healing potency of Spirit, that center will begin to open its eye. It will say, "Well, why didn't you think about me before; why didn't you give me a chance"; and, like Jesus, you will say,

"Why, I see in you, and you and you, faith that I never saw before." When you speak the word, the absolute word of Truth, that word which the Scripture says was in the beginning, was part of God's consciousness, that word will begin to express itself through you. We sing of the "Spoken Word of God".

What is that word? It is the creative consciousness, through faith, that man sends out when he realizes Truth. Paul says:

"We understand that this Universe, the worlds, were framed by the Faith of God, the word of God expressed in Faith." God, then, must have Faith in Himself; there must be a Universal Faith in this Great Mind of Being; and, just to the extent that we quicken the Faith Center in ourselves, will we express that Faith.

As I say, you must cultivate it. It isn't something that is given to you, except in its potentiality. Then all people who would do the mighty works of the Spirit; who would become Sages and Prophets, must begin with themselves, building the man anew; awakening the sleeping faculties through, we will say, Faith.

Now, Faith is only one of the wonderful powers of man. We have innumerable powers within us; but it is through Faith that we come to Spiritual Understanding. Faith is an absolute Spiritual quality. People exercise Faith in Millions of ways. The fact is that all healing comes through Faith. You have faith in drugs. Well, you can be healed by taking drugs, if you have Faith enough. The fact is that there never

was any healing through drugs, through manipulation, through electricity, through any of the material elements, without Faith as the foundation. Somebody must have Faith. The Doctor must have Faith in his medicine. All who ever concocted those medicines must have a certain faith in them, or the patient must have faith. There must be a mental quality there. I tell you that all drugs, and all those material remedies, are absolutely powerless without a mental impetus; and that mental impetus, when it comes to healing, is based on Faith.

But do these things bring you the real healing?
No, nothing but the temporary curing. Then where shall you exercise Faith? In the highest, in the greatest, which is God, Omnipresent Mind.

Now sometimes that word "God" gives the idea of

personality. If it does, speak of this Universal Principle as Mind, as Spirit; bring to your consciousness the Omnipresence of it, and that it isn't necessary for you to heal alone, when you have the presence of your patient. It isn't necessary for you to be healed by having someone touch you, lay hands upon you, or sit down in your presence and give you a treatment; but, wherever you may be, if you can realize that God is the one interpenetrating Life and Energy of the Universe, you can receive, you can be healed. This seems a little difficult proposition to present to the men that can only see things, see persons, see bodies. They don't at once conceive that a force can be quickened or sent from one to another, regardless of time or space or conditions. If you had been told, say forty or fifty years ago, that the time would come

in your life when messages would be sent around the world without a wire -- and that is about what they are doing now - you couldn't conceive such a thing; you couldn't believe it. Had Edison been told three days, or one day before he discovered the phonograph that such a thing was possible, he wouldn't have believed it. He says he don't understand it to this day; he can't understand how that little mechanical instrument can produce accurately all that has been spoken into it, and reproduce that all. He admits that.

And so we find that it is hard for this man that thinks in material terms to raise his thought to spiritual Principle; but it can be done. It is being done. And it is done just to the extent that you concentrate upon the Univer-

sal; that you force yourself, we will say, to think about Spiritual Omnipresence, Spiritual Omnipotence.

We must, then, be educated in the Absolute. We must break away from this outside brain, and punch a hole through it and get down into this other brain, and then, all at once, things will open up. We will open our eyes and find that we live in a world in which is all potentiality, all power - everything that we may ask; that the Kingdom of Heaven is right here now, waiting for us to acknowledge it, realize it, and you find yourself expanding. An uplift will come to you, and you will say, "What is this; what is the meaning of this consciousness that I have? Everything seems to get light about me at times". Well, it is simply a breaking-away of that old material shell of thought. You just simply enclose yourself,

through thinking of material things, with a material envelope; you becloud yourself, pull yourself in with all the things that you see about you, and you think that is your world. They go on from without, to age and die, never knowing the real world; never knowing that they are right in the Kingdom now.

Now, absent healing is but part of the great Universal recognition of the Omnipresence of Spirit, that there is no separation. Now men have, we will say, mathematically worked all these propositions out. You will find, if you read some of the deeper metaphysical writers of the past, that they understand this proposition. The higher consciousness in the man expressed itself intellectually, and they wrote it out, but they didn't stir the brain cells in themselves sufficiently to have them change this outer crust; and there was

no change in the man. They went right on in the old way. They said, "Oh certainly, these truths are true. I believe in all that"; but do they put it to the test in everyday practice? No! Suppose, when Jesus Christ - when these people that started him on the absent healing lines, should have said, "Oh well, I know that, in reason, in good logic, you ought to be able to do absent healing, but I guess you can't. Suppose they had used that kind of logic, or that he had said, "Oh well, I think I had better go and see this patient. I can go and rub him, or I can apply some little material thing that he needs, because so many of my patients are still in the sense consciousness, and I must give them a little something to help them along. " I have heard doctors who understood the Truth, say their patients demanded a little medicine - they wouldn't be

satisfied without it. And others, who claim to be metaphysicians say, "I have to lay my hands on them sometimes. I have to do it; they must have something like laying on of hands to help them at times."

Now, if Jesus had used those arguments, he never would have done absent healing. If all the people had spoken along those lines, we would never have had absent healing as we have to-day. And I assure that absent healing is becoming a demonstration, it does the work; it is becoming more and more accepted all the time. But a large class of people can't get their cells going swift enough to receive it. The newspapers give us a sly dig every now and then, and people who are trying to understand metaphysics, let you talk to them. They

say, "Oh yes, I suppose it will work with people who have a large extent of Faith, but I like to sit down with the Healer; I like to have him put his hands on me, to do something for me now through his larger power, sending forth power." And this power is going forth from millions of spiritually minded people and they are doing the work, and they are doing it in a very much larger degree than you probably have any concept of, because they are faith people. There are Faith people the world over, and wherever there is one who has faith in Spirit, there is receptivity - there the mind of the Spirit is finding expression.

Now, the great majority of people haven't Faith enough in their own direct Faith. They still linger under that idea

that somebody, somewhere, someone who is practicing Faith Healing, can help them, or some center can help them more than through their own direct appeal, or direct affirmation and recognition of God as Spirit. So they appeal, they apply to these different people, the healers, these centers.

Now, we have one here. For twenty-four years we have been carrying on systematic absent healing. I did a little figuring last night, and I found that, in a rough estimate, we have healed over one hundred thousand people, and yet our next-door neighbors don't know that we are doing anything. They see people going and coming here, but they may be in great need of health, and yet never think of the mighty power that is being exercised here constantly.

You can see in our magazine there are a few testimonials, but people say to us, "Oh yes, I see just as good testimonials as that in the newspapers, from Peruna, or from the popular drugs". Well, we have to accept that proposition in a degree, but we say that Faith is responsible for the whole thing. Faith in Peruna will, if you apply it strong enough and long enough, give you temporary healing, but it doesn't uplift the man; it doesn't quicken this spiritual center that I have been telling you about, in his brain, and our healing does.

When Jesus Christ told his disciples about Faith, he said, "Have Faith in God, because there is the starting point. God is the real Source of all healing". You know that. Then center your Faith in that healing Principle - let it work

in your consciousness, and you will bring about the result.

Now, we are healing people of every known disease. We are told by the Orthodox Christians, that Jesus Christ did healing. But, supposing that I should go to one of their prayer meetings, and get up and begin giving a testimonial of how God healed me, what would be the result? Why they would suppress me. They wouldn't do it right at that time. After the meeting, some of the deacons would approach me and say they didn't favor that kind of a testimonial. They would give me the cold shoulder. Jesus Christ is put out of the Synagogue right to-day, where he should be received. Those people should believe not only in absent healing, but in present healing, because Jesus Christ gave, as part of his teach-

ing, healing. Remember that.

Now I have here -- I haven't got time this morning to read them -- but I have got some wonderful cases that I copies off the letters yesterday, of healing. Now these letters come to ⁱⁿ us every day . Here is one, we will say, from Exeter, New Hampshire: "I asked treatment for what the Doctor said was a tumor. Now it is all gone, without the knife, for which I am praising the Lord". Here , from Salt Lake City, Utah: "When my daughter sent the telegram, I was very low. I am now in good health". Here is East Columbus, Indiana: "The Eczema is all gone from my little daughter. I had two doctors for two months, but the Eczema got steadily worse, until I called on you for aid". Woodville, Michigan: "My right hand was paralyzed" -- we read that Jesus Christ healed paralytics -- "so

badly that I had to get my husband to write for me; but, thank the Lord, I am writing this letter myself, and I can walk for the first time since last October. Berkeley, California:

"My lame back is cured after twenty years of suffering."

Seattle, Washington: "Twenty Minutes after wiring you for treatment for my son's broken arm, the pain was relieved, and he was resting easily and has had but very little pain since".

Well, I could go on and on and on, if I had time, and read you testimonials. Now, aren't these testimonials just as true as those that are printed in the Bible? I can't see any difference. In fact, it seems to me that in Court, where direct testimony is required, they would go a good deal farther, because we can bring the people into Court.

And yet all these signs don't affect men. They don't believe, because they have not quickened the Spiritual Mind. Now you ask for a sign, and the sign will not benefit you. You must realize that God is Spirit, and worship Him in Spirit and in Truth. After the recognition of this Truth that God is everywhere present, and that we know Him through Faith, the next step is to get the understanding of how this Great Mind works, some of its Laws. Then we are on the road to true development. The man begins to awaken the higher brain, and he knows. He knows Himself; he knows himself to be the off-spring of this Mighty Mind, and that within him and through him this Mind is now expressing itself, and, as Jesus said, "To him that believeth, all things are possible".

Think about that proposition: "All things are possible to him that believeth". Not a few things, but all things. And I say to you that all things mean all things. It means that not only present healing, but Absent Healing, which means that we can do all the works that have ever been done by any man or woman at any time, through following the same lines of thought. Study those characters, and find out how they talked, what they thought. Follow their lines, if you will, and you will arrive at the same place. But there is a higher Principle still: follow God in you; ask God to give you that Faith, that belief which will lead you to do all things, and you will do them.

We are on the verge, I tell you, as a race, of some

of the greatest discoveries, some of the most wonderful demonstrations that have ever taken place on this earth, through a quickening in the man of his innate possibilities, through Faith in God.

11:36 A. M.

12:13 P. M.