

PROJECTING THE POWER OF GOD INTO THE BEING OF MAN - INTERCESSION

Some of those in convents and monasteries pray with continual fervour and with great benefit to themselves and to the world, but with little or no actual healing results to the sick and sorrowing who ask their prayers.

They have learned to rise into God, but they have not learned to sink again into man. They reach a high state of religious contemplation and there they stay. But their prayers for healing are less effective than the prayers of Unity and other modern schools of prayer, because they have not learned how to project the power of God into the being of man. They are like a doctor who has made up a powerful prescription but has not given it to his patient. Thus they follow Jesus part of the way, but not all the way. He went onto the mountain top to pray, but He did not stay upon the mountain top. He came down once more into the woes of man and healed them, every one.

For a long time I did not know how to give the prescription to the patient from a distance. How could I reach across the miles in prayer? Finding no answer to this question in my own church, I sought the answer elsewhere. I inquired of a lady minister who through her open-mindedness had found a practical application of the eternal verity of God that my own church had insufficiently grasped.

“How do you do it?” I asked her. “I can help them when I am with them, but my prayers from a distance don’t seem to result in healing at all.” “Oh my dear, you are seeing them sick,” cried the beautiful old minister.

“What do you mean?” I asked, puzzled. “I am not seeing them at all, I am just thinking of them,” she replied patiently. “When you think of someone, you always see the person in your mind. If you really believe he is going to be well, you see him well. If he pops into your mind like your eyes saw him last, or like your friend tells you he is, all moans and groans and fever, that shows that your subconscious mind does not really believe he is going to be well. And so you only fasten the illness on him. When you pray for someone, you must learn to see him well.” And the voice within me said, “That’s right.”

We pray not only with the conscious mind. ***Nine-tenths of the thinking is in the sub-conscious, and the spirit uses the path of the subconscious in sending forth the power of prayer.*** Therefore if the subconscious retains the picture of the person sick, the spirit can send at best only a divided message, suggesting life and death, health and illness at the same time.

From that time forth, I set myself to learn to “see them well.” ***This required mental training. I would exercise my visual faculty, that part of the creative imagination that is most like God.*** I would create in my mind a definite and detailed picture of each person for whom I prayed, seeing the whole body radiant and free and well, with light in the eyes and colour in the cheeks and a swinging rhythm in the walk. I would raise in my mind from off a hospital bed and see them walking, running, leaping. By an act of will I would hold this picture in my mind until it outshone the picture last suggested to me by my eyes or by a letter. I would hold this picture until it came to me spontaneously and naturally – until when I prayed for the person who had been ill I would see him well instantly, not by an act of will but by

the joyful and triumphant belief that it was so. And feeling this joy and this power, I would dare to say, "Amen: So be it." When we are really infused with the power of God it is our natural impulse to speak thus with authority. God created with the Word of power. He said, "Let there be light," and there was light (Genesis 1:3). Jesus the love-manifestation of God healed with the Word of power. ***His healings sprang from that continual communion with God that He found through prayer upon the mountain tops***, "The Father that dwelleth in me doeth the works," – John 14:10. Remember too in John 14:12-14 – "Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father; I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

In Exodus 15:26 – "for I am the Lord who heals you." But Jesus' healings were projected by the Word of power, and the only spoken part of the foundation-prayer on which His works rested was the Word of command: Mark 2:9 - "Arise and walk! "I say unto thee, arise!" or in the healing of the woman suffering from haemorrhages in Luke 8:46 - But Jesus said "Someone touched me; for I noticed that power had gone out from me."

As He fills us with Himself there comes to us more and more the inner sense of His authority, so that we dare direct and command the forces of the body to throw off this disease and be well!

Let it be so! Amen!" Acts 10:38 – How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

And the spirit within us knows that word shall accomplish the thing whereto we send it, and shall not return unto us void. (Isaiah 55:1) – So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For as we send forth the word of power, we sink deep into the humanity of those for whom we pray, seeing them perfect through the eyes of human understanding and love, and listening, as it were, for the return-messages of their spirits into ours. More and more we know by our own feelings whether our prayers have reached them or whether they have not.

Therefore, having constructed by thought and will a picture of the patient well, peaceful and happy, we then ask Jesus Himself to go through us and abide in the one for whom we pray, resurrecting him after that likeness of all beauty that is Himself. And believing that He is doing so, we learn to see within the patient, Christ.

From "The Healing Light" – Agnes Sanford p143