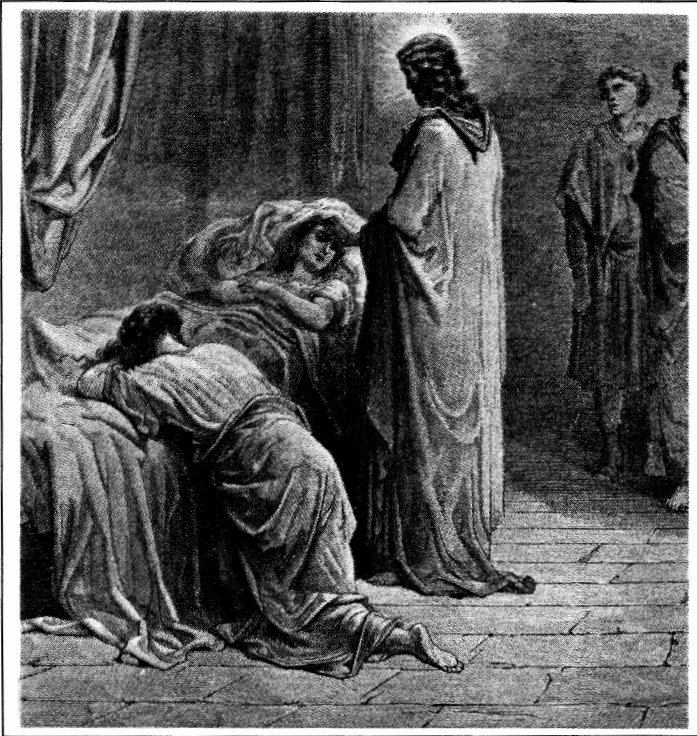


Western Wisdom Bible Study



The Palsied Man Healed

And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city.

And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.

And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth.

And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?

For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?

But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.

And he arose, and departed to his house.

But when the multitude saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.

—Matthew 9:1-8

Here we have a case of the palsy healed by the Master Healer. Mark and Luke, in their accounts of the incident, state that because of the multitude pressing around the door, the friends of the afflicted man “went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus.” Christ Jesus was touched by their faith and said: “Son, be of good cheer, thy sins be forgiven thee.”

He thus indicates that the sick man had disobeyed the Laws of God or

Nature, but that he also had used the magic formula of “repentance, restitution, and reform” sufficiently to merit the removal of his affliction. Only by our own efforts in repenting wholeheartedly, making restitution in so far as is possible, and reforming, can we bring about a permanent healing.

Christ Jesus, by virtue of His lofty spiritual status, was able to read the thoughts of the scribes, who were accusing Him in their hearts. This He did on many other occasions and thus indicated a faculty which we, as Christs-in-the-making, some day will possess in all its fullness. Already many people are aware of this faculty and are using it more than they may realize. Mental telepathy is a fact acknowledged by most present-day scientists, but there is yet much to learn in spiritualizing the mind so that it may be capable of performing its highest functions.

Palsy, as we have indicated previously, is a form of paralysis which usually results from a fearful attitude of mind—perhaps having existed for several lives. Max Heindel has pointed out that the color of fear as shown in the human aura is gray—a steel color which sends out a vibration that says in effect: “Leave me alone, you shall not touch me.” Actually, the basic cause of fear is selfishness—the centering of one’s interests and efforts upon the things that pertain to oneself. As we learn to serve in a selfless manner, we rid ourselves of our fears and replace them with an abiding faith and trust. At the same time the colors in our aura change from the grayish tints to beautiful tones of blue, rose, and lavender.

Concerning faith, which may be said to be the opposite of fear, a poet aptly has written:

*Faith is a grasping of Almighty power;
The hand of man laid on the arm of God;
The grand and blessed hour in which the
things impossible to me
Become the possible, O lord, through Thee.*