THE PSYCHIC VERSUS THE SPIRITUAL

As a general surgeon who has spent years studying the impact of Paul Tournier's Medicine of the Person upon my own surgical practice and studying the place of the spirit (Logos) in the etiology and treatment of sick man, I am intrigued by all approaches to the present morass in which we find ourselves in the treatment of the sick, particularly the hopeless.

I have a problem in my own thinking and experiences as regards the area of "psychic research and psychic healing." Recently I was told by Dr. Frank Lake of Primal Therapy fame in England, that "British Psychiatry is in total disarray." One wonders if this is not a world condition rather than a British condition, as we in Medicine accept Acupuncture, and more recently the bizarre techniques of Holistic Healing are receiving legitimate consideration.

Americans studied the writings of Viktor Frankl with great hope. In his "Man's Search for Meaning" and "The Doctor and the Soul" he approached the spiritual aspect of the care of the psychiatric patient, even though he viewed the spirit as part of the psyche. We now find ourselves in great perplexity as Psychiatry and Medicine in general again delve into the area of soul (psyche)--the source of the disarray indicated by Dr. Lake. The new field of Metapsychiatry could be a help were it to allow the consideration of the spiritual to enter its consideration of metaphysics.

There is no doubt that psychic phenomena exist--extrasensory perception, telepathy, precognition, dreams, unconscious states, out of body experiences, etc. do occur. The question is if these areas should be investigated or be allowed to occur spontaneously in gifted individuals in the normal unfolding of their lives. I have found that most people who delve into these areas are unhappy and basically unfulfilled.

(The psychic area is of great interest but is one of extreme danger and should never be entered into without great depth of understanding. Investigation of psychic phenomena should be carried out by researchers of great spiritual strength and perception.) Miraculous cures, associated with psychic healing and spiritual healing, are also of much interest. Workers in transcendental meditation and yoga demonstrate the possibility of affecting the blood pressure and the pulse, the respiration and other visceral functions by meditative states. Simply because this is possible does not mean that it should be recommended. It may be that the price is too high. It has been reported that teachers of transcendental meditation have had an unusually high suicide rate.)

It is important to differentiate between psychic healing and spiritual healing.

Strangely enough in American medicine we seem to have been willing to investigate psychic healing and feel that this is a legitimate area of allopathic endeavor. Spiritual healing has not been a similar consideration in Medicine and Psychiatry to date.

One of the teachings of New Testament Christianity is that Jesus Christ, by the power of His Holy Spirit heals sick individuals through prayer, the laying on of hands and anointing, as well as through the power of the Holy Communion (The Mass, Eucharist.) It is strange that with our relative lack of success in treating terminal hopeless conditions we have been loath to investigate spiritual healing or to vitally incorporate the church in the attempt to heal dying individuals when we are willing to try every mode of radical surgery and every kind of experimental methodology, including experimental chemotherapy for patients in usually vain attempts to save them from advancing malignant processes. One could understand this in Russia or Communist China but it is hard to understand how this can be true in America.

My personal hope with reference to all involved in the area of psychic research and Holistic Medicine is that before American Medicine and Psychiatry proceed unthinkingly into the psychic, the individual physician begin to investigate the totally uninvestigated area, medically speaking, of the Logos. What I have been calling for is Logo-Psychosomatic Medicine instead of the usually practiced psychosomatic medicine.

Human beings are spirit, soul and body. The lower animals are only psychosomatic. We must begin to understand the human being. We will never understand him without the understanding of the spirit. Therefore why do we not begin to investigate from the standpoint of Medicine and Psychiatry and the whole area of metaphysics, contemplation, investigation and study, that area of man which has for so long been ignored by all of us, the area of man's spirit? What I call for is a new openness in the direction of God and His Son, Jesus Christ and the power of His Holy Spirit entering into our own lives and into the lives of the multitudes of hopeless patients who surround us every day and for which Medicine, as we have been practicing it, has relatively few answers.

WSR
MONTHLY HAPPENINGS NOTICE

CHRISTIAN MEDICAL FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL  APRIL 1979
4821 Memorial Highway, Tampa, Florida 33614  PHONE-813/884 7559
CANADIAN ADDRESS: P.O. BOX, Comp. 5, Site 4, SS3, Fredericton, N.B.  E3B-5W9

DAILY PRAYERS AT 1 PM IN THE CFH CHAPEL!!!  EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!
EVERY TUESDAY--10 AM. Ladies' Bible Study and Sandwich Luncheon. Key lectures on a selected subject. (PLEASE BRING A SANDWICH IF YOU PLAN TO STAY FOR LUNCH. Only beverages are served.) "The Clinical correlation to the Gospel", Dr. Reed at 1 PM.
APRIL 4 - 11 AM. Dr. Reed, St. Agnes Guild of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Winter Haven, Florida. Call Mrs. O.V. Underwood, 1-294-4932.
APRIL 14 - 8 AM. Breakfast meeting. FGBAFI New Port Richey, Fl. The Hacienda Hotel on Main St. Call David de Raza, New Port Richey 1-868-6365. Dr. Reed.
APRIL 21 - 7:30 PM. Tampa CMF Station Mtg. at CMF House, 4821 Memorial Hwy.
APRIL 26 - 6:30 PM. Dr. Reed and Kay. First United Methodist Church, 501 E. Tarpon Ave., Tarpon Springs. Call Church office, 813/937-3692.
APRIL 28 - 7:30 PM. Daytona CMF Station Meeting, Holy Trinity By-The-Sea, North Grandview at Ora, Daytona Beach, Fl., Call Fr. Dillon, 904/252-8997. Dr. Reed speaking.
EVERY WEDNESDAY - 9:30 AM. CRAFT DAY AT CFH. Bring your own project or come and learn from others. Bring a sandwich and stay for Chapel.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PHYSICIANS

Family Practitioner looking for Physician Assistant or Nurse Clinician in special interest in field of alcoholism and drug abuse to be employed by me. Larry E. Braak, MD, 1414 W, Fair Ave., Marquette, Michigan 49855.
I need a Christian, Spirit-filled otolaryngologist to practice with me in Dalton, Georgia. Ben P. Council, MD, 1600 N. Broadrick Dr. Dalton, Ga. 30720.
Christian Radiologist seeks opening with Christian physician. Khing Ong, MD, c/o Rev. B.K. Han, 3310 San Carlos, Clearwater, Fl. 33719. 813/726-2542.
ORAL ROBERTS MEDICAL SCHOOL, Dept. of Family Practice needs 3 Christian Family Physicians to teach--Undergraduate and Graduate level. Family Practice Boards required. Send Curriculum Vitae-Lesley Wallis, MD, Chairman, Dept. of Family Medicine, ORU Medical School, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74171.
OPERATION RHODESIA - We aim to give to each of Rhodesia's seven million people a Bible. If you would like to share in this vision please make a contribution to OPERATION RHODESIA and mail it to Christian Medical Foundation.

I WISH TO THANK EVERYONE FOR YOUR PRAYERS, YOUR LOVE AND ALL THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS, LETTERS AND CARDS WHICH I RECEIVED IN THE HOSPITAL AND AT OUR HOME....Kay Reed.

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CHRISTIAN MEDICAL FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL, INC.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
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