

THE MIND – BODY CONNECTION “Do You Fear Cancer?”

By C.W. Wood

August 2005

Don't anybody move! Sit still, your life may depend on it! There is a six-foot Rattle Snake coiled under one of the pews! A few seconds of silence follows! What happens next? It all depends on whether or not you believe what I said. If you believed me, all sorts of things would have started to happen in your bodies. Your MIND would instantly begin to have certain thoughts. “What if the snake is under my pew? What if someone by me moves and it strikes me? If it is six-feet long, it is full of deadly, killing poison and people have been known to die in thirty minutes from such a bite!”

These thoughts, entertained in your MIND, would at once start sending signals to your BODY. Your heart would start to beat much faster. Your blood pressure would rise significantly, causing your forehead and palms to sweat. Your breathing would become heavier, sugar and adrenalin would be shot into your blood stream, and your skin would become clammy. Your stomach would stop its digestion process, and your body would stiffen, preparing itself for a probable attack. Medical doctors tell us that all these BODILY reactions are the result of signals sent to it by the MIND, when fear is entertained there.

What have we proven with the snake story? I hope you can see that there is a definite connection between the MIND and the BODY. Even though you did not actually see the snake, nor feel it, if you truly believed what I said about its presence, your BODY would have reacted in the way described. And it would have done so because of “WHAT YOU BELIEVED IN

YOUR MIND.” Now we will look at another possible result of my statement about the snake. What if I had foretold a member of the congregation what I would do when the service started, and that they were not to be alarmed, it would only be a bluff.

This person, pre-warned that the danger spoken of was only a bluff, would have been able to sit calmly and unmoved by the story. There would have been no fear thoughts enter his mind, and therefore no signals sent to disrupt the body functions. And, this calm attitude toward the snake story would also be the result of what he BELIEVED IN HIS MIND. His body would have remained calm and unchanged simply on the grounds of his knowledge and belief that I was only bluffing!

Now, with the help of the Holy Ghost, let us see the spiritual application of this snake story. Let's say that one day you noticed an itching under your arm pit. It persisted for a couple of weeks, but was no real cause for alarm; you just rubbed it occasionally to relieve the itch. But after two more weeks, you noticed that when you rubbed it, there was a sore spot where you had been rubbing. Still you are not unduly alarmed, supposing that you had just rubbed the spot too often and too hard, and the skin was irritated. So, two more weeks pass and one

day you notice a lump under your arm where the sore spot had been, and suddenly the thought is fired into your mind, “What if it is cancer?” Now, you are very much alerted and alarmed! You begin to remember other stories similar to what is happening to you, and in your mind you accept the thought that there is at least a possibility that the lump is malignant.

The Scripture and our Prophet has told us that Satan comes to us quoting Scripture, and now he approaches you and reminds you of a Scripture that you have read in Job 3:25, **“The thing I greatly feared is come upon me.”** And the thought comes, “You know you fear cancer, and now it has come upon you.” Some of you, no doubt, know exactly what I am talking about, having had similar experiences. Now, let's suppose that you go to have the lump checked and the report comes back “Malignant.” You are now in a crises time of your life, your fear has been confirmed. But, may I say to you, Dear Friend, the devil has not won the battle at this point. Take heart, God is on your side! He has the devils answer.

In our snake story, we saw that the man who had been forewarned about the danger was unruffled when the report of a snake was given. He sat unmoved, and perhaps was a little amused at the poor folks who were reacting with such fear.

This was because he knew that the story was only a **BLUFF**. He did not try to run, nor pull up his feet into the Pew, but sat calmly; waiting for the preacher to tell the rest that it was only a bluff. God help us preachers to tell the people that Satan is only a bluff!

May I say to you who have had the fear of cancer fired into your minds by a cruel enemy, "HE IS ONLY BLUFFING!" We can prove that by the Scripture. James 4:7, "**Submit yourselves therefore to God. RESIST THE DEVIL and he SHALL FLEE FROM YOU.**" How then do you resist him? Very simple, just believe this Scripture that declares he is bluffing! When you believe that he is only a bluff, he flees, just as God says he must. Let your mind be at ease with the assurance that God says the devil is only bluffing you with his symptoms. You have been forewarned; there is no need to fear. Satan is only a bluff; God has told you so.

Now, we do not say that the symptoms are not real. The doctor can find them and identify them, but we must understand that they can only remain as our MIND accepts them as a FACT, rather than as a BLUFF. And so, you are confronted with a CHOICE, will you believe God or the circumstance? Millions are set on believing the circumstances and die because of it. But, know this; God is delivering His called Bride from the clutches and lies of Satan! Are you Bride, are you Born-Again? Then believe this message to you from God, to the Prophet, to His precious Bride. Gird up the loins of your MIND and determine to stay and serve God until your work is finished.

And even when we have finished our work, do not believe that you must be destroyed with some kind of disease before Jesus can

take you home. It is true that most people die sick, but that is not proof that we have to! Moses climbed a mountain on the way to his funeral, and he was an old man in our way of figuring. But, there is no report of him being carried up the mountain on a stretcher. Apparently, when he reached the top, God was waiting for him and just took his breath.

In March of 1962, Brother Branham preached a sermon entitled "The Greatest Battle Every Fought." I wonder if we have really understood the message the Lord has for us in this sermon? We know that we can read the Scripture and the Message, but until the revelation comes, we only have intellectual knowledge. We need the Spiritual revelation to set us free from the lies and snares of Satan. It is from this sermon that we glean the great and powerful truth that our bodies definitely react to what the MIND believes. The Prophet was trying to show us that there is a very definite connection between MIND and BODY; between what we THINK and BELIEVE, and how the body reacts to what we believe.

Another way of saying what he was teaching is "The body falls in line with what the MIND thinks and believes." As the mind does, so does the body. Or, whatever the mind does the body follows, because the mind is the control tower sending orders to the body. Prov. 23:7, "**For as he thinketh in his heart** (mind or will, which is the heart or center of man), **so is he.**" Jesus said we will have whatever our mind accepts. To the blind men He asked, "Do you believe I can heal you? Do you accept the fact in your mind that I can do this?" They replied, "Yes, we believe you can do it." They simply accepted Divine Healing in their thinking. Their

correct thinking (believing) allowed the Lord to heal them.

In the Scriptures, there is always the mind-body connection. Matt. 11:23-24 teaches that we will have "**Whatever we say.**" This being true, we must learn to judge our thoughts by the Word before we give vent to them. To turn thoughts into words that are contrary to God's Word is very dangerous, for they have come from the enemy. They can be camouflaged and seem harmless at the moment, but still sent by the enemy to lead us into deeper water. It is never wrong to say what God says about ourselves, and He says, "**He forgives ALL of our sins and heals ALL our diseases.**" And He does it in accordance with the way we use our mind to believe Him. (You know that we are not teaching that this believing is possible without His Spirit enabling.)

Rom. 12:2, "**And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the RENEWING OF YOUR MIND, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.**"

Eph. 4:21-23, "**If so be that ye have heard Him, and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus; That ye put off concerning the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lust; AND BE RENEWED IN THE SPIRIT OF YOUR MIND.**"

Do we see it? The Scripture says our minds and spirits are sick until they have been taught and renewed. There is no pill or medicine that will heal a sick mind. You may numb it, or put it to sleep with a pill or shot, but when that wears off; you are back where you started. You still have a sick mind. There is only one thing that will heal a mind that is sick from the wrong teachings of Satan, and that is God's Word! We must think Word!

QUOTE: GREATEST BATTLE EVER FOUGHT, PAGE 13-14,

"Now don't miss this! When this great battle started on Earth, there had to be a mutual meeting place; there had to be a place selected for the battle to begin and for the battle to rage; and that battleground began in the human MIND. There's where the battle starts. The human MIND was chosen for the place of battle, where it was to begin; and that is because that decisions are made from the MIND, the head.----- because the battleground, where you've got to meet your enemy, is in the MIND. You've got to make your CHOICE; it meets you (Choose to believe Word or circumstances)."

QUOTE: GREATEST BATTLE EVER FOUGHT, PAGE 15,

"Now, there's where the battle begins—right in your mind, whether you will....Now you remember, it's not Christian Science now, mind over matter; that hasn't....The mind accepts the Life which is the Word of God, and there brings the Life. Just your thought doesn't do it, but the Word of God brought in the channel of your thought. See? It's not thought, as Christian Science make it, mind over matter. No! That isn't it. But your mind accepts it and grasps it. What is your mind controlled by? Your spirit; and your spirit catches the Word of God, and that's the thing that's got Life in it. It brings Life into you (mind and spirit tied together).

Brother Branham taught that what we believe has a fantastic effect on our bodies, we can make ourselves sick or well by what we THINK ABOUT, by what we BELIEVE! Health is a matter of Faith in what we believe. Medical doctors have now discovered that most all sicknesses start in the MIND, and not only so, but they can be healed by the changing of the

MIND, concerning their physical condition.

One M.D., Ernie Speigle, wrote a book in which he spoke of using a "placebo" to cure his patients. A placebo is a pill or such that contains no medication. Given to his patients with the assurance that it would absolutely cure their problem, he discovered that those who believed him recovered. Is this not scientific proof that the mind controls the body? His doctor friends accused him of tricking his patients, but he responded with the statement, "My patients are getting well, and yours are dying, is it wrong to trick them into living?" (End quote) The devil has tricked us into dying. Why not believe and live?

I don't know if the good doctor understood that it was FAITH that was healing his patients, but I believe that you and I understand it. How can we tell whether or not our MIND is sick and in need of healing? Can we tell? Yes! Our MIND is not completely healed until it believes every Word God says. We know this is true because the Scripture says we are to "**Have the Mind of Christ.**" (I Cor. 2:16) What is the Mind of Christ? It is the Word of God. His Mind and His Word are one and the same. When we believe every Word he said, then we have His mind in us.

Many of our great intellectuals have a sick Mind because they do not accept God's Word as truth and their sick minds are causing death in their bodies. Their symptoms start out being psychosomatic, say the doctors, that is to say, the problem is in the MIND, even before they can find an organic cause. Our Prophet taught that the devil attacks our MINDS, and through our wrong thinking, makes our bodies sick. Some of the doctors see that it is the MIND causing the problem, but perhaps don't know that it's the

devil leading us into wrong thinking. God's Word will heal our minds, then our bodies!

For one example, the doctors have discovered that worry causes stomach ulcers. That's their way of saying that our bodies can be damaged by what we THINK. It is possible to WORRY about many things, but not understand that it causes body ailments. What exactly is worry? It is the opposite of trusting God for all things. Worry happens when we try to figure everything out for ourselves, rather than simply believing that our God had it all planned before we arrived. He gave us the sure-fire cure for all worry when He said, I will make, "**All things work together FOR GOOD for those who love the Lord, and who are the CALLED according to HIS PURPOSE.**" Believe it and rest!

We lay our heads on our pillow at night and go to sleep, resting in the knowledge that though we don't understand HOW He does it, our God is in full control of our lives. We don't understand WHY He leads us through certain things, but we are convinced that it's Him "**Ordering our steps.**" Couple that knowledge with the fact of His supernatural, unending, unchanging Love for His own (Rom. 8:38-39), and we are resting in THE EVER-LASTING ARMS. What a glorious place to be! We have no problems; we have "**Cast all our cares on Him,**" and He has promised to take care of them all. We are loosed from fear and doubt, the TRUTH has set us free. When fear and doubt comes (and we do not say they won't come), we meet them with "**It is written.**" Doubts and fears disappear like a snowball on a hot summer day when confronted with what our God said! But we must quote Him untiringly! "**Faith commeth by hearing the Word.**"

The world is spending billions of dollars searching for a cure for cancer and other killer diseases. Church natural lives in constant fear of their next doctor's examination, never knowing when the death sentence will be pronounced on them. All the while, a loving, caring God has furnished the answer to our problems in the form of His Word. He sent His Prophet to teach and explain it. The cure for every disease is clearly given in the Prophet's Message, "The Greatest Battle Ever Fought." The advice given in this sermon is, understand that the devil is a BLUFF. The definition of a BLUFF is "a threat that cannot be carried out when met with resistance."

Resistance is just a matter of refusing any thought or idea that does not line up with God's promises. With our MIND or with our God-given ability to think and choose, we reject all BLUFFS Satan brings. When he whispers CANCER or HEART ATTACK or whatever he may try and bluff us with, we open our mouth and say, "I serve a God who forgives all my iniquities, and who heals all my diseases. He redeems my life from destruction. He crowns me with loving kindness and tender mercies." (Ps. 103:1-4) Then we turn and place a challenge before the enemy. He has come to challenge us with a sickness, but we turn and challenge him with this, "Prove to me that God's Word is untrue!"

Satan knows the Word is true, he believes it and trembles, and every Born-Again person knows it's true. So, we can safely say "Prove the Word is wrong, THEN I will disbelieve it. Until that time, I will believe what He said and reject all

your lies." And while we are holding a conversation with the enemy, we could also ask him another question, which I am sure is very unsettling to him. We all know that he comes to us and tells us that because of our failures we should not expect to be able to believe our God. But, we can remind him that he is totally evil, yet he believes. Then we can ask him on what basis he tells us we can't believe because we make some mistakes along the way. Truth is, he is standing on thin air with all his bluffs, but we are standing on "The Solid Rock." Our sins are forgiven and we are Believers.

In speaking again of the diseases the world is in such fear of, we know from observation that a person can eat a proper diet, take advantage of the good health foods available, exercise properly, stay cool and warm with proper clothing, be careful to get enough rest, and still be found with one or more of the dreaded diseases! This is true because none of these mentioned things, of themselves, can heal a mind that is sick from wrong thinking. You can do all these things, plus take all kinds of vitamins, and still entertain a spirit of fear, which is the root cause of our diseases.

Some day the doctors may discover the real cure for cancer, which is to be delivered from FEAR of it. We repeat, only faith in what our God has promised will set our minds free from the devils bluff, which causes our fear. It would be a wonderful thing if God's antidote for fear would be posted in large letters on a bulletin board in every doctor's office and hospital in the country. I refer to one such antidote found in Philip. 4:4-8, "**Rejoice in**

the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

What do we THINK? Is our mind filled with the circumstances of life that many times seem to be contrary to God's promises? What do we THINK about it? Are the adverse circumstances true, or does God's Word rule over all circumstances in the final end? What do you THINK? Has Satan been able to convince you that some portion of the Word is wrong? If so, you must rush to an altar, repent, and seek Salvation. If He can't convince you that God made some mistakes, then settle down in you Faith, and meet every bluff with "**It is Written.**" What do you THINK? Who is the liar, our God or Satan? What do you THINK? Is God sovereign or not? Is He able to keep every promise He ever made, in spite of Satan and all his demons? What do you THINK? What ever it is, it will manifest itself in your daily life. Amen!

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE (Courtesy of J.T. Hise): www.dewitttabernacle.org

OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS: DEWITT-TABERNACLE@centurytel.net