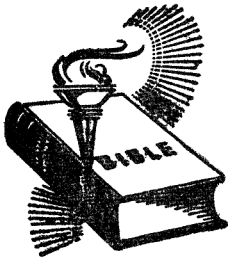


WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

The Multitudes Healed

And Jesus departed from thence, and came nigh unto the sea of Galilee; and went up into a mountain, and sat down there.



And great multitudes came unto him, having with them those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them.

Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel.

—Matthew 15:29-31.

And again, departing from the coasts of Tyre and Sidon, he came unto the Sea of Galilee, through the midst of the coasts of Decapolis.

And they bring unto him one that was deaf, and had an impediment in his speech; and they beseech him to put his hand upon him.

And he took him aside from the multitude, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spit, and touched his tongue;

And looking up to heaven, he sighed, and saith unto him, Ephphatha, that is, Be opened.

And straightway his ears were opened and the string of his tongue was loosed, and he spake plain.

And he charged them that they should tell no man: but the more he charged them, so much the more a great deal they published it;

And were beyond measure astonished, saying, He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak.

—Mark 7:31-37.

That there was such a great need for healing when Christ Jesus walked the Earth, and that this great need still exists, is a sad commentary on the spiritual progress of humanity.

Occult philosophy teaches us that: "The Old Testament opens with the

account of how man was led astray by *the false light* of the Lucifer Spirits, giving birth to all the sorrow and suffering in the world; it closes with the promise that the Sun of Righteousness shall rise, with Healing in its wings. And in the New Testament we find the Sun of Righteousness, *the true Light*, come to save the world, and the first fact that is stated in regard to Him is that He is of Immaculate Conception.

"Now this point should be thoroughly understood: it is the Luciferian taint of passion which has brought sorrow, sin, and suffering into the world. When the creative power is used for sense gratification. . . . that is the sin which cannot be forgiven; it must be expiated. Humanity as a whole is now suffering from that sin. The debilitated bodies, the sickness that we see around us has been caused by centuries of abuse, and until we learn to subdue our passions there can be no true health among the human race."

Thus we see why the command given to the disciples of Christ was twofold: to preach the Gospel and heal the sick. Though one with a high spiritual consciousness can relieve immediate illness, permanent healing can come to a person only when he has learned of the spiritual laws governing all creation and has begun to live according to those laws. The disciple must teach as well as heal.

The mountain in biblical references usually symbolizes a high state of spiritual consciousness, thus accounting for the fact that Christ Jesus so often "went up into a mountain" whenever there was a particular spiritual work to do. At the same time we are taught that it is necessary for everyone who aspires to heal to live so as to be able to liberate the healing force, "which comes direct from the Father."