THE CAUSE OF ALL DISEASE, ALL SUFFERING AND DEATH....and WHAT IT TAKES FOR PERMANENT HEALING

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Disease is the manifestation of willfulness operating at odds with one's being. Disease, suffering, is the result of the opposite of surrendering.

It is the result of agressive, self-assertive willfulness from the standpoint of a tiny, separated entity called a human being, or an ego. This is why the skillful exercise by an ego of metaphysical principles does not constitute true healing. Because there is no surrendering into one's Being.

Put more bluntly, there is no surrendering into the Will of the Father, because not only was the disease the result of willfulness, but the practice of metaphysical principles from the ego standpoint is willfulness, human will. And healing that appears to result from the practice of human will does not constitute healing, nor does it constitute one's permanent invulnerability to that disease.

But when one yields up this false human will and becomes humble enough to yield to his Being - "*Thy Will, not mine be Done*"-that is when permanent healing occurs; because there is actual clarification, actual enlightenment that results, growth, if you will. And there is no way when growth has occurred for you to be able to ever fit in again to those smaller sized shoes, or smaller beliefs.

Now, each one of you has a spiritual guide. Working along with your guide is always a fluctuating group, fluctuating in quantity of Awakened Individualities, who are present to help you in terms of clarifying your experience of your body, helping to support your movement toward the conscious experience of your Body of Light. They have been called the healing team. They work under the jurisdiction of your guide. Not that your guide governs them, but in that their point of cooperation is with your guide.

You may call upon your healing team any time you want. Your healing team, the individualities would be the equivalent of what you would call divine beings, Angels. But let me tell you right now that angels do not have feathers. They do not have wings either.

But understand that the beauty of conscious individuality aware of its Divinity, aware of its inseparability from the Father is exquisitely beautiful and every movement of it has the grace that you would associate with an angel, in your present conception of it.

Now, what happens when you call upon your healing team, or what happens when you call upon the Father, or what happens when you call upon a healer who is incarnated and walking among you, is that you are surrendering your sense of personal responsibility, you are surrendering your arrogant need to be able to prove something, to make something happen so that you can validate your worth. And you are saying, "I am going to let someone else in." To do that you must become defenseless.

And I will tell you something, you may have thought that the healer healed you, you may have thought that God healed you; but what has happened is that you have become defenseless, you have stopped holding yourself completely separate. And as the defenses go down you begin to be infilled with the clearer experience of Truth and Reality. What happens is that your eyes open up and you see the truth.

God didn't begin to dole out a little bit more of truth or health to you because you asked. God is ever present and continuously what He is, being what He is, withholding nothing from His Self-expression. "Behold, all that I have is thine. All that I am you are."

When you reach out in faith, trustingly, defensively, you let down the shield you have had up that kept you from experiencing reality clearly, and you say you have had a healing, and you thank God. It is like thanking the sun for giving you a tan, which you have experienced because you took your shirt off. The sun was shining there all along, but until you take off that which covers up your skin you cannot get the tan.

The love of God is shining on you always. The love of the rest of the Brotherhood who are totally Awake is constantly shared with you. And it is indeed a joyful thing when one of you says, "help me."

In all cases healing is the result of surrendering to the Will of God, surrendering to the Presence of God that is ever present, and not shielding yourself from it by the use of and the investment of energy in ego structures.

Now it is also important for you to understand that if you call upon your healing team, if you ask your guide to have your healing team work with you for the headache, or the sprained ankle, or the broken arm, or whatever it might be; understand that these individualities cannot override your free will. You must override your free will, by choosing not to validate it. When you say, "help me," you are reaching beyond the boundaries of your ego. Your ego will not say, "help me." It says, "but Father, I'd rather do it myself."

So when there is a request for help, it is *a desire for joining* that comes from your Being, and it is responded to. But if you do not ask, your choice to be alone, your choice to be sad, your choice to be ill will not be violated. Because you must arrive at a point where something in you recognizes that the suffering is illegitimate, that it is an imposition upon your capacity to experience the perfection of your Being as God is Being you. And then ask. The asking has been called prayer. But prayer has become a petitioning, rather than a felt acknowledgment of your right to your experience of your health, your perfection.

And so you have asked as some pitiful, little mortal who is actually unworthy of receiving what has been asked for. Now I will tell you something: If you ask the Father, or if you ask the healing team for help; but you at the same time sit there and say, "I am not worthy of healing," your word will be law, your will will be what you will have. And it cannot be overriden.

No healer, no matter how great, can cause you to accept the fact of your divinity and your flawless perfection. But the moment there is the willingness to embrace the idea that you are the flawless Self-expression of God, and therefore anything less than perfect is an illegitimate imposition upon your experience of life; you will have available to you more support than you can imagine. And if you will invite it and receive it, your healing, your Awakening, if I may put it that way, will be accelerated.

That's the end of the answer.

~excerpt from a Gathering with Raj/JESUS conducted by the Northwest Foundation for A Course In Miracles