



The Christian Chiropractor

HEALING HANDS — TOUCHING LIVES

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Reconciling Chiropractic Philosophy and the Word of God

A while back I received an email from a young chiropractor asking whether I thought innate intelligence was the same as the New Testament concept of grace. He was in a study with some other chiropractors who were examining chiropractic philosophy and the Bible. My first thought upon hearing his question was "where did that idea come from?" I thought I had heard it all - every biblical heresy and every chiropractic philosophical distortion. I never heard that question.

I've heard chiropractors say that innate intelligence is "God in man," yet our philosophy teaches that the innate intelligence is the "Law of Life" which means it is in every living organism including plants and animals, which have no soul. B.J. Palmer talked about innate intelligence being the "subtle substance of the soul." I realize that B.J. was waxing poetic in that particular essay, but many chiropractors have picked up on that and assumed that the soul is innate intelligence. Whenever I have a chiropractic philosophical question, I do not go first to a Green Book, I first check out the Word of God. Bankers teach their tellers to study what a genuine \$20 bill looks like so that they are able to recognize a counterfeit. We need to be able to reconcile our chiropractic philosophy to God's Truth, the Word of God and to the divine viewpoint contained therein.

We need to understand what the word "reconciliation" means. Perhaps another banking example would help. Each month I receive a statement from my bank in order to "reconcile" my checking account. The idea is to make sure that my figures coincide with theirs. The assumption is that their statement is correct and that mine should match it, and I find that they are usually right. We are to be reconciled to God, that is, our life should match His standards and the model He gave us. The bank expects me to do the work in reconciling my account. When it comes to my salvation, God the Father did all the work. He created the plan of salvation, God the Son carried out the plan, and God the Holy Spirit revealed it to me.

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We must reconcile our chiropractic philosophy with divine viewpoint in general and the Word of God in particular. That is not easy. So much of our chiropractic philosophy is based upon tradition, and while tradition is great, it is not, and should not, be our final authority. Neither should D.D. or B.J. Palmer be our final authority. They were only finite beings with the same flaws and shortcomings that the rest of us have. Our Authority is God and His Word. Unless we reconcile our philosophy to His Word, we will dishonor God and in the end dishonor our wonderful profession. The major mistake

continued on next page,



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Reconciling Chiropractic Philosophy, concluded,

that we can make in our chiropractic profession is not acknowledging that our Authority is God and His Word, above all. The Palmers changed their philosophy and their application of that philosophy numerous times over their lifetimes. Many are still finding it necessary to change that philosophy. In my opinion, at times that has been good and at times not so good. There is no reason why the philosophy, as they espoused it, should remain fixed in stone after their passing. However, the Word of God, both the written Word and the Living Word, Jesus Christ, lives and abides forever.

Our chiropractic philosophy must be reconciled to our world and life viewpoint. We must have a divine viewpoint of life rather than a human viewpoint. In chiropractic, we call that divine viewpoint an "ADIO" viewpoint, that is, "above-down-inside-out." It is opposed to the human viewpoint, or "outside-in." I am now working on a book that is about that very subject, i.e., reconciling those issues that impact the human experience, including, but not limited to, health with ADIO (divine) viewpoint.

Chiropractic philosophy teaches that the human being is material and immaterial. The material has many parts, 25-30 quadrillion cells by some estimates, making up many organs and systems. The immaterial has only two: biological life and soul life. Biological life is what Adam shared with every other living organism, including plants and animals. Soul life is what set Adam, and every human being born after Adam, apart from every other living organism. Chiropractors address only biological life. While there are many parts to the material, there are two, and possibly three, that make up the immaterial, summed up thusly:

1. **Biological life** - all living organisms
2. **Soul life** - separating human beings from plants and animals
3. **Spiritual life** - restored to those who are "new creatures in Christ" by being born again, that is, placing faith alone in Christ alone for their salvation.

Jesus Christ, the only Person ever born with spiritual life (*Adam was not born*), died that we might share His spiritual life by being born again. I might mention that this is covered extensively in my book, *The Nature of Man*.

It is of utmost importance that we reconcile every aspect of our chiropractic philosophy with the Word of God. That is the first prerequisite to building a successful and God-honoring practice and profession. The chiropractic adjustment restores biological life which is the expression of innate intelligence through innate matter, in vertebrates. Only the new birth gives us spiritual life.

Oh, by the way, innate intelligence is not the same as grace. However, the fact that God placed the Law of Life (*innate intelligence*) in us, a principle that can run and heal the body, and not only gave it to the best person that ever lived, but also the worst person that ever lived, is a sure manifestation of God's amazing grace!

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