

"QUESTIONS ... ANSWERS"

PHILOSOPHY IX

"Our readers will find mental Chiropractic food, which will require intellectual digestion..."

Q. The concept of "Innate Intelligence" sounds almost religious or metaphysical. Is it?

A. For some people, the concept of life itself has religious and metaphysical overtones. For others, it can be understood and appreciated from a strictly scientific perspective. So it is with the concept of Universal and Innate Intelligence as discussed in chiropractic philosophy. We do not know precisely what the Innate Intelligence is or how it functions. Since we find an overwhelming abundance of evidence that it does, indeed, exist, we feel confident in building a set of beliefs upon the concept. Even the most scientific, agnostic observer has to admit that there is a systematic organization to the human body (and the universe). We did not develop the way we have randomly. Some perceive this organization as proof of a Supreme Being ... others as an indication that some as-of-yet-unknown forces are at work. Regardless of the perspective, the conclusion is the same: Innate Intelligence does exist.

Q. If the existence of an "Innate Intelligence" is so obvious, why doesn't everyone believe in it?

A. At some level, most people DO believe in it – they just never put a name to it. Even today, distinguished scientists and medical doctors are admitting that there is only so much they can do for a person who has been sick or injured. After that, "it's up to the patient," they say. What they really mean is that they must step back and let the person's own Innate Intelligence take over. If the person can be healed, his or her own body will heal itself.

Q. Is it really so bad to take a couple of aspirins, or other pills, when we don't feel right?

A. The question is not whether or not it is "bad" to take two aspirin. The question is: do we understand the risks we run whenever we take things that alter the body's normal biochemical balance? The fact is, there is no way for anyone to know for sure exactly how your body will react when you swallow those pills. Even as mundane a drug as aspirin (and aspirin IS a drug) affects each person differently. One person takes two

and her headache is gone. Another person takes the exact same pills and, a half hour later still has his headache, plus an upset stomach. A third person – who has taken aspirin many times in the past – has an allergic reaction and is rushed to the hospital. A fourth person feels great because her headache is gone, and never realizes that it was a signal of something more serious. If there was some way to know PRECISELY what a particular chemical would do in YOUR body EACH TIME, then it might be safer to use drugs. As it is, we are just guessing and hoping for the best.

Q. A lot of people claim they were "cured" of different conditions with chiropractic. Is this true?

A. NO. No one has ever been "cured" or "healed" with chiropractic. A doctor of chiropractic does one thing: detect and correct vertebral subluxations. This removes or decreases interference to the normal flow of Innate Energy through the body. The Innate Intelligence can then direct all parts of the body in a more efficient and effective manner. Without interference, the body can more easily work towards healing or curing itself. If a person walks out of a chiropractic office feeling better, his or her own body gets the credit!

Q. Why are these pamphlets called "The Green Booklets?"

A. In 1906, D.D. Palmer, the man credited with "discovering" chiropractic and formulating its foundation of principles and procedures, wrote a textbook called "The Science, Art and Philosophy of Chiropractic." Later, his son, B.J. Palmer, took his studies further and published a series of textbooks which – bound in the distinctive green text-book binding popular in that day – came to be known as "The Green Books." While hundreds of books have been written since on every aspect of chiropractic, these important works still contain the basic technical information and philosophical underpinnings of the entire profession. They are read and reread by chiropractors throughout the world. These philosophy pamphlets draw from those pioneering works and their development, design, and name is in honor of them.