

Article 35: Dr. Wood Baker

Many of our self-awakening understandings and techniques about wellbeing are based upon the profound healings and awarenesses and life of Dr. Wood Baker, who practiced medicine in London at the end of the 1700's. Dr. Baker, a man of short sentences, was pithy, sharply focused, direct, and to the point. He was tall and slim, and capable of playing a role or acting a part, ...and making people think that his motives were entirely different than what they really were.

Doctor Baker was a very forceful, independent, and challenging individual, but he had a very light touch when it came to medicine, ...and he was very popular with his patients, because he related so well to their thoughts and feelings ...and to each patient's way of life. But he was also a great bluffer, and if he didn't have the knowledge he needed, he could quickly improvise it.

People, coming to be healed by ordinary medicine, were helped by Dr. Baker in unique and unusual ways, ...but they felt that was all right because their fears and pains and illnesses were relieved, ...but his fellow physicians condemned him as a charlatan ...and a hoaxer. They felt he was providing medicines and treatments and advice which offered only temporary relief ...and which, in the long run, were detrimental to his patients. They accused him of harming and undermining the medical profession through corruptive practices, ...and they brought him up on charges before a Board of Governing Physicians.

"Well," he replied, in defense of his ideas and treatments, "if what I do is so wrong, ...yet the results are right, can you truly say that what I'm doing is wrong? And if my patients are healed, can we not say then that maybe, ...just maybe, what I'm doing is right? And if your patients are not healed of their illnesses, can we not declare then, ...with some degree of certainty, that what **you** are doing is wrong?"

"There's nothing your patients will not submit to, ...and there's little you've not done to them in the name of easing their pain and discomfort, restoring their energy and health, and even saving their lives. How well have **you** succeeded? Well, ...let's see.

"You've examined, poked, and prodded them unmercifully. And when that did not succeed, you invaded their bodies and rummaged around inside. You rubbed, squeezed, kneaded, disturbed, and tormented them, ...but seldom did you ever stroke, massage, soothe, or comfort their suffering minds and bodies.

"You've twisted, rotated, and manipulated their limbs without success, ...except to irritate and aggravate their ever-worsening condition. They've even allowed themselves to be half drowned, frozen in ice, almost

boiled alive, steamed in hot gases, roasted in stifling ovens, buried in mud, and seared and cauterized with red-hot irons. And if that wasn't enough, they were singed, roasted, toasted, and scorched. They were wantonly cut with dirty knives and pricked with poisonous needles, ...all in the name of healthful medicine.

"They have been stretched, drawn out, hung upside-down, and forcefully struck; after which, they were squeezed and crushed, compressed, flattened, and almost smothered to death.

"They've been sensitized, brutalized, and stupefied. They've been dehydrated, rehydrated, then dried out until they shrank. You made them retch, cough-up, excrete, discharge, and void their insides, so you could make them swallow, inhale, or otherwise ingest all sorts of abominable medications and so-called miraculous cures.

"Then they've been dripped, drained, and made to pass-off their blood, sweat, tears, and other body liquids and vital secretions, ...either willingly or by way of cuts, drains, or even leeches. Then, ...well, they're made to exhaust, exhale, or otherwise pass gas, vapors, stench, and odors.

"And finally, if that isn't enough of an insult, you make them pay for all of this as if it were a wondrous privilege and a blessing conferred upon them by God..."

Well, ...no doubt about it, the assembled physicians were outraged at Dr. Baker's words, ...as well they might be. And they would not listen any further, for they, not he, were to determine what was right in medicine ...and the way it was to be performed. And, of course, if a patient died, that was the patient's doing ...or undoing, not theirs. They were administering things correctly. And if Dr. Baker reversed some of life's processes and helped long-suffering patients, it was only because God, in His infinite goodness and wisdom, had granted them His grace ...and a severance from Dr. Baker's wicked healing practices. They declared that God had looked upon his victims favorably ...for a while, but, truly so, they would surely succumb.

The Board of Physicians declared that it was **only** God's benevolence and mercy and forgiveness, in essence, that healed his patients, ...and it had nothing whatsoever to do with Dr. Baker or his wicked treatments that they even survived. The Board condemned the "wild and insane" things he was doing. They accused him of dispensing unproven and ineffective potions; following untrue and untried treatments; and improperly speaking to his patients and giving them hope, and falsely

telling them to deal with themselves and their lives. They determined that his practices were "evil".

Throughout this trial, Dr. Baker got an even clearer and stronger ...and happier picture of himself and his treatments; and yet, at the same time, he felt overwhelmed ...and persecuted by life and his fellow physicians, for he was only trying to help his patients ...and relieve their suffering. Now, as a result of his caring and good works, he was suffering terribly ...and unfairly. But instead of turning away from his patients or seeking escape, Dr. Baker turned to his loving wife, Marie, who offered him great comfort and strength and assurance. She brought even more patients to him and, at the same time, she counseled them and offered them her own form of healing and nurturing.

Dr. Baker had the technical abilities, ...while Marie calmed the patients' fears about their own problems and illnesses, ...and the uncertainties that were created when the other physicians publicly branded Dr. Baker a charlatan. But soon, only grievously ill patients came to their clinic, ...patients who felt they had no other choice, because the other doctors could not heal them. And Dr. Baker felt that his ability to heal people, ...or to give them any help at all, was lessening and lessening and lessening. And though many of his patients were completely beyond standard medical help, and even though there were miracles at times, ...or "healings," as he called them, Dr. Baker felt that his abilities were gradually slipping away. And the other physicians pointed to that as a sure sign from God that what they had declared was true: "He was most certainly a fraud and a charlatan." And matters worsened ...and worsened.

And though friends and colleagues turned away, Marie did not. And she did not lose faith or confidence in her husband, in his understandings, in what he was teaching and showing his patients, ...or even in what he was demonstrating to other doctors and to their patients. And though his abilities seemed to weaken, Marie never spoke with any less love and certainty about the things he was doing. She was unwavering in her belief and her words that his actions were quite right: ...right for other physicians, for her beloved husband, ...and, above all, right for his patients.

She offered their patients great assurance ...and often spoke of their wondrous destiny in life; and Dr. Baker was never quite sure whether the cures were his ...or hers. But little did that matter, for they worked as a team, ...as partners. They healed patients; ...one nurturing and healing physical bodies, while the other awakened and soothed minds and consciousnesses, patients' lives, the essence of their bodies, and their souls.

Through all of these problems, Dr. Baker found great joy in his life in discovering that he could bond so openly and completely with someone who so closely matched his own ways and strengths ...and who, at the same time, so effectively off-set his weaknesses. Their union created a oneness without conflict; "A union with and a faith in God," he declared. And in that way, the court was right, ...for God did seem to be helping Dr. Baker and his patients directly.

And the joy and pleasure he experienced, while still suffering under the illusion and problems and sadness of what appeared to be failing health in others, failing success in his own practice, and the condemnation of his peers, arose from the love and security he had discovered in his relationship with Marie. He found his home, his love, and his way. And he continued in life without feeling he had to force things to happen, for he saw that it was truly the combination of the two--her love and his medical knowledge, ...her feelings and attitudes and ways of dealing with people, combined with his convictions and skill--which provided the strength and power to heal. Their individual talents and abilities were not in opposition, ...nor did one have to be held back in any way for the other. And as the two worked as one, in that way, great results occurred. Miracles happened!

Dr. Baker even healed people who had been grievously harmed by other doctors ...and their vile treatments and medications, which inflicted additional pain and suffering, created greater illness, and frequently hastened death. He and Marie helped many of those patients ...and cured some almost instantly.

You, today, have this same ability to heal yourself and your life, regardless of the events and difficulties that have occurred, ...and no matter the progression of the illness or disease or problem; ...but you should **never avoid seeking proper medical advice from trained physicians and healers**. Dr. Baker's and Marie's strengths and abilities are wholly within you today, in essence, and you can follow them both. That partnership is available within you in this lifetime to awaken, experience and feel, know, and follow, ...to heal your own body and life. You can enliven and release your own abilities.

You have a great capacity to take things as they come, as they happen to you, see the truth being revealed, understand what these events and relationships and illnesses are revealing to you, gain strength and courage and assurance from your knowings, conceive of an ideal and inspire yourself by that, then successfully and satisfyingly proceed to heal yourself by living anew ...and helping others understand their problems and illnesses, ...and enrich yourself in this process.