

What Is Spiritual Healing?

*Just what is spiritual healing?*

*If ever a word evoked argument and controversy it is the word 'spiritual'. Far too often it is linked in people's minds with the word 'Spiritualism' and yet it should not be.*

Time and time again we have had to emphasise that spiritual healing is not Spiritualism. Spiritual healing is a therapy, whilst Spiritualism is a religion, comparable with any of the world's principal religions.

The dictionary defines the word 'spiritual' as follows: "Of spirit, as opposed to matter; of the soul, especially as acted upon by God; of, proceeding from, God, holy, divine, inspired".

The word 'spiritual' used in conjunction with healing, i.e. spiritual healing, is simply a descriptive adjective to denote the type of healing it is. In the Sanctuary's literature, we emphasise that spiritual healing comes from God (which it certainly does) and that it is, therefore, divine healing, a point Harry Edwards made in an article called "The Source of All Healing" written for the print version of this magazine many years ago. Furthermore, because it comes from God, who is the Father 'of us all regardless of our race or religion, it follows that spiritual healing is not the prerogative of any particular religion but is His great gift to all the human family. Within the membership of the leading healing organisations of this country, i.e. The British Alliance of Healing Associations and The National Federation of Spiritual Healers (of which Harry Edwards was an Honorary Life President) are practising spiritual healers of all denominations.

Sadly, there is talk once again of a move to abandon the word 'spiritual'.

It is a plain statement of fact that no healer heals of himself: he is simply a channel or instrument, through whom spiritual energies flow when he is engaged in his work, whether it be contact or absent healing.

If the true spiritual healer abandons a title of which he should justifiably be proud, then he is not only denying the source of healing, he is denying God and denying the existence of those wonderful selfless souls who are rightly God's Healing Ministers in Spirit and to whom all credit should be given, without any reservation, for their tireless efforts through their human instruments on this earth to help all who are sick and suffering. Furthermore, spiritual healing helps Man to realise his spiritual nature, thus giving him the inspiration and the knowledge of his immortality and so inspiring him to live rightly in God's sight. This we believe is the true purpose behind spiritual healing.