

August 27, 2013 by Edwin Noyes M.D., MPH

A chiropractor wrote to me asking me to give to him any information I had on Spiritualism and chiropractic. The following is the letter I sent to him. I received information later that he quit chiropractic practice.

Dr. ....,

I could not find the letter I had written to you previously. I had related that I understood chiropractic practice to consist broadly of three groups. First—belief in and practicing the manner of chiropractic as taught early on by D.D. Palmer and his son B.J. Palmer. Second—practitioners following somewhat the original doctrine and mixed with scientific type practices. Third—those who totally rejected the Palmer’s doctrine of “Innate” and followed a practice that could be explained from a scientific basis. I am sure this concept might be challenged. I will speak in the next few paragraphs as to my understanding of the Palmer teaching which was the beginning of chiropractic. I take my information from two more recent publications.

*The Spiritual Writings of B.J. Palmer, The Second Chiropractor* (2004) by Simon A. Senzon, M.A., D.C.

*The Secret History of Chiropractic, D.D. Palmer’s Spiritual Writings, The First Chiropractor* (2005) by the same author, he is not a critic but a *promoter* of the original chiropractic concepts laid out by D.D. Palmer.

I will quote the second paragraph in chapter 2 from the book on B.J. Palmer.

“In these writings, it is obvious that B.J. clearly thought of Innate as at once the Soul and sub-conscious all combined as one. He considered the great men of history; his one example here is Jesus, to have found themselves. In a later chapter on genius, we will see that he also relates this to Buddha, Mohammed, and to other ‘great Men.’ In these writing, B.J. considered **Innate** to be God within man. This will also be expanded on in several other chapters.” P. 17

This is panentheism, a blend of pantheism.

A couple of paragraphs from the book on D.D. Palmer: Palmer was throughout his life a practicing spiritualist, a magnetic healer, and hypnotist. He communicated with a spirit guide, Jim Atkinson M.D..

“...the manner in which I became acquainted with the underlying principles of Chiropractic may be of interest. My first knowledge of this old-new doctrine was received from Dr. Jim Atkinson who, about fifty years ago, lived in Davenport, Iowa, and who tried during his life time to promulgate the principles now known as chiropractic.” p. 70 (Jim Atkinson is the name given to a spirit entity that conversed with Palmer and to who Palmer gives credit for giving him the full knowledge of chiropractic)

“The knowledge and philosophy given me by Dr. Jim Atkinson, an intelligent spiritual being, together with explanation of phenomena, principles resolved from causes , effects, powers, laws and utility, appealed to my reason.

“The method by which I obtained an explanation of certain physical phenomena, from an intelligence in the spiritual world, is known in biblical language as inspiration. In a great measure the *Chiropractor’s Adjuster* was written under such spiritual promptings.” P.75

“I occupy in chiropractic a similar position as did Mrs. Eddy in Christian Science. Mrs. Eddy claimed to receive her ideas from the other world and so do I....” p. 80

A couple more paragraphs from same book.

“Therefore, inasmuch as the light of life was revealed to me in order that I should enlighten the world, and as our physical health and intellectual progress of the personified portion of the Universal Intelligence (Innate) depend upon the proper alignment of the skeletal frame, I feel it my right and bounden duty to replace any displaced portion thereof, so that our physical and spiritual faculties may be fully and normally expressed; thereby not only enhancing our present condition, but making ourselves the better prepared to enter the next stage of existence, to which this early existence is but a preliminary, a preparatory step.” p. 83

Senzon, author of this book further writes: “Palmer concludes that a discussion of chiropractic as a religion should be restricted to the understanding that chiropractors have religion. This religious calling of each chiropractor is a moral obligation to assist humanity to reach perfection through ‘correcting the displacements of osseous tissue, the tension frame of the nervous system....’ which is thus, ‘rendering obedience, adoration and honor to the All-Wise Spiritual Intelligence, as well as a service to the segmented, individual portions thereof.’”

Being you have not read either of my books I would recommend such so you will have an enhanced understanding of the meaning behind use of the words, Innate, Universal Intelligence, All-Wise Intelligence. It does not refer to the creator God of the Universe that you and I consider with such words.

My web site is <[spiritualisticpractices.com](http://spiritualisticpractices.com)> There you can order either an eBook on Kindle or a printed copy of *Exposing Spiritualistic Practices in Healing*. You will find it worth the effort.

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