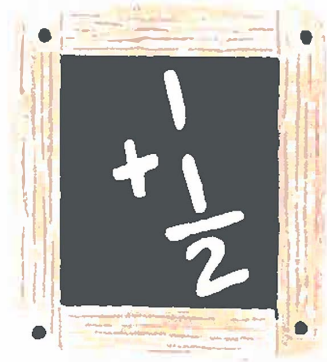


Four and Zero is Four

Andy and Laura were playing school one evening at the kitchen table while their mother cooked dinner. Laura, the older of the two children, was pretending to be the teacher and Andy was the pupil. Laura had been learning math at school and was teaching her brother some of the things she had learned.

“Andy,” she asked, “what is one and one?” Andy quickly answered, “One and one is two.” What is two and two?” was the next question. Andy answered, “Two and two is four.” “Now,” Laura asked, “What is four and zero?” Andy did not know the answer to this problem; so he was told, “Four and zero is four.”



Later that night, the children’s mother was awakened by Andy’s cries. When she went into his room she saw that he seemed to be quite sick. She sat beside him on his bed and began talking to him of the truths about him as God’s perfect child. His mother said that since God is Truth and the only power, error has no power to cause anyone to be sick or unhappy. She helped him to see that what seemed to be sickness was only a lie. Error could not make Andy believe a lie.

Then an angel thought came to Andy’s mother and she remembered Laura’s words, “Four and zero is four.” A zero is nothing; so we can say that four plus nothing is still just four. Andy’s mother asked him if he remembered about the four and zero. Andy said that he did. Then mother said that maybe it would help them with Andy’s problem.

Andy thought for a while and then his face lit up. He said that he figured it out that he could be just like the four and the error that was trying to tell him he was sick was the zero. When the zero, (the nothing) tried to add itself (the sickness), to him, it did not change him at all because the error was nothing. A nothing could never change a something.

Mother then explained to Andy that he was God’s spiritual idea. Nothing had been added to him, so there was nothing in reality that needed to be healed. She told Andy that he was made in God’s image and likeness, and he could never change. He was always perfect. Since evil is nothing, it has no power to change anything. God is the only power anywhere.

The next morning Andy was up and dressed and ready to run outdoors to play. But first he had to tell Laura about how the “four and zero is four” had helped heal him.

S&H 346:9 “The nothingness of nothing is plain; but we need to understand that error is nothing, and that its nothingness is not saved, but must be demonstrated in order to prove the somethingness —yea, the allness—of Truth.”

S&H 480: 29 “If sin, sickness, and death were understood as nothingness, they would disappear.”