

The Thoughts of Doctor Paracelsus

Reconsideration of contemporary medicine

MARUTANI Yoshitsugu

Graduate School of Science for Human Services, Ritsumeikan University

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The purpose of this study is to contemplate the problems of modern medicine. What is particularly important are the ethics of doctors.

I thus focus on a historical figure—Paracelsus—who was a doctor in medieval times. He was quite a character, and he was always lending his support to those who were sick and poor. He was a pious Christian and also a scientist.

As foundations of medicine, Paracelsus passed on to us the four pillars of "philosophy (science)," "astronomy," "hermetic art," and "ethics." These were required for understanding "nature," he related. Ethics can be instructions of Christianity, but religion and medicine are separated in the present age. It is the purpose of this study to reconsider the state of medicine in the present age and the state of modern science, through the thoughts of Paracelsus.