

*The*  
**CORNERSTONE**  
*of*  
**Independent  
 Christian Science**

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*“The stone which the builders rejected  
 is become the head of the corner.”*

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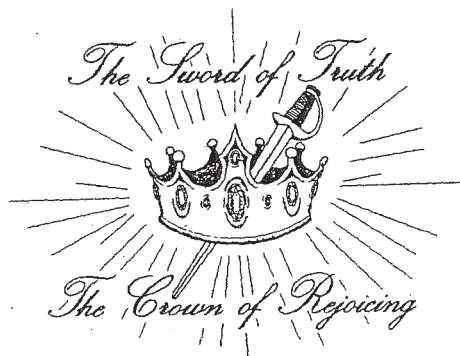
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# Independent Christian Science

*Unfettered by institutional religion*

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# Mary Baker Eddy — Her Revolutionary Works

*Following are excerpts from writings of Mary Baker Eddy.*

St. Paul speaks of the new birth as “waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.” The great Nazarene Prophet said, “Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.” Nothing aside from the spiritualization— yea, the highest Christianization — of thought and desire, can give the true perception of God and divine Science, that results in health, happiness, and holiness.

*Mary Baker Eddy  
Miscellaneous Writings*



## Address Before the Alumni of the Massachusetts Metaphysical College, 1895

Mary Baker Eddy

As Christian Scientists, you have dared the perilous defense of Truth, and have succeeded. You have learned how fleeting is that which men call great; and how permanent that which God calls good.

With Science and Health for their textbook, I am astounded at the apathy of some students on the subject of sin and mental malpractice, and their culpable ignorance of the workings of these — and even the teacher’s own deficiency in this department. I can account for this state of mind in the teacher only as the result of sin; otherwise, his own guilt as a mental malpractitioner, and fear of being found out.

The helpless ignorance of the community on this sub-

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ject is pitiable, and plain to be seen. May God enable my students to take up the cross as I have done, and meet the pressing need of a proper preparation of heart to practise, teach, and live Christian Science! Your means of protection and defense from sin are, constant watchfulness and prayer that you enter not into temptation and are delivered from every claim of evil, till you intelligently know and demonstrate, in Science, that evil has neither prestige, power, nor existence, since God, good, is All-in-all.

*Miscellaneous Writings*



## Sleep

Mary Baker Eddy

Sleep is mesmerism. True sleep is being unconscious of matter and in the consciousness of God; this rests us for it is a type of true spiritual unity. There is no wakeful dream, no sleeping dream. Mind is All.

When you lie down to sleep, know that you have self-control, and that the everlasting arms are about you, and nothing can intrude into your quiet sanctuary — your peace and quiet. You say you cannot sleep. Why not rather say that you rest in God who does not sleep? You need no sleep. Realize this, and the fear that you will not sleep will disappear, and you will sleep. It is the assurance of knowing that makes us master of the situation.

We see the flower before we behold the seed. We learn our lessons before they are voiced to us. The solution of the problem always comes before the problem. That is how God's work is finished. Rest comes before sleep.

*Essays and Other Footprints*



## The Rhythm of the Universe    Mary Beth Singleterry

“Christian Science declares that sickness is a belief, a latent fear, made manifest on the body in different forms of fear or disease. This fear is formed unconsciously in the silent thought, as when you awaken from sleep and feel ill, experiencing the effect of a fear whose existence you do not realize; but if you fall asleep, actually conscious of the truth of Christian Science, — namely, that man’s harmony is no more to be invaded than the rhythm of the universe, — you cannot awake in fear or suffering of any sort.” (Ret.)

This comforting statement by Mrs. Eddy from “Retrospection and Introspection” was given to me by a practitioner years ago when I had sleeping problems. She explained to me the importance of preparing thought before bedtime, to become enveloped with the Omnipotence, Omnipresence and Omniscience of our loving Father; to lay aside any troubles and to put them all in His care, and then to recount the wonderful blessings of the day, thanking God for each one. I was also given the following verse from Psalm 31:5 to work with: “Into Thine hand I commit my spirit: Thou hast redeemed, me O Lord God of Truth.”

It was explained, too, if I did awake during the night, this would be a quiet and an effective time to pray for our church, community, nation and world. Mrs. Eddy states on page 218 of *Science and Health*: “The consciousness of Truth rests us more than hours of repose in unconsciousness.” As I earnestly prayed in this manner, eventually a peace would take hold and sleep would return. The morning came with feelings of true refreshment and joy.

These simple guidelines for a God-given rest have never failed me, and you can trust them to help you as well!

# Recorded Healings by Mary Baker Eddy

*The following is from a collection of healings achieved by Mrs. Eddy, included in the booklet, "The Overwhelming Evidence Concerning Spiritual Healings Through Mary Baker Eddy," compiled by Ralph Spencer. This booklet is available from Plainfield Church.*

Miss Ellen C. Pillsbury, of Tilton, N.H., was suffering from what her physicians called enteritis, of the severest form, following typhoid fever. Her case was given up by her regular physician, and she was lying at the point of death, when Mrs. Eddy visited her.

In a few moments after Mrs. Eddy entered the room and stood by the bedside, Miss Pillsbury recognized her aunt and said, "I am glad to see you aunty." In about ten minutes more, Mrs. Eddy told her to rise from her bed and walk. Miss Pillsbury rose and walked seven times across her room, then sat down in a chair.

For two weeks before this we had not entered her room without feeling obliged to step lightly. Her bowels were so tender that she felt the jar, and it increased her sufferings. She could only be moved on a sheet from bed to bed. When she walked across the room, at Mrs. Eddy's bidding, Mrs. Eddy told Miss Pillsbury to stamp her foot strongly upon the floor, and she did so without suffering from it. The next day she was dressed, and went down to the table; and on the fourth day made a journey of about a hundred miles in the cars.

*Martha Rand Baker*

# The Christian Science Weekly

*This section contains excerpts from The Christian Science Weekly, which was first published in 1898, and later was re-named the Christian Science Sentinel.*

## Interview with Edward A. Kimball

*The following was published in the Chicago Chronicle and was reprinted in the Christian Science Weekly on December 8, 1898. It reports an interview with Edward A. Kimball regarding a law case going on at the time in which Christian Scientists were being prosecuted.*

Few people who knew E. A. Kimball twelve or fourteen years ago, when he was compelled by disease to terminate his business career, would recognize the same man now in the E. A. Kimball who has attained to great prominence in this city as standing for what he holds to be the truth of Christian Science. Many men who are still in active business will remember this same Mr. Kimball as having terminated his highly successful career in consequence of an ailment which brought him near to the brink of the grave, but for which the physicians had no certain name and no remedies that seemed to be applicable in the particular case. Many persons in Chicago will also remember that he traveled extensively in this country and in foreign countries, seeking health and apparently not finding it. At last, however — some ten or twelve years since — he appeared in this city again, a changed man, in perfect health and buoyant spirits. It is not for the Sunday Chronicle to say how he was healed, but it may be allowed to report Mr. Kimball as saying that he was healed by mental influence exerted upon him by Christian Scientists. Anyhow, he was

## CornerStone

cured, and today he is to every appearance a well, strong, and forceful man. The present writer had known him well for a number of years, and he seemed doomed to early death and was known then to be a helpless invalid. Seen now, he is a picture of health. He is an excellent subject for the Christian Scientists to talk upon, for once he was as good almost as dead, and now he is very much alive. And besides, he, by his candor, forces upon one the conviction that he is entirely sincere in his belief in the actuality and practicability of Christian Science.

Mr. Kimball has, in fact, ever since his restoration to health, devoted his best energies and all his available time and very considerable sums of money to the cause of Christian Science. He was one of the organizers of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, now occupying its large new edifice on Drexel Boulevard near Fortieth Street. He is First Reader to the congregation there, which is the largest Protestant congregation in the United States.

Mr. Kimball here reminded this interviewer that it is now more than 32 years since Christian Science was discovered, and 32 years precisely since healing by Christian Science was first attempted. He asserted that during that time a million and a half sick cases have been cured in this country alone. Many of these were regarded, from the standpoint of the doctors, of the most stubborn and incurable nature. In the city of Chicago alone as many as five thousand Christian Science treatments are given every day.

He added this astonishing statement: "In eighteen years of Christian Science practice, not one hundred patients have died." Mr. Kimball mentioned the following incident, which he contends aptly illustrates the one-sided and intolerant attitude taken by many people toward the occasional loss of a case under Christian Science treatment. "A certain man took special delight in handing from

## *Christian Science Weekly*

time to time to his son-in-law, who is a believer in Christian Science, newspaper cuttings recording the death of persons under Christian Science treatment. One day in handing one of these cuttings to him, he was given, in turn, the daily paper and asked to note the fact that that day's paper alone recorded over seventy people who had passed on under the treatment of the physicians. As each case represented a given failure on the part of the medical profession to master a definite case of disease, why were not these failures also telegraphed from north to south and from east to west? There were no comments made on either side, but the son-in-law was given no more clippings of the kind to ponder over."



### Testimony – November 3, 1898

Mortal sense would tell us that we are so far from others who are interested in our Cause, that sometimes it would delude us if possible, into a seeming coldness in our work; but we try to press on, knowing that others have trod the thorn-road and we must follow in their footsteps if we would gain the demonstrations which it is ours, as followers of Truth, to make.

When we came here five years ago, Christian Science was unknown. Now we have a little band of earnest workers, and our regular services every Sunday.

We have started a Christian Science Fund, and although opposition seems to scorn us and deride our Cause, we have gained ground ever since we began our meetings. At first it seemed quite a difficult thing to secure

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a place in which to meet, as this country was so new and all the houses so very small; but Truth is omnipotent and it was again proven to us. A gentleman who had seen some demonstrations and recognized the good in Christian Science, purchased Science and Health, and after reading it a short time, offered us his parlor for our meetings. His wife presides at the organ, and we are far better provided for than we could have planned for ourselves.

Although forsaken by earthly relatives, and, according to their view of things, some of us are “eternally lost,” we have found that peace which the world cannot give.

*Julia Hill, Pondcreek, Oklahoma Territory*



### Good Doctors to have Around *Reprinted from the Cleveland Leader*

“I see they have had smallpox in a certain Ohio town for six months, the doctors thinking it was merely an eruption of some kind, and only one person has died from the effects of it.”

“That settles it. I’m going to be a Christian Scientist hereafter.”

“What’s that got to do with Christian Science?”

“Everything. Do you suppose those people would have pulled through as they did if they had known they were having smallpox? Not by a long shot! They’d have died off by the dozens! Those doctors ought to be handsomely rewarded for what they didn’t know!”

*From Christian Science Weekly, 1898*

## “Feed My Sheep” — Christ Jesus

Christian Science is dynamic. It is alert, alive, pulsating with the power, presence, and the intelligence of divine Love.

*Bicknell Young*

Man's substance is not subject to inflammation, infection, friction or pain. There is no fear or mesmerism that can impair his ability to use his joints as a normal activity of his body. No cause of disease, no law of disease, no substance in which to appear. No error can stand in your experience.

*William D. Kilpatrick*



### Germ

Herbert W. Eustace

The germ of goodness is the only germ, and this germ, in its infinity of variety, expresses God in all its ways.

Malicious suggestion may call this germ a typhoid germ, a tubercular germ, a pneumonic germ, or any other kind. Just as it divides its sense of the animal, vegetable and mineral kingdoms into either harmless or dangerous species, so it classifies its sense of the germ kingdom into good germs and bad germs.

Did Daniel have two kinds of lions?

Did Jesus have two kinds of water, one rough and the other smooth, one to be walked upon and the other to be drowned in?

There is one germ and one only. That is the germ of God, the germ of good, the germ that always works “together for good to them that love” good.

Do you love this germ “with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength”? Or are you anxious to destroy it?

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Is this the germ that is always in heaven? It is.  
Because it is, it blesses you.

No hypnotic suggestion can deceive you into belief in any other germ.

The one Mind, as the only Mind, is the law of total annihilation to any claim of a suppositious mind to hypnotically suggest a belief in a germ apart from the germ of God. There is no such mind.



### Humility

Anna J. Lippman

What is it to be truly humble? Jesus was the highest example of true humility. He demonstrated God's law of spiritual power over every false condition, even raising himself from the grave; yet he said, "I can of mine own self do nothing." By his works he taught the might of true humility.

Some may say, "Oh, I am always humble; I never flatter myself into believing that I am good enough to be called a child of God." This one needs to wake up. Humility does not grovel! The truth is that man is, was, and ever will be the child of God.

Real meekness is never sluggish or apathetic; to the contrary, it is constantly active and alert. We sometimes hear the remark, "I can never join a Christian Science church because I know that I will never be good enough." This is using false humility to cover up mental apathy. Nothing can prevent a sincere student from gaining an ever greater understanding of the Bible and Mrs. Eddy's writings.

Where there is the most humility, there is also the greatest unity. In a symphony orchestra, each musician must forget self and leave his own personal views far be-



## “Feed My Sheep”

hind, thinking only of the work at hand. Each member obeys implicitly the governing laws of music; and though he, himself, is an artist, he humbly follows the director's lead. It is only through perfect harmony and unity of thought that there can be brought forth the wonderful melody.

Mary Baker Eddy has written, that “humility is the first step in Christian Science.” (Mis.) Humility opens our thought to divine Love, and that Love permeates our whole existence.



## Science of the One Mind

Bicknell Young

The divine Mind is the only Mind. There is no other Mind; consequently, God, the one and only Mind, is the one and only Mind of each one of us. And the law of this Infinity, this Principle, or Life of all that lives, is perfection. In view of this, Christian Science has no resemblances. We should be awake to this fact and to the reason for this fact, which is that Christian Science is the Science of the one and only Mind.

All phases of occultism and of Hindu or Eastern philosophy or religion, are beliefs of mind over matter. Christian Science, on the contrary, is the allness of the Mind that is God and the utter unreality of matter. Therefore, beware of anything that is said to resemble Christian Science, because there is no such thing, and all such systems claiming such resemblances are not only misleading, but poisonous, both mentally and physically.

*Association Address 1934*

## Uncovering Pride

Tony Moore

On several occasions since I came to the Plainfield Church, it has been remarked that I am very prideful. I had no clue what was meant by this, but now I know at least a little. But self-examination has been required to uncover this restrictive state of thought that prevents spiritual growth and healing. This is what I have found so far:

I have always been eager to participate in church activities, and assumed that just by participating this way, I must be on the right track. “Aren’t those Bible Study questions I came up with awesome?” “Look at this great watch I found for the website!” “I handled the serpent — spotted it and cast it out. Look how I did that!” The practitioner in Plainfield has been warning me of my self-consciousness in these instances, that it detracts from my God-consciousness and sets me up for a fall.

Similarly, I have wanted to affect change in people and prove to them that the Christian Science at Plainfield is a true and accurate statement of Divine Science. What a righteous desire! And yet now I have discovered it is very prideful. Where is God in it? Only He can provide the timing, can let me know who and when and how. For my part, I can stay alert to His direction, and to hold in thought that each of God’s ideas is receptive to truth right now.

Yes, wanting to do good is a right motive, but I am learning to follow Christ Jesus when he declared, “Don’t call me good. There is only one good and that is God.” Mary Baker Eddy further explains that man, as the image of God, is reflection. Is reflection self-aware? No! So why be impressed with myself? Of course, God is good. I am a reflection of His goodness, and these good deeds are a natural outcome.

This is an exciting new path for me, one in which I feel more secure and closer to God.

# Watching Points

*The book 500 Watching Points was written by Gilbert C. Carpenter, C.S.B., and Gilbert C. Carpenter, Jr., C.S.B. These watching points were written for Mr. Carpenter's students, "to broaden their demonstration of Christian Science as Mrs. Eddy set the example in her home."*

## Watching Point No. 98

Gilbert C. Carpenter

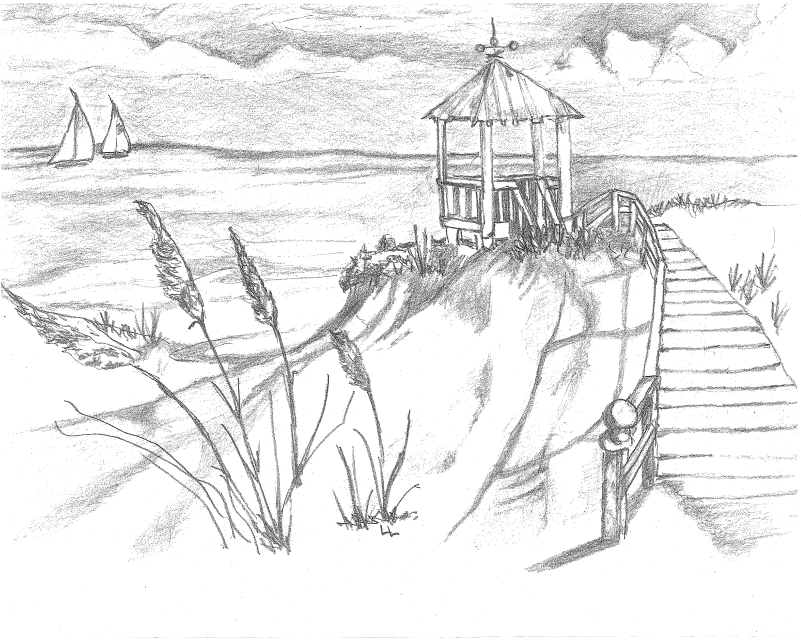
WATCH lest, in your efforts to progress, you accept the false assumption that your work is to perfect this mortal, imperfect man, instead of to throw off the *false belief* that man is or ever can be mortal or imperfect. This error is exemplified by the student who mistakenly believes it is Science to affirm, "I am prosperous, I am healthy, I am happy." Such affirmations are no better than an attempt to graft holiness on unholiness, if the "I" the student has in mind is still mortal man.

The only time one can rightly affirm, "I am the image and likeness of God," is when his conception of "I" has risen above imperfection and fleshliness. Otherwise his effort descends to what is called mind-cure, or reaching out for the so-called good side of mortal sense, instead of trying to throw off all mortal sense. Mind-cure, or New Thought, tries to bring man good mortality; Science strives to do man good, by regenerating him spiritually.

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Spirit is the one and only power, and divine Mind the only physician.

*Irving C. Tomlinson*



## A New Day

A new day has begun.  
God, here's my hand.  
Please lead me on,  
And show me the way.  
On Your path, not mine,  
I surely will stay.  
I'm Yours and will follow  
Your every command.

*Lillian Linnell*

# “Comfort Ye My People”

Whatever is spiritual is derived from Spirit and is as permanent as Spirit itself. Therefore spiritual faculties do not wear out; they are not affected by passing years, bodily injury, or disease of any kind. Spiritual faculties are forever clear and strong. They discern the order and harmony of perfect being and report the truths of divine reality.

*Max Dunaway*

Each encounter with falsity will leave us stronger and wiser, until we learn that all evil is unreal.

*Elizabeth Earl Jones*

Love’s halo forever rests upon its idea, man, who is changelessly beautiful, symmetrical, whole, and pure.

*Mary Barnes*



## The Liquidation of Poundage

Peter V. Ross

Keep in thought that active Principle operates throughout your being. This compels all the functions of your economy to behave. Hence, they can neither unduly deplete nor unduly augment your stature. Do not forget that the lines are fallen to you in undeviating comeliness. In other words, you are duly proportioned — and that right now. Certainly the avoirdupois will fall away. It is mental, is it not? Therefore, keep reminding yourself how queenly you are. This is a dynamic truth, and the truth, when declared, is like the atomic bomb, it vaporizes the error.

## CornerStone

Just the other day a woman wrote me of having a short lip elongated while listening to my lecture. Encouraged by this experience, she reasoned with herself about overweight, and was delighted to find her figure reduced. The fact is that woman is shapely and comely. She weighs neither too much nor too little. She is neither too tall nor too short. The temple of the living God cannot be less than perfect in outline, can it?

Well, if you cannot resist over-eating, try resisting the belief that eating will increase your weight. You see, it is your belief in the matter that works the mischief. Anyhow, the usual appetite will subside when you recognize that the Almighty is in the midst, controlling all your desires, emotions, thoughts, and functions. You know He is so very close to you that He and you are one, which insures that you can be as sensible and well-disciplined as He is, and that you can no more lose your form divinely fair than can He. Yes, you two are one. He is in you, and you are in Him, all of which spells annihilation to everything opposed to your good looks. Now, without any doubt, when Mind and Life sally forth in you, they do a very good job, that is, they build you neither too large nor too small, but just about right,—comely and easy to look at, most certainly. They give you all the courage and ability you need for making a good impression in the community and for carving out a suitable career.

The master Architect who built you insured His work — guaranteed that it would not swell or warp or in any way get out of line. So the undeniable fact is that you are in perfect trim now, uniform and balanced, not too heavy and yet not too thin.

The Maker constructed you in perfection and insured His work for an indefinite period. This goes for your faculties of sight and hearing. This goes for what you call your

## “Comfort Ye My People”

figure. He made you unalterably symmetrical, and unalterably unimpaired. Spirit does your seeing and controls your contour. You are directly under omnipotent command and enlightenment.

The heaviness will be liquidated one of these days, and without too much struggle. As your thought becomes clarified, consciousness will form a prepossessing body. It is a case of, “O Life that maketh all things new.” You ask where Principle is. It is in you. You are a perfect blend with it. You and Principle are one. Hence, your power to control situations.

You may be sure that the Creator not only gave you a comely form, but protected it against any subsequent encroachment. You see, there is an undeviating law; indeed, He is the law itself, which not only fashions you in just measure, but forever after holds you there. So keep in mind that you are well-made, well-conditioned and well-proportioned.

There is no power anywhere to interfere with that fine structure of yours by adding a single unnecessary pound.

Now, get busy in your own behalf. Think out the above truths and elaborate them. Talk them to yourself hour by hour and day by day. Expect results.



## “Deformity Is Not Real”      Mary Beth Singleterry

Mary Baker Eddy has written, “Inasmuch as God is good and the fount of all being, He does not produce moral or physical deformity; therefore such deformity is not real, but is illusion, the mirage of error.” (S&H)

## CornerStone

I have been thinking and praying about the so-called weight problem in America — which is a deformity. It would seem the more people diet and exercise, the bigger they become — as they become the unwitting victims of mortal health beliefs. While it is certainly wise to take proper care of oneself, to become obsessed with how we look, what we eat, etc., while neglecting our spiritual nature, is having another god before the one God.

Mrs. Eddy says on page 62 in *Science and Health*, “We must not attribute more and more intelligence to matter, but less and less, if we would be wise and healthy. The divine Mind, which forms the bud and blossom, will care for the human body, even as it clothes the lily; but let no mortal interfere with God’s government by thrusting in the laws of erring, human concepts.”

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Man’s individuality is defined by the law of God; therefore, it is already perfect and complete, and no sense of evil, no disturbing element, ever has penetrated, or ever can penetrate, that sanctuary.

*C. Lilies Ramsay*



### Treatment — “Blest Christmas Morn”

I would like to read an excerpt given to me in the very early days by Mr. James Neal, the beloved student and friend of our Leader. I have given this before, but I find it so valuable that I cannot resist sharing with you our Leader’s own interpretation of “Christmas Morn” in healing a patient.



## “Comfort Ye My People”

“Thou gentle beam of living Love,  
And deathless Life!  
Truth infinite is you, as God sees you,  
As you see yourself.”

Still I quote our Leader:

“I have taken this hymn and raised a patient who was at the point of passing on in [the] hospital. I held her as a ‘gentle beam.’ Of what? ‘Living Love’ — as far above all the strife, all the striving, as far above the conditions that brought her there. ‘Or cruel creed’ — the doctor’s verdict. So far above all cruel edicts, creeds of mortal belief. ‘Or earth-born taint’ — so far above any taint of inheritance. ‘Fill us,’ fill her, today, right now, ‘with all Thou art.’ With what? With ‘living Love, and deathless Life, Truth infinite.’ Thou all of her. Thou all of me. Fill us, be Thou our all of Life always.”

*Excerpt from “The Healer”  
by David Keyston*

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We do not heal by faith, but by conviction, based on understanding. The steps are improved belief, faith, and understanding. The sooner we realize the utter nothingness of all the evidences of the senses, the sooner we arrive at the true Science of Being, God. This must come by prayer and fasting, prayer that is one constant desire for something higher, whose earnest sincerity will work its own answer.

*Mary Baker Eddy  
Divinity Course and General Collectanea*

# Announcements

## **Bible Study**

We hold a Bible Study each Saturday at 10:00 a.m. via teleconference. Details are on the Website. Contact the church if you do not have access to the Website.

## **The Overwhelming Evidence**

We have printed a new version of this inspiring booklet, in a larger, more readable format. It was written by Ralph Spencer, and is a collection of events in the life of Mary Baker Eddy, as related by people who were close to her. It also includes some wonderful healings that she accomplished. The cost is \$6.00 per copy.

## **Audio Recordings of Science and Health**

We are happy to announce that we have produced audio recordings of Science and Health on CD. On them, Science and Health is beautifully and understandingly read by Andrew Kidd, who served as Reader in Plainfield Church for ten years. His experience and great love for Mary Baker Eddy and her revelation makes for a powerful listening experience, even for those familiar with the textbook. The cost is \$7.00 per CD, or \$85 for the set of 21 CDs.

## **Christian Science in Germany**

We have published a newly typeset version of the inspiring book, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE IN GERMANY, by Frances Thurber Seal, in paperback form. This book tells of her experience in bringing Christian Science to Germany in 1897. She had found Christian Science less than a year before, and didn't speak a word of German. Yet through her love and faithfulness to God, she was able to bring Christian Science to Germany, teaching classes to people from all over Europe. The price is \$6.00.

## **Full-Text Version of Plainfield Lessons**

The Plainfield Church produces our independent Lesson Sermons in full-text booklet form. Each 8 1/2 x 11 inch

## *Announcements*

booklet contains the full-text Lessons for one month. It fits easily within a briefcase or large purse. This offers a convenient, attractive alternative to carrying your marked lesson books when traveling. Each one-month issue is \$7.00, a 3-month subscription is \$19.00, a 6-month subscription is \$36.00, and a 12-month subscription is \$65.00, within the U.S.A.; international is \$9.00 per issue, \$77.00 for a 12-month subscription.

### **Church Services Available by Phone**

Our Sunday and Wednesday church services can be heard by telephone. If you don't have a computer and would like to listen to our services live, contact Plainfield Church for dial-in information. You will be provided with a toll-free phone number, and a pass code. This will connect you to a teleconference service which broadcasts our services at the time they are being held. Sunday services begin at 11:00 a.m., and Wednesday services 8:15 p.m. The services are preceded by 5-10 minutes of music, and you are invited to dial in early to hear this prelude.

Our Roundtable is also available, live and recorded, via this teleconference service. The Roundtable begins at 10:00 a.m.

We invite everyone to join in, sing the hymns with us, and participate in the Roundtable.

### **Testimonies Given by Phone**

Anyone from out of town is now able, through our teleconference feature, to give a testimony live during our Wednesday services from their telephone. If you are interested, please contact the church for the toll-free phone number, code, and instructions. We look forward to hearing from you!

### **Live Services on the Internet**

Have you heard our live services on the Internet? Plainfield Church broadcasts both our Sunday and Wednesday

## **CornerStone**

evening services, including the Sunday adult class, live on the Internet. Recorded versions of these services are available on our Web site at any time. Just log on to plainfield-cs.com, and join our congregation. We look forward to welcoming you!

### **Web Site**

Our Web site, plainfieldcs.com, is constantly being updated with fresh, inspired thoughts, articles, services, and Lessons. It even includes a Lesson forum area to post comments about the Lesson. Please check it out, and leave a comment if you wish!

### **Plainfield Independent Quarterly**

The Plainfield Church publishes its own Lesson Sermon Quarterly, based entirely on the Bible and Science and Health. A one-year subscription costs \$11.00. A single issue costs \$5.00. Subscriptions to overseas and Canada cost \$19.00.

### **CornerStone Subscriptions**

The CornerStone is published in January, March, May, July, September, and November. The subscription rate to the U.S.A. is \$20.00 for one year. Single copies cost \$5.00. One-year subscriptions to Canada cost \$27.00, and international \$35.00.

### **Plainfield Independent Newsletter**

The Plainfield Church Newsletter is published in February, April, June, August, October, and December. It is available to members of Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, free of charge by mail and on our Website.

### **New Members Are Welcome!**

Do you love Christian Science, and wish to see it prosper and go forward? Then we invite you most lovingly to join us in membership. Please contact us, and we'll be happy to send you an application!

## Letters from Readers

I am a student of Christian Science and have visited your website and found valuable material that I've copied to print and study.

Thank you, and congratulations on this diligent work.

*Brazil*

Thank you for your website. I have been reading your helpful articles and listening to your instructive audio files for several weeks now. I have been struggling with fear since childhood, and the many paths I have chosen for answers have not helped me get to the core of fear. I first read some of Mary Baker Eddy's works several years ago and could sense that she discovered what is essential.

Thank you again for your work.

*Texas*

While reading Mrs. Eddy's article, "Fidelity," I looked up the word "fidelity." One explanation given was faithful devotion to duty. Wow! A perfect description of our church workers. Putting God first made it possible to overcome recent storms, snow and power outages. Duty to God made it possible to get the Word out to the world. That is a demonstration! God loves each and every one of you.

*Alabama*

I was so happy to learn about the Plainfield Church history and all of the wonderful Lesson Sermons, the CornerStone, and all the wonderful access to your services and classes via the phone.

My dearest love to you and your devoted members for your wonderful work. I am so grateful.

*Wisconsin*

## CornerStone

It is with deep gratitude and humble heart I send this donation to you. I can never express how much the Bible Study class and the Roundtable discussions mean to me, especially since my computer sometimes fails and I can listen by telephone.

In this divine understanding of Christian Science, God, indeed, takes us "all the way," protecting, guarding and governing us.

I am most grateful.

*Illinois*

I am very grateful for all the articles on the website. I especially like, "Consciousness Where Art Thou?," by Bicknell Young. I also love the article, "The Devil's Auction." That really keeps me from getting discouraged.

*England*

You, indeed, are a great gift! The effort you put into the advancement of Mary Baker Eddy's Christian Science for all the world is truly a wonderful work of love, and greatly appreciated. Who else would have thought of using the teleconference as a way of sharing your beautiful services and educational Bible Class and Roundtable, making it possible for out-of-towners to participate? I feel privileged to be a member of such a loving group.

Many thanks for all that you do.

*Oregon*

Enclosed is a check in expression of loving gratitude for all the work you are doing in reaching out to the world with Christian Science. I cannot say how grateful I am for these efforts, in particular the Lesson Sermons which just seem to get better and better! Once again, a big thank you to all.

*Florida*

I just had a wonderful experience that I can recommend

## Letters

to everyone. I visited the Plainfield Church in person. It was SO special to be able to put faces with the voices we have all been hearing, and the warm and loving reception was very much appreciated!

Thank you everyone at Plainfield for making me and my daughter feel so welcome and part of your marvelous band of hard workers.

*Virginia*

The Carpenter book, Mary Baker Eddy, Her Spiritual Footsteps, is amazing. A very powerful book.

*New York*

Enclosed please find my calendar order and a donation.

Thanks to all for the good work that is done daily to benefit the world, and for the terrific website!

*Maine*

What is wonderful to me is the way the weekly Lesson always pertains to what is happening in the world that week. Thank you.

*Wisconsin*

I listened yesterday for the first time to Plainfield's Roundtable discussion and service. Everything was right on target, and I look forward to becoming a regular listener.

*South Carolina*

I love the Peter V. Ross article: "Liquidation of Poundage." It is not uncommon to be bombarded with messages about weight loss. This timely article is a wonderful reminder to keep in thought that active Principle operates throughout my being. It is so helpful to attend a church that is truly meeting the needs of mankind.

*Maryland*

Recently I've been dialing in to the Bible Study sessions

## CornerStone

and Roundtable teleconferences. Both venues are filled with enthusiasm, energy, liveliness, and fun. The Bible Study is revealing the Bible in a new light, and making it practical and relevant to today's needs, focusing on applying its lessons to our world, our country, and our daily lives. King James is once again becoming exciting. Discussions on the Roundtable open up the thinking to new insights and thoughtful consideration, bringing in new ideas and inspiration. Christian Science is seen in its purity and practicality, as Mrs. Eddy discovered it and gave it to all mankind.

Along with the Bible Study and Roundtable, the Lesson Forum contributes much to add to our spiritual unfoldment. Different ways of seeing old and familiar words and phrases are entertained, making them new once again.

Thank you for the wonderful website. It has been, and is, one of my favorite places to visit each day. There are so many articles, recordings, and resources available for inspiration and new ways of thinking.

It's with heartfelt appreciation and gratitude I wish to express how blessed I am to have been led to the Plainfield Church, its devoted and dedicated practitioners, workers, and members.

Thank you all for your love and outreach.

*Arizona*

Thank you for all the truth you give to us all. I certainly appreciate it and am learning to remember to say "thank you, God" many times a day for all the good experiences, large and small.

*Michigan*

Bravo! for including the excerpt from Lavrenity Beriya in the CornerStone. This shows in graphic detail the workings of malicious animal magnetism, and how it is oper-



## Letters

ating in our school systems, with total ignorance of the participants.

*New Hampshire*

I received the 2013 church calendar you sent me. I'm enjoying it immensely. It's amazing how just a few words can be packed with so much meaning and power.

One of the many that I liked a lot was, "If you will stop being afraid, you will win." By Edward A. Kimball.

Thank you again.

*Oregon*

I have been listening to the Roundtable discussions for a year now. I listen every Monday morning. I have been using them in my daily studies. The Roundtable feels like I am attending a class on Christian Science, only a lot more lively. They have given me a lot to think about and are very helpful. Thank you for putting them online so I and others may gain more spiritual inspiration.

*Georgia*

Thank you for the testimony about the book, "The Healer" by David Keyston, that was mentioned in a recent Roundtable. It is truly amazing, and allows us a glimpse into all the healings that were an everyday part of Mrs. Eddy's life. It has inspired me to a greater commitment to learn this Science.

*Virginia*

Thank you for always being available when I call for help. Being part of the weekly Bible Study has meant a whole lot to me. I feel that I am not so alone, as I have found that I am not alone when God is always right here with me.

*Michigan*

Thank you so much for your wonderful website! I especially appreciate being able to listen to all of your offerings.

*E-mail*

# The Independent Lesson Forum

*If you haven't discovered the Lesson Forum on our church website yet, log on to plainfieldcs.com and click on Lesson Forum. You will find lively and inspiring discussions centered around our weekly Lesson. The individuality of the contributors is wonderfully evident. Those who participate find that it brings greater depth to the study of the Lesson. It provides an opportunity to ask questions, and share with others ideas that have been revealed to you in your study. Everyone is welcome to join in. We would love to hear from you!*

The following is a sample of submissions from the Lesson, "Everlasting Punishment."

**"Man's enslavement to the most relentless masters – passion, selfishness, envy, hatred, and revenge – is conquered only by a mighty struggle."**

A lifetime of bad habits doesn't always go easily. I found this to be true in my own experience. You have to be willing to fight and to stay in the battle until the victory is won, and then be willing to stay with it. A little here or there when you are feeling "in the mood" definitely doesn't work. Thank God that "Christian Science is the sovereign panacea, giving strength to the weakness of mortal mind." What encouragement Mrs. Eddy gives us!

## **Response:**

Where else but Plainfield do we Scientists hear of this "mighty struggle"? In all my life I have never heard it spoken of in these practical ways. I grew up thinking that I was perfect. When I was sick or had a problem or encountered an error, I often heard "know the truth about it." This made Science mental or human, I suppose, rather than feeling the danger or error through your spiritual sense and intu-

## Forum

itions, and then raising thought to God to destroy the seeming error. This other way ignored the problem as unreal, not a problem to really handle.

So I read about this mighty struggle in the Plainfield lesson and I feel encouraged when I am sick or faced with setting aside my passions or personal pursuits and selfish desires, because it is part of the process of laying aside the mortal for the immortal. I can't believe all these years I didn't get it. But I do now and that is important.

### **Response:**

And as the Lesson points out so well, if we don't make this effort (and it has to be a consistent effort), then we effectively condemn ourselves to the vagueries of mortal beliefs, which seems like everlasting punishment. This effort begins in my own consciousness ("Let the reign of divine Truth, Life, and Love be established in me, and rule out of me all sin"), and then it has to take up everything in our experience that is opposed to the Truth ("who is telling mankind of the foe in ambush?"), out of love for our fellow man. This gives me plenty of work to do every day, and for this good work to do, I am very grateful!

### **What Is Required of Me?**

I have heard this question often from this church. I love how it turns my thought to look within my own heart. Mrs. Eddy repeatedly asked her students to do this, and I am sure she is asking us now to do the same.

What is required of me to stay out of bondage? The Lesson tells us "But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all." (Gal.) The Lesson also clearly distinguishes the work of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit. There is no confusion here. The real question becomes, "But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are

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known of God, how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?" (Gal.) I know better now, the ball is in my court, and the might of God is on my side to help me stay the course!

### **Response:**

This is a wonderful example of not simply reading through the Lesson, but bringing it home and making it practical! — seeing how the Lesson is structured to guide you — not simply a bunch of nice citations!

### **“One Way”**

There is no excuse to remain ignorant of this truth once the lesson in Science is learned. I was born free, as every man also was; it's up to me to choose the right way. Only the spiritual foundation guarantees my lasting freedom, and it's worth striving to maintain that as my source for everything I think and do, because “His foundation is in the holy mountains.” (Ps.)

It wasn't easy when I was being impelled by my trials to make Spirit my only source for my work, finances, love, companionship, affection, health, joy. I did not understand the many failures and disappointments. It felt as though I had taken the wrong path, because those who were not in Science appeared to have better lives than I did. But now I understand — a stronger foundation of life, not necessarily in material worth, but a life based on spiritual understanding that feels safer! It is a way of life with the source of strength and inspiration to face and overcome challenges. There's nothing more worth living for; and I thank God for everyone who is striving to make this knowledge known for all mankind. Man's birthright of freedom must be realized everywhere!

## “The World Has Need of You”

*This section of our magazine features statements and articles of Truth to help us in our prayer for the world.*

The Science of Christianity is always a perfect Science, based on perfect Principle, because God is that Principle. When God is understood, the prophecy of Jesus will be fulfilled: “There shall be one flock and one shepherd.”

*Rev. William P. McKenzie*

The world is your world — not something outside of you. It is right with you every moment and it is absolutely under the government of that which is your Mind, for that Mind embraces within itself all that the world means.

*Herbert W. Eustace*



### Mrs. Eddy’s Work for the World      David Keyston

Three times a day Mrs. Eddy took time to work for the Cause of Christian Science and for all the world. There were those in Germany, it is related, that tried for three years to bring about the first world war. But Mrs. Eddy was working, and this evil intent could not be accomplished then.

Similarly, it was not until right after Mrs. Eddy’s passing (December 3, 1910) that three monumental events took place in this country, which have served to keep the populace in bondage to political and financial enterprise ever since. Was it merely coincidental that two of these three major developments were also significant planks in Karl

Marx's *Communist Manifesto*, serving to erode individual rights and liberty, giving socialism its first stranglehold on this country, what many believe to be the culminating ultimate social and political evil.

These few paragraphs but chronicle an isolated item of interest. These events were the following:

- 1) The Federal Reserve Bank — a centralized banking system,
- 2) a graduated tax system,
- 3) the popular election of senators.

Additionally, the formation of the League of Nations (the fore-runner of the United Nations), was about this time. The first step in the destruction, or subordination of this God-inspired and ordained nation to international interests, subverting our sovereignty and nationalism to outside interests, was put in place.

What evil Mrs. Eddy kept at bay while she was here we may never fully know or appreciate. James Gilman relates the following on this topic (*Recollections of Mary Baker Eddy*, p. 48): “. . . malicious animal magnetism had been trying all over the land to precipitate evil leading into all sorts of sin and destruction, seeking to lay its work to Christian Scientists, but said she, ‘I have been holding it back.’” (As we mentioned in the beginning of this book, a whole volume could be written on what work Mrs. Eddy did for the world in holding crime and evil in check.)

“Mrs. Eddy once told her household: ‘If I should be taken from you, the students will have to do a great deal of work for the universal welfare, to make up for what I have done.’

“They say our dear Leader went aside three times a day to pray for the whole wide world. . . . Mrs. (Sue Harper) Mims told me that Mrs. Eddy did not need that anyone

## “The World Has Need of You”

should tell her the affairs of the nations, because her spiritual insight was such that she knew the conditions of every Court in Europe. The world was her patient, and she knew the needs of her patient. She gave us the (Christian Science) *Monitor* partly to make world-workers of us. We must know the needs of our patient (the world) and meet them spiritually and daily.”

*Excerpt from The Healer*

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Test Christian Science by its effect on society, and you will find that the views here set forth, — as to the illusion of sin, sickness, and death — bring forth better fruits of health, righteousness, and Life, than *a belief in their reality has ever done*. A demonstration of the *unreality* of evil destroys evil.

*Mary Baker Eddy*

*Retrospection and Introspection, p. 62*



You must remember that now is the time to be wise as serpents. The demons of envy and hypnotism and theosophy, malicious animal magnetism, — have as subtle and various ways for getting prestige and revenge, and the mental field of work is at war.

*Mary Baker Eddy*

*Divinity Course & General Collectanea*

## Law of Adjustment

William D. McCrackan

To be faithful to the Christ-idea is to come under a divine law of harmony of adjustment. This law does not operate from the basis of human knowledge and ingenuity, but from Principle, and it ensures justice in God's way.

Human existence seems constantly to be calling for decisions. The cry goes up, "What shall I do?" The vital question is, "What shall I think?"

When a decision is to be made, if the motive is right, the final outcome of the decision cannot fail to be good. The least important part of a decision is the decision itself. It is not so much what is done, as what is the motive and what is the point of view.

Once having established that our motive is right and that we have implicit trust in the law of God as fulfilling the ends of justice, what remains to be done? To be faithful to our trust, to dwell in the Christ-consciousness, to be willing and watchful as working Christian Scientists. Then the law of God will prove to be a law of adjustment, arranging and regulating our affairs in accordance with the highest good.

What a relief for the world-weary, battling with the perverse problems of human justice, to realize that there is a law above every mortal law; that God's law discloses every attempt at trickery, dishonesty, or false pretense, every unfair advantage, every hidden motive, every desire to harm, and having uncovered these processes, straightway destroys them, strikes the right balance, and sets free both the oppressor and the oppressed as having been victims of impersonal false beliefs.

Mary Baker Eddy has expressed this correcting influence of the law of adjustment in the following words: "Di-



## *“The World Has Need of You”*

vine Science adjusts the balance as Jesus adjusted it. Science removes the penalty only by first removing the sin which incurs the penalty. This is my sense of divine pardon, which I understand to mean God’s method of destroying sin.” (S&H)



### **Take Heart — God Is Able!**

Lenni Moore

The other day, I was singing one of Mrs. Eddy’s hymns to myself — the hymn “It Matters Not.” When I got to the verse that says “And of these stones, or tyrants’ thrones, God able is to raise up seed — in thought and deed — to faithful His,” it struck me what a clear and powerful statement she was making. Animal magnetism would suggest that our watching couldn’t be effective against the kinds of problems we see around us every day in our country or our world — that evil has just gotten too big to handle. However, this isn’t true and Mrs. Eddy tells us here that God can pull a blessing from a stone. No matter what the political conditions, no matter how hard error insists the hearts of men to be, God is more powerful and more capable — so capable that even these conditions can still bear fruit. We can take heart from this for our watches. No circumstances are too dire. The word of Truth is all powerful and never returns void!

# Articles

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## First Reading of Science and Health

Benjamin Ndukwe

I have not forgotten the first time I read *Science and Health*. I had read articles in the *Healing Thoughts* magazine, with many references to *Science Health* and its healing effects on people. Then I said to myself that I must read this book. The desire to read it was more of curiosity than interest in a particular healing. But little did I know what I was about to experience.

I grew up in a Methodist home in Nigeria, and attended schools that offered Bible studies during my elementary and high school years, so Biblical events are no stranger to me. Nevertheless, I wanted to know more and maybe someday I would find some resources that would help answer some of the questions that were lingering in my mind. So when I heard that *Science and Health* is the key to the Scriptures, I said maybe this book would help solve these puzzles about God and us. Then I ordered the book, and it arrived within a couple of weeks. Without hesitation, I started reading immediately. The chapter on prayer was the connecting point. I just could not stop reading it. It was simple, easy to understand, and absolute truth. The chapter on prayer is so applicable, and it changed the way I pray. It explains why some prayers are answered and some are not. I gained the correct understanding of prayer. Now I pray with expectation and consistency by knowing that God hears honest prayers. This was my first blessing in Christian Science, and it's become stronger ever since.

I couldn't stop reading the book. I know there were so many great books, but what I was holding in my hand was

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not like any other book. It was unique and powerful. My hands were shaking at times with mixed feelings of amazement and astonishment because I couldn't believe what I had just found. I did not know anything about Mary Baker Eddy, who wrote the book; but I was certain that the book I had in my hand was an absolute revelation from God. There is no way anybody could have accomplished this without God being with them.

I started telling my friends about the new book I'd just found. But it wasn't welcomed by many. Some thought it was too much for them. But I was ready for it and wasn't going to give it up, like they suggested. I remember my roommate did his best to discourage me from reading it. That was the response I got from people around me, but that did not discourage me from reading it. Everything was coming to life for me. Everything I had believed since I was a kid was starting to make sense to me. God was becoming closer and closer like never before. I started feeling empowered, and I was certain that I had found a new life. I remember one night when I couldn't sleep, thinking about the book. This could be God working through me. As I read, I tried not to use a dictionary, but to allow God to unveil the mysteries in every word. As I read on, I felt that something extraordinary was taking place in my life. This was not a coincidence. It was God's plan in effect. Soon I learned why people can get healed just by reading it. You have less consciousness of self, but are more attuned with God; and in this state of being, sickness is impossible.

My life was never the same after this experience of reading *Science and Health*. It gave my life new meaning and courage to keep on. It renewed my hope, and made my faith stronger. After that encounter, I wasn't just a believer anymore, but somebody with absolute knowledge of God

and myself. God is now closer to me than I had ever known. He is closer to us than the air we breathe. He is not an entity anymore, living somewhere in the sky or in the heavens, but here with us. He is our ever-present help in need. He watches over us, He hears us when we call. His presence fills every space of the universe, and will always keep us safe. I am grateful to God for guiding me to the Plainfield Church, and to Mrs. Eddy for her inspiration.



## The Living Word

Edith Dowell

Do we sometimes forget that our God is a *living God* — an influencing, loving, presence and power, ever-active and dynamic, never static? Peter voiced this when he answered Jesus with “Thou art the Christ, the Son of the *living God*.” When we speak in terms of *God is*, or *Love is*, or *Mind is*, it may seem that God is static. But God is not passive; He is alive and vibrant — acting, doing, loving — impelling us to do good works, inspiring us to see and love our neighbor as ourselves.

We should reason from the viewpoint of activity when letting more of God unfold in our consciousness. Rather than “Truth is” — think in terms that Truth *emancipates* from human bondage; Truth *obliterates* error; Truth *extricates* from difficult situations. And in place of “Life is” — Life *invigorates* with energy, enthusiasm, vitality, strength; Life *radiates* health, harmony, and joy; Life *liberates* from the limitations of time. And rather than “Love is” — Love

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*inspires* and *lights the way*; Love *dissolves* doubt and fear; Love *rejoices* the heart; Love *binds up* the broken hearted; Love *wipes* the tears; Love *consumes* with a fire that leaves nothing unlike itself in its wake, leaves behind nothing but love.

How blessed we are to have Mary Baker Eddy's revelation from God — her discovery of Christian Science that she so courageously brought to all of us, to mankind and the world. It was Love inspiring her, Life energizing her, Truth guiding her, God tirelessly sustaining her under all circumstances. She revealed to all what once was hidden to the human consciousness — the reality, here and now, of an all-loving presence and power, ever active and dynamic, never passive nor neutral, but always leading us back to Him, our divine Source, back to God.



## Book Review

G. Hayden

*“Mary Baker Eddy, Her Spiritual Footsteps,”*  
by Gilbert C. Carpenter

Gilbert Carpenter, who lived from April 1905 to April 1906 as a student and secretary at Mary Baker Eddy's home, Pleasant View, in Concord, New Hampshire, seems to have written this book to present a proper view of Mrs. Eddy and some of her “controversial” statements and behaviors. Indeed, he has succeeded here and has produced a powerful spiritual document in the process.

## CornerStone

When I first started reading the book, I found it didn't quite meet my expectations, so I set it aside. Then, when I began to read again, I discovered numerous great treasures in its pages. I say that in case you feel, as I did at first, that the book isn't quite what you'd hoped to read, and I'd suggest you read on.

Carpenter's point of view about a woman he quite rightly revered was that she had her reasons for everything she did. Indeed, she had her reasons and those reasons were simply that God Himself had guided her to do as she did, and if she was not guided well, she wanted nothing to do with anything merely humanly inspired.

The author goes through many examples of Mrs. Eddy's actions questioned by others and gives explanations that show her only interest to be that what happened in her home must arise from demonstration and not, instead, from mundane concerns. She was, for instance, severe with the cooks, whose only desire was to serve her something pleasing to her. And here Carpenter notes, flavored with scientific right thinking, cooked with spiritual understanding, and served with a loving consciousness of man's oneness with God.



## What Does a Rebuke Have to Do with Love?

Lenni Moore

Recently it has become clear to me, like never before, that we, as Christian Scientists, don't understand love if we think the only form it takes is kind, compassionate words

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or a gentle demeanor. Sometimes the situation requires a real toughness. Sometimes that toughness is perceived as a personal attack and as unloving by the one on the receiving end.

I certainly didn't understand this before finding independent Christian Science, and I have to say that there have been times, when I first worked with the Plainfield Church's practitioners, that they said things to me that I thought were unduly tough — that offended me personally. Typically, the stern times were when I thought they were most off the mark with their comments! The thing is, however, that the more I would think about what they had rebuked in me, the more I realized that they were seeing the “creeping things” that Mrs. Eddy warns us to be intolerant of — personal sense, pride, etc. — that I was entertaining that wasn't good and was hindering my growth.

A few weeks ago, I had reason to re-examine what it means to be “loving” in Christian Science and how that relates to rebuking sin. One night, as I was praying prior to the Wednesday evening testimony service (I was reading the chapter in Science and Health called “Prayer”), the inspiration was jumping off the page. It started with my noticing how much Mrs. Eddy speaks about sin, on uncovering it, repenting of it, and rebuking it. Most of my life I've never thought of having any real “sin” in myself — in Christian Science we learn that we're God's perfect image, so that means we have no sin, right? But if that's the case, then who the heck is Mrs. Eddy talking to in these pages? I thought, if she's not talking to me, who are these people who have to uncover this sinful sense in themselves and destroy it? Who is she speaking of when she talks about “those who only spasmodically come face to face with their own wickedness?” (S&H) I realized that she was talking to me, and to all of us. Sin isn't just the “big” stuff — killing or

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stealing or adultery — it's the pride, arrogance, self-righteousness that tries to creep into our everyday walk and talk. It must be weeded out.

The second thing I noticed was how much Mrs. Eddy used the word “rebuke.” It's even in the Rule for Motives and Acts: “and a Christian Scientist reflects the sweet amenities of Love in rebuking sin . . . .” There the word is coupled with being loving. So I looked up “rebuke” in the 1828 Webster's Dictionary. The definition read: “To check, silence, or put down with reproof; to reprehend sharply and summarily; to reprove; to admonish.” None of those definitions sounded very loving to me — at least, not in the way we're often taught what is “loving” in Christian Science.

On page 6 of Science and Health there is a marginal heading that reads “Divine Severity.” Here Mrs. Eddy pointedly notes how tough and forceful Jesus was with error. She illustrates how he uncovered and rebuked sin before destroying it. She makes a specific point that he wasn't always gentle and sweet with it, and she gives examples when she talks about “a sick woman . . . whom Satan hath bound,” and notes how he said to Peter, “Thou art an offense unto me.” (Peter could have taken that really personally and had his feelings hurt.) But Jesus wasn't addressing Peter personally — he was talking to the sin that he'd uncovered in Peter's thought. She then notes that a magistrate living during the time of Jesus described his rebuke as “fearful,” and she wraps up by saying his reproof was “pointed and pungent.”

Since that night, I look at rebukes a lot differently than I did before. And I'm most grateful that my practitioner has the courage and the love it takes to talk tough to me when she thinks I need it, to snap me out of whatever hold animal magnetism might have on my thought.



## Daniel, the Faithful

Gary Singleterry

We can gain much inspiration and encouragement from the characters in the Old Testament who trusted God with their lives and overcame seemingly overwhelming odds against them. Daniel, for instance, spent much of his life with the Israelites in captivity to other nations and kings. Yet, because of his steadfast love for God and trust in God, he was both respected by the governing king and despised by those who were jealous of him.

First, King Nebuchadnezzar put Daniel in charge of the wise men, and put his three friends, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, in charge of the provinces of Babylon. When their adversaries tricked the king into making a decree requiring everyone to worship the golden statue, his friends faced a tough choice. Would they save their lives by worshipping the statue, or continue to worship only God. The Biblical account is clear that they did not waver in their worship of God, and for that, his friends were thrown into the furnace. The outcome was that they were not hurt, nor was the smell of fire on them. This experience was irrefutable proof that their faithfulness to God was perfect safety.

Later, when King Nebuchadnezzar had a disturbing dream, Daniel was able again to interpret it for him, giving him the bad news that the king would soon lose his kingdom. Daniel did not fear telling the king the truth, even though it would be bad news to him.

Then, when Darius replaced Nebuchadnezzar as king, he knew how wise and trustworthy Daniel was and put him in charge of the presidents and princes of Babylon, which infuriated those who had to report to Daniel. The other presidents tricked Darius into signing a decree to trap Daniel as he prayed to God. Even when Daniel heard about

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the decree, he was not impressed or fearful. Daniel had been perfectly consistent in his love for God and the king. He prayed regularly every day. God's commands were written on his heart. He had no pride. He envied no one, and certainly did not entertain hate for anyone, — not the king nor his assailants. He had seen his friends protected in the fiery furnace, and he had complete trust that God would take care of him.

He had conducted himself perfectly in God's sight, and that was his safety. That was also why King Darius preferred him. He felt safe and confident with Daniel because Daniel was obedient to the God that created and governs the universe.

When the persecution came, he did not blink. He didn't negotiate a settlement. There was no compromise with the enemy. The decree written by those who opposed him, and signed by the king, was established out of hate and deceit, and he gave it no credence! When cast into the den of lions, his life of obedience to God was his perfect protection, a great lesson for the king, and a rebuke to his protagonists.

His life should be a great inspiration and encouragement to all of us that unswerving obedience to God is the only perfect safety. It will certainly meet with opposition, but that opposition has no power against the all might of God. We will be tempted to compromise our standards, to "go along with the crowd," to negotiate a "peace," but that is never the path to success or peace. Mary Baker Eddy states in our textbook, "The beliefs we commonly entertain about happiness and life afford no scatheless and permanent evidence of either. Security for the claims of harmonious and eternal being is found only in divine Science." This was the standard of every great prophet, including Daniel. This standard survives today in the lives of those who trust wholeheartedly in God.

# Testimonies of Healing

*The following testimonies are offered with great love to those seeking encouragement and inspiration.*

On a Saturday afternoon, at about 1:00 in the afternoon, I developed a very sharp pain in my chest. I worked on this error as best I could, but I was not making much progress. I try to avoid calling a practitioner on the weekend, but this pain was more than I could handle. Upon calling, I was informed that the practitioner would call me back as soon as possible. The pain lessened at about 2:45 in the afternoon, and I felt it would be safe for me to drive to the emergency room at a local hospital. I arrived there at 3:00 p.m., and was called to have an EKG at 3:15 — but by then the pain was all gone.

After extensive testing, the doctors could find nothing wrong, which was not what they were expecting. In fact, they kept quizzing me about the pain. I was observed in the hospital until Monday, when I was released.

Upon getting home, I listened to my voice mail and found a message from the practitioner telling me that she had received my call at 3:00 p.m. and would be working. That was exactly when I felt the healing take place, and when all the pain ceased!

For this most effective practitioner work, I am most grateful.

*J. D.  
Arizona*

A few days ago while at work, I developed a toothache that distorted my face and swelled my mouth. Because of the pain, I thought I would go home, but then remembered that God is everywhere. That included any place I

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might be, because Truth isn't dependent on physical location.

The watch that week included the statement, "The law of Truth, Life and Love is a law of instant and complete expulsion and elimination of all the impurities and poisons from the system." This reminded me that God was in charge and loved and protected me. I was able to return to my work and finish the day,

Many fearful ideas, including lack of funds to pay a dentist, pain, and vanity bombarded me. When this happened I returned to the above statement and knew that I was safe and in God's loving arms. In a few days, the swelling and infection completely abated. Not one hour of work was lost, and I even attended the scheduled meeting. It is interesting that during this time, only my husband noticed the facial distortion.

Christian Science is truly a working religion. I am very grateful for all the help I have received from a Plainfield practitioner, and for God's never ending love.

Thank you, Plainfield Independent Christian Science Church, for making the Truth so available to the world.

C. G.  
*Wisconsin*

One Sunday my mother called and said she wasn't feeling well and asked me to come right over. I was able to ask a practitioner for help, and when I arrived at my mother's house about 15 minutes later, she was already feeling better. I called the practitioner and told her of the progress. She asked me to read to my mother the articles "Contagion" and "I've Got Cold," by Mary Baker Eddy. The practitioner continued to pray. By the time I was finished reading these articles, my mother was totally healed.

I thank God for this healing, the dedicated practition-

## *Testimonies*

er who is filled with love and always ready to help, the Plainfield Church, and Mary Baker Eddy for giving us Christian Science.

S. W.

*New Jersey*

Last night I had proof that God is always watching out for us and all His creation. I was driving to a meeting and was singing hymns and thanking God for all the good He has given me, when all of a sudden a deer ran out right in front of me. I am sure God was there, as I stepped on the brake and my truck stopped in time and the deer was able to get to the other side of the road unharmed.

I am so grateful for Plainfield Church and all the wonderful work there that is helping forward Mrs. Eddy's Science. I believe it is the only way to live, and I am working on following and learning.

R. E.

*Ohio*

My daughter-in-law, who is not a Christian Scientist yet, was in labor, preparing to give birth to her first child. After quite a time, I began to have the feeling that things were taking very long and might not be progressing as they should. Remembering the wonderful experience I'd had delivering my own children through Christian Science, I called a Plainfield practitioner and asked for help with the situation. The practitioner said to remember, "My times are in Thy hand," and that the birth would be quick, easy, and natural, because that's how God works!

Early that afternoon, my son called to say that the baby had been born. He told me that the progress had been halted for several hours, and that the doctor was preparing to induce labor. But he said that at about 11:00 a.m., all of a sudden "things really kicked in." The doctor decided he wouldn't need to give her any medication, and in a very

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short time his son was born. I told him that was the time I called the practitioner. He thanked me for doing that, and was extremely grateful for the help.

What a powerful healing! I am very grateful to God and to the practitioner for this wonderful proof of God's power.

C. C.

*New Jersey*

In the Bible it says, "And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones." (Isaiah 58:11) When I read that recently, at first I thought, why would I want my bones to be fat? Why would that be a good thing? But in thinking about it, I realized that it means that God will make them, and us, strong and sturdy, and able to stand fast against anything error would send our way, and not be knocked over by it.

As I worked with this thought and let it become part of my being, I found that I had gained five pounds! I'd had a wonderful healing, but had lost some weight during the experience, and had been having trouble gaining it back. Since having this wonderful revelation, my weight has now returned to normal.

I am very grateful to God for help from a Plainfield practitioner, whose prayers opened my thought that I was able to receive this blessing.

C. T.

*New Jersey*

The week before Christmas, as I was riding my horse with friends at a nearby park, my horse spooked when some bike riders came around a corner very suddenly. I was thrown onto very hard ground and soon realized that my back and hip were severely injured. I was in a lot of pain. I improved slightly over the next couple of days, but for all intents and purposes, I was almost an invalid.

## *Testimonies*

I started praying for myself in Christian Science right away and was doing my best to see myself as perfect, but that's hard to do when you can't move without pain and the pain is constant. I finally let go of my pride and called a practitioner at Plainfield. You see, I had been fairly inconsistent with my commitment to all the church activities for the past few months and was embarrassed to call and ask for help. She came to my rescue, but with my promise to stay true to my commitment to Christian Science, this church, and my own personal progress.

Improvement was immediate and steady, and I was up and around that same week. I continued to work with the practitioner every day and continued to progress. The most important part of all of this wasn't the healing of my back — it was feeling closer to God and seeing that I had work to do with this church.

Three weeks after the incident, I was able to move about normally, but I was having a lot a trouble sleeping. My hip and back were still aching at night and it was difficult to get comfortable and fall asleep. I called the practitioner again to discuss this problem, and she suggested that I just forget my body altogether and get busy working for God. I took up the challenge and slept like a baby that night, and have ever since.

My gratitude is overflowing for this wonderful healing. I went from being a near invalid to being perfect and healthy. But the best part was what I learned about my relationship to God and how important it is to stay on course and not be distracted away from my duty to God.

I thank the Plainfield Church, all the members, and especially the wonderful practitioner who came to my aid and got me back on track.

*D. A.  
Virginia*



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Broadcast the Truth  
“Freely ye have received, freely give”*