

FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

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ISSUE Three

SUBJECT: SOUL AND BODY 5/26/13

GLORIFY GOD IN MY BODY?

Our golden text this week: "Glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." I can understand glorifying God in my spirit, but how do I glorify God in my body? Could it possibly mean that I put my body behind me and thus put God first? ***

"...know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" 1 Cor. 6:19 and also Mrs. Eddy has said your body is "the embodiment of right ideas." This makes it much easier to understand how we can glorify God in our body. Our body is not just some blob of matter, you know! :)*****

... "which are God's." Your body and spirit belong to God. Not, your spirit is God's and your body is a material thing that must be gotten rid of.

To glorify God in my body may mean in my activity, in my deeds, in how I present myself (think about it - if I say I am God's idea, I will act like it. That means I will neither try to puff myself up, or shrink myself down, but will allow God to shine through).

Also, body and spirit are not separate things. If you're truly glorifying God in your spirit, you will be glorifying God in your body, and vice versa. *****

I think that's the main point. Your body is the visible evidence of who and what you are. If your heart is right, with God, then your actions will show it. You will meet the need of those around you; give a smile and a kind word to one who needs uplifting; give a stern rebuke to sin wherever you see it.

As Mrs. Eddy's spiritual interpretation of the Lord's Prayer says: "Enable us to know, - as in heaven, so on earth, -- God is omnipotent, supreme." God is not separate from the earth. He is there, and omnipotent. He is not separate from your body. He is right there, and in charge!

So, as you go about your daily activities, make each one count. Do everything you do to the glory of God. Otherwise, you're wasting your time. *****

SUBJECT: LIFE 07/15/12

"Never record ages".... Ha!

Compulsory birth certificate with DOB...social security registration...16 to obtain drivers license...18 draft registration...SSN/DOB to open an IRA...59 1/2 minimum age to withdraw savings from IRA ...62 to start reclaiming your compulsory contributions from Social Security... 70 1/2 forced withdrawal annually from regular IRA. You get the idea! *****

Mrs. Eddy stated "If you leave something in the negative, you leave it nowhere." If you are proud of your ability to enumerate all the reasons why God does not exist, what then? Especially if you consider yourself a student of CS!!! DID GOD SAY ANYTHING LISTED ABOVE? DOES GOD KNOW ANY OF THEM? This is the vileness of **mortal self**, which thinks it knows something but is just a fool.

Now let's get on with the Science. A spiritual idea - man, never born into matter, how can I possibly record ages?? HOWEVER, if you are looking to your SS registration, birth certificate, etc., etc., you will never find the spiritual idea or any indication that you were never born into matter. So why are you looking there? *****

Yes, you can see how the world today forces a person to constantly think of himself in terms of their bodily age. But that does not make it the truth of who they really are.

Things have changed a lot since 1910 when Mrs. Eddy passed on: very few people owned automobiles, Social Security was decades away.

However, I believe the intent of Mrs. Eddy was to encourage us not to think of ourselves as mortals, born at a certain time and year and therefore thinking of ourselves in a certain way, just because we had a particular "date stamp." Instead she pointed to the scientific truth: "Man as the offspring of God, as the idea of Spirit, is the immortal evidence that Spirit is harmonious and man eternal." *Science and Health*: 29:30-32

An idea has no age, all true ideas have existed eternally. Man in science is not a limited human form.

Man: "The generic term for all that reflects God's image and likeness; the conscious identity of being as found in Science, in which man is the reflection of God, or Mind, and therefore is eternal." *Science and Health* 475:15-18

He is: "The compound idea of infinite Spirit; the spiritual image and likeness of God; the full representation of Mind." *Science and Health* 591:5-8

To see ourselves as the reflection of God we have to turn away from the belief that "who we are: is a limited human body." All those dates and numbers you mention are just "meat stamps" dating of the flesh.

"Question._ what is man?"

"Answer. _ Man is not matter; he is not made up of brain, blood, bones, and other material elements. The Scriptures inform us that man is made in the image and likeness of God. Matter is not that likeness. The likeness of Spirit cannot be so unlike Spirit.

Man is spiritual and perfect; and because he is spiritual and perfect, he must be so understood in Christian Science. Man is idea, the image, of Love; he is not physique." *Science and Health*: 475:5-14

The spiritual sense that enables us to understand ourselves goes against the reasoning and the testimony of the material senses. In the same way that natural science proved that the sun does not rise and set, that is rotate around the earth, but instead the earth turns and rotates around the sun. *****

I must say I did "laugh out loud" when I read the first post on this thread. Mortal mind constantly likes to shove the age issue into our faces! But that doesn't mean we can't be consistent in our denial of it. We've been taught here to know daily "I am ageless, disease-less and deathless because God made me so." Reg Kerry, an old time worker who would sometimes visit our church, told us he would tell people who inquired about his age, "I am as old as God!" That would always shut everyone up! But of course that doesn't work on "legal documents" etc. - Although it might be fun to give it a try! *****

One more on Age

I LOVE all the comments regarding age! My mother taught me years ago never to discuss or tell your age! She has been gone 12 years now, but members of our family still reminisce and joke how nobody really knew how old she was. Her explanation to me was that if you tell your age, you are labeling yourself, and others will say, "Oh, she is 70 (for example), she is over the hill," and may treat you accordingly as to what or where in life, they think a 70 year old, or 80 years old is.

I remember when it was necessary for a doctor to see her and when he asked her age she asked why it mattered! She passed at 96 1/2, and looked much younger, truly proving that age is a state of mind.

To this day, that rubbed off on me, and even when my hairdresser asked my age, I replied, "I never tell my age, it's something I don't discuss." I find myself mentally not even thinking of myself at the age I am. I have to stop and think sometimes what it actually is; therefore, I am told by many

how youthful I seem. It really doesn't matter to me what they think, I just want to be taken for WHO I am, not for how old I am.

Sometimes, when I HAVE to provide proof of age, I am shocked myself! I think to myself, "No, really? I don't believe it. Can't be true!" I do declare every morning, "I am ageless, disease-less and deathless!"

It's true, if we really believe we are spiritual, and how can we not, then we certainly are ageless! *****

I am already there!

"The perfect and immortal are the eternal likeness of their Maker. Man is by no means a material germ rising from the imperfect and endeavoring to reach Spirit above his origin." S&H 246:5

I have to constantly remind myself that my perfection is already here. I am not studying, working, in order to become or to get somewhere or to become something I am not already. All the study, rebuking, self-examination, self abnegation, self immolation is to arrive at the realization of present oneness with my Father. The Principle of my perfection will never change; because it will always be true, I know it is true now! *****

Yes you are already perfect! I had a most remarkable experience a while back when I was pondering "When shall I attain what she has attained?" She is a person whose spirituality I admired. Suddenly it was as if an obscuring mental smoke was blown out of my mind. All at once I could see that the perfection I was seeking was already present! This was who I was and always had been. I had been seeking it in some mental

concept. It actually seemed humorous at the moment. And what became clear was that "seeking" with the human mind alone was actually an obstacle in and of itself. Because no mental construct of how to reach perfection by the human will can reveal Truth.

The best that the human mind can do is surrender in humility to God. "When the good fight is fought, error yields up its weapons and kisses the feet of Love, while white-winged peace sings to the heart a song of angels." *Miscellaneous Writings*: 204:8-10

The experience that spiritual sense brings of the reality of the omnipresence of God, Mind as "The only I or Us" is wonderful beyond words. It is fully scientific as one Mind, one God, "of whom man is the full and perfect expression."

How beautiful and gracious is our God! From the Glossary of Science and Health: "MIND. The only I, or Us; the only Spirit, Soul, divine Principle, substance, Life, Truth, Love; the one God; not that which is *in* man, but the divine Principle, or God, of whom man is the full and perfect expression; Deity, which outlines but is not outlined." *Science and Health* 591:16 *****

This is the required "change of base" that Mrs. Eddy writes about in *Science and Health*! *****

SUBJECT: MAN 9/8/13

Learn how you govern your body Science and Health 251:16

Through faith in hygiene?
... in drugs?
... in will-power?
... in a belief in the necessity of sickness and

death, sin and pardon?

OR

Govern it from the higher understanding that the divine Mind makes perfect :
...acts upon the so-called human mind through truth

...leads the human mind to relinquish all error

...to find the divine Mind to be the only Mind, and the healer of sin, disease, death.

This process of higher spiritual understanding improves mankind until error disappears.

No waving a magic wand here! *****

Man governed by God

"When man is governed by God, the ever present Mind who understands all things, man knows that with God all things are possible." I love this statement and I consider it a test as to where my thinking is at the moment. If I am not feeling that all things are possible to God, if I am feeling discouraged or thinking something is too far gone to be healed etc. -whoops!!! I am definitely not being governed by God and I better wake myself up until back on track!!! To feel all things are possible to God is the natural state of our being, and how important it is to be alert to anything that would try to claim otherwise!

The second part of that statement is: "The only way to this living Truth, which heals the sick, is found in the Science of Mind as taught and demonstrated by Christ Jesus." You really can't have this trustful sense of "with God all things are possible" unless you are following the teachings and demonstrations of Christ Jesus. Otherwise you are "up a creek without a paddle" as they say. *****