

FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

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ISSUE 7

**SUBJECT: ADAM AND FALLEN MAN -
11/10/13**

Consciousness, where art thou?

This question is being posed to the reader, not some mythological character! So I asked it of myself this morning, and found that I have a choice. Let the endless negativity of the news get to me - "the belief that mind is in matter, and that evil is mind," or am I "in the living faith that there is and can be but one God, and keeping His commandment?" *Science and Health* p 308: 1-4. One is hell, the other is heaven. Hmmm, let's see. I think I will choose the latter.

God is the only power, the only Mind, the only source of good. He is just, and He is Love/Principle. He governs the universe "from the mental molecule to infinity" *Science and Health* - nothing is outside of His jurisdiction - no darkness (deceit, injustice, hate) can escape the light of Truth. "God is a consuming fire" to all that bad stuff. "Love is a mighty spiritual force." Mary Baker Eddy - now that's what I'm talking about!! Woe unto anything thing that would oppose divine Love!! What happens to darkness when the light shines? Gonzo!! "The Lord God Omnipotent reigneth."

Ask the general state of mind of this country and CS movement. "Lo, here I am, looking for happiness and life in the body, but finding only an illusion, a blending of false claims, false pleasure, pain, sin, sickness, and death." *Science and Health* p 308 : 10-13

"Animal magnetism, in its ascending steps of evil, entices its victim by unseen, silent arguments...The victims lose their individuality, and lend themselves as willing tools to carry out the designs of their worst enemies, even those who would induce their self-destruction.

Animal magnetism fosters suspicious distrust where honor is due, fear where courage should be strongest, reliance where there should be avoidance, a belief in safety where there is most danger; and these miserable lies, poured constantly into his mind, fret and confuse it, spoiling that individual's disposition, undermining his health, and sealing his doom, unless the cause of the mischief is found out and destroyed." ("Ways That Are Vain," My p 211 MBE - emphasis added)

OUR UNITY WATCHES ARE PROFOUNDLY IMPORTANT. WE ARE NOT DEALING WITH PERSONS, BUT EVIL/ANIMAL MAGNETISM - the serpent/Red Dragon - which has not a chance before "the Lamb."*****

Adam a myth - why a Lesson on a myth?

Once Christianity became institutionalized, perhaps the most important doctrine established was "original sin," a brilliant mechanism for cultivating guilt and thereby control over the followers, since the church was the only "ordained" vehicle able to provide the hope of salvation. The concept of "original sin" is not found in the Gospels, but is justified by the story of Adam and Eve.

This "original sin" is so deeply imbedded in the psyche of Christians that Mrs. Eddy says fit to address it head on in the "Adam and Fallen Man" Lesson - and debunk it!!! Such a contradiction when our premise is: God is good.

Incidentally, the relatively new religion of Socialism/Communism has devised its own guilt mechanism in order to control - collectivism "for the good of all" - if you do not adhere, you are a self-centered sinner. The

only salvation can be found in government. Even many "Christian" churches are now teaching this.

And then we have the Boston BOD, which has managed to install its own guilt system "for the good of all" to protect against the corrupting of Christian Science!!! Ah! That ole devil is clever, it would seem.

This Lesson should arm us to resist that Red Dragon, accusing us day and night, cast it out, so that we can be free "to serve the living God." *****

Thank God for Mrs. Eddy for having the courage to state her revelation, "This second biblical account is a picture of error throughout." (S&H) Most of the "Christian" churches believe this second account of creation "from the dust of the earth" to be the true one. Yet, the lesson states, "the purpose of this allegory...is to depict the falsity of error and the effects of error." It's a great warning to never get comfortable in the human condition.

It even begins: "But there went up a mist from the earth,..." The picture of a mist coming up from the earth is the blindness of materiality, the belief that there is any life, truth, intelligence or substance in matter. No God in that picture! *****

Absorbed in material selfhood...

"Absorbed in material selfhood we discern and reflect but faintly the substance of Life or Mind. The denial of material selfhood aids the discernment of man's spiritual and eternal individuality, and destroys the erroneous knowledge gained from matter or through what are termed the material senses."

This really stood out to me in this lesson. Question: how do I know if I'm absorbed in material selfhood? What if I think I'm not, but I really am? How can I tell?

"The denial of material selfhood" helps, but what does that mean exactly, practically speaking? How do I deny material selfhood as I

go through my day? (Hey, I've worked hard to have a beautiful home, and now I have to deny it all?)

As I ponder these questions, my response is to be sure to put God at the center of everything I do and to declare, "Not my will, but Thine be done." To ask, "God, what would you have me to do right now?" Do I always do this? Do I absorb what I hear on the radio or do I handle it? Do I get wrapped up in my overwhelming "To Do" list or is God always at the top of that list and helping me through that list? Hmmm.*****

Yes, it is a balancing act it would seem, as we still have to breathe, eat, and scratch the odd mosquito bite, LOL. I have found it easier not to fight with that which I need to forget, but to focus on Love's All-ness, on Truth, not willfully, but by humbly asking God to be the source of my thoughts and feelings.

In the "Message for 1902," on page 6, Mrs. Eddy states for instance: "The knowledge of life, substance, or law, apart or other than God-good- is forbidden. ...

"Here all human woe is seen to obtain in a false claim, an untrue consciousness, AN IMPOSSIBLE CREATION, yea, something that is not of God. ...

"All Christian faith, hope, and prayer, all devout desire, virtually petition, Make me the image and likeness of divine Love."

God is infinite Love, including nothing unlovely, producing nothing unlike Himself, the true nature of Love intact and eternal. *****

Ahh! The quandary of the CS culture: Deny all this matter that seems to be around me - it is all unreal. God, Spirit only is real. So I live in an unreal world, and claim that which I do not live in as real. Makes a lot of sense, huh? Not Mrs. Eddy's Christian Science!!! The beautiful home is not to be confirmed as matter and denied, but seen as God-given, expressing God-qualities, for God's purpose to bless others, a

place from which to work out from to bless our fellow-man, a place to be grateful to God for. If it cannot be seen this way, then we should move out into something more Godly!! That would be a practical denial of material selfhood!!*****

Incontrovertible!

“The great truth in the Science of being, that the real man was, is, and ever shall be perfect, is incontrovertible; for if man is the image, reflection, of God, he is neither inverted nor subverted, by upright and Godlike.”

Definitions -

“Incontrovertible – cannot be changed into something else”

“Invert – to turn upside down”

“Subvert – to overthrow from the foundation; to ruin; to turn the mind from truth”

It is important to realize the absolute Truth of Mrs. Eddy’s statement for ourselves, for our nation and for our world.

Another good "watch" treatment! *****

His heart is fixed

“He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting the Lord.” If we ever hear bad news of any kind we can either be part of the problem by becoming afraid and getting drawn into an aggressive mesmeric suggestion or – we can be part of the solution by resolutely trusting in God and by not being impressed with error’s lies about God’s creation. “Then my heart, in every strait, To thy Father come, and wait; He will answer every prayer, God is present everywhere.” (Hymn # 341)*****

The voice of Truth calling

"Above error's awful din, blackness, and chaos, the voice of Truth still calls: "Adam, where art thou? Consciousness, where art thou? Art thou dwelling in the belief that mind is in matter, and that evil is mind, or art thou in the living faith that there is and can be but one God, and keeping His commandment?" *Science and*

Health p 307- 308 : 31-4 The voice of Truth still calls asking where is my consciousness; in the material senses or have I made the right choice to have the Christ Mind, with faith in the One living God, trusting in His supreme government?!

I feel a profound sense of everlasting Love forever calling and ready to redeem me from all that the false senses would tempt me with.

Thank God again and again for Mrs. Eddy's revelation, making this Truth so practical. ****

SUBJECT: MORTALS AND IMMORTALS - 11/17/13

What did they do wrong?

"They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage ..."

"Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded ... " Luke 17 : 11, 12 (to 1st), 22 (he) (to first), 26 (as)-33

What was Jesus saying here? In both cases, the people were doing all things industrious, successful humans do. In both cases they were wiped out rather violently. Jesus did not explain why. He just warned, when the day of destruction comes, do not try to salvage anything or sit around wondering why. Get the hell out of Dodge!!

Here is my take: he listed all the things the world thinks are important to establish self-worth, self-satisfaction, security - then said, be ready to let it all go. It isn't worth anything in the eyes of God. "Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it." Luke 17: 33 Very radical! And yet the key to escaping the bondage of "the ghastly farce of material existence." *Science and Health* p 272 : 20-21 God first, last, and always - as the song from last Sunday says Micah 6:8 - do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with thy God.*****

Yes! They did everything wrong and I would too, if these humanly good things become

what preoccupies my thoughts, if I indulge in them and believe they are my source of happiness and security.

It is a joke to think that I can have more than **one affection!** Jesus knew that! He said **choose** because you cannot serve God and mammon at the same time. It is impossible.

It is a huge blessing to know what is important to God, to have the understanding that I am spiritual and that I can strive to have that right model become clearer each day. Not looking back but desiring to walk humbly with my God is sure to bring the best blessings! God is All, That's ALL! *****

I once "used" Christian Science in order to achieve a nice little bubble of human happiness, not caring much about others or the suffering of others. It was no wonder this little selfish world of mine came crashing down on my head! Christian Science cannot be "used" for selfish purposes. It is totally impossible for it would be saying in essence we have a selfish God which we reflect....how utterly absurd! So to me these verses of Christ Jesus describe a state of being self-absorbed - very, very dangerous! And I will end with this quote from Gilbert Carpenter: "One of the greatest protections against the unknown, the unseen, the unexpected, is the work to bless humanity, because one cannot bless humanity without handling the error that comes to humanity, and the handling of the error is one's own life insurance....since one cannot be handled by that which one is already handling." (!!!)*****

This reminds me of what we have been taught about vacations and retirement. The common thought about vacation is that it is a time to go out of gear and indulge the senses in extreme. If you are used to working for God, that puts you in a very dangerous position. If, however, a vacation is used to commune with God, refresh the spirit, clear out the cobwebs, and recharge the mental batteries, so to speak, **then we can return to do even better work.**

The advertisements for retirement are equally dangerous. The common thought is "You've done enough. Sit back, relax, and enjoy your golden years." This is pure self-indulgent materialism. We can never do enough for God! Mrs. Eddy worked full days all her life here, never taking a vacation, never thinking of retirement. She founded the Monitor when she was in her eighties! And in those later years, she stated that she could never begin to repay her debt to God. *****

Ezekiel pointed out that the sin of Sodom was "pride, fullness of bread, abundance of idleness ... neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy." Ezekial 16:49

" ... in the days of Lot ... they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded ... " Luke 17:28

Speaking to a great crowd of followers at Pleasant View, Mrs. Eddy lamented, "I find my students either in an apathy or a frenzy." We would normally think that "apathy" is closer to "idleness" than "frenzy," but Mrs. Eddy's statement teaches us that when one is in a state of frenzy this also signifies a state of being stuck - remaining idle - with respect to accomplishing the things of God.

When a car engine is idle it is still running -- it's just not going anywhere. Being busy, even to an extreme, with the things of this world, but leaving one's spiritual engine idle with respect to truly acting on the will of God is a frenzied form of idleness. Being busy doing, doing, doing earthly things can be a great distraction from actually doing God's will, and when not doing God's will becomes a habit, we are in a state of gross idleness, whether in an apathy or a frenzy. Either way, God's car is, in effect, stalled and going nowhere.

In effect, it is possible to think that we are actively doing God's will, when in reality we are only dreaming that we are, and instead we are asleep at the wheel of a parked car, perhaps with our foot resting heavily on the accelerator pedal, its engine idling wastefully. *****