

# FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

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**SUBJECT: Spirit – February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

## Spirit and True Freedom

“Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty,” (2 Cor. 3:17) and “Love is the Liberator” *Science and Health*, p. 225; 20-21 both these statements tell us that in God alone can we find our true freedom!! Only as I identify myself, as the Bible and Mrs. Eddy has taught, that I am the child of God, His image and likeness, the reflection of all His attributes and therefore of spiritual substance, can I feel the true freedom God has given all His children. \*\*\*\*\*

## Not A Fair Fight

“Rise in the conscious strength of the spirit of Truth to overthrow the plea of mortal mind, *alias* matter, arrayed against the supremacy of Spirit” (*Science and Health*, p 390:32-2).

In I Samuel 17:26, “David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, . . . who *is* this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of the living God?” David did not put Goliath on an equal footing with the “supremacy of Spirit.”

Neither did Mrs. Eddy: “Sickness is not a God-given, nor a self-constituted material power, which copes astutely with Mind and finally conquers it” (*Science and Health*, p 378:24-26).

Another way of saying “the supremacy of Spirit” is “the only-ness of Spirit,” as there is **none** beside God.

It is my assignment to make the promises of the Word of God so prominent, so supreme in my consciousness that the roar of “the plea of mortal mind” becomes but a faint squeak. This is exactly what happened in the allegory of the trial (*Science and Health*, pages 430-442): when the patient finally took his case to the Supreme Court of Spirit (that is, the Court of the Supremacy of Spirit), it was not a fair fight at all, for the might and power

of the “exceeding great and precious promises” of God (2 Peter 1:4), wielded by Christian Science, won the case — hands down! \*\*\*\*\*

Thank you very much for your submission above. I especially appreciate “It is my assignment to make the promises of the Word of God so prominent, so supreme in my consciousness that the roar of “the plea of mortal mind” becomes but a faint squeak.”\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for the post! I love to revisit the word *supreme*. The sense of *only-ness* reiterates the first commandment. Plus Webster’s 1828 also has these meanings: Highest in authority, . . . In the universe, God only is the *supreme* ruler and judge. His commands are supreme and binding on all his creatures.

2. Highest, greatest or most excellent; as supreme love; supreme glory; supreme degree. \*\*\*\*\*

## Lord My Times Are In Thy Hands

“As thy days, so shall thy strength be.” (Deuteronomy 33:25) This simple truth is an important one to understand and to live by. It is so easy to become worried about tomorrow, or next week, or next year. Will I have enough money? Will my children be ok? Will my health be alright? Will I be able to work? etc. Our Master taught us the Lord’s Prayer, including, “Give us today our daily bread.” God is always supplying us with all good every moment of every day and it is so important to be continually knowing this and acknowledging His presence and power with us. Tomorrow will take care of itself if we trust ourselves to God’s care in this eternal now. I love hymn #46 and often sing it to myself, two of the verses are, “Day by day the promise reads, Daily strength for daily needs: Cast foreboding fears away; Take the manna of today. Lord, my times are in Thy hand: All my sanguine hopes have planned, To thy wisdom I resign, And would mold my will to

Thine....” \*\*\*\*\*

#46 “Day by day the promise reads, Daily strength for daily needs: Cast foreboding fears away; Take the manna of today. Lord my times are in Thy hand: All my sanguine hopes have planned, To thy wisdom I resign, And would mold my will to Thine....”

There is a beautiful sense of surrendering to God’s Omnipresent, unfailing care in this hymn that always comforts me. Thanks. \*\*\*\*\*

## Wait Upon The Lord

“But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength;” Isaiah 40:31

This stood out to me this week as a continual reminder to put God first and slow down my thoughts. In our last class, we were instructed, “to be informed by the Holy Spirit;” to listen for “Divine instructions,” and “ask the Lord to teach you.”

(1828 Webster’s) WAIT:

1. To stay or rest in expectation and patience; to stop or remain stationary in expectation, ...not to depart...To look watchfully...To be ready to serve; to obey...To attend; to accompany with respect.

Gill’s Exposition of the Entire Bible

“But they that wait upon the Lord,...such an act supposes reverence of God, confidence in him, attendance on him, not with the body only, in public and private, but with the soul also, and with some degree of constancy, and with patience and quietness:... his presence is worth waiting for...to assist them in the performance of duty, to enable them to resist Satan and his temptations, and the corruptions of nature, and to cause them to endure afflictions and persecutions patiently, and to persevere unto the end.”

Matthew Henry Commentary

“If we go forth in our own strength, we shall faint, and utterly fall;”

“Know ye not that he who exercises the largest charity, and waits on God, renews his strength, and is exalted? Love is not puffed up; and the meek and loving, God anoints and appoints to lead the line of mankind’s triumphal march out of the wilderness, out of darkness into light.” Mary Baker Eddy,

Misc., p. 130 \*\*\*\*\*

Thank you! *Wait upon the LORD*. This stood out again this week with a deeper sense of living closely with God, listening for His voice, trusting His loving care and following when His direction comes. It is a wonderful feeling when I put this in practice and feel that I am doing God’s will. It is not a passive waiting or waiting for God to come from somewhere but it is feeling “the strength of Spirit” and gaining the revealing of ever-present spiritual perfection. God’s work is already done! “Are we really grateful for the good already received? Then we shall avail ourselves of the blessings we have, and thus be fitted to receive more.” *Science and Health*, p. 3:20-24 \*\*\*\*\*

## From Glory Unto Glory

**GOLDEN TEXT: JOB 29: 20**

**“My glory was fresh in me, and my bow was renewed in my hand.”**

**RESPONSIVE READING: Isaiah 40**

**5. And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.**

**7. II Corinthians 3**

**18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.**

**6. Science and Health, p. 252: 32-4**

**I am Spirit. Man, whose senses are spiritual, is my likeness. He reflects the infinite understanding, for I am Infinity. The beauty of holiness, the perfection of being, imperishable glory, — all are Mine, for I am God.**

I used to not know what to do with praise, or even mild appreciation, until Christian Science turned that around. Now, if any praise or recognition comes, I feel great joy knowing it is praise for what was done at God’s direction, and therefore for God, Himself. So, when I read what this lesson says about glory, it became clear that any real glory I, or anyone, might appear to possess is merely God’s glory reflected. Looking “from glory to glory” I must see its source always in God. Finally, because it is His glory, it shines on all of us, since, as Mrs.

Eddy wrote, “whatever blesses one blesses all.”  
(*Science and Health*, p. 206) \*\*\*\*\*

Beautiful, in God it is from Glory to Glory not  
Glory to doom! \*\*\*\*\*

## **SUBJECT: Soul – February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

### **God’s Love**

The Golden Text (Psalm 23:3) reads “He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.” This week when I read this, it spoke to me of redemption, of God’s love for his children. When I’ve lost my way, I can turn to God for help and direction and He is right there. On page 578 in *Science and Health*, it says “[Love] restoreth my soul [spiritual sense].” So I can lift my thought above the “din” of the material senses going nowhere and listen with my spiritual sense for His voice and follow Him in the right path. \*\*\*\*\*

### **Morbid Moral or Physical Symptoms are Unreal**

“Right and wrong, truth and error, will be at strife in the minds of students, until victory rests on the side of invincible truth. Mental chemicalization follows the explanation of Truth, and a higher basis is thus won; but with some individuals the morbid moral or physical symptoms constantly reappear.”  
(*Science and Health*, p. 453:6-11)

“Do you find any difficulty in healing? If so, strive for the higher sense of the nothingness of matter, namely, the allness of God. Do not care to search into causation, for there is no cause or effect in matter. All is Mind, perfect and eternal.” (*Essays And Other Footprints*, “The Red Book,” by Mary Baker Eddy, p. 43:15-18)

“I am not subject to the laws of mortal belief in sickness, sin and death, and the belief lasts only while I believe in the power of matter. I am hid with Christ in God where no mortal sense can find me and where no mortal belief can reach me. Mind sustains man.” (*Essays And Other Footprints*, “The

Red Book,” by Mary Baker Eddy, p. 69:16-20)  
As I strive to demonstrate Christian Science correctly, I find these statements by Mrs. Eddy so reassuring. As I read the Lesson, I felt a fear from the last sentence in #11 (“...but with some individuals the morbid moral or physical symptoms constantly reappear.”) I thought to myself; “Is this me?” I felt it necessary to think about this fear and face it down. I realize that faith cure may seem to be quick, but never heals a thing! Christian Science, on the other hand, heals permanently by correcting our thinking to the Truth! So, I do not fear false illusions that cannot and do not hurt me. Life is not a race. God is not in a rush to unfold our present perfection. He unfolds what we can handle because He is Love. \*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for this post. I love: “Life is not a race. God is not in a rush to unfold our present perfection. He unfolds what we can handle because he is Love.”

How comforting to know and acknowledge that we have what we need every moment, and that God is working with us – what is there to fear? \*\*\*\*\*

### **Anchor of Hope**

“The nature of Christianity is peaceful and blessed, but in order to enter into the kingdom, the anchor of hope must be cast beyond the veil of matter into the Shekinah into which Jesus has passed before us;...” Chapter 18 of *Science and Health*, p. 30:30-2, testifies of many people suffering because they had anchored their hope in materialistic means of healing: they had placed their anchor of hope within the gravitational field of mortal mind. This is especially true of those who were seeking material cure after material cure, which can be likened to a defendant charged with a capital crime, trying out different courtroom chairs to find the most comfortable one, oblivious to the fact that the whole court case has been rigged against him; or like a convict, sentenced to death, rearranging the furniture in his jail cell to make it more tolerable when in reality he should be striving with all his might to get his case retried, his conviction overturned in a higher court that he may free

himself from his death-sentence — free himself from prison altogether! (See the allegory of the trial, *Science and Health*, pages 330-442). Happily, these same patients discovered that simply reading Mrs. Eddy's textbook, studying it along with the Bible, attentively and prayerfully, provided the thrust necessary for them to remove their anchor of hope out of the realm of matter, and cast it into the spiritual realm — just as a rocket's strong thrust propels it out from under the influence of earth's gravitational field that it may enter into the stratosphere.

“Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty” (2 Cor. 3:17). Thus, having broken free of earth's bondage, and now firmly anchored in the realm of the Shekinah glory of God, the dwelling place of the *Most High* (otherwise known as “the secret place of the Most High”), these suffering ones were well able to manifest the kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven. \*\*\*\*\*

Thank you – beautifully stated. My mother was healed of cancer by reading the textbook and that is how I came into Science as a child. I have often thought we could easily extend the Chapter on Fruitage to include thousands of more healings! How grateful I am for Mrs. Eddy and for our text book! \*\*\*\*\*

## A Choice

The sinner makes his own hell by doing evil, and the saint his own heaven by doing right.” *Science and Health*, p. 266:20-21

Do you feel we are living in hell? Are we loving our neighbor as thyself, do we do unto others as we would have them do unto us, obey the 10 Commandments and put God first in all our ways? If not, then we are living in hell as a sinner, disobedient to God.

We have a choice. We can go to God all the time, obey Him, love everyone, and obey the Commandments. The first commandment says, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”

Exodus. If we are doing this and putting God first, we are a saint, living in heaven. No one is left out. This is available for all. Let's make the right

choice. \*\*\*\*\*

## Poise

I love the story of Abigail and her ability to keep her poise during the most trying of situations. As one who would often become easily flustered, poise is a quality I have always greatly admired. In Science, I have learned it is a quality of God, therefore something we all can express. I found as I learned to keep my connection with the Father more consistently and earnestly, I would not be so thrown off guard when trouble would try to rise up. This quote from Edward Kimball's “Letter on ‘Poise’” (from the book *Lectures and Articles on Christian Science*, page 486) I have found to be very helpful, “In a certain sense your poise will save you, because your poise is your real appreciation of being. Ascend constantly to your highest altitude and plane of equanimity, self-reliance, and mental culture. Ascend above the plane of concept whereon the ordinary trash of human belief can move you and substitute itself for your natural peace. Maintain your peace and happiness by refusing to descend into the mud of cheap human rubbish, and know that your composure cannot be upset by every or any mortal who can be used to wallow in the mud.” Abigail refused to let her husband's “churlish” behavior disturb her peace and equanimity and in so doing she turned what could have been a disastrous situation into a blessing. I am so grateful for all the important lessons the Bible stories teach us. \*\*\*\*\*

## Wait for Reward

*Science and Health*, p. 22:20 “Love is not hasty to deliver us from temptation, for Love means that we shall be tried and purified.”

What a blessing. What a loving God. \*\*\*\*\*

Thank you! “...tried and purified”. In working with this idea, I have been using ONENESS by Bicknell Young. He states, “Because he understands *his* being to be the individual appearing or manifesting of God, this individual works effectively, with power. He loses a sense of himself as having a mind separate from God. He feels sure of his work....”

This article can be found on our website.