

FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

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SUBJECT: Truth – July 22nd, 2018

What Is Truth?

Pilate asked this question in John 18:38. Pilate saith unto him, What is truth? When Jesus said at the end of John 18:37 Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

As someone said, “the world is stirring” and this question is being asked the world over. Multitudes are desiring the answer, but the “sincerest seekers of Truth” will be taught of our great Teacher!

Christ Jesus and Mrs. Eddy, the Revelator to this Age, have taught that God is Truth. How wonderful to find this out!

When we come willing to be emptied of all our past misconceptions, teachings, and false traits; and are willing to be filled with the knowledge from “he that is perfect in knowledge” Job 36:4, we will find the only Truth that becomes a law to ourselves, which will heal, protect, guide as to how to use it, save, and make us free! Thank God for Mrs. Eddy who loved “ALL” enough to go through all she went through, to make how to use the Truth clear and available for ALL MANKIND!

The Truth from the Bible is explained in her greatest work, of which she wrote:

“This book may be distorted by shallow criticism or by careless or malicious students, and its ideas may be temporarily abused and misrepresented; but the Science and truth therein will forever remain to be discerned and demonstrated.” (*Science and Health*, p. 110) *****

"A Truth That's Told With Bad Intent"

Quite a number of commentaries agree that it was Miriam who spoke these ambitious words against Moses: “Hath the Lord indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us?” But Aaron certainly did not argue with her in the least.

To belittle Moses was to make others perceive him to be smaller than he truly was, or to paraphrase Laura Riding, to rob him of size. So it is not surprising that error would seize upon Moses’ marrying a Gentile instead of one of the daughters of Abraham.

But whether Moses sinned or not is irrelevant here. Even if his accusers were correct, technically speaking (and this point is moot, indeed), the aphorism of William Blake fits well here:

“A truth that’s told with bad intent
Beats all the lies you can invent.”

For this reason, Miriam’s and Aaron’s self-congratulatory belittling of Moses prefigures modern-day articles and books endorsed by the Boston CS establishment that deliberately underestimate the size of Mrs. Eddy’s monumental significance and stupendous achievements. *****

Thank you for this post. I hadn’t heard this aphorism before. It reminds me of situations when the WHOLE truth would have been truly helpful, instead of just a partial truth. Sometimes what is OMITTED would have been the missing piece to save a lot of grief. BUT, that means facing the situation, and isn’t it more expedient for some to kick the can down the road, or just be lazy? But when the problem surfaces down the road, as they tend to do, things are worse. Which is why I love Mrs. Eddy’s statement, “Honesty is spiritual

power.” (*Science and Health*, p. 453) And also, “When needed tell the truth concerning the lie. Evasion of Truth cripples integrity, and casts thee down from the pinnacle. ... A dishonest position is far from Christianly scientific. “He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: ...” (*Science and Health*, p. 448). The warnings are all there!

Tell the Truth Concerning The Lie

“When needed tell the truth concerning the lie. Evasion of Truth cripples integrity, and casts thee down from the pinnacle.” (*Science and Health*, p.448:9-11)

Webster’s Dictionary 1828

Evasion - The act of eluding or avoiding, or of escaping, particularly from the pressure of an argument, from an accusation or charge.

Integrity – The entire, unimpaired state of any thing, particularly of the mind; moral soundness or purity; incorruptness; uprightness; honesty.

Pinnacle – A high spiring point; summit.

Dictionary.com – the most successful point, the culmination; highest level, peak...

For me, telling the Truth about the lie requires constant alertness to what seems to be transpiring in my daily life. Am I seeing God expressed or am I seeing evil falsehoods, and what am I doing about it? I better be doing something! I know that God is the only power and is all good. So, evil suggestions are not created and do not exist or have substance to them. God’s thoughts provide the unceasing, unlabored energy of Love, which always dispels and annihilates all evil suggestions. Love is power, evil is nothing. I am never left alone to figure things out by myself, I just need to turn to God, listen to his wise guidance and loving thoughts, and I can overcome the seeming wrong suggestions every time. I never get tired because overcoming evil with Truth makes me stronger and gives me more energy than before. God keeps us safe in harmony and the richness of his high estate which is our rightful home. *****

Thank you for this post. In Misc. p. 118, it states: “Honesty in every condition, under every circumstance, is the indispensable rule of obedience. To obey the principle of mathematics ninety-nine times in one hundred and then allow one numeral to make incorrect your entire problem, is neither Science nor obedience.

However keenly the human affections yearn to forgive a mistake, and pass a friend over it smoothly, one’s sympathy can neither atone for error, advance individual growth, nor change this immutable decree of Love: ‘Keep My commandments.’ ”

So thankful for the writings of Mrs. Eddy as I was guided to get up at 4 a.m. to work on a false claim. Reading Prose Works brought peace. I returned to a sweet sleep and woke up healed. God is honest to goodness Love. *****

Spiritual Rationality and Free Thought

With this subject of Truth this week, it is easy to see how vital is the statement from *Science and Health*, “Spiritual rationality and free thought accompany approaching Science, and cannot be put down.” Rationalizing typically means trying to justify our own personal opinions and preferences, which does not end well. In the valley of humility, there is restoration to the reign of Soul. There is also a clarity that reasons from the standpoint of divine intelligence. In an absolute sense, all of truth is already known, since Mind expresses itself as man. So all the human rationalizing is nothing but a smoke screen, which gets blown away by the winds of truth. “To live so as to keep human consciousness in constant relation with the divine, the spiritual, and the eternal, is to individualize infinite power; and this is Christian Science.” My, p.160: 5-8 *****

Walking in Truth

“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.” 3 John 1:4

What a beautiful Golden Text. And so I asked myself, what does it mean to “walk in truth”? I think it has to do with “rubber meeting the road,” or, getting serious! Not just having the truth tucked in one’s own heart, and not sharing it, as I did for too long, sharing so very little of it for so many years, afraid to mention the truths of Christian Science (because of what I witnessed in the Boston churches), not having a clue as to how Christian Science is to be *truly* lived, despite having grown up in it and receiving class instruction!

Matthew Henry states, “The best evidence of our having the truth is our walking in the truth.” I think that means we have to DO something, to share it with others, to help others, to *demonstrate* the truth. Not just comfortably walking around being satisfied that I somehow “knew” more than others by knowing about Christian Science, that somehow I had “a leg up.” Ha! That’s the trap I fell in, hook, line, and sinker. It did little good for myself, and no good to the Christian Science movement. To be IN the movement, we’ve got to actually move, to act, and also move others’ hearts, demonstrate, and heal! There is no other way to find satisfaction, and I can thank the Plainfield Church’s teachings for getting me out of my selfish ways. My life has been completely transformed. Now, I look for ways to share the wonderful Christian Science Truth, aka the Laws of the Universe! I know I can, and must, always do more. *****

SUBJECT: Love – July 29th, 2018

Divine Love Overcomes Hate

So important: “Former KKK Member Breaks The Cycle of Hate” – this video also reveals how Martin Luther King and his daughter, Bernice King, overcame the temptation to hate: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wZPQJZHZ1iM> *****

Thanks for your post. Love indeed is what is supreme. It is wonderful that there is no form of evil that Love’s supremacy cannot destroy and

remove! Thank God for Christ Jesus (the Fatherhood of God’s) inclusive commandment to “Love thy neighbor as thyself.”

He gave up much to prove this Love, And for Mrs. Eddy (the Motherhood of God’s) explanation of this powerful and true sense of Love. She sacrificed and loved much in explaining how we can all live this great quality right here and right now! *****

Spiritual Affection

“Not having this spiritual affection, the physician lacks faith in the divine Mind and has not that recognition of infinite Love which alone confers the healing power.” *Science and Health*, p. 366

Before coming to Plainfield, I had many, many jobs as the role as “caregiver.” Since attending classes regularly and getting practitioner help here, my life and views regarding taking care of others has been changing. It is helping me to become more God-centered, honest with myself and others, gain moral courage, let go of a sense of pity, a greater trust in God, and growth in humility. My lack of God-centered thinking and do-goody attitude was not healing and led to negative results for myself and others. I have had many new experiences in caregiving roles using the practical, correct teachings given at Plainfield and I am finding good results. The proof is night and day from my previous experience, despite having grown up in Christian Science and being class taught. A clearer understanding of the Bible and Mrs. Eddy’s teachings greatly blessed my work in a school with special needs children and interactions with my own children. Learning about how to pray and watch in order to handle animal magnetism, that which takes us away from God and His will, has made my life more peaceful, steady, godly, and joyful. This week’s Lesson is full of instruction on how to love as Christ Jesus taught. *****

Many years ago, I worked as a Christian Science Nurse. I was well taught in how to physically care for the sick, but there was a great lack in how to handle animal magnetism, which opposes true

healing. This understanding is necessary as we can learn from reading Gilbert Carpenter's book, *Mary Baker Eddy, Her Spiritual Footsteps* which is about working in Mrs. Eddy's home. It provides clear explanation of how to live and demonstrate Christian Science daily and how to handle animal magnetism (that which is opposed to God). Not long ago, I had an opportunity to provide nursing care for a person who was under the care of a Plainfield practitioner. I used what I have learned here and got Plainfield practitioner support during this time. The results for both of us demonstrated to me the truth in what is taught here. Before coming here, my care was focused on person, making others happy, comfortable, and meeting their demands. This perpetuated dependence on person and matter, rather than turning to God. This was not "taking no thought for the body" (Matt. 6:25) Carpenter teaches that it is the thought behind the action that matters. Animal magnetism hides behind what seems to us as good. Paul reminds us, "...though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing." (1 Cor. 13) I am learning that Paul did not mean a human sense of love but Christly affection.

"An ill-tempered, complaining, or deceitful person should not be a nurse. The nurse should be cheerful, orderly, punctual, patient, full of faith, — receptive to Truth and Love." *Science and Health*, p. 395 *****

Thanks for your posts; I saw the same matter-based "caring" calling itself Christian Science Nursing. The latter demanded the Spiritual affection you talk about, with empathy or compassion to the bedside, loving divinely. This way the nurse's own Divine Love (seeing the patient as an idea of God) would help uplift the false senses and focus on body for receptivity and replacement with the Truth of Love's nature and bless.

Once I had a patient tell me it benefits her most when the nurses do more to help her think rightly and love more divinely, than the unbalanced focus on all the material things that had to be so right! And she was not lying! *****

We love because He first loved us

In reading this week Henry Drummond's *The Greatest Thing in the World* (which Mrs. Eddy thought highly of), I noticed that he writes, "If you turn to the Revised Version of the First Epistle of John you find these words: 'We love because He first loved us.' 'We love,' not 'We love **Him**. That is the way the old version has it, and it is quite wrong. ... '**Because** He first loved us,' the effect follows that we love, we love Him, we love all men. We cannot help it. ..." I found this very helpful. ***

"We love because He first loved us."

How can I afford to love less than I have and am being loved; just the same as how can I not forgive when I have been forgiven. Hence the continuous striving to love more divinely! Thanks for your post. *****

Thank you for these posts. It is such an important point to understand that in order to love we must first feel that love. So many prisons are full of people who have never felt loved. And yet that love — the Love of God is freely given and available to all. This is why we pray and watch — so that all may feel the great Love of our Father-Mother God. This also relates to Parthens' YouTube post this week. How much love do we express to each other — even the simple power of a warm and loving embrace?

"Ask God to give thee skill
In comfort's art:
That thou may'st consecrated be
And set apart
Unto a life of sympathy.
For heavy is the weight of ill
In every heart;
And comforters are needed much
Of Christ like touch." - A.E.Hamilton
(Retrospection and Introspection page 95)

"Grace and Truth are potent beyond all other means and methods." *Science and Health*, p. 67