

# FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

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**SUBJECT: Christ Jesus – March 3rd, 2019**

## Ever-Present Mind

“When man is governed by God, the ever-present Mind who understands all things, man knows that with God all things are possible.” (*Science and Health*, p.180:25-27)

God is with every one of us every moment to turn to and to feel his comfort and to seek His guidance. There is nothing greater. \*\*\*

This is the source of all freedom and dominion over every trouble. When we are genuinely governed by God, we realize that, not only is there nothing greater, there is nothing else at all.  
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## Acknowledging the Good that Lies Concealed to Mortal Sight

“Christ is the true idea voicing good, the divine message from God to men . . .” (*Science and Health*, p. 332.) To sense, it was a cold November day in Boston, 1884, when Mrs. Eddy introduced her (unpublished) sermon on 1 Peter 3:12 – “For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous...”: “Coming hither this afternoon, I looked upon the Common, and there came over me a saddening sense of autumn. The glory was departed, but with a sudden transformation of belief, Nature looked her best, clad in green velvet bedecked with jewels having in her train song and sunshine; nymph and naiad. Touched by Divine Science, from the soul of things, the transfiguration of sense, the outlook of immortality amid earth’s fading forms brings again the spell of Spring.”

The quote above runs parallel to a passage in *The Blue Book*: “One day Mrs. Eddy said to a student, ‘Are you working?’ He began to tell of his hours of study and work. She said, ‘When you see old age, do you declare that Life is eternal activity, beauty and joy? When you see the leaves falling and hear the wind blow, do you declare that there is no change, decay or cold? When you see deformity and disease, do you declare that man is made in the image and likeness of God?’ The student answered, ‘Mrs. Eddy, I am not working.’ ”

All of these quotes provoke me to be alert always to the fact that at any given moment, I am subjecting the world around me either to Mind-generated treatment (which is Christian Science practice) or mortal mind’s misreading of it (which is malpractice). \*\*\*\*\*

Thanks so much for sharing this. Such a small thing to do. I think I forget its importance. \*\*\*\*\*

## The Unjust Judge

Jesus gives us a parable of an unjust judge. This man had no regard for God, no regard for his fellow man, and apparently was quite open about his callous feelings, but was in a position of a judge. Despite all of this, he was compelled to do the right thing for the widow who had been wronged. Obviously, this points to that silent and unseen Influence whose ways are always right and whose will cannot be blocked. In Genesis 18: 25, it says, “Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

No matter what trying circumstances we may encounter, there is a Judge whereby right will be done in His way. This parable was given with a clearly stated purpose “that men ought always to pray, and not to faint.” (Luke 18: 1)

## Persistence

“...her continual coming she weary me. ...And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? ...Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?” (Luke 18)

This story spoke to me more clearly of persistence and patience and its reward for the elect (obedient) because of our classes at Plainfield that reiterate the need for persistence, honesty, and faithfulness. On Feb. 17th, 2019 there was instruction to be constant and practice daily, well, what you know of Truth.

The definition of persistence says it can be used for good or evil. So I reasoned this morning that if I am not persistent in the things of God, good, then I am persistent in the things of the devil. Where will my faith be found?

From the Websters 1828:

FAITH- To draw towards any thing; to obey; an affectionate practical confidence in the testimony of God.

Faithful- Constant in the performance of duties or services; exact in attending to commands; as a faithful servant.

Persistence- Firm or obstinate continuance in a course of action in spite of difficulty or opposition: steady pursuit of what is undertaken; perseverance in a good or evil course.

## Loving God Supremely

*Science and Health*, p.326:3: “If we wish to follow Christ, Truth, it must be in the way of God’s appointing. Jesus said, ‘He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also.’ He, who would reach the source and find the divine remedy for every ill, must not try to climb the hill of Science by some other road. All nature teaches

God’s love to man, but man cannot love God supremely and set his whole affections on spiritual things, while loving the material or trusting in it more than in the spiritual.” \*\*\*\*\*

II CORINTHIANS 4 : 1

Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; Faint Not!

“Let not your heart be troubled...”

Work, work, work with joy! \*\*\*\*\*

## The Millennium

“If all...will take up the cross, heal the sick, cast out evils, and preach the Christ, or Truth, to the poor,– the receptive thought, – they will bring in the millennium.”( *Science and Health*).

This statement has always meant a lot to me because of the challenge it implies. Certainly, an important outcome of anyone’s life work would be to help usher in the millennium, especially if he/she considers himself a Christian Scientist.

On pages 239 and 240 of “Miscellany” Mrs. Eddy sheds further light on this topic:

“The millennium is a state and stage of mental advancement, going on since ever time was. Its impetus, accelerated by the advent of Christian Science, is marked, and will increase till all men shall know Him (Divine Love) from the least to the greatest, and one God and the brotherhood of man shall be known and acknowledged throughout the earth.”

Let us watch, work and pray for the unfoldment of God’s plan for His people, remembering the words of hymn #82, “March we forth in the strength of God with the banner of Christ unfurled, that the light of the glorious Gospel of truth may shine throughout the world; Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin, to set their captives free, that the earth man be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.” \*\*\*\*\*

## **SUBJECT: Man – March 10th, 2019**

### **The LORD Thy God is With Thee**

“When thou goest out to battle against thine enemies, and seest horses, and chariots, and a people more than thou, be not afraid of them: for the LORD thy God is with thee, which brought thee up from the land of Egypt.” (Deuteronomy)

So, what are you going forth to meet today? Is it a long-standing physical problem, a relationship problem, problems at work, bills to be paid? Remember this verse from the Bible. The LORD thy God is with thee! There is no problem too big, too long-standing, too daunting that He cannot vanquish with His Almighty power, when we humbly and earnestly seek this help.

The Bible section of this week’s Lesson states four times – He will be with thee! So God must want you to remember this wonderful Truth! and “If God be for [you], who can be against [you].”?!  
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### **"Replenish the Earth"**

The verb “to plenish,” no longer in use today, is derived from the Latin *plenus*: “full, filled, greatly crowded; stout, pregnant; abundant, abounding; complete,” from which words like “plenty”, “plentiful,” “plenitude,” and “replenish” are derived.

Any assembly with full attendance, such as the UN General Assembly, is called a plenum. A plenary school assembly denotes full attendance of all students and faculty.

Christ was brought to earth by a remnant of followers of God who were so fully present with God that God was with them — along with all the hosts of heaven in plenary attendance. In one accord with Allness, this remnant was able to replenish a Christ-depleted earth drowning in

materialism; by a new and living Way, they ushered in the Christ, and so began the Christian era. In Genesis 1:28, replenishment is not simply filling up depleted space and stopping there, but is an energetic, ever-happening endeavor, bestowing blessings upon earth that are constantly begetting more, each one increasing in blessedness (think of

Mrs. Eddy publishing the CS Monitor with greater energy than that of a girl seventy earth-years younger than she). In other words, replenishing the earth is God’s omni-activity operating through lives dedicated to Him in full, uninterrupted surrender.

Replenishment is what Jesus meant by “life, and life more abundantly,” and which he demonstrated by healing great multitudes of people in an afternoon, the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, etc. This is also how God blessed His creation on the seventh day, not calling it merely “good,” as on previous days, but “*very good*,” heavenly good that is bristling with activity, constantly replenishing those that are replenishing the earth with it. Replenishing the earth is my assignment. “God rests in action.” (*Science and Health*, p.519:25)

Therefore, God grant that I may enter into His rest, to manifest the light of His Day every moment of my life, and, like a wise virgin, replenish a light-famished world by seeing it filled to overflowing with the radiance of the Christ.

Seeing the world right-side up turns its evils upside-down, so that every space, every corner that darkness once claimed as exclusively its own is refreshed, restored, renewed — replenished — with the light of “eternal noon, unmarked by a setting sun.” (*Science and Health*, first edition, p. 212) \*\*\*

### **Awakening**

3. Deuteronomy 31 : 8 (he will be) (to :)  
...he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee:
4. Exodus 3 : 1-8 (to :), 11, 12 (to :), 13, 14  
1 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in-law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the

backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

2 And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

3 And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

4 And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

These passages struck me this week. Dear Moses, living a simple life, tending sheep for his father-in-law. And behold, God presents a burning bush and Moses turns to it instead of running away in fear.

Then, God speaks to him and Moses says, "Here am I." May I always be alert, turn to God. and say, "here am I," knowing that God is with me. \*\*\*\*

## "More Than Conquerors"

This passage in Romans 8 stood out to me:  
35: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

37: Nay in all these things we are **more than conquerors** through him that loved us.

Not just conquerors, but MORE THAN conquerors! Which means to me, we reap the added benefit of spiritual progress. Then I looked up "conquer" in Science and Health and Mrs. Eddy uses this word several times, here are just a few:

p. 324:13 "Be watchful, sober, and vigilant. The way is straight and narrow, which leads to the understanding that God is the only Life. It is a warfare with the flesh, in which **we must conquer sin, sickness, and death**, either here or hereafter,

— certainly before we can reach the goal of Spirit, or life in God. (Emphasis added)

p. 339:31 "You **conquer error** by denying its verity." (Emphasis added)

p. 317:18 "The understanding of his spiritual individuality makes man more real, more formidable in truth, and **enables him to conquer sin, disease, and death.**" (Emphasis added)

p. 419:28 "**To succeed in healing, you must conquer your own fears as well as those of your patients**, and rise into higher and holier consciousness. (Emphasis added)

p. 425:23 "Consciousness constructs a better body **when faith in matter has been conquered.**"\* (Emphasis added)

To conquer, one must fight to subdue the enemy, to gain the victory! Christian Science is the only method that gives us the tools, the Science, to fight and conquer error of every sort. Wouldn't old theology have people accept tribulations as God's will, or something to be suffered through until God decides to release us from it, or have people feeling helpless in the face of seemingly unconquerable trials? Onward Christian soldiers, we cannot make peace with, learn to live with, or tolerate anything unlike God, good!

Interestingly, Mrs. Eddy only uses the word tolerate once in *Science and Health*: "Truth is ever truthful, and can tolerate no error in premise or conclusion." The phrase "more than conquerors" has stood out to me this week, as well, and I felt the need to look closer. From the 1828 Webster's:

**Conqueror**  
**One who conquers; one who gains a victory; one who subdues and brings into subjection or possession, by force or by influence.**

Reading that, it becomes obvious we are not conquerors, as nothing in Christian Science would have us subject, force, or influence mortal mind to work for us. This reminded me of two quotes:

*First:* “the battle is the Lord’s” (1 Samuel 17:47)

*Second:* Mrs. Eddy’s words to a student, which brought immediate healing. (From page 19 in the Addenda of *Collectanea*)

**“God gave you an abiding sense of Life that needs not to be fought for. Remember this and you will live forever.”**

This has still had me asking: How can we be *more than conquerors*? The calendar statement for Wednesday, March 6th, 2019 seemed to address this well:

*As God’s children, we are heirs to His kingdom, entitled to, and free to enjoy all the good there is.* — Dorothy Escombe

So, what could possibly need conquering when we are created perfect and good by Truth, Life, and Love, and there is no other power? Only the claims of separation need to be handled in that instance (Thank God for Christian Science and this church!).

With that realization, I find it easy to second Paul’s words from Romans 8: 31: “If God be for us, who can be against us?”

I am so grateful to learn that God is here for me, and everyone! Thank you for this Lesson! \*\*\*\*\*

## **Law Unto Yourself**

“You say that you have not slept well or have overeaten. You are a law unto yourself. Saying this and believing it, you will suffer in proportion to your belief and fear.” *Science and Health*, p. 385

“Law: that which is laid, set or fixed,” and “Believe: to be persuaded of the truth of something.” (Websters 1828)

“Saying this and believing it” stuck out to me today. We are continually instructed to watch

thought and to not tolerate anything ungodlike or allow it to linger in consciousness. These practical teachings are helping me understand how to be a “law unto yourself.”

Instead of thinking the wrong thought repeatedly almost undetected, I can do as one member put so well, “...drown it [thoughts that suggest absence of God] out in flood-tides of spiritual thoughts: Christ-centered, Christ-elevating thoughts, thoughts of gratitude, of appreciation, mighty passages of scripture, psalms, hymns, spiritual songs, angelic thoughts of divine empowerment.”  
by Parthens, from the November 2014 Love is The Liberator p. 25 \*\*\*\*\*

Be a “law unto yourself.” How great is this! Thank you. \*\*\*\*\*

I love what Mrs. Eddy says makes us a law unto ourselves. She makes this thorough list:

“Nothing can come to me except that which comes from God, and that is always good.”

“I am a law unto myself. There is no ignorant, malicious, willful, superstitious, sympathetic, intentionally directed malpractice from theosophy, palmistry, phrenology, occultism, witchcraft, necromancy, black or white magic, spiritualism, animal magnetism, hypnotism, mental science, free love, malpractitioners, trustees, directors, laymen, occultists, *materia medica*, or from Roman Catholicism, neighbors, friends, enemies, acquaintances or relatives, that can mesmerize me or influence me or confuse my spiritual continuity, or interfere with my spiritual work, or cloud my vision (mental), or darken my consciousness; neither can it impede my progress in my true understanding of God.”  
The Blue Book p. 266.

Thank you Mrs. Eddy for this marvelous complete list!