# Plainfield Christian Science Church Independent

Full-Text Lesson Sermon

February 2018

# Plainfield Christian Science Church Independent

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Saturday Adult Bible Study – 10:00 a.m. Sunday Roundtable – 10:00 a.m. Sunday Service – 11:00 a.m. Sunday School – 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Meeting – 8:15 p.m.

This church is not affiliated with
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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Love	FEBRUARY 4, 2018
Spirit	FEBRUARY 11, 2018
Soul	. February 18, 2018
Mind	FEBRUARY 25, 2018

The Lesson is to be studied daily during the week prior to the Sunday date.

## SUNDAY FEBRUARY 4, 2018

## SUBJECT—LOVE

GOLDEN TEXT: ROMANS 13:10

"Love is the fulfilling of the law."

## RESPONSIVE READING: I John 4:16-21

- **16.** And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.
- 17. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.
- 18. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.
- **19.** We love him, because he first loved us.
- **20.** If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?
- **21.** And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

## **LESSON SERMON**

## The Bible

## 1. **Jeremiah 31:3**

The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, *saying*, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.

## 2. Psalm 86 : 1 (to :), 3, 5, 13

- Bow down thine ear, O LORD, hear me:
- Be merciful unto me, O Lord: for I cry unto thee daily.
- For thou, Lord, *art* good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.
- For great *is* thy mercy toward me: and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell.

# 3. Mark 1: 9 (Jesus)-11, 39-42

- <sup>9</sup> ...Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan.
- And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him:
- And there came a voice from heaven, *saying*, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.
- And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils.
- And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.
- And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth *his* hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.
- And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed.

## 4. Luke 7: 11-16

- And it came to pass the day after, that he went into a city called Nain; and many of his disciples went with him, and much people.
- Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her.
- And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not.
- And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare *him* stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise.
- And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother.
- And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people.

# 5. Matthew 16: 13-19 (to 1st:), 24, 25

- When Jesus came into the coasts of Cæsarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?
- And they said, Some *say that thou art* John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.
- He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?
- And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.
- And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed *it* unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.
- And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
- And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven:

- Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.
- For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

## 6. John 14: 15, 21

- 15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.
- He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him.

# 7. John 13: 34, 35

- A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.
- By this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

## 8. I John 3: 16-18

- Hereby perceive we the love *of God*, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.
- But whose hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels *of compassion* from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?
- My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

### 9. I John 4:8-11

- He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.
- In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.
- Herein is love. not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

## 10. I Peter 3:8-13

- Finally, *be ye* all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, *be* pitiful, *be* courteous:
- Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.
- For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:
- Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.
- For the eyes of the Lord *are* over the righteous, and his ears *are open* unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord *is* against them that do evil.
- And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?

## 11. Hebrews 12:28

Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:

## Science and Health

### 1. 243: 4-13

The divine Love, which made harmless the poisonous viper, which delivered men from the boiling oil, from the fiery furnace, from the jaws of the lion, can heal the sick in every age and triumph over sin and death. It crowned the demonstrations of Jesus with unsurpassed power and love. But the same "Mind . . . which was also in Christ Jesus" must always accompany the letter of Science in order to confirm and repeat the ancient demonstrations of prophets and apostles.

## 2. 454:17-24

Love for God and man is the true incentive in both healing and teaching. Love inspires, illumines, designates, and leads the way. Right motives give pinions to thought, and strength and freedom to speech and action. Love is priestess at the altar of Truth. Wait patiently for

divine Love to move upon the waters of mortal mind, and form the perfect concept. Patience must "have her perfect work."

## 3. 366:12-21

The physician who lacks sympathy for his fellow-being is deficient in human affection, and we have the apostolic warrant for asking: "He that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?" 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. Such so-called Scientists will strain out gnats, while they swallow the camels of bigoted pedantry.

## 4. 136: 1-19, 32-25

Jesus established his church and maintained his mission on a spiritual foundation of Christhealing. He taught his followers that his religion had a divine Principle, which would cast out error and heal both the sick and the sinning. He claimed no intelligence, action, nor life separate from God. Despite the persecution this brought upon him, he used his divine power to save men both bodily and spiritually.

The question then as now was, How did Jesus heal the sick? His answer to this question the world rejected. He appealed to his students: "Whom do men say that I, the Son of man, am?" That is: Who or what is it that is thus identified with casting out evils and healing the sick? They replied, "Some say that thou art John the Baptist; some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets." These prophets were considered dead, and this reply may indicate that some of the people believed that Jesus was a medium, controlled by the spirit of John or of Elias.

Jesus patiently persisted in teaching and demonstrating the truth of being. His students saw this power of Truth heal the sick, cast out evil, raise the dead; but the ultimate of this wonderful work was not spiritually discerned, even by them, until after the crucifixion, when their immaculate Teacher stood before them, the victor over sickness, sin, disease, death, and the grave.

Yearning to be understood, the Master repeated, "But whom say *ye* that I am?" This renewed inquiry meant: Who or what is it that is able to do the work, so mysterious to the popular mind? In his rejection of the answer already given and his renewal of the question, it is plain that Jesus completely eschewed the narrow opinion implied in their citation of the common report about him.

With his usual impetuosity, Simon replied for his brethren, and his reply set forth a great fact: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God!" That is: The Messiah is what thou hast

declared, —Christ, the spirit of God, of Truth, Life, and Love, which heals mentally. This assertion elicited from Jesus the benediction, "Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven;" that is, Love hath shown thee the way of Life!

## **5.** 138 : 6-18, 27-2

It was now evident to Peter that divine Life, Truth, and Love, and not a human personality, was the healer of the sick and a rock, a firm foundation in the realm of harmony. On this spiritually scientific basis Jesus explained his cures, which appeared miraculous to outsiders. He showed that diseases were cast out neither by corporeality, by *materia medica*, nor by hygiene, but by the divine Spirit, casting out the errors of mortal mind. The supremacy of Spirit was the foundation on which Jesus built. His sublime summary points to the religion of Love.

Jesus established in the Christian era the precedent for all Christianity, theology, and healing.

Our Master said to every follower: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature! . . . Heal the sick! . . . Love thy neighbor as thyself!" It was this theology of Jesus which healed the sick and the sinning. It is his theology in this book and the spiritual meaning of this theology, which heals the sick and causes the wicked to "forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts."

## 6. 19:6-11

Jesus aided in reconciling man to God by giving man a truer sense of Love, the divine Principle of Jesus' teachings, and this truer sense of Love redeems man from the law of matter, sin, and death by the law of Spirit, — the law of divine Love.

### 7. 239:16-22

To ascertain our progress, we must learn where our affections are placed and whom we acknowledge and obey as God. If divine Love is becoming nearer, dearer, and more real to us, matter is then is submitting to Spirit. The objects we pursue and the spirit we manifest reveal our standpoint, and show what we are winning.

### 8. 241:19-21

The substance of all devotion is the reflection and demonstration of divine Love, healing sickness and destroying sin.

## THE DAILY DUTIES

by Mary Baker Eddy

# **Daily Prayer**

It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to pray each day: "Thy kingdom come;" let the reign of divine Truth, Life, and Love be established in me, and rule out of me all sin; and may Thy Word enrich the affections of all mankind, and govern them!

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 4

## A Rule for Motives and Acts

Neither animosity nor mere personal attachment should impel the motives or acts of the members of The Mother Church. In Science, divine Love alone governs man; and a Christian Scientist reflects the sweet amenities of Love, in rebuking sin, in true brotherliness, charitableness, and forgiveness. The members of this Church should daily watch and pray to be delivered from all evil, from prophesying, judging, condemning, counseling, influencing or being influenced erroneously.

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 1

# **Alertness to Duty**

It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to defend himself daily against aggressive mental suggestion, and not be made to forget nor to neglect his duty to God, to his Leader, and to mankind. By his works he shall be judged, — and justified or condemned.

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 6

# SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2018

## SUBJECT—SPIRIT

GOLDEN TEXT: JOB 29:20

"My glory was fresh in me, and my bow was renewed in my hand."

## RESPONSIVE READING: Isaiah 40: 5, 10, 26, 28-31

- **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*.
- **10.** Behold, the Lord God will come with strong *hand*, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward *is* with him, and his work before him.
- **26.** Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these *things*, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that *he is* strong in power; not one faileth.
- **28.** Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, *that* the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? *there is* no searching of his understanding.
- **29.** He giveth power to the faint; and to *them that have* no might he increaseth strength.
- **30.** Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:
- 31. But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew *their* strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *and* they shall walk, and not faint.

#### LESSON SERMON

## The Bible

- 1. Isaiah 26 : 4
- Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH *is* everlasting strength:
- 2. II Samuel 22: 31, 33, 34, 36, 37
- As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the LORD is tried: he is a buckler to all them that trust in him.
- God is my strength and power: and he maketh my way perfect.
- He maketh my feet like hinds' *feet*: and setteth me upon my high places.
- Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy gentleness hath made me great.
- Thou hast enlarged my steps under me; so that my feet did not slip.
- 3. Deuteronomy 33: 1 (to Israel), 12 (of Benjamin), 25-27 (to:), 29
- And this *is* the blessing, wherewith Moses the man of God blessed the children of Israel...
- 12 ...of Benjamin he said, The beloved of the LORD shall dwell in safety by him; *and the LORD* shall cover him all the day long, and he shall dwell between his shoulders.
- Thy shoes *shall be* iron and brass; and as thy days, *so shall* thy strength *be*.
- There is none like unto the God of Jeshurun, who rideth upon the heaven in thy help, and in his excellency on the sky.
- The eternal God *is thy* refuge, and underneath *are* the everlasting arms:
- Happy *art* thou, O Israel: who *is* like unto thee, O people saved by the LORD, the shield of thy help, and who *is* the sword of thy excellency! and thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee; and thou shalt tread upon their high places.

# 4. Deuteronomy 34: 7, 9, 10

- And Moses *was* an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated.
- And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the LORD commanded Moses.
- And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,

## 5. Job 5: 8, 10, 11 (to;), 20, 22, 26

- I would seek unto God, and unto God would I commit my cause:
- Who giveth rain upon the earth, and sendeth waters upon the fields:
- To set up on high those that be low;
- In famine he shall redeem thee from death: and in war from the power of the sword.
- At destruction and famine thou shalt laugh: neither shalt thou be afraid of the beasts of the earth.
- Thou shalt come to *thy* grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season.

# 6. Acts 3: 1-13, 16, 19, 25

- Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, *being* the ninth *hour*.
- And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;
- Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.
- <sup>4</sup> And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.
- And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

- Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.
- And he took him by the right hand, and lifted *him* up: and immediately his feet and ancle bones received strength.
- And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.
- And all the people saw him walking and praising God:
- And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.
- And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.
- And when Peter saw *it*, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?
- The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let *him* go.
- And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.
- Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;
- Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.

# 7. II Corinthians 3: 4-6, 17, 18

<sup>4</sup> And such trust have we through Christ to God-ward:

- Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency *is* of God;
- Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.
- Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord *is*, there *is* liberty.
- 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.

# **8. Philippians 4 : 13**

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

## Science and Health

## 1. 481:2-6

Man is tributary to God, Spirit, and to nothing else. God's being is infinity, freedom, harmony, and boundless bliss. "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." Like the archpriests of yore, man is free "to enter into the holiest," — the realm of God.

### 2. 512:8-9

Spirit is symbolized by strength, presence, and power, and also by holy thoughts, winged with Love.

## 3. 485:30-3

To say that strength is in matter, is like saying that the power is in the lever. The notion of any life or intelligence in matter is without foundation in fact, and you can have no faith in falsehood when you have learned falsehood's true nature.

## 4. 486:23-2

Sight, hearing, all the spiritual senses of man, are eternal. They cannot be lost. Their reality and immortality are in Spirit and understanding, not in matter, — hence their permanence. If this were not so, man would be speedily annihilated. If the five corporeal senses were the medium

through which to understand God, then palsy, blindness, and deafness would place man in a terrible situation, where he would be like those "having no hope, and without God in the world;" but as a matter of fact, these calamities often drive mortals to seek and to find a higher sense of happiness and existence.

## **5.** 183 : 16-32

The supposed laws which result in weariness and disease are not His laws, for the legitimate and only possible action of Truth is the production of harmony. Laws of nature are laws of Spirit; but mortals commonly recognize as law that which hides the power of Spirit. Divine Mind rightly demands man's entire obedience, affection, and strength. No reservation is made for any lesser loyalty. Obedience to Truth gives man power and strength. Submission to error superinduces loss of power.

Truth casts out all evils and materialistic methods with the actual spiritual law, — the law which gives sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, voice to the dumb, feet to the lame. If Christian Science dishonors human belief, it honors spiritual understanding; and the one Mind only is entitled to honor.

## **6.** 252 : 15-8

The false evidence of material sense contrasts strikingly with the testimony of Spirit. Material sense lifts its voice with the arrogance of reality and says:

I am wholly dishonest, and no man knoweth it. I can cheat, lie, commit adultery, rob, murder, and I elude detection by smooth-tongued villainy. Animal in propensity, deceitful in sentiment, fraudulent in purpose, I mean to make my short span of life one gala day. What a nice thing is sin! How sin succeeds, where the good purpose waits! The world is my kingdom. I am enthroned in the gorgeousness of matter. But a touch, an accident, the law of God, may at any moment annihilate my peace, for all my fancied joys are fatal. Like bursting lava, I expand but to my own despair, and shine with the resplendency of consuming fire.

Spirit, bearing opposite testimony, saith:

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 give immortality to man, for I am Truth. I include and impart all bliss, for I am Love. I give life, without beginning and without end, for I am Life. I am supreme and give all, for I am Mind. I am the substance of all, because I AM THAT I AM.

## 7. 218:27-5

The Scriptures say, "They that wait upon the Lord . . . shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." The meaning of that passage is not perverted by applying it literally to moments of fatigue, for the moral and physical are as one in their results. When we wake to the truth of being, all disease, pain, weakness, weariness, sorrow, sin, death, will be unknown, and the mortal dream will forever cease. My method of treating fatigue applies to all bodily ailments, since Mind should be, and is, supreme, absolute, and final.

## 8. 217:29-8

You say, "Toil fatigues me." But what is this *me*? Is it muscle or mind? Which is tired and so speaks? Without mind, could the muscles be tired? Do the muscles talk, or do you talk for them? Matter is non-intelligent. Mortal mind does the false talking, and that which affirms weariness, made that weariness.

You do not say a wheel is fatigued; and yet the body is as material as the wheel. If it were not for what the human mind says of the body, the body, like the inanimate wheel, would never be weary. The consciousness of Truth rests us more than hours of repose in unconsciousness.

### 9. 219:14-20

When this is understood, we shall never affirm concerning the body what we do not wish to have manifested. We shall not call the body weak, if we would have it strong; for the belief in feebleness must obtain in the human mind before it can be made manifest on the body, and the destruction of the belief will be the removal of its effects.

## 10. 80:1-5

We have strength in proportion to our apprehension of the truth, and our strength is not lessened by giving utterance to truth. A cup of coffee or tea is not the equal of truth, whether for the inspiration of a sermon or for the support of bodily endurance.

## 11. 249:6-10

Let us feel the divine energy of Spirit, bringing us into newness of life and recognizing no mortal nor material power as able to destroy. Let us rejoice that we are subject to the divine "powers that be." Such is the true Science of being.

## 12. 390:32-2

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.

# 13. 393:10 (Exercise)-15

Exercise this God-given authority. Take possession of your body, and govern its feeling and action. Rise in the strength of Spirit to resist all that is unlike good. God has made man capable of this, and nothing can vitiate the ability and power divinely bestowed on man.

## THE DAILY DUTIES

by Mary Baker Eddy

# **Daily Prayer**

It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to pray each day: "Thy kingdom come;" let the reign of divine Truth, Life, and Love be established in me, and rule out of me all sin; and may Thy Word enrich the affections of all mankind, and govern them!

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 4

## A Rule for Motives and Acts

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Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 1

# **Alertness to Duty**

It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to defend himself daily against aggressive mental suggestion, and not be made to forget nor to neglect his duty to God, to his Leader, and to mankind. By his works he shall be judged, — and justified or condemned.

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 6

## SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2018

## SUBJECT—SOUL

GOLDEN TEXT: PSALM 23:3

"He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

# RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 23:1, 2, 4-6

- 1. The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 4. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou *art* with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
- 5. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- **6.** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

#### LESSON SERMON

## The Bible

## 1. **Ephesians 6 : 23**

Peace *be* to the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

## 2. I Peter 2:11

Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;

## 3. I Peter 3: 10-12

- For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:
- Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.
- For the eyes of the Lord *are* over the righteous, and his ears *are open* unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord *is* against them that do evil.

## 4. **Proverbs 1 : 33 (whoso)**

- ...whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.
- 5. I Samuel 25 : 2 (to 2nd ,), 3 (to 2nd ;), 5, 6 (to 1st ,), 7 (I), 8 (give), 10, 12, 13 (to 1st .), 14, 17-19, 23, 24 (to 2nd ,), 25, 32, 33, 35-37, 39 (to 1st ,), 39 (David sent), 42 (to 1st ,), 42 (and she)
- And *there was* a man in Maon, whose possessions *were* in Carmel; and the man *was* very great,
- Now the name of the man *was* Nabal; and the name of his wife Abigail: and *she was* a woman of good understanding, and of a beautiful countenance: but the man *was* churlish and evil in his doings;

- And David sent out ten young men, and David said unto the young men, Get you up to Carmel, and go to Nabal, and greet him in my name:
- And thus shall ye say to him that liveth *in prosperity*,
- ...I have heard that thou hast shearers: now thy shepherds which were with us, we hurt them not, neither was there ought missing unto them, all the while they were in Carmel.
- 8 ...give, I pray thee, whatsoever cometh to thine hand unto thy servants, and to thy son David.
- And Nabal answered David's servants, and said, Who *is* David? and who *is* the son of Jesse? there be many servants now a days that break away every man from his master.
- So David's young men turned their way, and went again, and came and told him all those sayings.
- And David said unto his men, Gird ye on every man his sword.
- But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master; and he railed on them.
- Now therefore know and consider what thou wilt do; for evil is determined against our master, and against all his household: for he *is such* a son of Belial, that *a man* cannot speak to him.
- Then Abigail made haste, and took two hundred loaves, and two bottles of wine, and five sheep ready dressed, and five measures of parched *corn*, and an hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid *them* on asses.
- And she said unto her servants, Go on before me; behold, I come after you. But she told not her husband Nabal.
- And when Abigail saw David, she hasted, and lighted off the ass, and fell before David on her face, and bowed herself to the ground,
- And fell at his feet, and said,
- Let not my lord, I pray thee, regard this man of Belial, *even* Nabal: for as his name *is*, so *is* he; Nabal *is* his name, and folly *is* with him: but I thine handmaid saw not the young men of my lord, whom thou didst send.

- And David said to Abigail, Blessed *be* the LORD God of Israel, which sent thee this day to meet me:
- And blessed *be* thy advice, and blessed *be* thou, which hast kept me this day from coming to *shed* blood, and from avenging myself with mine own hand.
- So David received of her hand *that* which she had brought him, and said unto her, Go up in peace to thine house; see, I have hearkened to thy voice, and have accepted thy person.
- And Abigail came to Nabal; and, behold, he held a feast in his house, like the feast of a king; and Nabal's heart *was* merry within him, for he *was* very drunken: wherefore she told him nothing, less or more, until the morning light.
- But it came to pass in the morning, when the wine was gone out of Nabal, and his wife had told him these things, that his heart died within him, and he became *as* a stone.
- And when David heard that Nabal was dead,...David sent and communed with Abigail, to take her to him to wife.
- And Abigail hasted, ...and she went after the messengers of David, and became his wife.

# 6. Proverbs 31 : 10, 11 (to ,), 12, 25, 26, 30 (a woman)

- Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price *is* far above rubies.
- 11 The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her,
- She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life.
- 25 Strength and honour *are* her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.
- She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue *is* the law of kindness.
- ...a woman *that* feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.

# 7. Isaiah 54 : 2-4 (to 1st;), 5

Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes;

- For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.
- <sup>4</sup> Fear not;
- For thy Maker *is* thine husband; the LORD of hosts *is* his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called.

# 8. II Corinthians 6 : 14, 16 (for ye)

- Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?
- ...for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

## 9. Isaiah 32 : 17, 18

- And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.
- And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places;

## Science and Health

### 1. 587:25-27

HEAVEN. Harmony; the reign of Spirit; government by divine Principle; spirituality; bliss; the atmosphere of Soul.

## 2. 6:14-16

To reach heaven, the harmony of being, we must understand the divine Principle of being.

### 3. 85:2-9

It is the illumination of the spiritual understanding which demonstrates the capacity of Soul, not of material sense. This Soul-sense comes to the human mind when the latter yields to the divine Mind.

Such intuitions reveal whatever constitutes and perpetuates harmony, enabling one to do good, but not evil.

## 4. 249:31-13

Man is the reflection of Soul. He is the direct opposite of material sensation, and there is but one Ego. We run into error when we divide Soul into souls, multiply Mind into minds and suppose error to be mind, then mind to be in matter and matter to be a lawgiver, unintelligence to act like intelligence, and mortality to be the matrix of immortality.

Mortal existence is a dream; mortal existence has no real entity, but saith "It is I." Spirit is the Ego which never dreams, but understands all things; which never errs, and is ever conscious; which never believes, but knows; which is never born and never dies. Spiritual man is the likeness of this Ego. Man is not God, but like a ray of light which comes from the sun, man, the outcome of God, reflects God.

## **5. 60**: 12-15, 24-6

From the logic of events we learn that selfishness and impurity alone are fleeting, and that wisdom will ultimately put asunder what she hath not joined together.

An ill-attuned ear calls discord harmony, not appreciating concord. So physical sense, not discerning the true happiness of being, places it on a false basis. Science will correct the discord, and teach us life's sweeter harmonies.

Soul has infinite resources with which to bless mankind, and happiness would be more readily attained and would be more secure in our keeping, if sought in Soul. Higher enjoyments alone can satisfy the cravings of immortal man. We cannot circumscribe happiness within the limits of personal sense. The senses confer no real enjoyment.

The good in human affections must have ascendency over the evil and the spiritual over the animal, or happiness will never be won.

## **6.** 22:11-22

"Work out your own salvation," is the demand of Life and Love, for to this end God worketh with you. "Occupy till I come!" Wait for your reward, and "be not weary in well doing." If your endeavors are beset by fearful odds, and you receive no present reward, go not back to error, nor become a sluggard in the race.

When the smoke of battle clears away, you will discern the good you have done, and receive according to your deserving. Love is not hasty to deliver us from temptation, for Love means that we shall be tried and purified.

### 7. 253:18-6

If you believe in and practise wrong knowingly, you can at once change your course and do right. Matter can make no opposition to right endeavors against sin or sickness, for matter is inert, mindless. Also, if you believe yourself diseased, you can alter this wrong belief and action without hindrance from the body.

Do not believe in any supposed necessity for sin, disease, or death, knowing (as you ought to know) that God never requires obedience to a so-called material law, for no such law exists. The belief in sin and death is destroyed by the law of God, which is the law of Life instead of death, of harmony instead of discord, of Spirit instead of the flesh.

The divine demand, "Be ye therefore perfect," is scientific, and the human footsteps leading to perfection are indispensable. Individuals are consistent who, watching and praying, can "run, and not be weary; . . .walk, and not faint," who gain good rapidly and hold their position, or attain slowly and yield not to discouragement.

### 8. 254:10-12

When we wait patiently on God and seek Truth righteously, He directs our path.

### 9. 266:20-21

The sinner makes his own hell by doing evil, and the saint his own heaven by doing right.

### 10. 91:16-21

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.

# 11. 453: 6-11, 16 (Honesty)-20

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.

Honesty is spiritual power. Dishonesty is human weakness, which forfeits divine help. You uncover sin, not in order to injure, but in order to bless the corporeal man; and a right motive has its reward.

## **12.** 40:31-7

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; and this advance beyond matter must come through the joys and triumphs of the righteous as well as through their sorrows and afflictions. Like our Master, we must depart from material sense into the spiritual sense of being.

### 13. 205:32-3

When we fully understand our relation to the Divine, we can have no other Mind but His, - no other Love, wisdom, or Truth, no other sense of Life, and no consciousness of the existence of matter or error.

## 14. 273:18 only

Man is harmonious when governed by Soul.

# THE DAILY DUTIES

by Mary Baker Eddy

# **Daily Prayer**

It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to pray each day: "Thy kingdom come;" let the reign of divine Truth, Life, and Love be established in me, and rule out of me all sin; and may Thy Word enrich the affections of all mankind, and govern them!

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 4

## A Rule for Motives and Acts

Neither animosity nor mere personal attachment should impel the motives or acts of the members of The Mother Church. In Science, divine Love alone governs man; and a Christian Scientist reflects the sweet amenities of Love, in rebuking sin, in true brotherliness, charitableness, and forgiveness. The members of this Church should daily watch and pray to be delivered from all evil, from prophesying, judging, condemning, counseling, influencing or being influenced erroneously.

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 1

# **Alertness to Duty**

It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to defend himself daily against aggressive mental suggestion, and not be made to forget nor to neglect his duty to God, to his Leader, and to mankind. By his works he shall be judged, — and justified or condemned.

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 6

## SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2018

## SUBJECT—MIND

## GOLDEN TEXT: ROMANS 12:2

"Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

# RESPONSIVE READING: I Corinthians 1: 18-20, 27, 29-31

- 18. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.
- 19. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.
- **20.** Where *is* the wise? where *is* the scribe? where *is* the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?
- 27. But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;
- **29.** That no flesh should glory in his presence.
- **30.** But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:
- 31. That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

## LESSON SERMON

## The Bible

# **1. Deuteronomy 6 : 4-7**

- <sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:
- And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.
- And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart:
- And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

## 2. Genesis 11:1-9

- And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.
- And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there.
- And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them throughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for morter.
- And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top *may reach* unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.
- And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded.
- And the LORD said, Behold, the people *is* one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.
- Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.

- So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.
- Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth.

# 3. Matthew 12 : 1 (to;), 22-32

- At that time Jesus went on the sabbath day through the corn;
- Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw.
- And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David?
- But when the Pharisees heard *it*, they said, This *fellow* doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils.
- And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand:
- And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand?
- And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your children cast *them* out? therefore they shall be your judges.
- But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.
- Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house.
- He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.
- Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy *against* the *Holy* Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.
- And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the *world* to come.

## 4. John 14:10

Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

## 5. Romans 8: 1, 5-9 (to 1st.), 28

- There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
- For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.
- For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.
- Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.
- 8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.
- But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you.
- And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

# 6. I Corinthians 1:1 (to 2nd,)

Paul, called *to be* an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God,

# 7. I Corinthians 3: 16, 18-21, 23

- Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?
- Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise.
- For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.
- And again, The Lord knoweth the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain.

- Therefore let no man glory in men. For all things are yours;
- And ye are Christ's; and Christ *is* God's.

# 8. I Corinthians 2:5 (your)

5 ...your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

## Science and Health

## 1. 143:26-31

Mind is the grand creator, and there can be no power except that which is derived from Mind. If Mind was first chronologically, is first potentially, and must be first eternally, then give to Mind the glory, honor, dominion, and power everlastingly due its holy name.

# 2. 469:13 (The)-24

The exterminator of error is the great truth that God, good, is the *only* Mind, and that the supposititious opposite of infinite Mind — called *devil* or evil — is not Mind, is not Truth, but error, without intelligence or reality. There can be but one Mind, because there is but one God; and if mortals claimed no other Mind and accepted no other, sin would be unknown. We can have but one Mind, if that one is infinite. We bury the sense of infinitude, when we admit that, although God is infinite, evil has a place in this infinity, for evil can have no place, where all space is filled with God.

### 3. 262:27-6

The foundation of mortal discord is a false sense of man's origin. To begin rightly is to end rightly. Every concept which seems to begin with the brain begins falsely. Divine Mind is the only cause or Principle of existence. Cause does not exist in matter, in mortal mind, or in physical forms.

Mortals are egotists. They believe themselves to be independent workers, personal authors, and even privileged originators of something which Deity would not or could not create. The creations of mortal mind are material. Immortal spiritual man alone represents the truth of creation.

## 4. 470:5-10

The supposed existence of more than one mind was the basic error of idolatry. This error assumed the loss of spiritual power, the loss of the spiritual presence of Life as infinite Truth without an unlikeness, and the loss of Love as ever present and universal.

## **5. 581** : **17-22**

BABEL. Self-destroying error; a kingdom divided against itself, which cannot stand; material knowledge.

The higher false knowledge builds on the basis of evidence obtained from the five corporeal senses, the more confusion ensues, and the more certain is the downfall of its structure.

## 6. 399:29-8

Our Master asked: "How can one enter into a strong man's house and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man?" In other words: How can I heal the body, without beginning with so-called mortal mind, which directly controls the body? When disease is once destroyed in this so-called mind, the fear of disease is gone, and therefore the disease is thoroughly cured. Mortal mind is "the strong man," which must be held in subjection before its influence upon health and morals can be removed. This error conquered, we can despoil "the strong man" of his goods, — namely, of sin and disease.

## 7. 399:23-28

Scientifically speaking, there is no mortal mind out of which to make material beliefs, springing from illusion. This misnamed mind is not an entity. It is only a false sense of matter, since matter is not sensible. The one Mind, God, contains no mortal opinions. All that is real is included in this immortal Mind.

### 8. 263:7-19

When mortal man blends his thoughts of existence with the spiritual and works only as God works, he will no longer grope in the dark and cling to earth because he has not tasted heaven. Carnal beliefs defraud us. They make man an involuntary hypocrite, — producing evil when he would create good, forming deformity when he would outline grace and beauty, injuring those whom he would bless. He becomes a general mis-creator, who believes he is a semi-god. His "touch turns hope to dust, the dust we all have trod." He might say in Bible language: "The good that I would, I do not: but the evil which I would not, *that I do.*"

## 9. 242:9-14

There is but one way to heaven, harmony, and Christ in divine Science shows us this way. It is to know no other reality — to have no other consciousness of life — than good, God and His reflection, and to rise superior to the so-called pain and pleasure of the senses.

## 10. 262:9-23

We cannot fathom the nature and quality of God's creation by diving into the shallows of mortal belief. We must reverse our feeble flutterings — our efforts to find life and truth in matter — and rise above the testimony of the material senses, above the mortal to the immortal idea of God. These clearer, higher views inspire the God-like man to reach the absolute centre and circumference of his being.

Job said: "I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth Thee." Mortals will echo Job's thought, when the supposed pain and pleasure of matter cease to predominate. They will then drop the false estimate of life and happiness, of joy and sorrow, and attain the bliss of loving unselfishly, working patiently, and conquering all that is unlike God.

# 11. 339:20 (As)-28

As the mythology of pagan Rome has yielded to a more spiritual idea of Deity, so will our material theories yield to spiritual ideas, until the finite gives place to the infinite, sickness to health, sin to holiness, and God's kingdom comes "in earth, as it is in heaven." The basis of all health, sinlessness, and immortality is the great fact that God is the only Mind; and this Mind must be not merely believed, but it must be understood.

## **12.** 467 : 9-16

It should be thoroughly understood that all men have one Mind, one God and Father, one Life, Truth, and Love. Mankind will become perfect in proportion as this fact becomes apparent, war will cease and the true brotherhood of man will be established. Having no other gods, turning to no other but the one perfect Mind to guide him, man is the likeness of God, pure and eternal, having that Mind which was also in Christ.

## THE DAILY DUTIES

by Mary Baker Eddy

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