# Plainfield Christian Science Church Independent

Full-Text Lesson Sermon

January 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.

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

#### SUNDAY JANUARY 7, 2018

#### SUBJECT—GOD

GOLDEN TEXT: JOHN 4:24

"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

## RESPONSIVE READING: Romans 1:16-20

- **16.** I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.
- 17. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.
- **18.** For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;
- **19.** Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed *it* unto them.
- **20.** For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.

#### LESSON SERMON

#### The Bible

## 1. John 1: 1, 3-5

- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
- And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

## 2. Exodus 19: 1, 16-21 (to 3rd,), 25

- In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they *into* the wilderness of Sinai.
- And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that *was* in the camp trembled.
- And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount.
- And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.
- And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice.
- And the LORD came down upon mount Sinai, on the top of the mount: and the LORD called Moses *up* to the top of the mount; and Moses went up.
- And the LORD said unto Moses, Go down, charge the people,
- So Moses went down unto the people, and spake unto them.

## 3. Exodus 20 : 1-6, 18-20

- And God spake all these words, saying,
- I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.
- Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
- Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness *of any thing* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth:
- Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me;
- And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.
- And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw *it*, they removed, and stood afar off.
- And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die.
- And Moses said unto the people, Fear not: for God is come to prove you, and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not.

## 4. Psalm 78 : 1-3, 6, 7, 12-19

- Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:
- Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.
- That the generation to come might know *them, even* the children *which* should be born; *who* should arise and declare *them* to their children:
- That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments:

- Marvellous things did he in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, *in* the field of Zoan.
- He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and he made the waters to stand as an heap.
- In the daytime also he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.
- He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave *them* drink as *out of* the great depths.
- He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.
- And they sinned yet more against him by provoking the most High in the wilderness.
- And they tempted God in their heart by asking meat for their lust.
- Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?
- 5. Acts 17: 22-28 (to;)
- Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, *Ye* men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious.
- For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.
- God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;
- Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;
- And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;
- That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:
- For in him we live, and move, and have our being;

#### Science and Health

# 1. 331:11 (The)-13, 18 (God)-24

The Scriptures imply that God is All-in-all. From this it follows that nothing possesses reality nor existence except the divine Mind and His ideas.

God is individual, incorporeal. He is divine Principle, Love, the universal cause, the only creator, and there is no other self-existence. He is all-inclusive, and is reflected by all that is real and eternal and by nothing else. He fills all space, and it is impossible to conceive of such omnipresence and individuality except as infinite Spirit or Mind.

## 2. 472 : 24 (All)-26

All reality is in God and His creation, harmonious and eternal. That which He creates is good, and He makes all that is made.

#### 3. 116: 20-23, 30-31

Christian Science strongly emphasizes the thought that God is not *corporeal*, but *incorporeal*, — that is, bodiless. Mortals are corporeal, but God is incorporeal.

An infinite Mind in a finite form is an absolute impossibility.

#### 4. 330:13-18

Eye hath neither seen God nor His image and likeness. Neither God nor the perfect man can be discerned by the material senses. The individuality of Spirit, or the infinite, is unknown, and thus a knowledge of it is left either to human conjecture or to the revelation of divine Science.

#### **5.** 481 : 7-12

Material sense never helps mortals to understand Spirit, God. Through spiritual sense only, man comprehends and loves Deity. The various contradictions of the Science of Mind by the material senses do not change the unseen Truth, which remains forever intact.

#### **6. 200 : 4-7**

Moses advanced a nation to the worship of God in Spirit instead of matter, and illustrated the grand human capacities of being bestowed by immortal Mind.

#### 7. 308:14-15

The Soul-inspired patriarchs heard the voice of Truth, and talked with God as consciously as man talks with man.

#### 8. 117:6-28

God is Spirit; therefore the language of Spirit must be, and is, spiritual. Christian Science attaches no physical nature and significance to the Supreme Being or His manifestation; mortals alone do this. God's essential language is spoken of in the last chapter of Mark's Gospel as the new tongue, the spiritual meaning of which is attained through "signs following."

Ear hath not heard, nor hath lip spoken, the pure language of Spirit. Our Master taught spirituality by similitudes and parables. As a divine student he unfolded God to man, illustrating and demonstrating Life and Truth in himself and by his power over the sick and sinning. Human theories are inadequate to interpret the divine Principle involved in the miracles (marvels) wrought by Jesus and especially in his mighty, crowning, unparalleled, and triumphant exit from the flesh.

Evidence drawn from the five physical senses relates solely to human reason; and because of opacity to the true light, human reason dimly reflects and feebly transmits Jesus' works and words. Truth is a revelation.

#### 9. 390:4-11

We cannot deny that Life is self-sustained, and we should never deny the everlasting harmony of Soul, simply because, to the mortal senses, there is seeming discord. It is our ignorance of God, the divine Principle, which produces apparent discord, and the right understanding of Him restores harmony. Truth will at length compel us all to exchange the pleasures and pains of sense for the joys of Soul.

#### 10. 135:17-20

There is to-day danger of repeating the offence of the Jews by limiting the Holy One of Israel and asking: "Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?" What cannot God do?

#### 11. 15:7-13

The Father in secret is unseen to the physical senses, but He knows all things and rewards according to motives, not according to speech. To enter into the heart of prayer, the door of the

erring senses must be closed. Lips must be mute and materialism silent, that man may have audience with Spirit, the divine Principle, Love, which destroys all error.

#### 12. 89:20-21

Spirit, God, is heard when the senses are silent.

#### 13. 241:23-8

One's aim, a point beyond faith, should be to find the footsteps of Truth, the way to health and holiness. We should strive to reach the Horeb height where God is revealed; and the cornerstone of all spiritual building is purity. The baptism of Spirit, washing the body of all the impurities of flesh, signifies that the pure in heart see God and are approaching spiritual Life and its demonstration.

It is "easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle," than for sinful beliefs to enter the kingdom of heaven, eternal harmony. Through repentance, spiritual baptism, and regeneration, mortals put off their material beliefs and false individuality. It is only a question of time when "they shall all know Me [God], from the least of them unto the greatest." Denial of the claims of matter is a great step towards the joys of Spirit, towards human freedom and the final triumph over the body.

#### **14. 340**: **15-29**

"Thou shalt have no other gods before me." (Exodus xx. 3.) The First Commandment is my favorite text. It demonstrates Christian Science. It inculcates the triunity of God, Spirit, Mind; it signifies that man shall have no other spirit or mind but God, eternal good, and that all men shall have one Mind. The divine Principle of the First Commandment bases the Science of being, by which man demonstrates health, holiness, and life eternal. One infinite God, good, unifies men and nations; constitutes the brotherhood of man; ends wars; fulfils the Scripture, "Love thy neighbor as thyself;" annihilates pagan and Christian idolatry, — whatever is wrong in social, civil, criminal, political, and religious codes; equalizes the sexes; annuls the curse on man, and leaves nothing that can sin, suffer, be punished or destroyed.

#### 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 JANUARY 14, 2018

#### SUBJECT—SACRAMENT

GOLDEN TEXT: ACTS 9:6

"Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"

RESPONSIVE READING: **Psalm 34:9, 11, 13-15 Psalm 143:8, 10** 

- **9.** O fear the LORD, ye his saints: for *there is* no want to them that fear him.
- 11. Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
- 13. Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile.
- **14.** Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.
- **15.** The eyes of the LORD *are* upon the righteous, and his ears *are open* unto their cry.
- 8. Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee.
- **10.** Teach me to do thy will; for thou *art* my God: thy spirit *is* good; lead me into the land of uprightness.

#### LESSON SERMON

#### The Bible

#### 1. Psalm 51: 15-17

- O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.
- For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give *it*: thou delightest not in burnt offering.
- The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

## 2. Isaiah 6:1, 2 (to:), 3, 5-8

- In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.
- Above it stood the seraphims:
- And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.
- Then said I, Woe *is* me! for I am undone; because I *am* a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.
- Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, *which* he had taken with the tongs from off the altar:
- And he laid *it* upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.
- Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here *am* I; send me.

# 3. Matthew 3: 16, 17

And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

#### 4. Matthew 4: 17-22

- From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
- And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.
- And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.
- And they straightway left *their* nets, and followed him.
- And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James *the son* of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them.
- And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.

#### 5. John 1: 43-51

- The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me.
- Now Philip was of Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.
- Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.
- And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see.
- Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!
- Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee.

- Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.
- Jesus answered and said unto him, Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? thou shalt see greater things than these.
- And he saith unto him, Verily, Verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.

## 6. Matthew 8 : 16-22, 26 (to 1st ,)

- When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with *his* word, and healed all that were sick:
- That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare *our* sicknesses.
- Now when Jesus saw great multitudes about him, he gave commandment to depart unto the other side.
- And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.
- And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air *have* nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay *his* head.
- And another of his disciples said unto him, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.
- But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead.
- And he saith unto them,

# 7. Matthew 13 : 44 (the kingdom)-46

- ...the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.
- Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls:

Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

## 8. Matthew 10: 1, 5-8

- And when he had called unto *him* his twelve disciples, he gave them power *against* unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.
- These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into *any* city of the Samaritans enter ye not:
- <sup>6</sup> But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
- And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.
- Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

## 9. Romans 12:1, 2

- I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.
- And 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.

#### Science and Health

# 1. 11:29 (prayer)-32 (to 2nd.)

...prayer, coupled with a fervent habitual desire to know and do the will of God, will bring us into all Truth. Such a desire has little need of audible expression. It is best expressed in thought and in life.

#### 2. 202:3-14

The scientific unity which exists between God and man must be wrought out in life-practice, and God's will must be universally done.

If men would bring to bear upon the study of the Science of Mind half the faith they bestow upon the so-called pains and pleasures of material sense, they would not go on from bad to worse, until disciplined by the prison and the scaffold; but the whole human family would be redeemed through the merits of Christ, — through the perception and acceptance of Truth. For this glorious result Christian Science lights the torch of spiritual understanding.

## 3. 25:13-16, 22-32

Jesus taught the way of Life by demonstration, that we may understand how this divine Principle heals the sick, casts out error, and triumphs over death.

Though demonstrating his control over sin and disease, the great Teacher by no means relieved others from giving the requisite proofs of their own piety. He worked for their guidance, that they might demonstrate this power as he did and understand its divine Principle. Implicit faith in the Teacher and all the emotional love we can bestow on him, will never alone make us imitators of him. We must go and do likewise, else we are not improving the great blessings which our Master worked and suffered to bestow upon us. The divinity of the Christ was made manifest in the humanity of Jesus.

#### 4. 33:18-17

When the human element in him struggled with the divine, our great Teacher said: "Not my will, but Thine, be done!"—that is, Let not the flesh, but the Spirit, be represented in me. This is the new understanding of spiritual Love. It gives all for Christ, or Truth. It blesses its enemies, heals the sick, casts out error, raises the dead from trespasses and sins, and preaches the gospel to the poor, the meek in heart.

Christians, are you drinking his cup? Have you shared the blood of the New Covenant, the persecutions which attend a new and higher understanding of God? If not, can you then say that you have commemorated Jesus in his cup? Are all who eat bread and drink wine in memory of Jesus willing truly to drink his cup, take his cross, and leave all for the Christ-principle? Then why ascribe this inspiration to a dead rite, instead of showing, by casting out error and making the body "holy, acceptable unto God," that Truth has come to the understanding? If Christ, Truth, has come to us in demonstration, no other commemoration is requisite, for demonstration is Immanuel, or *God with us*; and if a friend be with us, why need we memorials of that friend?

If all who ever partook of the sacrament had really commemorated the sufferings of Jesus and drunk of his cup, they would have revolutionized the world. If all who seek his commemoration through material symbols will take up the cross, heal the sick, cast out evils, and preach Christ, or Truth, to the poor, — the receptive thought, — they will bring in the millennium.

#### 5. 27:22-29

Jesus sent forth seventy students at one time, but only eleven left a desirable historic record. Tradition credits him with two or three hundred other disciples who have left no name. "Many are called, but few are chosen." They fell away from grace because they never truly understood their Master's instruction.

Why do those who profess to follow Christ reject the essential religion he came to establish?

#### **6.** 49:7-9

Where were the seventy whom Jesus sent forth? Were all conspirators save eleven? Had they forgotten the great exponent of God?

# 7. 40:25-30

Our heavenly Father, divine Love, demands that all men should follow the example of our Master and his apostles and not merely worship his personality. It is sad that the phrase *divine service* has come so generally to mean public worship instead of daily deeds.

#### 8. 5:29-32

An apostle says that the Son of God [Christ] came to "destroy the *works* of the devil." We should follow our divine Exemplar, and seek the destruction of all evil works, error and disease included.

#### 9. 487:25-6

The Apostle James said, "Show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works." The understanding that Life is God, Spirit, lengthens our days by strengthening our trust in the deathless reality of Life, its almightiness and immortality.

This faith relies upon an understood Principle. This Principle makes whole the diseased, and brings out the enduring and harmonious phases of things. The result of our teachings is their sufficient confirmation. When, on the strength of these instructions, you are able to banish a severe malady, the cure shows that you understand this teaching, and therefore you receive the blessing of Truth.

#### 10. 328:14-4

This understanding of man's power, when he is equipped by God, has sadly disappeared from Christian history. For centuries it has been dormant, a lost element of Christianity. Our missionaries carry the Bible to India, but can it be said that they explain it practically, as Jesus did, when hundreds of persons die there annually from serpent-bites? Understanding spiritual law and knowing that there is no material law, Jesus said: "These signs shall follow them that believe, ...they shall take up serpents, and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them. They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." It were well had Christendom believed and obeyed this sacred saying.

Jesus' promise is perpetual. Had it been given only to his immediate disciples, the Scriptural passage would read *you*, not *they*. The purpose of his great life-work extends through time and includes universal humanity. Its Principle is infinite, reaching beyond the pale of a single period or of a limited following. As time moves on, the healing elements of pure Christianity will be fairly dealt with; they will be sought and taught, and will glow in all the grandeur of universal goodness.

#### THE DAILY DUTIES

by Mary Baker Eddy

# **Daily Prayer**

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Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 4

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Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 6

# SUNDAY JANUARY 21, 2018

# SUBJECT—LIFE

GOLDEN TEXT: ROMANS 8:6

"To be spiritually minded is life and peace."

RESPONSIVE READING: **Ephesians 2:2-6** 

- 2. Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:
- **3.** Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh.
- **4.** But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,
- **5.** Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)
- 6. And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus.

#### LESSON SERMON

#### The Bible

#### 1. Isaiah 1 : 19

19 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

#### 2. **Proverbs 3 : 1-8**

- My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:
- For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.
- Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:
- So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.
- Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
- In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.
- <sup>7</sup> Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.
- It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

# 3. Proverbs 4 : 20 (incline)-27

- ...incline thine ear unto my sayings.
- Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.
- For they *are* life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.
- Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life.
- Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee.
- Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee.

- Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established.
- Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil.

## 4. Genesis 6: 5, 8, 9 (and Noah), 13, 14

- And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.
- But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.
- 9 ... and Noah walked with God.
- And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.
- Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shalt thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch.

# 5. Genesis 7:1, 5, 7-10, 17, 18

- And the LORD said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation.
- And Noah did according unto all that the LORD commanded him.
- And Noah went in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood.
- Of clean beasts, and of beasts that *are* not clean, and of fowls, and of every thing that creepeth upon the earth,
- There went in two and two unto Noah into the ark, the male and the female, as God had commanded Noah.
- And it came to pass after seven days, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth.
- And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lift up above the earth.

And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the waters.

# 6. Genesis 8 : 1, 13 (to :), 15, 16, 18-20 (to ;)

- And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that *was* with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters asswaged;
- And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first *month*, the first *day* of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth:
- <sup>15</sup> And God spake unto Noah, saying,
- Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee.
- And Noah went forth, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him:
- Every beast, every creeping thing, and every fowl, *and* whatsoever creepeth upon the earth, after their kinds, went forth out of the ark.
- And Noah builded an altar unto the LORD;

# 7. Genesis 9:1, 8, 9

- And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.
- And God spake unto Noah, and to his sons with him, saying,
- And I, behold, I establish my covenant with you, and with your seed after you;

## 8. Psalm 125:1,2

- They that trust in the LORD *shall be* as mount Zion, *which* cannot be removed, *but* abideth for ever.
- As the mountains *are* round about Jerusalem, so the LORD *is* round about his people from henceforth even for ever.

#### 9. I Thessalonians 3:8

For now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord.

# 10. Romans 5: 1-5, 17

- Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:
- By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
- And not only *so*, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;
- <sup>4</sup> And patience, experience; and experience, hope:
- And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.
- For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

# 11. Romans 6: 1, 2 (to .), 14, 16, 22, 23

- What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?
- <sup>2</sup> God forbid.
- For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.
- 16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?
- But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.
- For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Science and Health

# 1. 95:5-8 (to;)

Paul said, "To be spiritually minded is life." We approach God, or Life, in proportion to our spirituality, our fidelity to Truth and Love;

#### 2. 246:27-31

Life is eternal. We should find this out, and begin the demonstration thereof. Life and goodness are immortal. Let us then shape our views of existence into loveliness, freshness, and continuity, rather than into age and blight.

#### 3. 328:4-13

Mortals suppose that they can live without goodness, when God is good and the only real Life. What is the result? Understanding little about the divine Principle which saves and heals, mortals get rid of sin, sickness, and death only in belief. These errors are not thus really destroyed, and must therefore cling to mortals until, here or hereafter, they gain the true understanding of God in the Science which destroys human delusions about Him and reveals the grand realities of His allness.

#### 4. 390:4-9

We cannot deny that Life is self-sustained, and we should never deny the everlasting harmony of Soul, simply because, to the mortal senses, there is seeming discord. It is our ignorance of God, the divine Principle, which produces apparent discord, and the right understanding of Him restores harmony.

#### **5. 540**: **5-16**

In Isaiah we read: "I make peace, and create evil. I the Lord do all these things;" but the prophet referred to divine law as stirring up the belief in evil to its utmost, when bringing it to the surface and reducing it to its common denominator, nothingness. The muddy river-bed must be stirred in order to purify the stream. In moral chemicalization, when the symptoms of evil, illusion, are aggravated, we may think in our ignorance that the Lord hath wrought an evil; but we ought to know that God's law uncovers so-called sin and its effects, only that Truth may annihilate all sense of evil and all power to sin.

# 6. 289: 2-4, 8 (A)-24, 31-2

Mortal man can never rise from the temporal *débris* of error, belief in sin, sickness, and death, until he learns that God is the only Life.

A wicked mortal is not the idea of God. He is little else than the expression of error. To suppose that sin, lust, hatred, envy, hypocrisy, revenge, have life abiding in them, is a terrible mistake. Life and Life's idea, Truth and Truth's idea, never make men sick, sinful, or mortal.

The fact that the Christ, or Truth, overcame and still overcomes death proves the "king of terrors" to be but a mortal belief, or error, which Truth destroys with the spiritual evidences of Life; and this shows that what appears to the senses to be death is but a mortal illusion, for to the real man and the real universe there is no death-process.

The belief that matter has life results, by the universal law of mortal mind, in a belief in death. So man, tree, and flower are supposed to die; but the fact remains, that God's universe is spiritual and immortal.

Man is not the offspring of flesh, but of Spirit, — of Life, not of matter. Because Life is God, Life must be eternal, self-existent. Life is the everlasting I AM, the Being who was and is and shall be, whom nothing can erase.

#### 7. 223:25-10

Peals that should startle the slumbering thought from its erroneous dream are partially unheeded; but the last trump has not sounded, or this would not be so. Marvels, calamities, and sin will much more abound as truth urges upon mortals its resisted claims; but the awful daring of sin destroys sin, and foreshadows the triumph of truth. God will overturn, until "He come whose right it is." Longevity is increasing and the power of sin diminishing, for the world feels the alterative effect of truth through every pore.

As the crude footprints of the past disappear from the dissolving paths of the present, we shall better understand the Science which governs these changes, and shall plant our feet on firmer ground. Every sensuous pleasure or pain is self-destroyed through suffering. There should be painless progress, attended by life and peace instead of discord and death.

## 8. 167:17-19, 22-26

To have one God and avail yourself of the power of Spirit, you must love God supremely.

It is not wise to take a halting and half-way position or to expect to work equally with Spirit and matter, Truth and error. There is but one way — namely, God and His idea — which leads to spiritual being.

#### 9. 20:21 (to)-23

...to obey the divine order and trust God, saves retracing and traversing anew the path from sin to holiness.

#### 10. 183:21-25

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.

#### **11. 410**: **4-7**, **14-17**

"This is life eternal," says Jesus, — is, not shall be; and then he defines everlasting life as a present knowledge of his Father and of himself, — the knowledge of Love, Truth, and Life.

Every trial of our faith in God makes us stronger. The more difficult seems the material condition to be overcome by Spirit, the stronger should be our faith and the purer our love.

#### **12.** 84 : 3-7, 14-18

The ancient prophets gained their foresight from a spiritual, incorporeal standpoint, not by foreshadowing evil and mistaking fact for fiction, — predicting the future from a groundwork of corporeality and human belief.

Acquaintance with the Science of being enables us to commune more largely with the divine Mind, to foresee and foretell events which concern the universal welfare, to be divinely inspired, — yea, to reach the range of fetterless Mind.

# 13. 592 : 22 (*to* .), 22 (knowledge)-24

NOAH. ... knowledge of the nothingness of material things and of the immortality of all that is spiritual.

#### **14. 581** : **8-13**

ARK. Safety; the idea, or reflection, of Truth, proved to be as immortal as its Principle; the understanding of Spirit, destroying belief in matter.

God and man coexistent and eternal; Science showing that the spiritual realities of all things are created by Him and exist forever.

## 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 JANUARY 28, 2018

## SUBJECT—TRUTH

GOLDEN TEXT: PSALM 86:11

"Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth."

RESPONSIVE READING: **Deuteronomy 4 : 27-31 Joel 2 : 32** 

- 27. The LORD shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither the LORD shall lead you.
- **28.** And there ye shall serve gods, the work of men's hands, wood and stone, which neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell.
- **29.** But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find *him*, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.
- **30.** When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, *even* in the latter days, if thou turn to the LORD thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;
- 31. He will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them.
- **32.** And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

#### LESSON SERMON

#### The Bible

# 1. **Zephaniah 3:13**

The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth: for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make *them* afraid.

# 2. I Kings 16: 29 (to:), 30, 31 (to Jezebel), 31 (and went), 32 (to Baal), 33

- And in the thirty and eighth year of Asa king of Judah began Ahab the son of Omri to reign over Israel:
- And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD above all that *were* before him.
- And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife Jezebel ...and went and served Baal, and worshipped him.
- And he reared up an altar for Baal ...
- And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him.

# 3. I Kings 17:1

And Elijah the Tishbite, *who was* of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, *As* the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

# 4. I Kings 18: 17-19, 22-24, 38-40

- And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, *Art* thou he that troubleth Israel?
- And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.

- Now therefore send, *and* gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table.
- Then said Elijah unto the people, I, *even* I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets *are* four hundred and fifty men.
- Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay *it* on wood, and put no fire *under*: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay *it* on wood, and put no fire *under*:
- And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.
- Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that *was* in the trench.
- And when all the people saw *it*, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he *is* the God; the LORD, he *is* the God.
- And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there.

# 5. I Kings 19: 1-3 (to 4th,), 4 (and said,), 9 (to 4th,), 11-15 (to 1st,), 18

- And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword.
- Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do *to me*, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time.
- And when he saw *that*, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beer-sheba,
- 4 ...and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I *am* not better than my fathers.
- And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD *came* to him,

- And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; *but* the LORD *was* not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; *but* the LORD *was* not in the earthquake:
- And after the earthquake a fire; *but* the LORD *was* not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.
- And it was *so*, when Elijah heard *it*, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, *there came* a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?
- And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, *even* I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.
- And the LORD said unto him,
- Yet I have left *me* seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.

#### 6. Romans 11 : 1-5

- I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, *of* the tribe of Benjamin.
- God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying,
- Lord, they have killed thy prophets, and digged down thine altars; and I am left alone, and they seek my life.
- But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to *the image of* Baal.
- Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

# 7. Zechariah 8 : 6 (to ?), 7 (Behold), 8

Thus saith the LORD of hosts; If it be marvellous in the eyes of the remnant of this people in these days, should it also be marvellous in mine eyes?

- 7 ...Behold, I will save my people from the east country, and from the west country;
- And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness.

#### Science and Health

#### 1. vii: 13-21

The time for thinkers has come. Truth, independent of doctrines and time-honored systems, knocks at the portal of humanity. Contentment with the past and the cold conventionality of materialism are crumbling away. Ignorance of God is no longer the stepping-stone to faith. The only guarantee of obedience is a right apprehension of Him whom to know aright is Life eternal. Though empires fall, "the Lord shall reign forever."

#### 2. 559:8-16

The "still, small voice" of scientific thought reaches over continent and ocean to the globe's remotest bound. The inaudible voice of Truth is, to the human mind, "as when a lion roareth." It is heard in the desert and in dark places of fear. It arouses the "seven thunders" of evil, and stirs their latent forces to utter the full diapason of secret tones. Then is the power of Truth demonstrated, — made manifest in the destruction of error.

#### 3. 183:23-25

Obedience to Truth gives man power and strength. Submission to error superinduces loss of power.

#### 4. 256: 19-23

Who is it that demands our obedience? He who, in the language of Scripture, "doeth according to His will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay His hand, or say unto Him, What doest Thou?"

#### 5. 225:5-13

You may know when first Truth leads by the fewness and faithfulness of its followers. Thus it is that the march of time bears onward freedom's banner. The powers of this world will fight, and

will command their sentinels not to let truth pass the guard until it subscribes to their systems; but Science, heeding not the pointed bayonet, marches on. There is always some tumult, but there is a rallying to truth's standard.

#### **6.** 474 : 4-8

The reception accorded to Truth in the early Christian era is repeated to-day. Whoever introduces the Science of Christianity will be scoffed at and scourged with worse cords than those which cut the flesh.

#### 7. 97:22-25

It requires courage to utter truth; for the higher Truth lifts her voice, the louder will error scream, until its inarticulate sound is forever silenced in oblivion.

#### **8.** 450 : 15-26

Some people yield slowly to the touch of Truth. Few yield without a struggle, and many are reluctant to acknowledge that they have yielded; but unless this admission is made, evil will boast itself above good. The Christian Scientist has enlisted to lessen evil, disease, and death; and he will overcome them by understanding their nothingness and the allness of God, or good. Sickness to him is no less a temptation than is sin, and he heals them both by understanding God's power over them. The Christian Scientist knows that they are errors of belief, which Truth can and will destroy.

#### 9. 167:22-31

It is not wise to take a halting and half-way position or to expect to work equally with Spirit and matter, Truth and error. There is but one way — namely, God and His idea — which leads to spiritual being. The scientific government of the body must be attained through the divine Mind. It is impossible to gain control over the body in any other way. On this fundamental point, timid conservatism is absolutely inadmissible. Only through radical reliance on Truth can scientific healing power be realized.

#### 10. 368: 2-9

The confidence inspired by Science lies in the fact that Truth is real and error is unreal. Error is a coward before Truth. Divine Science insists that time will prove all this. Both truth and error

have come nearer than ever before to the apprehension of mortals, and truth will become still clearer as error is self-destroyed.

#### 11. 451:2-7

Christian Scientists must live under the constant pressure of the apostolic command to come out from the material world and be separate. They must renounce aggression, oppression and the pride of power. Christianity, with the crown of Love upon her brow, must be their queen of life.

#### **12. 28 : 24-31**

To suppose that persecution for righteousness' sake belongs to the past, and that Christianity to-day is at peace with the world because it is honored by sects and societies, is to mistake the very nature of religion. Error repeats itself. The trials encountered by prophet, disciple, and apostle, "of whom the world was not worthy," await, in some form, every pioneer of truth.

#### **13. 271** : **26-30**

Those, who are willing to leave their nets or to cast them on the right side for Truth, have the opportunity now, as aforetime, to learn and to practise Christian healing. The Scriptures contain it. The spiritual import of the Word imparts this power.

#### 14. 174:9-21

The footsteps of thought, rising above material standpoints, are slow, and portend a long night to the traveller; but the angels of His presence — the spiritual intuitions that tell us when "the night is far spent, the day is at hand" — are our guardians in the gloom. Whoever opens the way in Christian Science is a pilgrim and stranger, marking out the path for generations yet unborn.

The thunder of Sinai and the Sermon on the Mount are pursuing and will overtake the ages, rebuking in their course all error and proclaiming the kingdom of heaven on earth. Truth is revealed. It needs only to be practised.

## **15.** 223 : 21-24, 31-32

Spiritual rationality and free thought accompany approaching Science, and cannot be put down. They will emancipate humanity, and supplant unscientific means and so-called laws.

God will overturn, until "He come whose right it is."

#### 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!

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