# Plainfield Christian Science Church Independent

Full-Text Lesson Sermon

December 2020

# 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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## SUNDAY DECEMBER 6, 2020

#### SUBJECT—GOD THE ONLY CAUSE AND CREATOR

GOLDEN TEXT: PROVERBS 16:4

"The LORD hath made all things for himself."

## RESPONSIVE READING: Isaiah 45:5, 6, 8-13

- 5. I *am* the LORD, and *there is* none else, *there is* no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me.
- **6.** I *am* the LORD, and *there is* none else.
- 8. Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together; I the LORD have created it.
- **9.** Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! *Let* the potsherd *strive* with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?
- **10.** Woe unto him that saith unto *his* father, What begettest thou? or to the woman, What hast thou brought forth?
- 11. Thus saith the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me.
- **12.** I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, *even* my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded.
- 13. I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways.

#### LESSON SERMON

#### The Bible

#### 1. John 1 : 1-4

- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- The same was in the beginning with 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.

## 2. Ecclesiastes 3: 11, 13, 14

- He hath made every *thing* beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.
- And also that every man should eat and drink, and enjoy the good of all his labour, it *is* the gift of God.
- I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth *it*, that *men* should fear before him.

#### 3. Psalm 127:1

Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh *but* in vain.

## 4. I Samuel 1: 1 (to 3rd,), 2, 4-6, 9 (Now)-11, 17, 19, 20, 25 (to they), 25 (brought)-28

- Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim, of mount Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah,
- And he had two wives; the name of the one *was* Hannah, and the name of the other Peninnah: and Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.
- And when the time was that Elkanah offered, he gave to Peninnah his wife, and to all her sons and her daughters, portions:

- But unto Hannah he gave a worthy portion; for he loved Hannah: but the LORD had shut up her womb.
- And her adversary also provoked her sore, for to make her fret, because the LORD had shut up her womb.
- Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the LORD.
- And she *was* in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore.
- And she vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no rasor come upon his head.
- Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant *thee* thy petition that thou hast asked of him.
- And they rose up in the morning early, and worshipped before the LORD, and returned, and came to their house to Ramah: and Elkanah knew Hannah his wife; and the LORD remembered her.
- Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, *saying*, Because I have asked him of the LORD.
- And they ... brought the child to Eli.
- And she said, Oh my lord, *as* thy soul liveth, my lord, I *am* the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.
- For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of him:
- Therefore also I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the LORD. And he worshipped the LORD there.

# 5. I Samuel 2: 11 (And the), 20 (to 1st ,), 21

And the child did minister unto the LORD before Eli the priest.

- And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife,
- And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the LORD.

## 6. Exodus 9 : 16 (for this)

...for this *cause* have I raised thee up, for to shew *in* thee my power; and that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.

## 7. Isaiah 14 : 24, 26, 27

- The LORD of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, *so* shall it stand:
- This *is* the purpose that is purposed upon the whole earth: and this *is* the hand that is stretched out upon all the nations.
- For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul *it*? and his hand *is* stretched out, and who shall turn it back?

#### 8. Isaiah 55 : 8-13

- For my thoughts *are* not your thoughts, neither *are* your ways my ways, saith the LORD.
- For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.
- For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:
- So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.
- For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap *their* hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign *that* shall not be cut off.

# **9. Philippians 2 : 13**

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

#### Science and Health

## 1. 335:7 (Spirit)-8 (to 1st.), 10 (as)-12

Spirit, God, has created all in and of Himself. ... as the Bible declares, without the Logos, the Æon or Word of God, "was not anything made that was made."

### 2. 502:27-5

The creative Principle — Life, Truth, and Love — is God. The universe reflects God. There is but one creator and one creation. This creation consists of the unfolding of spiritual ideas and their identities, which are embraced in the infinite Mind and forever reflected. These ideas range from the infinitesimal to infinity, and the highest ideas are the sons and daughters of God.

#### **3.** 507: 25-6

This divine Principle of all expresses Science and art throughout His creation, and the immortality of man and the universe. Creation is ever appearing, and must ever continue to appear from the nature of its inexhaustible source. Mortal sense inverts this appearing and calls ideas material. Thus misinterpreted, the divine idea seems to fall to the level of a human or material belief, called mortal man. But the seed is in itself, only as the divine Mind is All and reproduces all — as Mind is the multiplier, and Mind's infinite idea, man and the universe, is the product. The only intelligence or substance of a thought, a seed, or a flower is God, the creator of it.

#### 4. 509:20-28

So-called mineral, vegetable, and animal substances are no more contingent now on time or material structure than they were when "the morning stars sang together." Mind made the "plant of the field before it was in the earth." The periods of spiritual ascension are the days and

seasons of Mind's creation, in which beauty, sublimity, purity, and holiness — yea, the divine nature — appear in man and the universe never to disappear.

#### **5. 510**: **28-6**

Science reveals only one Mind, and this one shining by its own light and governing the universe, including man, in perfect harmony. This Mind forms ideas, its own images, subdivides and radiates their borrowed light, intelligence, and so explains the Scripture phrase, "whose seed is in itself." Thus God's ideas "multiply and replenish the earth." The divine Mind supports the sublimity, magnitude, and infinitude of spiritual creation.

## **6.** 170 : 22-24, 28-3

Spiritual causation is the one question to be considered, for more than all others spiritual causation relates to human progress.

The description of man as purely physical, or as both material and spiritual, — but in either case dependent upon his physical organization, — is the Pandora box, from which all ills have gone forth, especially despair. Matter, which takes divine power into its own hands and claims to be a creator, is a fiction, in which paganism and lust are so sanctioned by society that mankind has caught their moral contagion.

#### 7. **516**: 9-23

God fashions all things, after His own likeness. Life is reflected in existence, Truth in truthfulness, God in goodness, which impart their own peace and permanence. Love, redolent with unselfishness, bathes all in beauty and light. The grass beneath our feet silently exclaims, "The meek shall inherit the earth." The modest arbutus sends her sweet breath to heaven. The great rock gives shadow and shelter. The sunlight glints from the church-dome, glances into the prison-cell, glides into the sick-chamber, brightens the flower, beautifies the landscape, blesses the earth. Man, made in His likeness, possesses and reflects God's dominion over all the earth. Man and woman as coexistent and eternal with God forever reflect, in glorified quality, the infinite Father-Mother God.

#### 8. 517:31-4

Man is not made to till the soil. His birthright is dominion, not subjection. He is lord of the belief in earth and heaven, — himself subordinate alone to his Maker. This is the Science of being.

#### 9. 302:31-7

Even in Christian Science, reproduction by Spirit's individual ideas is but the reflection of the creative power of the divine Principle of those ideas. The reflection, through mental manifestation, of the multitudinous forms of Mind which people the realm of the real is controlled by Mind, the Principle governing the reflection. Multiplication of God's children comes from no power of propagation in matter, it is the reflection of Spirit.

#### 10. 259:23-31

God, Spirit, works spiritually, not materially. Brain or matter never formed a human concept. Vibration is not intelligence; hence it is not a creator. Immortal ideas, pure, perfect, and enduring, are transmitted by the divine Mind through divine Science, which corrects error with truth and demands spiritual thoughts, divine concepts, to the end that they may produce harmonious results.

#### 11. 68:4-8

Sometime we shall learn how Spirit, the great architect, has created men and women in Science. We ought to weary of the fleeting and false and to cherish nothing which hinders our highest selfhood.

#### **12. 260**: **13-18**

Science reveals the possibility of achieving all good, and sets mortals at work to discover what God has already done; but distrust of one's ability to gain the goodness desired and to bring out better and higher results, often hampers the trial of one's wings and ensures failure at the outset.

## 13. 264: 13-19, 28-31

As mortals gain more correct views of God and man, multitudinous objects of creation, which before were invisible, will become visible. When we realize that Life is Spirit, never in nor of matter, this understanding will expand into self-completeness, finding all in God, good, and needing no other consciousness.

When we learn the way in Christian Science and recognize man's spiritual being, we shall behold and understand God's creation, — all the glories of earth and heaven and 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

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

## Take Notice

from Miscellany, by Mary Baker Eddy, page 237

To Christian Scientists: — See *Science and Health*, page 442, line 30, and give daily attention thereto.

"Christian Scientists, be a law to yourselves that mental malpractice cannot harm you either when asleep or when awake."

(S&H, p. 442)

## SUNDAY DECEMBER 13, 2020

#### SUBJECT—GOD THE PRESERVER OF MAN

GOLDEN TEXT: PROVERBS 30:5

"Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him."

#### RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 36:5-10

- **5.** Thy mercy, O LORD, *is* in the heavens; *and* thy faithfulness *reacheth* unto the clouds.
- 6. Thy righteousness *is* like the great mountains; thy judgments *are* a great deep: O LORD, thou preservest man and beast.
- 7. How excellent *is* thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.
- **8.** They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.
- **9.** For with thee *is* the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.
- **10.** O continue thy lovingkindness unto them that know thee; and thy righteousness to the upright in heart.

#### LESSON SERMON

#### The Bible

#### 1. Psalm 121 : 1-8

- I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.
- My help *cometh* from the LORD, which made heaven and earth.
- He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.
- <sup>4</sup> Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.
- The LORD *is* thy keeper: the LORD *is* thy shade upon thy right hand.
- The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.
- The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.
- The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

# 2. II Chronicles 14: 2 (Asa)-5, 8-13

- Asa did *that which was* good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God:
- For he took away the altars of the strange *gods*, and the high places, and brake down the images, and cut down the groves:
- And commanded Judah to seek the LORD God of their fathers, and to do the law and the commandment.
- Also he took away out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the images: and the kingdom was quiet before him.
- And Asa had an army *of men* that bare targets and spears, out of Judah three hundred thousand; and out of Benjamin, that bare shields and drew bows, two hundred and fourscore thousand: all these *were* mighty men of valour.
- And there came out against them Zerah the Ethiopian with an host of a thousand thousand, and three hundred chariots; and came unto Mareshah.

- Then As went out against him, and they set the battle in array in the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah.
- And Asa cried unto the LORD his God, and said, LORD, *it is* nothing with thee to help, whether with many, or with them that have no power: help us, O LORD our God; for we rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude. O LORD, thou *art* our God; let not man prevail against thee.
- So the LORD smote the Ethiopians before Asa, and before Judah; and the Ethiopians fled.
- And Asa and the people that *were* with him pursued them unto Gerar: and the Ethiopians were overthrown, that they could not recover themselves; for they were destroyed before the LORD, and before his host; and they carried away very much spoil.

#### 3. Isaiah 41 : 10-13

- Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.
- Behold, all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded: they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish.
- Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, *even* them that contended with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought.
- For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

## 4. I Chronicles 17: 16 (David) (to 2nd,), 20-22

- David the king came and sat before the LORD, and said,
- O LORD, *there is* none like thee, neither *is there any* God beside thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears.
- And what one nation in the earth *is* like thy people Israel, whom God went to redeem *to be* his own people, to make thee a name of greatness and terribleness, by driving out nations from before thy people, whom thou hast redeemed out of Egypt?
- For thy people Israel didst thou make thine own people for ever; and thou, LORD, becamest their God.

# 5. I Chronicles 18: 1-3, 5, 6, 14 (David)

- Now after this it came to pass, that David smote the Philistines, and subdued them, and took Gath and her towns out of the hand of the Philistines.
- And he smote Moab; and the Moabites became David's servants, and brought gifts.
- And David smote Hadarezer king of Zobah unto Hamath, as he went to stablish his dominion by the river Euphrates.
- And when the Syrians of Damascus came to help Hadarezer king of Zobah, David slew of the Syrians two and twenty thousand men.
- Then David put *garrisons* in Syria-damascus; and the Syrians became David's servants, *and* brought gifts. Thus the LORD preserved David whithersoever he went.
- David reigned over all Israel, and executed judgment and justice among all his people.

#### 6. Isaiah 49 : 8-10

- Thus saith the LORD, In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages;
- That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that *are* in darkness, Shew yourselves. They shall feed in the ways, and their pastures *shall be* in all high places.
- They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them.

# 7. Ephesians 2: 4 (God), 5 (to 2nd,), 6, 8

- God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,
- Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ,
- And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:
- For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:

#### Science and Health

#### 1. 387:27-32

The history of Christianity furnishes sublime proofs of the supporting influence and protecting power bestowed on man by his heavenly Father, omnipotent Mind, who gives man faith and understanding whereby to defend himself, not only from temptation, but from bodily suffering.

#### 2. 23:21-31

In Hebrew, Greek, Latin, and English, *faith* and the words corresponding thereto have these two definitions, *trustfulness* and *trustworthiness*. One kind of faith trusts one's welfare to others. Another kind of faith understands divine Love and how to work out one's "own salvation, with fear and trembling." "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief!" expresses the helplessness of a blind faith; whereas the injunction, "Believe ... and thou shalt be saved!" demands self-reliant trustworthiness, which includes spiritual understanding and confides all to God.

#### 3. 1:1-4

The prayer that reforms the sinner and heals the sick is an absolute faith that all things are possible to God, — a spiritual understanding of Him, an unselfed love.

#### 4. 146:2-7

The ancient Christians were healers. Why has this element of Christianity been lost? Because our systems of religion are governed more or less by our systems of medicine. The first idolatry was faith in matter. The schools have rendered faith in drugs the fashion, rather than faith in Deity.

#### 5. 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.

#### **6.** 285 : 23-31

By interpreting God as a corporeal Saviour but not as the saving Principle, or divine Love, we shall continue to seek salvation through pardon and not through reform, and resort to matter

instead of Spirit for the cure of the sick. As mortals reach, through knowledge of Christian Science, a higher sense, they will seek to learn, not from matter, but from the divine Principle, God, how to demonstrate the Christ, Truth, as the healing and saving power.

#### 7. 133:8-15

In Egypt, it was Mind which saved the Israelites from belief in the plagues. In the wilderness, streams flowed from the rock, and manna fell from the sky. The Israelites looked upon the brazen serpent, and straightway believed that they were healed of the poisonous stings of vipers. In national prosperity, miracles attended the successes of the Hebrews; but when they departed from the true idea, their demoralization began.

#### 8. 243:4-15

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. That those wonders are not more commonly repeated to-day, arises not so much from lack of desire as from lack of spiritual growth.

## 9. 230: 1-2, 4-10

If sickness is real, it belongs to immortality; if true, it is a part of Truth. ... But if sickness and sin are illusions, the awakening from this mortal dream, or illusion, will bring us into health, holiness, and immortality. This awakening is the forever coming of Christ, the advanced appearing of Truth, which casts out error and heals the sick. This is the salvation which comes through God, the divine Principle, Love, as demonstrated by Jesus.

#### 10. 202:6-14

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.

#### 11. 410:14-17

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. 487:27-1

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.

#### 13. 368:14-19

When we come to have more faith in the truth of being than we have in error, more faith in Spirit than in matter, more faith in living than in dying, more faith in God than in man, then no material suppositions can prevent us from healing the sick and destroying error.

#### 14. 395:11-14

When divine Science overcomes faith in a carnal mind, and faith in God destroys all faith in sin and in material methods of healing, then sin, disease, and death will disappear.

## THE DAILY DUTIES

by Mary Baker Eddy

# **Daily Prayer**

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from Miscellany, by Mary Baker Eddy, page 237

To Christian Scientists: — See *Science and Health*, page 442, line 30, and give daily attention thereto.

"Christian Scientists, be a law to yourselves that mental malpractice cannot harm you either when asleep or when awake."

(S&H, p. 442)

## SUNDAY DECEMBER 20, 2020

# SUBJECT—IS THE UNIVERSE, INCLUDING MAN, EVOLVED BY ATOMIC FORCE?

GOLDEN TEXT: PROVERBS 3:19

"The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens."

## RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 95:1-6

- 1. O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
- **2.** Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.
- **3.** For the LORD *is* a great God, and a great King above all gods.
- **4.** In his hand *are* the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills *is* his also.
- 5. The sea *is* his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry *land*.
- **6.** O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

#### LESSON SERMON

#### The Bible

- 1. Genesis 1:1, 26-28, 31 (to 1st.)
- In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
- And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.
- So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.
- And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.
- And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, *it was* very good.
- 2. Exodus 14: 5 (it), 6, 15 (to 1st,), 15 (speak), 19-23, 26-28, 30, 31
- 5 ...it was told the king of Egypt that the people fled: and the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was turned against the people, and they said, Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?
- And he made ready his chariot, and took his people with him:
- And the LORD said unto Moses, ... speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward:
- And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them:
- And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness *to them*, but it gave light by night *to these*: so that the one came not near the other all the night.

- And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go *back* by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry *land*, and the waters were divided.
- And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry *ground*: and the waters *were* a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.
- And the Egyptians pursued, and went in after them to the midst of the sea, *even* all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.
- And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the sea, that the waters may come again upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.
- And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to his strength when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled against it; and the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.
- And the waters returned, and covered the chariots, and the horsemen, *and* all the host of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them; there remained not so much as one of them.
- Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore.
- And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD, and his servant Moses.

#### 3. Psalm 114 : 1-8

- When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language;
- <sup>2</sup> Judah was his sanctuary, *and* Israel his dominion.
- The sea saw *it*, and fled: Jordan was driven back.
- The mountains skipped like rams, *and* the little hills like lambs.
- What *ailed* thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? thou Jordan, *that* thou wast driven back?

- Ye mountains, *that* ye skipped like rams; *and* ye little hills, like lambs?
- Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob;
- Which turned the rock *into* a standing water, the flint into a fountain of waters.
- 4. Matthew 14: 22 (to 1st ,), 23 (to :), 24-33
- And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship,
- And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray:
- But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.
- And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.
- And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.
- But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.
- And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.
- And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.
- But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.
- And immediately Jesus stretched forth *his* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?
- And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.
- Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

# 5. Revelation 21: 3, 6, 7

- And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.
- And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.
- <sup>7</sup> He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

#### Science and Health

## 1. 583 : 20 (to .), 23 (Principle)-25

CREATOR. ... Principle; God, who made all that was made and could not create an atom or an element the opposite of Himself.

## 2. 295:5-15

God creates and governs the universe, including man. The universe is filled with spiritual ideas, which He evolves, and they are obedient to the Mind that makes them. Mortal mind would transform the spiritual into the material, and then recover man's original self in order to escape from the mortality of this error. Mortals are not like immortals, created in God's own image; but infinite Spirit being all, mortal consciousness will at last yield to the scientific fact and disappear, and the real sense of being, perfect and forever intact, will appear.

#### 3. 539:19-1

It is false to say that Truth and error commingle in creation. In parable and argument, this falsity is exposed by our Master as self-evidently wrong. Disputing these points with the Pharisees and arguing for the Science of creation, Jesus said: "Do men gather grapes of thorns?" Paul asked: "What communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial?"

The divine origin of Jesus gave him more than human power to expound the facts of creation, and demonstrate the one Mind which makes and governs man and the universe. The Science of creation, so conspicuous in the birth of Jesus, inspired his wisest and least-understood sayings, and was the basis of his marvellous demonstrations.

## 4. 31:4-11

Jesus acknowledged no ties of the flesh. He said: "Call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven." Again he asked: "Who is my mother, and who are my brethren," implying that it is they who do the will of his Father. We have no record of his calling any man by the name of *father*. He recognized Spirit, God, as the only creator, and therefore as the Father of all.

#### **5.** 134 : 31-10

A miracle fulfils God's law, but does not violate that law. This fact at present seems more mysterious than the miracle itself. The Psalmist sang: "What ailed thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? Thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back? Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams, and ye little hills, like lambs? Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob." The miracle introduces no disorder, but unfolds the primal order, establishing the Science of God's unchangeable law. Spiritual evolution alone is worthy of the exercise of divine power.

#### **6.** 507: 24-6

Infinite Mind creates and governs all, from the mental molecule to infinity. This divine Principle of all expresses Science and art throughout His creation, and the immortality of man and the universe. Creation is ever appearing, and must ever continue to appear from the nature of its inexhaustible source. Mortal sense inverts this appearing and calls ideas material. Thus misinterpreted, the divine idea seems to fall to the level of a human or material belief, called mortal man. But the seed is in itself, only as the divine Mind is All and reproduces all — as Mind is the multiplier, and Mind's infinite idea, man and the universe, is the product. The only intelligence or substance of a thought, a seed, or a flower is God, the creator of it.

## 7. 547:15-30

In its history of mortality, Darwin's theory of evolution from a material basis is more consistent than most theories. Briefly, this is Darwin's theory, — that Mind produces its opposite, matter, and endues matter with power to recreate the universe, including man. Material evolution implies that the great First Cause must become material, and afterwards must either return to Mind or go down into dust and nothingness.

The Scriptures are very sacred. Our aim must be to have them understood spiritually, for only by this understanding can truth be gained. The true theory of the universe, including man, is not in

material history but in spiritual development. Inspired thought relinquishes a material, sensual, and mortal theory of the universe, and adopts the spiritual and immortal.

#### 8. 303:10-20

Whatever reflects Mind, Life, Truth, and Love, is spiritually conceived and brought forth; but the statement that man is conceived and evolved both spiritually and materially, or by both God and man, contradicts this eternal truth. All the vanity of the ages can never make both these contraries true. Divine Science lays the axe at the root of the illusion that life, or mind, is formed by or is in the material body, and Science will eventually destroy this illusion through the self-destruction of all error and the beatified understanding of the Science of Life.

#### 9. 68:27-16

Christian Science presents unfoldment, not accretion; it manifests no material growth from molecule to mind, but an impartation of the divine Mind to man and the universe. Proportionately as human generation ceases, the unbroken links of eternal, harmonious being will be spiritually discerned; and man, not of the earth earthly but coexistent with God, will appear. The scientific fact that man and the universe are evolved from Spirit, and so are spiritual, is as fixed in divine Science as is the proof that mortals gain the sense of health only as they lose the sense of sin and disease. Mortals can never understand God's creation while believing that man is a creator. God's children already created will be cognized only as man finds the truth of being. Thus it is that the real, ideal man appears in proportion as the false and material disappears. No longer to marry or to be "given in marriage" neither closes man's continuity nor his sense of increasing number in God's infinite plan. Spiritually to understand that there is but one creator, God, unfolds all creation, confirms the Scriptures, brings the sweet assurance of no parting, no pain, and of man deathless and perfect and eternal.

#### 10. 502:27-5

The creative Principle — Life, Truth, and Love — is God. The universe reflects God. There is but one creator and one creation. This creation consists of the unfolding of spiritual ideas and their identities, which are embraced in the infinite Mind and forever reflected. These ideas range from the infinitesimal to infinity, and the highest ideas are the sons and daughters of God.

## 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

## Take Notice

from Miscellany, by Mary Baker Eddy, page 237

To Christian Scientists: — See *Science and Health*, page 442, line 30, and give daily attention thereto.

"Christian Scientists, be a law to yourselves that mental malpractice cannot harm you either when asleep or when awake."

(S&H, p. 442)

#### SUNDAY DECEMBER 27, 2020

#### SUBJECT—CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

GOLDEN TEXT: LUKE 18:27

"The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

— Christ Jesus

RESPONSIVE READING: Mark 16:15-18

Daniel 4:3 Psalm 77:14

- **15.** Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
- **16.** He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved;
- 17. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
- 18. 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.
- 3. How great *are* his signs! and how mighty *are* his wonders! his kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion *is* from generation to generation.
- **14.** Thou *art* the God that doest wonders.

#### LESSON SERMON

#### The Bible

## 1. John 1: 1-3, 12 (as), 13

- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- The same was in the beginning with God.
- All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- 12 ...as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:
- Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

## 2. Luke 1 : 26-28 (to :), 30 (Fear)-35, 37

- And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,
- To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name *was* Mary.
- And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, *thou that art* highly favoured, the Lord *is* with thee:
- Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.
- And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
- He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:
- And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

- Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?
- And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.
- For with God nothing shall be impossible.

## 3. John 6 : 1 (Jesus)-3, 5, 6, 8-11, 26 (Verily)-29

- Jesus went over the sea of Galilee, which is *the sea* of Tiberias.
- And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased.
- And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples.
- When Jesus then lifted up *his* eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?
- And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do.
- One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him,
- There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?
- And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.
- And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.
- Verily, Verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.
- Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

- Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?
- Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

## 4. John 12 : 44 (He)-46

- He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me.
- And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me.
- I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

## 5. John 14: 10 (the Father that), 12, 14

- ...the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.
- Verily, Verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
- If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

# 6. I Corinthians 2:5 (your), 12-14, 16

- 5 ...your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.
- Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.
- Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.
- But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.
- For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

# 7. I Chronicles 16: 11, 12, 24

- Seek the LORD and his strength, seek his face continually.
- Remember his marvellous works that he hath done, his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;
- Declare his glory among the heathen; his marvellous works among all nations.

## 8. Luke 9:1, 2

- Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.
- And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.
- 9. Luke 10 : 2 (to 1st ,), 16 (to 1st ;), 20 (rejoice not)
- Therefore said he unto them,
- He that heareth you heareth me;
- 20 ...rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

#### Science and Health

#### 1. 293:28-31

Christian Science brings to light Truth and its supremacy, universal harmony, the entireness of God, good, and the nothingness of evil.

#### 2. 180:25-30

When man is governed by God, the ever-present Mind who understands all things, man knows that with God all things are possible. The only way to this living Truth, which heals the sick, is found in the Science of divine Mind as taught and demonstrated by Christ Jesus.

#### 3. 343:14-20

Jesus strips all disguise from error, when his teachings are fully understood. By parable and argument he explains the impossibility of good producing evil; and he also scientifically demonstrates this great fact, proving by what are wrongly called miracles, that sin, sickness, and death are beliefs — illusive errors — which he could and did destroy.

## 4. 275: 6-12, 23 (that)-24

The starting-point of divine Science is that God, Spirit, is All-in-all, and that there is no other might nor Mind, — that God is Love, and therefore He is divine Principle.

To grasp the reality and order of being in its Science, you must begin by reckoning God as the divine Principle of all that really is.

...that is, all power, all presence, all Science. Hence all is in reality the manifestation of Mind.

## 5. 150:10 (the)-21

...the mission of Christian Science now, as in the time of its earlier demonstration, is not primarily one of physical healing. Now, as then, signs and wonders are wrought in the metaphysical healing of physical disease; but these signs are only to demonstrate its divine origin, — to attest the reality of the higher mission of the Christ-power to take away the sins of the world.

The science (so-called) of physics would have one believe that both matter and mind are subject to disease, and that, too, in spite of the individual's protest and contrary to the law of divine Mind.

#### **6. 52 : 19-28**

The "man of sorrows" best understood the nothingness of material life and intelligence and the mighty actuality of all-inclusive God, good. These were the two cardinal points of Mind-healing, or Christian Science, which armed him with Love. The highest earthly representative of God, speaking of human ability to reflect divine power, prophetically said to his disciples, speaking not for their day only but for all time: "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also;" and "These signs shall follow them that believe."

#### **7.** 328: 14-30

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*.

#### 8. xi: 14-15

Now, as then, these mighty works are not supernatural, but supremely natural.

#### 9. 591:21-22

MIRACLE. That which is divinely natural, but must be learned humanly; a phenomenon of Science.

## 10. 134:31(to,)

A miracle fulfils God's law,

#### **11.** 471 : 13-17, 20-21

The facts of divine Science should be admitted, — although the evidence as to these facts is not supported by evil, by matter, or by material sense, — because the evidence that God and man coexist is fully sustained by spiritual sense. ... "Let God be true, but every [material] man a liar."

#### 12. 418:21-7

All metaphysical logic is inspired by this simple rule of Truth, which governs all reality. By the truthful arguments you employ, and especially by the spirit of Truth and Love which you entertain, you will heal the sick.

Include moral as well as physical belief in your efforts to destroy error. Cast out all manner of evil. "Preach the gospel to every creature." Speak the truth to every form of error. Tumors, ulcers, tubercles, inflammation, pain, deformed joints, are waking dream-shadows, dark images of mortal thought, which flee before the light of Truth.

A moral question may hinder the recovery of the sick. Lurking error, lust, envy, revenge, malice, or hate will perpetuate or even create the belief in disease. Errors of all sorts tend in this direction. Your true course is to destroy the foe, and leave the field to God, Life, Truth, and Love, remembering that God and His ideas alone are real and harmonious.

#### **13. 342** : **21-26**

Christian Science awakens the sinner, reclaims the infidel, and raises from the couch of pain the helpless invalid. It speaks to the dumb the words of Truth, and they answer with rejoicing. It causes the deaf to hear, the lame to walk, and the blind to see.

## 14. 37: 22-27, 29-31

It is possible, — yea, it is the duty and privilege of every child, man, and woman, — to follow in some degree the example of the Master by the demonstration of Truth and Life, of health and holiness. Christians claim to be his followers, but do they follow him in the way that he commanded? ... "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature!" "*Heal the sick!*"

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