
The Plainfield Independent Newsletter

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OUR THOUGHT FOR EACH DAY

By Mary Baker Eddy

“Every day, every hour, our work increases in effectiveness and power.”

THINK UPON THIS

Outside the material sense of things, all is harmony.

S&H (489:28-29)

A QUOTE FROM THE PAST

Matthew Henry

How bare does a place look without Bibles and ministers, and what an easy prey it is to the enemy of souls!

GEMS FROM OUR HERITAGE

By Doris White Evans

If we obey God and continue in His word, our prayers will have power.

QUOTES FROM PETER ROSS

Page 119

Now remember there is nothing for you to get fearful or nervous about. You are perfectly well-made.

JIM'S CORNER

What is the shortest chapter in the Bible?

Psalm 117

THOUGHTS FROM MISCELLANEOUS WRITINGS

Page 24:23-24

A knowledge of both good and evil (when good is God, and God is All) is impossible.

LABOR DAY

Can you imagine our holiday that prepares us for the fall season is again upon us? This is a day to honor those who “labor” to sustain their livelihood. So many families gather together to celebrate, for soon the children will be in another school term, and all settle down for the fall and winter season of the year.

May each of us “labor” to realize this is another day of thanksgiving, in which we strive to realize the infinite blessings that have blessed us.

A CORRECTION

The “little foxes of error” crept into our last Newsletter in a rather unique way. It deals with an error many, many have a tendency to accept as true. We are so accustomed to thinking that the whole world is established on the mathematical law based on “10’s” that

we often forget that one of our most common of standards fails to live up to a BASE 10 but is rather based on a standard of “12.” That standard is our clock. Instead of thinking as 10, 100, or 1,000, a clock is based on 12. To make matters more serious, a clock then divides each segment of “12’s” into two portions of 12 each day, and then divides that into 60 parts commonly called minutes and seconds (not using 100).

I am sorry I was not sufficiently alert to have avoided this issue. In reality, a tenth of a day, a tithe, is 2.4 hours or 2 4/10 hours; just a bit short of 2½ hours (2 hours 30 minutes).

This translates into the “clock time” of 2 hours 24 minutes ($0.4 \times 60 = 24.0$).

Mrs. Eddy always “went the second mile” to make sure the printed page was accurate. Can we do less?

UNITY IN CHURCH

Lynda Spencer

Recently in praying about “working together” and “getting along” with our fellow church members, I came across the following citations in Prose Works and found them very helpful.

“Nothing except sin, in the students themselves, can separate them from me. Therefore we should guard thought and action, keeping them in accord with Christ, and our friendship will surely continue. ... The tempter is vigilant, awaiting only an opportunity to divide the ranks of Christian Science and scatter the sheep abroad; but ‘if God be for us, who can be against us?’” (Ret. pages 81 and 85)

“I would that all the churches on earth could unite as brethren in one prayer: Father, teach us the life of Love.” PLEASANT VIEW, CONCORD, N. H., March 22, 1899 (My. page 301)

I also have found the suggestion to have a covenant with God is another tool to keep my thought focused on my work for God, especially when pride or hurt feelings try to take me off track. It has been a blessing to come to Plainfield and be taught how to pray and work together in the world; a priceless lesson that has been carrying over into all parts of my life for the better.

AN EARLY MESSAGE

Jim Dible

On page 295 of the September 1889 edition of the *Christian Science Journal* is found the following:

“Every time you declare you are *perfect* in God, there goes through the body a health-giving power. When you realize this truth of truths, that you are *now* — not will be — perfect in God, without a single doubt, wonderful changes will come to pass.”

Although this was penned 128 years ago, it is as current today as it was when first written. In *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, Mary Baker Eddy reminds us on page 257 of “perfect God and perfect man.” As we see ourselves as a perfect reflection of God, vast new and unique vistas are opened to us. Can we ask for anything more? I know of one who refers to this statement on a daily basis and “wonderful changes will come to pass.”

A BOOK REPORT

Could we revert to a past era, when in school we were expected to write a book report? The book in question is *Leaves of Healing*, by Peter V. Ross. This work is so exciting, for it is filled with many healing hints and healing messages. Regardless of the supposed malfunction — should it be a backache, a headache, blurred vision, or what have

you — Mr. Ross tells, in letter form to his students, a means of correcting the issue. He repeatedly reminds the reader that a key issue is to say often, “I am a perfect man, the temple of the living God, the image and likeness. There is not a thing wrong in my entire make-up. I am whole.” (Page 25) Further on, Mr. Ross states, “I am made of the stuff eternity is made of.” (Page 220)

Pull this wonderful work from your bookshelf and again read its healing message. There is a healing message for every reader.

A CHILD’S VIEW OF THE COMFORTER

A mother sent her little girl off to Sunday school and the church service. Upon return, mother asked the girl what the preacher talked about. The reply was, “Mommy, he talked about the holy quilt.” This is an actual event dating back to about 1910.

“A PEARL OF GREAT PRICE”

Mrs. Eddy wrote the Church Manual to be an established set of rules to govern her church and church members. Under the topic “Discipline” she established a number of rules especially for members including, “A Rule for Motives and Acts,” “Daily Prayer,” and “Alertness to Duty.” These are frequently referred to as the Daily Duties. Can anyone possibly think that these were anything but Divinely inspired? Mrs. Eddy referred to her writings as having been penned by a “scribe under orders.”

It is so easy for one to memorize these daily statements and repeat them from rote, and not have these become an integral part of your daily being. Can you join with me the next time you

review these “dailies” and consider each and every phrase? Think of the various phrases making up these “dailies,” as for example, “defend himself,” “not be made to forget,” “daily watch and pray,” or “being influenced erroneously.”

As one seriously studies these “daily” statements, it is impossible to consider them as nothing short of being “Divinely inspired”!



REJOICE WITH ME

Jim Dible

Just in time to really celebrate the Fourth of July, my flag pole was installed. There will be no more draping “Old Glory” above the garage door, for she shall be displayed rightfully upon a flag pole. The installation was a bit high for the Kingman winds, so Kathy reduced the pole height by one section (5 feet), while I supervised. Is it not glorious to see our flag rippling in a brisk south wind?

I celebrated the Fourth in my usual manner, by a study of our National Constitution. That document is so meaningful to those who cherish our freedoms.

OUR WEEKLY WATCHES

Three times each week, everyone in the church has the opportunity to participate in a “watch” in support of our

church, Christian Science in general, and the world. These watches are very similar to the watches Mrs. Eddy encouraged all members to utilize.

One past watch was very meaningful to me. This was the watch for Thursday, January 12, 2017, and I have used it daily ever since. It is quoted completely here:

It begins with a quote from Bicknell Young from *1936 Primary Class*, page 20:

“First, last and always, the great need is Love. Lack of love is the only trouble with the world today. Love alone will heal the distrust, jealousy, fear, ignorance of the race, and seeing this will heal lack and disease.”

“There would seem to be much anger, division, and hatred in this nation and in the world today. This cannot be, when God IS Love! Let us break the mesmerism, and know that Love fills all space. Love is active, and right now Love is neutralizing hate, competition, and fear (which is the basis of hate), and leaving only the radiant expression of pure Love — the perfect man of God’s creating. Each individual can see only the face of God in his fellow man, and each is free and fearless to be that holy expression of God’s love. This is the Word of God and cannot be reversed.”

The watch closes with a quote from *Watches, Prayers, and Arguments* given by Mary Baker Eddy page 37:

“Truth and Love are at work, and error and hate can’t stand before them. They are destroying sin, disease and death. I know this and my faith in it cannot fail, and I cannot fear.”

What a powerful watch! It is quite proper to repeat, so all may again think upon this.

JOY

Mary Beth Singleterry

There is a statement from Nehemiah: “neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

At one time in my life, I was very depressed. Along with being depressed, I also felt very lethargic and weak. It would seem that depression and weakness go hand in hand, just as joy and strength go hand in hand. I remember that time in my life as a living hell.

I am very grateful that I came here and began working with a practitioner, and saw a great and tremendous light. For the first time in my life, I had a purpose in life — to gain an understanding of real Science, how to apply it, how it can transform you from a state of darkness into one of light and joy, and also strength. Because when you have that joy in the Lord, when you find your joy in God, not in people, and realize what a loving Father we have, there is so much to do for Him, as He works through us. That creates an energy and a strength, and a power that can only come from God.

Has that ever changed my life, and I am so grateful! I am so grateful to know that the joy of the Lord is our strength. God is with us, right here, and right now.

Jim Dible, Editor
with Carol Conroy

This is an informational newsletter for members of the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, intended to be a means for communication with each other, and is supported and provided by the efforts of the membership at large. Each member shall do his part to ensure the continuing success of Independent Christian Science as a worldwide activity. Let us begin with our Newsletter.