

FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

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ISSUE 138

SUBJECT: Are Sin, Disease, and Death Real? – April 14th, 2019

“He sent his word and he healed them.”
(Ps.107:20.)

Reading this scripture brought to my remembrance the hymn:

“Saw ye my Saviour? –
Heard ye the glad sound?
Felt ye the power of the Word?”

“Saw ye” = visual reception of the Word, i.e., with discernment (spiritual sight).

“Heard ye” = auditory reception of the Word, i.e., with understanding (spiritual hearing).

“Felt ye” = kinesthetic reception of the Word, i.e., with full consciousness (spiritual sense of touch). In order for the Word to heal after it is sent, it must find entrance. “The entrance of thy words giveth light.” (Ps. 119:130.)

The Parable of the Sower speaks of several different kinds of ground that have nothing in common with the “good [receptive] ground” and which fail to give entrance to the seed “sent” to it. (Matt. 13, Luke 8.)

The Word – or logos – distinguishes between Soul and sense, that is, between reality and unreality, and separates them. (Heb. 4:12.)

“Be not conformed to this world [unreality], but be ye transformed [in Greek, *be ye metamorphosed*] by the renewing of your mind.”
(Rom. 12:2 – this metamorphosis command is directly related to Science and Health, page 115, on the translation of mortal mind.)

KJV – “But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good [reality] and evil [unreality].”

NIV – “But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.” (Heb. 5:14.)

Exercise implies exertion.

God grant that I be “conformed to a fitness to receive” – to hold – the Word requisite for translating carnal mindedness (seeing, hearing, feeling unreality) into spiritual mindedness: experiencing with all my spiritual faculties the world of reality — not in a flighty way, but as something to which I am long accustomed, the habitude of holiness. (Misc. 127, My. 18.)

All Illusions!

Illusion and delusion are together mentioned 11 times in the Lesson!! It’s saying wake up, no more fooling whether it is by sight, hearing or feeling; still all illusions! And Webster’s 1828 says **Illusion**: Deceptive appearance; false show, by which a person is or may be deceived, or his expectations disappointed; **mockery**. (Emphasis added)

Delusion:

1. The act of deluding; deception; a misleading of the mind. We are all liable to the delusions of artifice.
2. False representation; illusion; error or mistake proceeding from false views.

From Science and Health, p. 385 we read:

“Any supposed information, coming from the body

or from inert matter as if either were intelligent, is an illusion of mortal mind, — one of its dreams. Realize that the evidence of the senses is not to be accepted in the case of sickness, any more than it is in the case of sin.

Expose the body to certain temperatures, and belief says that you may catch cold and have catarrh; but no such result occurs without mind to demand it and produce it.”

Ooh freedom as only God can give....if I become obedient to His laws!! When I did not know better I never continually prayed; which is, I did not stay alert to correct my thinking when I saw someone in a wheelchair, someone limping, an ambulance with flashing lights, fire truck speeding by. When I learned better, I started to live as such and realized that, that way of living is selfless, it blesses others but it blesses me too, by reinforcing my alertness to mortal mind lies, so that I can sight a counterfeit for myself more quickly when tempted with an illusion!! The instruction to live this way makes us a law unto ourselves and in order to avoid error’s mockery. I do not like to be mocked, do you?

By Prayer and Fasting

“And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out? And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.” Mark 9 : 28-29

Reading from March 31st Roundtable:
“Jesus said to his disciples, ‘This kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting,’ but he did not appoint a fast. ... The animus of his saying was: Silence appetites, passion, and all that wars against Spirit and spiritual power.” My. p. 339

Definitions from Websters 1828:

Silence: stillness, or entire absence of sound or noise; calmness; quiet; cessation of agitation or tumult; to quiet; stop; silence complaints or clamor.

Appetite: passions directed to general objects; strong desire; eagerness or longing from external agents; excitement, perturbation or agitation of mind; zeal.

Passion: effect of and susceptibility of impressions

Today I came across the following:

“13 Therefore prepare your minds for action. Be sober-minded. Set your hope fully on the grace to be given you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

14 As obedient children do not conform to the passions of your former ignorance.

15 But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do,

16 for it is written: ‘Be holy, because I am holy.’ ”
I Peter 1: 13-16 Berean Bible Translation

Sober: habitually temperate. (Live a sober righteous and godly life.) Not intoxicated or overpowered; not drunken; not wild, heated with passion; calm; not under the influence of passion. We were instructed at the last Roundtable April 7th, Study To Be Quiet, to “be still” and “listen to God.” To “incorporate this discipline and important exercise of being quiet into our lives.” All this speaks to me of the importance of sober thinking so that I am not carried away with passions which are full of self and reaction which is focused on the outward. It is no wonder the devil would have us busy, noisy, racing in mind and body, and distracted to keep us from hearing God’s messages. “There is no death, no inaction, diseased action, overaction, nor reaction.” *Science and Health*, pp. 427-428

Thank you! Sober is one of the five qualities for warding off animal magnetism; the others are: diligence, patience, loving, and meek. I love how we are taught here at Plainfield and how many ideas are interwoven and take us to new levels of understanding. It all makes sense.

SUBJECT: Doctrine of Atonement – April 21st, 2019

Science and Health, p. 361 : 16-20

“As a drop of water is one with the ocean, a ray of

light one with the sun, even so God and man, Father and son, are one in being. The Scripture reads: 'For in Him we live, and move, and have our being.'"

In giving more thought this week to, "For in Him we live, and move, and have our being" I realized that being is our whole existence as God's image that lives and moves with Him. That's it.

So, the resurrection is the awakening to this fact as was read and mentioned today at Bible Study. Rejoice, He is risen, HE HAS RISEN INDEED!

"Perception of Infinite Possibilities."

"Through all the disciples experienced, they became more spiritual and understood better what the Master had taught. His resurrection was also their resurrection. It helped them to raise themselves and others from spiritual dulness and blind belief in God into the perception of infinite possibilities." *Science and Health*, p. 34: 18-23

"RESURRECTION. Spiritualization of thought; a new and higher idea of immortality, or spiritual existence; material belief yielding to spiritual understanding." *Science and Health*, p. 593

"...spiritualization of thought is not attained by the death of the body, but by a conscious union with God." Misc. p. 42

"Spiritualize: To purify from the feculences (Muddiness; foulness) of the world;" (Websters 1828)

From last week's Lesson and included in the instruction from our Roundtable:

"In patient obedience to a patient God, let us labor to dissolve with the universal solvent of Love the adamant of error, — self-will, self-justification, and self-love, — which wars against spirituality and is the law of sin and death."

Science and Health, p. 242

In the Lesson this week, we read in Matthew that Pilate, "knew that for envy they had delivered him." (Matt. 27:18)

This struck me that indulging in self-will, self-justification, and self-love, I am attacking the Christ consciousness and "conscious (aware of and responding to; awake) union with God."

I can instead participate in the resurrection by "Spiritualization of thought" and "christianization of daily life" as Mrs. Eddy instructs with the many practical tools given here.

The Power of Spirit To Overrule Mortal Material

Thanks to the Lesson writer. Mrs. Eddy said a great deal about Easter, to encourage and teach us to get the correct sense of Life, to embrace our spiritual heritage which is our only real selfhood!

Science and Health, p. 44 : 28-5, "His disciples believed Jesus to be dead while he was hidden in the sepulchre, whereas he was alive, demonstrating within the narrow tomb the power of Spirit to overrule mortal, material sense."

My. 191:15-21, "This glad Easter morning witnesseth a risen Saviour, a higher human sense of Life and Love, which wipes away all tears. With grave-clothes laid aside, Christ, Truth, has come forth from the tomb of the past, clad in **immortality**. The sepulchres give up their dead. Spirit is saying unto matter: **I am not there, am not within you. Behold the place where they laid me; but human thought has risen!**" (Emphasis added)

Such words understood, cherished and lived, wipes away many tears. *****

Thank you for sharing this wonderful quote from Miscellany! I love the Christ, Truth, "clad in immortality." We, too, can clothe ourselves mentally everyday in immortality, can we not?

The Lost Chord

“What a contrast between our Lord’s last supper and his last spiritual breakfast with his disciples in the bright morning hours at the joyful meeting on the shore of the Galilean Sea!”

(*Science and Health* 34:29.)

“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who *for the joy that was set before him* endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

(Heb. 12:2, emphasis added.)

“The lost chord of Truth (healing, as of old) I caught consciously from the Divine Harmony, vibrating its own sweet music. It was to me a revelation of Truth, – God; and Science, explaining the Principle of this Divine Harmony, enabled me to understand it, and to systematize and demonstrate Truth.”

(“Mind-Healing History” by Mary Baker Eddy, CSJ, June 1887.)

Throughout his ordeal at the cross, the “joy that was set before him” was the only reality upon which his heart and mind were fixed.

From Gethsemane to Golgotha, Jesus subjected himself to the worst possible discord – physical, mental, emotional – that error could possibly throw at him and that sense could possibly bear. This was the price he paid in order to demonstrate for us the unreality of personal sense experiencing the unreality of discord. Regardless of the great flood of error relentlessly poured out upon him, regardless of all the jarring harshness and dissonance clamoring for his attention, Jesus kept himself in tune with Harmony, attuned steadfastly and devotedly to “the chord of Truth” that the world had lost, having attuned itself to everything out of tune with that chord.

Atonement means remaining at one — in constant harmony — with the celestial song of supremacy of Spirit over matter, no matter what. *****

Thanks for your post! *From Gethsemane to Golgotha, Jesus subjected himself to the worst possible discord – physical, mental, emotional – that sense could possibly bear. This was the price he paid in order to demonstrate for us the unreality of personal sense experiencing the unreality of discord. Regardless of the great flood of error relentlessly poured out upon him, regardless of all the jarring harshness and dissonance clamoring for his attention, Jesus kept himself in tune with Harmony, attuned steadfastly and devotedly to the chord of Truth that the world had lost, having attuned itself to everything out of tune with that chord.*

So grateful that after many years of persistence and obedience to Christian Science practice as taught here, even the smallest degree of emulating Christ’s example (staying at one with God) gives the dominion to overcome evil’s temptation with immense grief of a dear one’s passing.

There is no better staff to lean on than the assurance of God’s great Love; the awareness of His Omnipotence, Omnipresence, Omniscience and Omniaction!! It is wise to strive to stay in tune with Principle. *****

At-One-Ment

Science and Health, p.19: 17- 28: “Every pang of repentance and suffering, every effort for reform, every good thought and deed, will help us to understand Jesus’ atonement for sin and aid its efficacy; but if the sinner continues to pray and repent, sin and be sorry, he has little part in the atonement, — in the *at-one-ment* with God, — for he lacks the practical repentance, which reforms the heart and enables man to do the will of wisdom. Those who cannot demonstrate, at least in part, the divine Principle of the teachings and practice of our Master have no part in God. If living in disobedience to Him, we ought to feel no security, although God is good.”