

# FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

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ISSUE 141

**SUBJECT: Ancient and Modern  
Necromancy, alias Mesmerism and  
Hypnotism, Denounced**  
– June 2nd, 2019

## Watching Point # 38

38 — WATCH lest, in reducing error to zero, you neglect to rub out the zero. Once a lecturer told of a little Science girl who had a cold. She drew a zero on the front stoop with a piece of chalk to indicate that she had made nothing of the cold. After a few moments she ran back and rubbed out the zero.

In destroying error, you first translate it into a false belief. This does not destroy it, but uncovers it for self-destruction through your recognition of its nothingness. You must finally rub out the zero by knowing that, since God is All, no claim of an opposite to Him ever existed even as a false belief, to tempt His children; and even if it did, they could not be tempted by it, since they have no capacity to believe a lie, or even to be tempted to believe one.

I greatly appreciate the very clear two-step approach laid out in the current watching point #38.

1. Reduce the error to nothing – know that it can have no power over you; God good is ALL.
  2. Know that there was no error to begin with because if God did not create it then it was never created.
- So incredibly useful!

## Entirety – On Earth As It Is In Heaven

II Chronicles 33:8 – “According to the *whole* law” (Emphasis added).

This scripture reminded me of the tree of Life, as described in the visions of Ezekiel and John the Revelator: not one mention is made in their records of the existence in heaven of a “tree of knowledge of good and evil.”

So the question remains, if God created the tree of knowledge of good and evil — i.e., the tree of knowledge of Truth and deceit, the tree of knowledge of Reality and hallucination, the tree of knowledge of law and lawlessness, etc. — then why isn’t this tree found in heaven?

“Knowledge gained from material sense is figuratively represented in Scripture as a tree, bearing the fruits of sin, sickness, and death. Ought we not then to judge the knowledge thus obtained to be untrue and dangerous, since ‘the tree is known by his fruit’?” (*Science and Health*, p. 299:18)

“Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven” means laying the ax at the root of anything on earth that is not found in heaven. This was Mrs. Eddy’s mission! God grant me the grace to “carry the baggage of stern resolve, and keep pace with highest purpose” (*Science and Health*, p. 514), to wield the battle-ax of Science against everything contrary to knowledge of the Allness of Good. \*\*\*\*\*

## Fruit of the Spirit

“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.” (Gal.5:22-23)

Love – Do I love enough – and divinely? Can I love more?

Joy – Am I expressing joy? Do I rejoice not only in my good, but in others’ good?

Peace – Am I calm and undisturbed when faced with a problem? Or am I fearful, anxious, and agitated?

Longsuffering – Do I “bleed sweet” when faced with a difficulty? Or do I whine and complain?

Gentleness – Do I have a soft manner when dealing with others? Or do I have a bad temper and rotten disposition when I don’t get my way?

Goodness – Am I kind? Am I morally upright? Do I always do right?

Faith – Do I really trust that God is All?

Meekness – Do I believe that there is only one Mind? Or do I think that I can know or do something apart from God?

Temperance – Do I indulge in any appetites – natural or otherwise? Do I indulge in passionate or emotional outbursts? Am I patient?

As I express these fruits of Spirit, no so-called law of matter can stand against me. \*\*\*\*\*

This Sunday’s Roundtable (6/2/19) provided an excellent clarification on “fruit of the Spirit,” — which was a very needful one — and that is, the fruit comes from the Spirit, and unless you have the Spirit of God within, you can’t bear the “fruit” humanly. I missed that point completely, — the need of bringing it all back to Spirit, God, the only source of that “fruit.” Very grateful for this, and for these Roundtables. \*\*\*\*\*

## **No Longer "Joining in a Conspiracy Against [My]self"**

**cit. 5. John 17**

**15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.**

Reading Christ Jesus’ words today, it occurred to me that this is yet another way that he was letting us know we are in our right place here and now, and need not wait for another time and place to think and act rightly. Wishing for some perfect afterlife (or to fade into blackness, as I once hoped) or some sort of reset button (like winning the lottery or meeting the “right” person) “is joining

in a conspiracy against [our]self” as it “would make that real which is unreal.” (cit. 9. p. 339)

I have been so blessed by Christian Science and this church, but I feel the biggest blessing may well be that I have joy and gratitude and purpose being me. I spent decades truly hating being me, and now I am happy with it. I wasn’t removed from the world or my life, so what else could have made the difference? It has to be that Christian Science and all I have been learning in Plainfield has shown me that “Since God is All, there is no room for His unlikeness. God, Spirit, alone created all, and called it good.” (S&H 339:7) and I am a part of that all.

What a change from all I previously thought! I am so grateful for this church, and to no longer be “joining in a conspiracy against [my]self”! \*\*\*\*

## **The Eyes of the Lord Are Upon the Righteous**

Psalm 34: 15

The eyes of the LORD *are* upon the righteous, and his ears *are open* unto their cry.

Righteous from 1828 Dictionary:

1. Applied to persons, it denotes one who is holy in heart, and observant of the divine commands in practice; as a righteous man.

...The righteous in Scripture denote the servants of God, the saints.

From Treasury of David:

“The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous.” He observes them with approval and tender consideration; they are so dear to him that he cannot take his eyes off them; he watches each one of them as carefully and intently as if there were only that one creature in the universe. “His ears are open unto their cry.” His eyes and ears are thus both turned by the Lord towards his saints; his whole mind is occupied about them: if slighted by all others they are not neglected by him. Their cry he hears at once, even as a mother is sure to hear her sick babe; the cry may be broken, plaintive, unhappy, feeble, unbelieving, yet the Father’s quick ear catches each

note of lament or appeal, and he is not slow to answer his children's voice.

I found it helpful to put myself in this psalm: The eyes of the Lord are upon me ... God observes me with approval and tender consideration. I am so dear to Him that He cannot take his eyes off of me. He watches me as carefully and intently as if I were the only one creature in the universe...He hears my cry at once .. and is not slow to answer my voice.

## **SUBJECT: God the Only Cause and Creator – June 9th, 2019**

### **Thus Saith the Lord That Created Thee**

“Thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed *thee*, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou *art* mine.” (Isa.43:1)

I love this Bible passage! Many years ago our teacher (Mrs. Evans) told me to replace “Jacob” and “Israel” with MY name. This has been a blessed help and comfort to me all these years — to know that God created me, formed me, redeemed me, and called me by my name. \*\*\*

Thank you for this post. I, too, have loved this Bible quote from Isaiah for many, many years. What a reminder that since God created us He knows us individually and is forever calling us to Him ... by name no less! What a blessing, “help and comfort”!

### **First Commandment**

“15 Take ye therefore good heed unto yourselves; 16 Lest ye corrupt yourselves, and make you a graven image,...” (Deuteronomy 4)  
“When we endow matter with vague spiritual power, — that is, when we do so in our theories, for of course we cannot really endow matter with what it does not and cannot possess, — we disown

the Almighty,...” by Mary Baker Eddy, *Science and Health*, page 119.

From Websters 1828 –

Disown: To deny; not to own; to refuse to acknowledge as belonging to one's self.

Deny: To contradict; to declare not to be true

This combination of citations this week made me appreciate more the practical teachings at Plainfield Independent Church on following the First Commandment. Seeing another power other than God is not just indulging in harmless fear but disowning God, denying Him. Last Saturday in our Bible study on the book of Jude, one warning which “crept in unawares” was denying God and Christ Jesus. (Jude 1: 4)

“39 Know therefore this day, and consider *it* in thine heart, that the Lord he *is* God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: *there is* none else.” (Deuteronomy 4.)

### **Gaining "More Correct Views of God and Man"**

**cit. 16. 264 : 13-20**

**As mortals gain more correct views of God and man, multitudinous objects of creation, which before were invisible, will become visible.**

In the years before I came to this church, my life seemed to get progressively smaller. I felt the world had less and less to offer, and inwardly I felt so empty. Things that were initially visible and tangible to me, such as hope and joy, eventually faded away.

Since arriving at this church, and taking part in these studies, I have had this increasing sense of the absolute enormity of God's creation. There is so much to learn, and witness, and do, and feel, and be grateful for. In a way, it feels like I was looking out into the darkness of space thinking, “There's almost nothing out there” and then turning around and seeing our huge Sun! How did I miss it?

To be a part of something 'more' is wonderful – but to know that He has a place and purpose for all of us individually in the infinite whole is astounding!

Nothing is left to chance; everything is through His intention. For these previously invisible things to become visible and slowly clearer is incredible, to the point where even the phrase, "God is good" has more meaning each day. I am so grateful for this Science and the many changes it has brought. I am also grateful that hope and joy are fully visible and tangible again.

Thank you!

### Protection All Around

Deuteronomy 4:39 – "Know therefore this day, and consider *it* in thine heart, that the Lord he *is* God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: *there is* none else." This scripture proclaims the inescapable omnipresence of Presence, and reminds me of a verse from a hymn dating from 5th-century Ireland:

**Christ be with me, Christ within me,  
Christ behind me, Christ before me,  
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,  
Christ to comfort and restore me.  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me,  
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger. \*\*\*\*\***

This **everywhereness of the Christ**, still somewhere buried in the hearts of even those who do not love me, is so powerful when it finally feels real. It is the Divine manifestation of God...what shall I fear?

Thanks for this post. I love the way this thought is expressed here: "Everywhere the Christ, the indisputable evidence of God's presence and power, is to be found. In a den of lions, in a fiery furnace, in any seeming valley of pain or fear,

there God's allness may be demonstrated, for there His Christ is, there His irresistible law of good is operating to deliver us from evil."

Jeanne Roe Price

"God is unfailing, unchanging, irresistible Love. The vainglorious claim of evil to reality fades into nothingness before the radiance of divine Love. Doubt not! The great Physician, divine Love, is beside every bed of pain, ready to wipe away all tears, dispel all fear. Nothing is too tenacious, too "old," or too hard for Love to dissolve; nothing is impossible to God."

Jeanne Roe Price.

### "Overcometh the World"

1 John 4 & 5:

"Ye are of God, little children, We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not."

This is comforting, and reminds me of the 91st Psalm, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty....I will say of the Lord, *He is* my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust...."

The world can seem like an overwhelmingly cruel place, seething with problems, if we watch the news and are overcome by all the things that seem to be going wrong!

The antidote is always to go to God and focus on Him and His creation – to bring me back to what is real and true! There is no other place to find true comfort, and in this way, putting on my spiritual armor and identifying myself as a child of God, and seeing everyone else as a child of God, I can "overcome the world"– the world's aggressive suggestions of any power or powers opposed to God. There is only God!

Thank you to the Lesson writer.