

# FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

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ISSUE 153

**SUBJECT: Soul and Body –  
November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

## **Man is Always Beyond and Above the Mortal Illusion**

The quote in *Science and Health* (302:14) this week "...let us remember that harmonious and immortal man has existed forever, and is always beyond and above the mortal illusion of any life, substance, and intelligence as existent in matter..." reminds me of a paragraph in Mrs. Eddy's Address entitled "Science and The Senses" where I like to substitute myself where Mrs. Eddy uses Jesus. Starting on page 103:30 – 104:8 in Misc. "(My) individuality is embraced in Mind, therefore is forever with the Father. Hence the Scripture, 'I am a God at hand, saith the Lord.' Even while (my) personality (is) on earth...(my) individual being, the Christ, (is) at rest in the eternal harmony. (My) unseen individuality, so superior to that which (is) seen, is not subject to the temptations of the flesh, to laws material, to death, or the grave. Formed and governed by God, (my) individuality (is) safe in the substance of Soul, the substance of Spirit, — yea, the substance of God, the one inclusive good."

## **For My Thoughts Are Not Your Thoughts**

"Be firm in your understanding that the divine Mind governs, and that in Science man reflects God's government." *Science and Health*, 393:16. Sunday's teachings on [Claiming Your Immortality](#) led so wonderfully into the beautiful Lesson this week. In thinking about the instructions about "standing porter at the door of thought," I realized that I had allowed memories of the past to creep in.

I could see more clearly how destructive this thinking was if unchallenged with the Truth found in Christian Science. To maintain their health, I am sure Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah did not use their time ruminating about things and then "at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children."

Below is a quote I came across last week.

"Told about some friends calling on Mrs. Eddy one day, and a servant told them she was in the back yard. They went around the house, and seeing Mrs. Eddy seemed to be busy, they started away; but she called to them to come to her, and then asked them if they knew what she was doing. They replied they didn't, and then she said, 'I am going back in my memory just as far as I can remember and denying all the error that ever seemed to happen to me.' It is poor use of memory to review error." (Bicknell Young, 1937 College, page 12)  
"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." Isaiah 55:8 \*\*\*\*\*

## **"Eternal unfolding of Life..."**

"Only by losing the false sense of Soul can we gain the eternal unfolding of Life as immortality brought to light." (*Science and Health*, 335:22, cit. #2)

In the article "Age" (on our website), Mrs. Eddy states: "Each day will begin and unfold under the authority of divine Mind, and will be well-ordered, rightly balanced, filled with spiritual good."

"Unfolding" (Webster, 1828) – opening; expanding; disclosing; displaying; declaring; revealing.

Therefore, Life is not a point in time, nor a stage of existence, but a forever expanding, declaring, etc., of Life, of God, of good, of “joys of Soul.” As I get rid of a false sense of myself as a limited mortal, all these joys of Soul will begin to appear more clearly to me, every day, every moment. What a tremendous and exciting thought! I pray to God to hold on to this magnificent Truth...and pray to have this Truth hold on to me and all!

## Christ, Church, and Body

“Christ is the head of the church: and he is the savior of the body.” (Golden Text, Eph. 5:23)

From Bicknell Young, 1920 Association Address: “It is most important that...the church, or body of Christ, be kept pure in your consciousness, for thereby church members may find that the human sense of their own bodies is reciprocally blessed. In this way alone can the church eventually be made to show forth the characteristics of the divine body. The healing work and the church work are bound up together; they are held in one body....This body is the real church, the united demonstration of Science. Such demonstration all must take part in. It also protects the church building, just in the same way that human bodies are protected by correct metaphysical practice. This protection should extend itself so as to cover our church properties...and our legal rights pertaining to them, so that they may be used perpetually and exclusively for the purpose of Christian Science. There is no way of founding or protecting or perpetuating a Christian Science church except through healing the sick.”

## “If One is Indestructible, So is the Other”

“The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their

bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.” (Psalm 2:2, 3)

This scripture was fulfilled as God permitted the army of Nebuchadnezzar to overrun Israel, helpless as a rudderless ship in a hurricane, and to sweep its inhabitants through the imprisoning walls of a strange city in a godless land.

Nebuchadnezzar’s principal objective was to indoctrinate the young, preferably the most promising, influential among the citizens of Israel, to make them forget their identity, nationality, culture — most of all their God — to assimilate them into Babylon’s globalist utopia.

Nebuchadnezzar’s whole purpose was to break the connection between God and His people (“Let us break their bands asunder”), to replace that connection with another based upon an intelligence separate from God.

(History is replete with such scenarios, and is repeating itself right here and now in the hearts of America’s young and most malleable citizens, many of whom are menpleasers who do not know how to say “No!” to Nebuchadnezzar.

MENPLEASER (according to Webster’s 1828 edition): “One who is solicitous to please men, rather than to please God, by obedience to His commands.

But what was the outcome of the king’s attempt to indoctrinate Daniel and his friends? As Mrs. Eddy says in her first edition of *Science and Health*, “Soul and body are inseparable and eternal; if one is indestructible, so is the other. Understanding this, exempts man from” every form of human bondage and captivity. (Page 399:5)

“But the LORD shall endure for ever:...”  
“Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea.” (Psalms 9:7, 46:2) Like the eternal reliability and unchangeability of both the principle of mathematics and the mathematical constants that reflect its inalterability, it is the nature of God to remain unchangeably related to His image and likeness: His witness. Therefore, it follows that God’s image and likeness “endure

forever” as well, naturally reflecting that unchangeability in its relation to Him as witness. This witness is what Daniel and his three friends so faithfully bore. “For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people:...Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand....To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron.” (Psalm 149:4, 6, 8.)

Thus, will the intentions of antichrist be foiled, but only as the cords connecting the hearts of God’s people to Himself remain unbroken. For King Nebuchadnezzar ended up connecting his own heart to the one and only God, commanding all citizens to his empire to be bound in such chains as well. \*\*\*\*\*

**SUBJECT: Ancient and Modern  
Necromancy, alias Mesmerism and  
Hypnotism, Denounced –  
December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**

**Man’s Rights Cannot Be Invaded**

I love how the lesson writer showed the thread that went through the Old Testament, the New Testament, and then into *Science and Health*, regarding the entire issue of necromancy, mesmerism, and hypnotism, and that it all must be denounced. A definition of “denounce” I found online is: “To pronounce, especially publicly, to be blameworthy or evil.” Only by the Christian Science teaching in Plainfield have I begun to understand both what needs denouncing, and how to denounce.

The Old Testament tells us over and over that trusting in God brings us to peace. The New Testament informs us “the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds.” (II Corinthians 10:4) Mary Baker Eddy is clear that when “Man’s rights are invaded...the divine order is interfered with, and the mental trespasser incurs the divine penalty due this crime.” (*Science and Health*, p.106:12)

Learning to be vigilant in “bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ” (II Corinthians 10:5) has required a lot of practitioner support to get me even to this point, but I am clear on this: Every thought means with exception! Anything that would invade my rights by attempting to drive a wedge between me and the clear thinking of divine Mind needs to be consciously exposed as evil so that the error will then go forth and destroy itself, and the divine order be reinstated in my thought.

I am so grateful that Christian Science brings harmony and protection as we work to understand and live what we learn here in Plainfield.

**“In League With the Stones...”**

“For thou shalt be in league with the stones of the field:” (Job 5:23, cit. #2)

The root of the word “stone” is from “to stand.” So, to be in league (which is a flat stone inlaid in roads) with the stones, is to be joined with them, rooted and grounded, one with a foundation — immovable, solid, and secure. I cannot “dash my foot against a stone” as long as I am “in league” with this foundation (Christ Truth), I cannot be tripped up by error.

Later, the Lesson states: “therefore have I set my face like a flint,” — another flat stone, hard, immovable, irresolute, and used to strike fire (burning fervor, love for God).

In Luke (20:37-40) we read how when the Pharisees tried to silence the multitude’s praising of Jesus and his works, Jesus replied, “I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.” Lord, let me be like *these* stones. \*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for your post, Joanne. In Easton’s Bible Dictionary I found the following about the word flint very helpful: “In Isaiah 50:7 and Ezekiel 3:9 the expressions, where the word is used, means that the ‘Messiah would be firm and resolute amidst all contempt and scorn which he would meet; that he had made up his mind to endure it,

and would not shrink from any kind or degree of suffering which would be necessary to accomplish the great work in which he was engaged.”

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The description above referring to the Messiah, though the challenges took different forms, could be used to describe what was required of Mrs. Eddy's life work as well.

## New Research on the Nature of Mesmerism

“It is related that Sir Humphry Davy once apparently cured a case of paralysis simply by introducing a thermometer into the patient's mouth. This he did merely to ascertain the temperature of the patient's body; but the sick man supposed this ceremony was intended to heal him, and he recovered accordingly. Such a fact illustrates our theories.” (*Science and Health*, p.152:14.)

## Jeremiah 23

### Responsive Reading: Jeremiah 23

3. “And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.
4. “And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the Lord.
5. “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.”

Reading these verses this week, I couldn't help but feel this was about Plainfield, or at the very least, exemplified by Plainfield in my experience. Everyone who answers the call and comes to this church is the remnant brought again to their fold. (And, of course, *all* are called!) The shepherds are our practitioners, the “righteous Branch” is our church, and our King is the Christ!

Thank you lesson writers for this and all of our lessons, and thank you Father for this church! I am so grateful to be a member!

## Truth Brings the Elements of Liberty

“Truth brings the elements of liberty. On its banner is the Soul-inspired motto, ‘Slavery is abolished.’ The power of God brings deliverance to the captive. No power can withstand divine Love.” *Science and Health*, page 224:28.

This week's Lesson inspired me to look closer at what Mrs. Eddy wrote about freedom, liberty, and slavery. We have such a responsibility to continue this struggle against all tyranny for all mankind for now and the future. The events that have gone before us are not in vain but for the purpose that we may have *Science and Health* which, “...brings deliverance to the captive.” Whether you are captive to materialism, poverty, prison, fear, person, hate, sin, disease, or any conceivable error, this book of Truth is the only salvation.

I have a greater appreciation of Mrs. Eddy's continual battle and instructions alerting students to watch out for anything that would attempt to take away our right or ability to read this book. It is because of the many unauthorized writings, that we have a window into the history of her work for the Cause of Christian Science.

Excerpts from Webster's 1828 Dictionary:  
“Liberty: Freedom from restraint, the power of acting as one thinks fit, without any restraint or control, exemption from the arbitrary will of others. The free right of worshiping the Supreme Being according to the dictates of conscience, without external control. The freedom of a nation or state from all unjust abridgment of its rights and independence by another nation. A restraint of natural liberty not necessary or expedient for the public, is tyranny or oppression.”

Friedrich Hayek writes that the recognition of private property is “an essential condition for the prevention of coercion.”