

# FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

WWW.PLAINFIELDCS.COM

ISSUE 154

**SUBJECT: God the Only Cause and  
Creator – December 8th, 2019**

## **“Nothing Can Be Added to It Nor Taken From It”**

This week, the powerful statement, “God the only Cause and Creator” brings to my attention the self-seeker as opposed to the God-seeker. Man, as effect of the only Cause, was created to seek God as naturally as a compass needle seeks the earth’s magnetic north. To posit other causes and creators is as absurd as insisting that there are many magnetic poles to choose from, while ignoring, belittling, or doubting the existence of the real one. Self-seekers gravitate to the things of self, an imagined, unreal magnetic pole originating from mortal self, not God; civilizations rise and fall depending upon how well they maintain this basic relationship of Cause and effect; once it is compromised, then the values of that civilization are overturned.

Isaiah 29:16 — *“Surely your turning of things upside down shall be esteemed as the potter’s clay: for shall the work say of him that made it, He made me not? or shall the thing framed say of him that framed it, He had no understanding?”*

Elliot’s Commentary: *“Surely your turning of things upside down”* — The words are better taken as exclamatory, *O your perversity!* Isaiah was indignant at that habit of always taking things at their wrong end, and looking on them from the wrong side.

*“Shall be esteemed as the potter’s clay....”* — Better, *Shall the potter be counted as the clay?* Taken as a question, the words bring out the character of the perversity, the upside-downness, of which the prophet speaks. The men whom he condemns were inverting the relations of the Creator and the creature, the potter and the clay,

acting practically as atheists, denying that there was a Divine order of which they formed a part.”

*“I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it.”* (Ecclesiastes, 3:14). \*\*\*\*\*

## **“Lift Up Your Eyes on High...”**

“Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things,...” (Isa.40:26) cit. #3

This is a command to lift my thought always to God, to attentively take notice and know that God is the *only* source and creator of all, — “the all-knowing, all-seeing, all-acting, all-wise, all-loving, and eternal.” Months ago, practitioner told me to work daily with the definition of “God” in the Glossary (*Science and Health*). Doing this gives me great joy, great peace, and great safety. I thank You, God, for your ever-presence.

In *Watches, Prayers, Arguments* (p.156) Mrs. Eddy says — Take time each day to say: “What is the most powerful thing in the world? It is God saying ‘I Am’ in His own creation.”

## **“...A Certain Blind Man Sat by the Way Side...”**

This story of Jesus’ healing in Luke 18 of the blind man was quite instructive to me. First, the blind man was alert and active, “... hearing the multitude pass by, he asked what it meant.” Then he cried to Jesus for help, “... thou Son of David, have mercy on me.”

He persisted and did not let pride keep him from asking for help, even when they, “...rebuked him, that he should hold his peace.” Not only that but he tried harder, “Thou Son of David, have mercy on me.” And Christ came and told him, “...thy faith hath saved thee.” After the healing the man followed Jesus and expressed gratitude by, “... glorifying God.”

It reminded me of an article on our website “What Makes a Good Patient?” “A good patient is one who seeks to understand God. A good patient is one who knows that in working with a practitioner, he or she is not coming to a person for healing, but coming to a Christly office. A good patient is one who is willing to drop a personal sense of selfhood apart from God and put themselves, without reservation, in God’s hands. It’s one who is willing to release the past. One who has the humility to say, “I’ve tried to work this out myself and I haven’t quite made it.” I’m grateful that God has provided a Christly office that can help me. I’m willing to accept the Bible verse which says, ‘he that cometh to God, must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.’ I believe that God is and I know that it’s God who does the work. I can be receptive, and have a complete and thorough healing.” Excerpt by Doris White Evans [Click here to read the complete article “What Makes a Good Patient?”](#). \*\*\*\*\*

## **O Come, let us worship and bow down...**

**Responsive Reading: Psalm 95:6. “O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.”**

Reading this today, it gave this feeling that we are told to bow not just out of reverence, but also to take our eyes away from the materiality and personality that might be humanly presenting itself around us. It gives us a moment to regroup and reclaim our full gratitude for God and His blessings.

When I coupled that with kneeling down, I remembered [this article](#) I read years ago about this professor who started taking pictures of grains of sand and found they were all beautiful and unique. God’s creation is just so wonderful and filled with all the beauty and opportunity anyone could hope for! I am very thankful to Plainfield and my practitioner for helping me to have a more complete recognition of, and thanksgiving for, Truth, Life, and Love as each day goes by. Thank you! \*\*\*\*\*

## **And Hath Made of One Blood All Nations of Men...**

Acts 17:26. “And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation.” This is what the **ONLY CREATOR** made.

### **Barnes’ Notes on the Bible**

And hath made of one blood — All the families of mankind are descended from one origin or stock. However different their complexion, features, or language, yet they are derived from a common parent. The word “blood” is often used to denote “race, stock, kindred.” This passage affirms that all the human family are descended from the same ancestor; and that, consequently, all the variety of complexion, etc., is to be traced to some other cause than that they were originally different races created. See Genesis 1; compare Malachi 2:10. The design of the apostle in this affirmation was probably to convince the Greeks that he regarded them all as brethren; that, although he was a Jew, yet he was not enslaved to any narrow notions or prejudices in reference to other people. It follows from the truth here stated that no one nation, and no individual, can claim any pre-eminence over others by virtue of birth or blood. All are in this respect equal; and the whole human family, however they may differ in complexion, customs, and laws, are to be regarded and treated as brethren. It follows, also, that no one part of the race has a right to enslave or oppress any other part, on account of difference of complexion. No one has a right because:

He finds his fellow guilty of a skin  
Not colored like his own; and having power  
T’enforce the wrong, for such a worthy cause to  
Doom and devote him as his lawful prey.

For to dwell... — To cultivate and until the earth. This was the original command Genesis 1:28; and God, by his providence, has so ordered it that the descendants of one family have found their way to all lands, and have become adapted to the climate where he has placed them.

This insight should foster more adherence to the “brotherhood of man” or love for one’s neighbor which the Bible commands and our mission demands.

## “Joyfully Acknowledge”

“...joyfully acknowledging now and forever God’s supremacy, omnipotence, and omnipresence.” (*Science and Health*, p. 521:10) and also, “...come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him...” (Ps.95:2)

Acknowledge — (Webster, 1828) to own with gratitude; to avow; to admit to be true.

While doing my watch this morning, I opened to *Watches, Prayer, Arguments* (p.57) and read: “Hold the line every day: no fear; God governs all. No m.a.m. (malicious animal magnetism) to feel or be felt. Mind governs all.”

— Mary Baker Eddy.

This was a command to me to never give in to the claim that there is anything other than good going on. No matter what the news media (mortal mind) tries to present, I will joyfully and gratefully know that God is on the scene, all-powerful and ever-present.

**SUBJECT: God the Preserver of Man**  
— December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## Like Produces Like

Genesis 6:5 — “And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that *every imagination of the thoughts of his heart* was only evil continually.” (Emphasis added)

Genesis 11:4, 6 — “And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.... And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now *nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.*” (Emphasis added)

“Like produces like.” This most basic scientific principle is the basis of all of Mrs. Eddy’s writings. And this is why she admonishes me to watch my thoughts and imagination: “The time for thinkers has come....Let the perfect model be present in

your thoughts instead of its demoralized opposite.” (*Science and Health*, pgs. vii and 407)

Any thought that I think long enough eventually becomes a belief. As I continue holding to this belief, it will surely gather more thoughts like unto itself, and that belief will eventually reproduce itself on a larger scale in my life experience, whether it’s true or false, godly or ungodly.

“Fixing your gaze on the realities supernal, you will rise to the spiritual consciousness of being, even as the bird which has burst from the egg and preens its wings for a skyward flight.” (*Science and Health*, p. 261) Whether it’s a whisper or a roar, it is better to dismiss the serpent’s suggestion at the outset than to allow it to grow into a paragraph, a chapter, or a book-length lie.

Webster, 1828, MODEL: “A pattern of something to be made; any thing of a particular form, shape or construction, intended for imitation; primarily, a small pattern; a form in miniature of something to be made *on a larger scale*...” (emphasis added).

Whether we like it or not, consciously or unconsciously, “[w]e are all sculptors, working at various forms, moulding and chiseling thought. What is the model before mortal mind? Is it imperfection, joy, sorrow, sin, suffering? Have you accepted the mortal model? Are ou *reproducing* it? Then, you are haunted in your work by vicious sculptors and hideous forms. Do you not hear from all mankind of the imperfect model? The world is holding it before your gaze continually. The result is that you are liable to follow those lower patterns, limit your life-work, and adopt into your experience the angular outline and deformity of matter models.” (*Science and Health*, p. 248, emphasis added). Eventually, everyone must learn to fix his/her gaze upon that which is real and eternal.

“This more perfect idea, held constantly before the people’s mind, must have a benign and elevating influence upon the character of nations as well as individuals, and will lift man ultimately to the understanding that our ideals form our characters, that as a man ‘thinketh in his heart, so is he’.” (Peo. 2:25–3). Our Founding Fathers fixed their gaze upon “the more perfect idea” — and this is why we must watch and pray for our country’s

leaders and the mass media that they may “hold constantly before the people’s mind” the perfect model of a free nation — a nation governed by the Spirit of God, for “where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.” (2 Cor. 3:17) \*\*\*\*\*

Thank you for this powerful post.

Recently, I came across this passage again that has helped me to stay vigilant for Truth in the midst of temptation to believe otherwise.

“Think of this, dear reader, for it will lift the sackcloth from your eyes, and you will behold the soft-winged dove descending upon you. The very circumstance, which your suffering sense deems wrathful and afflictive, Love can make an angel entertained unawares.” (*Science and Health*, p. 574:25-30) \*\*\*\*\*

### **“Blessed Are the Pure in Heart: For They Shall See God.”**

“Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.” Matthew 5: 8

**[Pure:** Genuine; real; true; incorrupt; unadulterated; free from moral defilement;

**Defilement:** Corruption of morals, principles or character.

**Corrupt:** To change from good to bad; to deprave the heart, mind, will, understanding, taste, principles, etc.] from Webster’s 1828 Dictionary.

I gave some more thought regarding this Beatitude from our Lesson this week. The idea of “pure” has been difficult to me because I kept thinking about it from the world’s standard, the human mind value and measurement that tells us that once something has been contaminated it has lost its original state. This then makes the attainment of this “pure in heart” seem nigh near impossible. I am slowly understanding, from being at the Plainfield Church, that “pure in heart” is gained as you work step by step the Biblical principles and precepts and the Science of the Christ which Mrs. Eddy has given to us in our textbook *Science and Health*. It takes a commitment and discipline to go through this cleansing process to “see God.” To change our heart, motives, and thinking. \*\*\*\*\*

I found this excerpt helpful from a sermon by Charles Spurgeon on the above Beatitude:

“Other teachers had been content with outward moral reformation, but he (Jesus) sought the source of all the evil, that he might cleanse the spring from which all sinful thoughts, and words, and actions come. He insisted over and over again that, until the heart was pure, the life would never be clean. The memorable Sermon upon the Mount, from which our text is taken, begins with the benediction, “Blessed are the poor in spirit,” for Christ was dealing with men’s spirits, — with their inner and spiritual nature. He did this more or less in all the Beatitudes, and this one strikes the very centre of the target as he says, not ‘Blessed are the pure in language, or the pure in action,’ much less ‘Blessed are the pure in ceremonies, or in raiment, or in food’; but ‘Blessed are the pure in heart.’ O beloved, whatever so-called “religion” may recognize as its adherent a man whose heart is impure, the religion of Jesus Christ will not do so. His message to all men still is, “Ye must be born again”; that is to say, the inner nature must be divinely renewed, or else you cannot enter or even see that kingdom of God which Christ came to set up in this world....‘for man looketh on the, outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart’; and the promises and blessings of the covenant of grace belong to those who are made pure in heart, and to none, besides.”