

FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

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**SUBJECT: Christian Science —
June 28th, 2020**

A New Heaven and A New Earth

Thank you so much for your website and all of the inspiration you broadcast here and on YouTube. I am pretty much starting over in my understanding and so grateful for all that you offer.

I found an archived article that really spoke to me, called “Edward A. Kimball – the Paul of Christian Science.” Part of it reads:

“Essentially, Mr. Kimball declared that what we see as material things is a wrong way of interpreting what is actually before us. Correctly seen, the ‘material’ thing (i.e., organ of the body) is a spiritual idea. The ‘Red Dragon’ crowd accused Mr. Kimball of corrupting Mrs. Eddy’s teaching, insisting that the so-called material organ is nothing, and represents nothing.

“This explains why, very often, Christian Scientists are the most confused people on earth. ‘The material universe is nothing and represents nothing, while Spirit is everything, but we seemingly have to live in the material.’ This has led, in practice, to a dualism that is fatal to the practice of Christian Science, and we have the Red Dragon, or unhandled animal magnetism, to thank for it.”

In the Lesson this week, we are given John’s accounting of his experiencing the new heaven and the new earth, which to me corresponds with this idea. For years, I have struggled with trying to improve matter or realize as a “mortal” that we are actually Spirit, and applying this to matter is futile. Somehow, a light turned on in realizing that, yes, God, Spirit, is actually All and everywhere NOW, and that there never was a mortal, material universe. If we are seeing otherwise, we are using the wrong lens. The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

It is only that we need to realize this, not try to change matter into spirit.

Thanks for all that you offer here!

What you realized about having the correct view of man is something that escapes many, thus does not help us work from the correct premise. I am sure many have started working from the premise of “imperfect, material me with such and such illness; now let me voice some Truths to change what I am seeing.”

Thanks for sharing your insight to help others.

"Have No Wide Fears for Earth"

“Have no wide fears for earth. Destruction only upon wide fears shall fall.” (Laura Riding)

When the Angel of Christian Science first appeared to John the Revelator, he saw not a fragile, delicate, harp-strumming wraith flitting nervously above earth, its feet too holy to touch the ground. No, John saw the Christian Science Angel standing — motionless, its feet firmly, fearlessly planted on earth and sea, immovable, like a mighty promontory “...’Gainst which the winds and waves can shock, Oh, nevermore!” (CS Hymnal, 253)

John saw the Angel of Christian Science standing in the gap as yet to be filled with human beings of all nationalities, races, and tongues, at one with the Oneness of God, at one with one another, at one with the Allness of Good.

In a world where the powers of darkness are now purposed to drive Christianity underground, this angel-picture instructs me to stand in the gap for all humankind as never before, to “stand still and see the salvation of the Lord” and to continue to see it no matter what may be clamoring outside “the secret place of the Most High,” claiming dominion, calling for me to move out of that secret place to steady the ark. The feet of the Angel of Christian Science are pillars unshakeable, and they

are forever. No matter how wide the gap may grow, the mighty wings of the Angel of Christian Science are wide enough, broad enough, high enough, enduring enough to fill it.

“No matter how wide the gap may grow, the mighty wings of the Angel of Christian Science are wide enough, broad enough, high enough, enduring enough to fill it.”

Thank you for this post. This last line was especially comforting. With the attack on Christianity at the level it is today, it helps me to be reminded of the golden thread running through the ages, showing God working in the lives of those willing to sacrifice their comfort for the greater good, — sometimes unexpected individuals, and of course, His remnant.

One of the things that has blessed my life since coming to Plainfield is learning about the history of Christian Science and Mrs. Eddy, especially from the Carpenter collection. As the veil of ignorance lifted, I had a greater appreciation, understanding, and love for her and what she did for all of mankind. Below is an excerpt from *Mary Baker Eddy, Her Spiritual Precepts, Volume 4*, by Gilbert C. Carpenter:

“When Mary Beecher Longyear moved to Brookline, she asked Mrs. Eddy to recommend a student to whom she might turn in time of need. Our Leader declined to do so, telling her to select one who knew Christian Science history. The deduction is that a knowledge of how error attacked Mrs. Eddy and the Cause down through the years, would give a worker an advantage in handling error for another, beyond what an understanding of Science gained through a mere study of the textbook would give. He would learn the more subtle modes of error’s activities, and be aware of its claims, as it had been apparently successful for a time, dogging Mrs. Eddy’s footsteps, until she was able to see its nothingness.”

Christian Science Heals

What hindered Naaman’s healing the first time?

Pride – “Are not Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? may

I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and went away in a rage.”

Anger – “Naaman was wroth and went away”

Thought He could buy his treatment – “And he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand pieces of gold.”

Came with what form his treatment should be carried out – “Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.”

There are lessons here for us all. Rev. Kratzer’s *Hinderances to Healing* ([found in audio form here](#)) is a good place to glean much of what stalls our spiritual progress (healing).

Mrs. Eddy cautions about the necessity of moral regeneration in healing. “In order to heal by Science, you must not be ignorant of the moral and spiritual demands of Science nor disobey them. Moral ignorance or sin affects your demonstration, and hinders its approach to the standard in Christian Science.” (*Science and Health*, 483:8-12)

The next read healing in the Lesson (Matt. 8:2, 3), of the same physical claim, without pride but with humility, heals instantly. Quite often pride, irritability, selfishness, resentment, etc., are the claim!

"...it shall make thy belly bitter."

“Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter.” (Rev. 10:9)

In Mrs. Eddy’s First Edition of *Science and Health* (p. 36), she writes: “To suddenly drop our earthly character, and become partakers of eternal Life, ***without the pangs of a new birth, is morally impossible.***” (Emphasis added.)

If, upon reading *Science and Health*, and studying Christian Science, one begins to feel a turmoil or overturning inside, don’t be discouraged or disheartened. This is the mighty work of Truth going on in consciousness. It is just the beginning of a wonderful, forever, ongoing process of purification and spiritual growth — a continuous overcoming. Knowing this, has been a constant encouragement to me in times of trial. It tells me that Truth — although sometimes bitter — is

working in my thought, and Truth is ultimately and forever victorious. As Mrs. Eddy says in *Miscellaneous Writings* (118:24), “Be of good cheer; the warfare with one’s self is grand; it gives one plenty of employment, and the divine Principle worketh with you, — and obedience crowns persistent effort with everlasting victory.”

SUBJECT: God — July 5th, 2020

Love God Supremely

“To have one God and avail yourself of the power of Spirit, you must love God supremely.” (*Science and Health*, 167:17)

In the Bible we read, “If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?” (1 John 4:20)

The other day I came across the citation below that has been helping me when I find myself upset by what others appear to be doing.

“Because Jesus knew that God is Love, he knew that to love is to live. Nothing that his enemies did to him stopped him from loving, from living. He was loving his own immaculate conception of the so-called enemies, not their distorted concepts of themselves or of him. No one can love a human being in the sense of the word that we have been employing. Because God is Love, to love is a divine concept and the Master loved divinely. Only divine qualities are lovable and loved. Love knows only His own children, the qualities of Love.... Your universe is a universe of love ideas because it is divine Love’s universe. Every concept in it is a love concept and you are the lover. Only your own love ideas can enter it. You do not struggle to exclude other concepts for it is the ‘secret place of the most High,’ secret to all false concepts, but known to the Father-Mother and to the beloved, only begotten Son. As you replace the false, sinning concept which has come to you for recognition with your love idea, the sin is yielded up.” *Association Address 1938* by Bicknell Young

Patience, Perseverance, Centered in God Alone

“When the destination is desirable, expectation speeds our progress.” (*Science and Health*, 426:8)

Last Wednesday’s readings on patience and perseverance were an important reminder to me that “There is no medicine like hope, no incentive so great, and no tonic so powerful as expectation of something better tomorrow.” (Orison Swett Marden).

The readings also reminded me of Habakkuk 3:17-18 — the prophet’s insistence on keeping his full attention upon God alone, offering unconditional thanksgiving despite what seemed to his human sense long-delayed answer to his prayer for the deliverance of his nation from the repeated attacks of its enemies:

“Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.”

Radical Reliance on Truth

“Only through radical reliance on Truth can scientific healing power be realized.” (*Science and Health*, 167:31)

Today “radical” has come to mean a violent extreme, or even some deviant thing or action out of the ordinary. But Webster’s 1828 Dictionary defines radical as, “fundamental, primitive, original.” In the same source, “reliance” is defined as, “rest or repose of mind, resulting from a full belief of the veracity or integrity of a person, or of the certainty of a fact; trust; confidence; dependence.”

Therefore, our dependence, trust, and confidence in the one Person, God, Truth, is not something extreme nor unusual, but is innate, fundamental, and natural to us. This reliance is part of our very being, deep within us, and gives us rest and peace of mind. Trust or reliance upon anything else is not only unnatural, but absurd. As we acknowledge and place this natural, fundamental dependence upon God, Truth, healing will be realized, that is, “brought into actual being; received as a reality; felt in its true force; rendered actual, tangible or effective.” (Webster 1828 Dictionary)

I'm grateful for practitioner prayer that helps me to realize this more and more.

What a helpful post. Thank you! Radical – “fundamental, primitive, original.” Wow!

Our Guarantee of Obedience

“The only guarantee of obedience is a right apprehension of Him whom to know aright is Life eternal.” (*Science and Health*, vii:18)

“Who is it that demands our obedience? He who, in the language of Scripture, ‘doeth according to His will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay His hand, or say unto Him, What doest Thou?’” (*Science and Health*, 256:19)

To obey out of fear is not a guarantee of obedience, as society clearly shows. The true guarantee of one's obedience is the result of a love of good, and in Christian Science it's our love for God; and our love for God is in proportion to our understanding of Him. This week's watch tells us that our understanding of Him must change and improve as we grow. This also means a growing understanding of what it means to do His will. Anytime I have any self-assertion, — “I want,” — I must drop it for “I want only what you want, Father, **no matter what that means.**” I am learning that this is the only way to really respect and honor God.

God Our Source and Condition

“When man is governed by God, the ever-present Mind who understands all things, man knows that with God all things are possible. The only way to this living Truth, which heals the sick, is found in the Science of divine Mind as taught and demonstrated by Christ Jesus.

“To reduce inflammation, dissolve a tumor, or cure organic disease, I have found divine Truth more potent than all lower remedies. And why not, since Mind, God, is the source and condition of all existence?” (*Science and Health*, 180:25-2)

I was given this citation by my practitioner to work with this week. In Webster's 1828 Dictionary it says in part about:

“Condition: State; a particular mode of being; quality, attribute, state of mind; terms of a contract or covenant.”

and “Source: First cause; original; that which gives rise to any thing; the first producer; he or that which originates.”

This is a lot to think about. In my heart I feel God, Good, is my (and our) source and condition and I must strive to live this every day for myself and all mankind.

“To reduce inflammation, dissolve a tumor, or cure organic disease, I have found divine Truth more potent than all lower remedies. And why not, since Mind, God, is **the source and condition of all existence?**” (*Science and Health*, 180:31) (Emphasis added.)

This phrase, “the source and condition of all existence,” stood out strongly in this Lesson. If so, then the obedience to God, All, and man having nothing unlike God, makes perfect sense and is our Saviour.

“Have only One God and one man and you have every problem solved.” – Herbert Eustace.

Hymn 7

*from The Christian Science Hymnal
1932 edition*

Abide with me; fast breaks the morning light;
Our daystar rises, banishing all night;
Thou art our strength, O Truth that maketh free,
We would unfailingly abide in Thee.

I know no fear, with Thee at hand to bless,
Sin hath no power and life no wretchedness;
Health, hope and love in all around I see
For those who trustingly abide in Thee.

I know Thy presence every passing hour,
I know Thy peace, for Thou alone art power;
O Love divine, abiding constantly,
I need not plead, Thou dost abide with me.