

# FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

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ISSUE 212

**SUBJECT: Adam and Fallen Man —  
May 8th, 2022**

## God Blessed Them

“God created man in his own image, and God blessed them.” Genesis 1

This citation brought me great comfort this week. For so long I did not feel blessed, but it was because I had left my Father’s house. As I am learning how to live the Biblical precepts/laws of the universe which Mrs. Eddy explains in her writings, I am witnessing in my daily life the promises found in the Bible and *Science and Health* by Mrs. Eddy.

This has opened my eyes to see how this blessing can only be good, eternal, universal, impartial, irreversible, changeless, impervious, abundant, infinite; always available for all people, nations, and creation. No room for anything unlike God to enter.

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Thanks. “No room for anything else.” God can only bless. From Genesis 1, God could only make what is like Himself (Good). This makes sense. Genesis 2 and 3 do not make sense especially for scientific Christianity where truth must produce like itself.

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## Ye Are of God

“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.” (I John 4:1)

“Dear Friends, do not believe every spirit, but put the spirits to the test to see whether they are from

God; for many false teachers have gone out into the world”. (Weymouth The New Testament in Modern Speech)

“This is akin to Jeremiah’s warning: ‘For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Let not your prophets and your diviners, that be in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed. For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name; I have not sent them, saith the LORD.’” (29:8, 9) (The Students New Testament Compilation)

“Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.” (I John 4:4)

“As for you, dear children, you are God’s children, and have successfully resisted them; for greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.” (Notes: “Them.” The false teachers) (WNT)

It was Dustered who wrote: “In the very heat of conflict the children of God know that the victory is won.” (TSNTC)

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## Technology and The Fruit of Evil

Sin is disordered love — loving finite things more than infinite God.

Technology — which prizes and promotes whatever is new and “innovative” — is a gale-force wind against contemplation.

The only impregnable fortress is metaphysical: that meaning transcends ourselves and is grounded in God, good.

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## The Difference Between Benediction and Malediction

Genesis 3:16, 17, 19: “Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire *shall be* to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. And unto Adam he said, ...In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return.”

Each week we end the Sunday service with a benediction (“The act of blessing; a giving praise to God or rendering thanks for his favors; a blessing pronounced.”)

Webster’s 1828 Dictionary

Reading the above verse, however, reminded me of the word ‘malediction’ and its definition “Evil speaking; denunciation of evil; a cursing; curse or execration.” What an awful law it would pronounce on us, if it had power beyond what we have given it. I am grateful to Christian Science, this Church, and practitioner support for showing me how to “Stand porter at the door of thought,” (*Science and Health*, p. 392) to discern the difference between benediction and malediction — reality from unreality — and to only accept the good and true that come from God into my thought. Thank you!

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## Science of Christianity

In this week’s Lesson, it says in citation 14, *S&H* p. 473:26, 28-31: “Jesus established what he said by demonstration, ...He proved what he taught. This is the Science of Christianity. Jesus *proved* the Principle, which heals the sick and casts out error, to be divine.”

And in the April 30th Watch, Bicknell Young’s statement from “Idea” really struck me: “No church in the world can give proof of its utility as long as there is no scientific Christianity.”

To really get a grasp on this, I looked up “science” and “scientific.”

In the 1981 Webster’s:

“science” is defined: “a possession of knowledge as distinguished from ignorance or misunderstanding. Knowledge attained through study or practice.”

“scientific”: “exhibiting the methods or principles of science.”

In the 1828 Webster’s:

“science”: “In a general sense, knowledge, or certain knowledge; the comprehension or understanding of truth or facts by the mind. The science of God must be perfect.”

“scientific”: “producing certain knowledge or demonstration; as scientific evidence.”

Thank goodness that Jesus proved the Truth and set an example; and Mary Baker Eddy explained that through spiritual sense we can all understand and do the works!

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## ONE

Acts 17: 26 “And hath made of one blood all nations of men...” – One [Only] Father, creator of one kind of man not two.

Mrs. Eddy in *S&H*, p. 468: “Spirit is God, and man is His image and likeness. Therefore man is not material; he is spiritual.”

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## SUBJECT: Mortals and Immortals — May 15th, 2022

### Self Mastery

*Science and Health* 1875 - bottom page 287:

“Do we love our neighbor ...”

top page 288: “Do we love the Lord our God...”

This post is expressed to my degree of understanding in this moment.

In the Reality of IMMORTALITY, Jesus’s “rebukes” healed instantaneously.

By centering us in God, Jesus's Two Commandments "rebuke" our personal sense of MORTALITY, that is, our "possessive," "glorified" and "selfish" "i," "me," "my," "mine" sense of self that populates "this world." Only once our erroneous universal belief of a self born to decay and die is overcome does Immortal Life appear, without taint of mortality.

Soul, irrevocably in At-one-ment with Spirit or God, exists as the Consciousness of Immortal Life.

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## Materialism Denounced

Mrs. Eddy's precious instruction regarding the error and nothingness of materialism is echoed in a 2013 book: *The Experience of God*. I do not know if the author, David Bentley Hart, read *Science and Health*, but the formulations by this Orthodox Christian thinker resound with CS expositions on God and man.

To wit:

- Materialists are mad fanatics with an infinite appetite for paradox, whereas God is the unity of consciousness.
- God is not merely one, but oneness, the source of everything.
- God is the one act of being and consciousness.
- Mind is everywhere.
- God is both the knower and the known, infinite intelligence and infinite intelligibility.
- Atheism is another name for radical absurdism. There can be no mechanistic account for consciousness.
- Soul is the form of the body (Aristotle).

I am so grateful for Mrs. Eddy's discovery of Christian Science, as it continues to open and deepen channels of right thinking in the world.

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## Go, Call Thy Husband, and Come Hither (John 4:16)

In trying to better understand the conversation between Jesus and the woman of Samaria, I liked

this part of the Commentary from the 'Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges', enlarging on why Jesus asked the woman to 'call [her] husband and come hither.'

"[Go, call thy husband] - Not that the man was wanted, either as a concession to Jewish propriety, which forbade a Rabbi to talk with a woman alone, or for any other reason. By a seemingly casual request Christ lays hold of her inner life, convinces her of sin, and leads her to repentance, without which her request, 'Give me this water,' could not be granted. The husband who was no husband was the plague-spot where her healing must begin."

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## Shape Our Views

"Life is eternal. We should find this out, and begin the demonstration thereof. Life and goodness are immortal. Let us then shape our views of existence into loveliness, freshness, and continuity, rather than into age and blight." *Science and Health* by Mary Baker Eddy, p. 246

This lesson perfectly follows last week's Bible lesson and the coordinating Roundtable. We are to see as God sees us and all creation – "shape our views" in line with Christian Science. It brought joy to review the meanings of the following words to gain a deeper appreciation of what God has created.

"Continuity: Connection uninterrupted, ceaseless. Freshness: Not stale, sour, decayed; unimpaired, not altered, made anew, free from taint. Loveliness: Harmony, lovable, beauty." (Webster's 1828 Dictionary)

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Mortals and immortals, what does God know about this? I saw this mortal mind constantly projecting its own mirage-world or creation of discords, sin, disease and death, war and sufferings untold. When I saw a room full of people receiving chemotherapy, poison poured into their veins, my soul cried out, O my God, how far have we strayed from You, source of all

goodness and blessing! The divine Mind could ask: Where is there something wrong? Is it here? That is impossible, because I am here, omnipresent Good. Is it over there? No way, I am there too. I am everywhere mortal mind is not. Mortal mind is the omni-absence of Omnipresence. God's thoughts should be omnipresent in my mind, creating in me a kingdom of harmony and health. When we think as God thinks, we find God taking place. It all takes place in our inner being, or thinking and feeling. Omnipresence is omnipotence, Truth, and Love, All-in-all. For of Mind, and through Mind, and to Mind, is All. (Romans 11:36) Thank God we have not to struggle with matter, or with a reality. We just must allow Mind to be omnipresent as us. Find yourself as Mind.

“Wait patiently for divine Love to move upon the waters of mortal mind, ...” (S&H, p. 454)

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## Origin

“The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.” “Then I was by him, as one brought up *with him*: and I was daily *his* delight, rejoicing always before him.” (Prov. 8:22, 23, 30)

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## SUBJECT: Soul and Body — May 22nd, 2022

### All Food Comes from Mind

From *Mary Baker Eddy, Her Spiritual Precepts*, by Gilbert Carpenter:

“When one eats from the standpoint that what he has eaten is a product of earth and was raised by man's patience and skill, he loses sight of the fact that every good gift and every perfect gift cometh down from the Father of lights. The food may appear to come from beneath, but in reality it comes from above. When Jesus fed the five thousand, he demonstrated that the earth never

created food. Just as the ventriloquist's dummy is used to deceive people into thinking that it is the source of the former's voice, so mortal mind uses the land and sea to deceive mortals into believing that these are the sources of bread and fish.

The food that we eat every day is manna from heaven as truly as was the food that sustained the Children of Israel in the wilderness. The fact that they picked it up off the ground, whereas we grow ours from seed, does not alter the fact that all food comes from Mind.

Mrs. Eddy's message was manna from heaven that carried the spirit of healing; but because it was appropriated by mortal thought, it appeared to come from the ground of a trained mortal intelligence, and so carried scant spiritual uplift or healing. Even though Mrs. Eddy made the demonstration to receive it from heaven, the good was almost lost because it was appropriated by mortal mind.

The food that sustained the Children of Israel came down from heaven. In Deuteronomy 8, we find a warning that in the process of time the temptation would come to believe that food came as the result of mortal man's skill and intelligence, rather than the demonstration of God's giving. So it becomes necessary to state that it is not material food that sustains man's life, but the thought back of it, the Mind of God that accompanies it. It is the task of the student of Christian Science to learn to receive the Spirit of God through every human channel, since only in that way will he become a perpetual recipient of God's constant blessings, which bring to man all that he needs to sustain him.

The Children of Israel admitted that the food they gathered and called manna was a vehicle which carried the Mind of God. Today we must extend this admission to cover everything.”

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Let us always sense the Causative Principle, Spirit, impartial and immortal. The Principle that produces form is invisible to finite sense, yet it is

“seen” by spiritual sense. Real Joy is “seeing” God’s glory showing forth God’s glory!

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## Soul Expresses Itself

The First Edition has very clear, strong statements. From our textbook: “Love God...the surrender of all merely material sensation, affection and worship. Mortal existence is a state of self-deception, this so-called mind produces all that is unlike the immortal Mind. The corporeal senses are the only source of evil or error.”

I have struggled long and hard with these statements. The depraved appetites are, of course, not material substances because there are none but wrong ideas, indulging in the unreal ideas or misconceptions of mortal mind.

I just re-read an article that I feel comes more down to the human, present level. It is “The Lame Walk” by Rev. G.A. Kratzer. It must be somewhere on our website. A lot of wrong thinking, and thus acting, must come from our mortal sense of lack: a lack of love, goodness, truth. We accept the reality of this unreal world and material selfhood, while infinite creation is nothing but the divine Consciousness, eternal Love. We must experience this Love, reflect it back to God, and Be it. God needs our love! It takes constant watchfulness. I must stop giving reality to that which has no Cause, no Creator, no Thinker.

It makes no difference what we wish to draw from within ourselves (immortality, infinity, well-being, supply, joy, love, intelligence), it is already there. Peacefully and calmly, Christ Science “enlightens” the prodigal of his divine inheritance that is already there.

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## What Shall a Man Give in Exchange for His Soul?

“For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” (Matt. 16)

On our website:

“Shortly after I began work in Christian Science, it came to me that the five wise virgins are the five Spiritual senses: intuition, hope, faith, understanding, and fruition. *Science and Health*, p. 206, 40th edition: ‘The five foolish virgins are material sense, or human belief,’ — ignorance, fear, doubt, dread, and despair. Page 62: ‘Spiritual sense is a conscious capacity to understand God.’”

“Five Wise Virgins — Five Foolish” From the *Christian Science Journal*, Vol. 7, No. 12, March 1890 by M. J. L.

I thought to myself this week, “What would I exchange for my soul (spiritual sense)?” This speaks to me of the instruction – “never off guard” – be ever watchful as we have been learning during our Bible studies, don’t go to sleep to the things of God!

From the 23rd Psalm we can pray, “[LOVE] restoreth my soul [spiritual sense]: [LOVE] leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.” *Science and Health*, p. 578

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## The Waters of Soul

In Isaiah 11:6-9, there is mention of different classes of animals, not at all like the ones we are used to. Heaven and earth shall pass away... Is it the projection of the human, mortal mind that shall pass away, because it never was? The more I read things in the news about all the horrible things that seem to be going on all around the world, the more I understand this all must be a mirage, an unreality, the projection of the mortal, malicious human mind. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of God, as the waters cover the sea.

Knowing God implies knowing what God knows. ... but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water SPRINGING UP into everlasting life.

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Yes, we gaze upon the ugliness of the Adam dream and that, we learn in Science, IS a dream, an illusion, although appearing to be real. There is no rectifying a dream. Our reality lies in maintaining our Oneness with the Father and thank God this is possible for us all here and now due to the teachings of the Master and Mary Baker Eddy. And so we can experience heaven on earth. The sexual element you mentioned in your other post is also part of the Adam dream and as you explained, some forms of it definitely appear better than others. It is the love, the closeness, the joy of any experience which makes it border on the divine and this is what people truly seek after. All things human, however, must pass away but the good that God gives remains with us forever – and isn't that wonderful?

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The picture shown in Isaiah 11:6-9 feels like what it will be when every creature looks to God alone for all they need and therefore know no lack, fear, division, or hate. This must be why Christ Jesus told us to “preach the gospel to every creature.” (Mark 16: 15) Until this picture – which Mrs. Eddy called “The Millennium” – is what we see in the world, the following quote, and similar, are what I have been working with while handling the unreal mortal mind images:

“Watch that you do not lose your love from the attacks of hate. Better lose life in matter than love for God and man. This is why our dear departed are better blessed than those that remain if they are returning evil for evil.”

“Let our finite judgment never settle on who is troubling us, and never defend ourselves against a person. Rather ask what is troubling, and then meet the what.”

*(Fragments gathered from Unpublished Items ascribed to Mary Baker Eddy)*

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We are on our way to something ever better and closer to God, where Love is All-in-all, and there is nothing else. Thank you all for the responses. I have no one to talk to about the metaphysics of divine Science, and mortal mind is all around and aggressive. Human love is a foretaste of eternity.

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## Substance

Mrs. Eddy says in *Miscellaneous Writings* p. 354:15-19. “A little more grace, a motive made pure, a few truths tenderly told, a heart softened, a character subdued, a life consecrated, would restore the right action of the mental mechanism, and make manifest the movement of body and soul in accord with God.”

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## Hymn 282

*From The Christian Science Hymnal,  
1932 edition*

Praise the Lord, ye heavens, adore Him;  
Praise Him, angels, in the height;  
Sun and moon, rejoice before Him,  
Praise Him, all ye stars of light;  
Praise the Lord, for He hath spoken,  
Worlds His mighty voice obeyed;  
Laws that never shall be broken  
For their guidance hath He made.

Praise the Lord, for He is glorious;  
Never shall His promise fail;  
God hath made His saints victorious,  
Sin and death shall not prevail.  
Praise the God of our salvation;  
Hosts on high, His power proclaim;  
Heaven and earth, and all creation,  
Laud and magnify His name.