# FORUM HIGHLIGHTS

# WWW.PLAINFIELDCS.COM ISSUE 214

SUBJECT: God The Preserver of Man — June 12th, 2022

#### Preserve - Maintain - Deliver

"Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust" (Psalm 16:1)

"David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine." (I Sam 17:37)

"Preserve" – "shamar" (Hebrew – Strong's 8104) – To keep, guard, observe, give heed, have charge of, keep watch and ward, protect, save life. "Preserve" – To keep or save from injury or destruction; to defend from evil; to uphold; to sustain; to save from decay; to keep in a sound state; to keep or defend from corruption. (1828 Webster's Dictionary)

"Maintain" – Provide with necessities for life or existence; cause or enable to continue; keep up; sustain; conserve; support; nurture; feed; nourish. (Oxford Languages Dictionary)

"Deliver" – To free, release, set at liberty, rescue, save (1828 Webster's Dictionary);
Provide, supply, furnish, fulfill.
(Oxford Languages Dictionary)

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I am glad and grateful because God is our preserver. He preserves our life, our health, our joy, our body, our supply, our individuality, our love, our intelligence, our demonstrations, our progress, our knowledge of Him, EVERY-THING, and that is the Truth for all mankind. He also preserves nature, the weather, and the whole creation because everything is His and SPIRITUAL.

Thank God and the Christ for this lesson and for this forum that makes me think on these matters. Thank you, Plainfield!

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#### The Central Fact of the Bible

"The central fact of the Bible is the superiority of spiritual over physical power." *Science and Health*, page 131:10-11

I am so grateful that the lesson had this statement by itself. I began going over all I have learned here about the Bible to make sure I saw this truth in all of it. Then, I remembered Hebrews 11:1, which says "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." That chapter goes on to tell what various Old Testament figures did "By faith..." including:

"By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry *land*: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days. By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace. And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and *of* Barak, and *of* Samson, and *of* Jephthae; *of* David also, and Samuel, and *of* the prophets: Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong,..." (Hebrews 11: 29-34)

I am very grateful for Christian Science teaching us how to read the Bible properly, to uncover the inspired Word. I am grateful to Mary Baker Eddy for all she did. And I am grateful to this church for making it so I have no doubt in my heart that physical strength and human knowledge have no

power in the reality of God's creation. Thank you!

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## No Armor, No Sword

Why is "Thou shall have no other gods before me" the Highest Commandment and the Supreme Principle of Immortal Life? (*S&H*, p. 340:15)

For the reason that there is but one God, one Soul, and that one is Infinite, Immortal, All-in-all, second to none. As God is ALLNESS and ONENESS, it follows that Deity, Spirit, is "the Preserver" – the protector, the sustainer, the maintainer – of Immortal Life and its perfections, including Christ-man (sic. woman).

God, Spirit, Soul, then, is "the Preserver" of the crucified and resurrected Christ-man. Christ Consciousness, Man's true identity, the goal of Life, is not subject to the "laws" of matter, including time and gravity. Human belief, personal sense, and error; the illusion of birth, sin, decay, and death have "no power" over Christ-man, Soul.

Deity, Spirit, Christ, does not fight with an enemy. To "the appearance" of finite law and authority, Christ declared: "Thou couldest have no power at all against me..." (John 19:11) Condemnation, punishment and banishment are not evident in the Four Gospels; yet, "Peace," "my peace," is profoundly important since it signifies a "miraculous" dynamic Presence, the Peace of Soul, and the invisible excellence of Grace.

Spiritually Conscious, Aware of God (within), as "the Preserver," as the All-in-all, Jesus the Christ needed no armor, no sword of "this world" to be wholly spiritual.

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#### **Preserved with Christ in God**

"For as in Adam all die," ...the illusion of a personal self and mind will keep us in the mortal

dream of sin, sickness, and death. "...even so in Christ shall all be made alive." (1 Cor. 15:22) In the unity and oneness with infinite Mind, we shall find our freedom from the Adam-dream. "Truth, Life, and Love fill immensity and are ever-present." (*S&H*, p. 504)

In the secret place of the most High (my Mind), in Him will I trust. I felt that the noisome pestilence could mean the seeming preponderance of evil, all the lies of mortal mind, to which we are exposed continually while we are in this world. I mean, everything is believed to be matter, genes, cancer, pestilence, evil. The whole weight of human thinking, or animal magnetism, is what we are constantly up against. It takes mental work to draw so nigh to Love's allness, that Adam starts to slip away, and the Christ-Mind, our true selfhood, takes over, and is preserved.

"Hid with Christ in God...When the risen Christ has lifted all our thoughts into the light. ... As we set our whole affection on the beauteous things of Mind." (Hymn 370)

I need to share a few insights, and be part of this structure of Truth and Love.

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## **Buoyant**

While doing my metaphysical work this morning, it came to me that when a man falls overboard, someone throws him a life preserver, which is able to raise him to a desirable level. This life preserver is Christian Science for all mankind.

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# **Atmosphere**

Pertaining to comments about the weather, there is an African American spiritual song "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands". The second verse is 'He's got the wind and the rain in His hand.' I have been working with this in mind. Synonym for "atmosphere" is emanation — an abstract but perceptible thing that issues or

originates from a source, a being or force that is a manifestation of God.

(Oxford Languages Dictionary)

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As it seems warm here in Texas, where thermometers register 100+ degrees daily, I found the following spiritual insight helpful.

Leslie C. Bell in the August 1945 Journal: "The human mind [so-called] often thinks it knows just what is right and needful in any given situation, and it then proceeds to give instructions to or plead with God for what it has decided is necessary. The Christian Scientist leaves the outcome to God, knowing that the Christ, Truth, will meet each human need in the way that best serves the divine purpose to bless one and all."

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When we think what God thinks, we will find God taking place. So, we do not leave it passively to God, but try to think divine thoughts, to see His face, right there where mortal mind projects its fears and ugliness.

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# "The Valley of the Shadow of Death"

A Rabbinical elder, well versed in reading original Hebraic texts, shared his light in relation to verse 23:4 of David's Psalm of Grace. In the original text, "through the valley of the shadow of death" is interpreted as "through the world of good and evil."

Interpretation: "This world" of personal sense and error is the valley of the shadow of death. The valley is an impermanent chasm that is formed out of universal ignorance of Truth. The shadow is cast by misinformation of Immortal Life.

Mrs. Eddy, throughout her textbook, painstakingly explains to "mortal sense": immortality is the only reality; there is no death; God is All-in-all.

Yea, though I walk through the world of error, I will fear no false beliefs and no claims of

hypnotism; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Psalm 91 talks about the secret place hidden in Mind, my God, my consciousness, in Thee will I trust. Then I saw that the only pestilence there can claim to be in a spiritual universe, must be a pestilent mentality, the enmity of the carnal mind. The mesmeric suggestion of something causeless, something besides God, the All-in-all.

There is a book by William D. Kilpatrick C.S.B. based on his addresses, written before WW2, called *All Being is Consciousness*. He writes:

"Hearing, seeing etc. are ideas that come from God. An idea is not subject to accident, disintegration, decay or old age, and is free from matter's whims."

"In our experience the tares and the wheat grow together, animal magnetism seemingly omnipresent in this world. That which does not exist has no cause or origin."

"Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name."

"Because he hath attached himself to me, clung to me,.... because he hath known my nature, my essence, he hath known what defines me."

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# "Preserve Me, O God: For in Thee do I Put My Trust."

"Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust. ...For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption." (Psalm 16:1,10)

"As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness." (Psalm 17:15)

"I sought the LORD, and he heard me and delivered me from all my fears." (Psalm 34:4)

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# SUBJECT: Is The Universe, Including Man, Evolved By Atomic Force? — June 19th, 2022

# **Principle of Oneness**

A dream cannot create outside of itself! All of "this world" is a universal dream, "the Adam dream;" generally, Adam, mortal man, doesn't know his life is but a dream of birth, sin, disease, lack, decay, and death.

That is the reason Jesus of Nazareth declared, "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36) and Mrs. Eddy stated, "Mortal thought transmits its own images, and forms its offspring after human illusions. God, Spirit, works spirituality, not materially." (*S&H*, p.259:22)

The Eternal Truth of Oneness is the Christ Principle that reveals God made Man and he is SPIRIT: birthless, deathless, the "image and likeness" of Deity.

Scriptures declare: KNOW, as an actual livedexperience, the Principle of Oneness, because only "it shall make you free" of the Adam dream forever. The realization of Self, not as a body, but as Spirit, is the Truth of all things.

The Kingdom of God, the Kingdom of Oneness, is not a better dream existence in a finite body. Living in Oneness, in at-one-ment with God, Spirit, Soul, is living as Christ demonstrated, by Grace: "I can do all things through Christ [Spirit] which strengtheneth me." (Philippians 4:13) Christ Consciousness is beyond anything familiar to human sense. The dream of personal sense honors self-preservation and Mammon, and this sense of man, "old man" Adam, must be "put off" and "die" to "put on Christ."

The Sermon on the Mount embodied in the Heart, Soul, and Mind of a disciple, initiates the crucifixion, which is the letting go of the Adam dream, the dream of the human body, egotism, personal sense, and death.

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#### Conscious of God's Love and Power

"But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work. Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God." (John 5: 17.18)

In Matthew 10, Jesus counsels his students to, "fear him which is able to destroy both soul and the body in hell." Mrs. Eddy, referring to this Bible statement, was recorded saying the following, "Antidote. To know we are conscious of God's love and power and it never can be taken from us."

(Fragments Gathered from Unpublished Items ascribed to Mary Baker Eddy)

Watching the series about Christ Jesus called "The Chosen" and learning the correct practice of Christian Science here at Plainfield, makes me appreciate more how Christ Jesus modeled for us how to be "conscious of God's love and power," and showed us that "it never can be taken from us", no matter what confronts you.

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#### Restore

In this week's lesson, John 5:24 says "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life".

The definition of condemn is to harm, curse, judge, damn, to sentence to punishment. What is it that needs to be punished, but the false sense of God and man.

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Adding to the conversation of the word "condemnation," from 14th century Latin.

In law, condemnation means "to pronounce to be guilty, to pass judgment against;" morally, THE ACT of voicing some action is very wrong and

unacceptable is "to condemn" that action; informal "to call out" that action.

Old Testament Scripture, in general, upholds a God of condemnation (Ezekiel). As Divine Meekness, Jesus of Nazareth resolved the predicament. "For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." (John 3:17)

Jesus, teaching the disciples, "called out" error and its claims (i.e. sin, disease, age, limitation, time, gravity, climate, and death) to point out "the Way" to a Reality far greater than that which error promises.

Jesus verbally "called out" or "condemned" the ACTION of error "in the flesh" and "environmentally," many times, to demonstrate that error is a veil, like a mirage, and can be lifted effortlessly by the Christ Understanding of Reality.

Jesus of Nazareth described error, graphically and vividly, as the "devil," as a "murderer" and as a "liar" because "there is no truth in him." (John 8:44)

# SUBJECT: Christian Science — June 26th, 2022

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#### **Christ Science: Full of Grace and Truth**

Christian Science, the Science of Truth or the Holy Science of Immortality "dwelleth in every heart" and is realized and demonstrated through direct perception of Spirit. That depth of Spiritual perception is possible for disciples who are awakened to the divine meaning of the Two Commandments. Firm in their desire for Truth alone, these disciples also, forthrightly and sincerely, live constantly with the principles set down in the Sermon on the Mount, given in St. Matthew 5.6.7.

Even so, the mesmeric substance of "mortal mind," appearing as mortality, must be grasped as "not real," "as something not true," otherwise direct perception of Immortal Existence will

remain veiled to earnest disciples. The Supreme Principle of Truth is "the Allness of God." All is Spirit. Infinite Mind, God, Spirit, and Its manifestation is one; there is no apartness. Spirit is cause and It manifests as Spirit.

Mary Baker Eddy, a Light of the world, states the Christ Principle is able to heal even the most difficult cases of sin and disease. Yet, that promise is conditional upon a disciple's realization of Divine Love. In other words, disciples are required to live Spiritually, through understanding and demonstrating the qualities and principles revealed by Jesus of Nazareth, until they perceive Spirit as their own "image and likeness," and rise beyond the delusion of "mortal mind" forever.

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# The Angel's Right Foot

"This angel had in his hand 'a little book,' open for all to read and understand. Did this same book contain the revelation of divine Science, the 'right foot' or dominant power of which was upon the sea, — upon elementary, latent error, the source of all error's visible forms? The angel's left foot was upon the earth; that is, a secondary power was exercised upon visible error and audible sin." *Science and Health*, p. 559: 1-8

In the article "Immortality Brought to Light," Dorothy Rieke writes "Let us take heed lest we place our foot only upon visible error and audible sin. When we deny the aches, the pains, the sickness, the sin, our work is less than half done we must not forget to handle, reduce to nothingness through clear realization of God's allness, the elementary, latent error, the source of all error's visible forms. What is the elementary error? It can be nothing else but the belief that man was born into matter. Remember that the angel felt it important to place the right foot, or dominant power, upon the source of all error's visible forms, that of material birth. If the angel were to stand on one foot only, he had better stand on the right foot, for if there were no latent, elementary error - that of man having been born

into matter - there could never be any visible error. There would be no physical body to have disease, no material sense to feel pain, no mortals with whom to be in conflict, no matter to accumulate error, no mortal mind to be worried or fearful. How well is the right foot of omnipotent Truth placed upon the latent error of material birth when we know that man is immortal and understand he is so."

Thank you, lesson writer, for this lesson on the divine source of Christian Science.

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## **Angel With the Little Open Book**

"Angel with the 'Little Book Open' – In 1899, Katharine Fitchner Swope, a highly regarded New York artist, undertook a major painting based on the following passage from Science and Health: St. John writes, in the tenth chapter of the book of Revelation: - And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire: and he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth. This angel or message which comes from God, clothed with a cloud, prefigures divine Science. Mrs. Swope had become a member of The Mother Church in 1898, after taking Primary class instruction from Laura Lathrop in New York. From the artist's letters, it seems that she may have been given some direction and encouragement from Mrs. Eddy in the design of this painting.

The finished work, titled Revelation, stands an imposing six and a half feet tall. In 1901, Mrs. Swope had it mounted in a custom-made dark frame, then sent to Pleasant View as an Easter gift for Mrs. Eddy. Her instructions placed it high on the wall; she wrote, 'The horizon of the picture should be on a line with the eye – which greatly ennobles the figure.' The picture's location in the Pleasant View parlor did not quite realize her intention, but at Chestnut Hill it was placed at the top of the stairs, thus fulfilling the

artist's vision. On the second-floor landing, a reproduction hangs where Mrs. Eddy's original painting once hung. Katharine Swope, Revelation, 1900, oil on canvas, 78 x 46 inches. Giclée reproduction made from a photo by Mark Thayer. Copyright The Mary Baker Eddy Library, Boston, Massachusetts." (Source: Christian Scientist/Bible teacher/scholar, Kathy Merrill's notes)



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# **Hezekiah's Repentance**

I have some questions and comments about II Kings 20: 1-7:

1) "In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live."

What is the meaning of "set thine house in order"?

2-5) "Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying, I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done *that which is* good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore. And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying, Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD."

Did Isaiah already know that Hezekiah wasn't going to die? Did Isaiah tell him that he was going to die in order that Hezekiah would repent and pray to the Lord? Why on the third day?

- 6) "And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake." It seems that Hezekiah was very blessed and that his prayer blessed all his people.
- 7) "And Isaiah said, Take a lump of figs. And they took and laid *it* on the boil, and he recovered."

Does the lump of figs have any special meaning?

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Here is my attempt at answering these questions:

What is the meaning of "set thine house in order"? It means prepare to meet your Maker, and

have everything ready for your family (or kingdom, in this case) to move forward with as little difficulty as possible.

Did Isaiah already know that Hezekiah wasn't going to die? Isaiah fully trusted in God, and he didn't need any advanced warning about God's intentions. He simply listened with his spiritual sense, and acted as he was directed. Also, if Hezekiah's reaction had been different, the verdict may have remained unchanged.

Did Isaiah tell him that he was going to die in order that Hezekiah would repent and pray to the Lord? Why on the third day? Not too long ago in a Roundtable it was mentioned - in essence - that just because someone (prophet, doctor, anyone) tells you that you are going to die, it does not make it true. Divine Life is our only lawmaker. So, I feel that Mrs. Eddy's words on page 66 of Science and Health speak to why Hezekiah needed to be told he would die: "Trials teach mortals not to lean on a material staff, — a broken reed, which pierces the heart. We do not half remember this in the sunshine of joy and prosperity. Sorrow is salutary. Through great tribulation we enter the kingdom. Trials are proofs of God's care." Salutary is defined in part as "contributing to some beneficial purpose." (1828 Webster's Dictionary)

It seems that Hezekiah was very blessed and that his prayer blessed all his people. Hezekiah's blessing was remembering that he serves God alone, and that his complete trust must be in Truth, Life, and Love. And, since "whatever blesses one blesses all", Hezekiah's blessing became his kingdom's blessing. (*S&H*, p. 206)

Does the lump of figs have any special meaning? I take using the lump of figs to simply mean 'being obedient.' Isaiah knew, as Mary Baker Eddy has taught us, that matter has no power to heal or do anything. Isaiah also knew that Hezekiah would still "lean on a material staff." That is why Hezekiah needed spiritual sense to come through Isaiah, and why he needed signs

and wonders from God.

To truly trust God at times feels like this stanza from Hymn 169:

"Lead, kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom, Lead Thou me on;

The night is dark, and I am far from home, Lead Thou me on.

Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see The distant scene; one step enough for me."

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Isaiah, a proven prophet, could "hear" God and could "see" error as nothing. He revealed principles of truth to Hezekiah in order to deepen his spiritual understanding of leadership, since the king was vested with a divine mission.

The boil or cancer lump gave Hezekiah the opportunity to face the fear of death, and Isaiah's Wisdom supported him through that experience. To bring one's house in order is a general spiritual command to rely upon God only as "the Way," as the only Principle of the universe. So, make amends, repent, and learn meekness by understanding that error is nothing from beginning to end.

A 3-day period, often associated with dying, points to an act of divine intervention or to a transition of consciousness, both to demonstrate the salvation experience of spiritual understanding.

Hezekiah lived in times of king-power, slavery, war, and idolatry. He successfully stopped idolatry in his kingdom and renewed worship of the True God; as well, 185,000 Assyrians were killed by Hezekiahian inspired soldiers bringing victory and a reign of peace. But Hezekiah tied himself in chains of error, he did not, or could not, reveal the principle of truth to his son, Manasseh, who later became a bloodthirsty, antigod war king; and, Hezekiah did not understand the folly of pride, elitism, wealth and power, despite the 15 extra years granted to him by God. Once Hezekiah's 25-year reign ended in 687BC, his subjects suffered because of his self-

deception, and their acceptance of it.

The fig paste instructed for use on the boil by Isaiah suggests Hezekiah was being taught according to his degree of understanding by the prophet.

Hezekiah's 3 mighty prayers show his spiritual understanding at 3 turning points: (i) the need to surrender human fear of defeat; (ii) the need to overcome fear of disease and death; and, (iii) the joy of appreciatively praising Deity as spiritual perfection, as ALL-in-All.

Perhaps, as a great prophet, Isaiah's divine love of Spirit and his willingness to "follow" ITS guidance to "instruct" Hezekiah opens out the reason the King was able to develop such deep faith. Hezekiah certainly appreciated the importance of surrendering to God, not to error, to fulfill his mission.

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## SUBJECT: God — July 3rd, 2022

#### **Faith in God**

"Your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God." (I Cor. 2: 5)

"And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you." (Matthew 17: 20)

I am very grateful for this week's lesson addressing faith, which has nothing to do with human thinking (unbelief), but trust "in the power of God." Man says impossible, but Christ Jesus, through his example, showed us that all things are possible to God and available to all men who live in alignment with God's laws.

"God will give you faith that will remove mountains." *Watches, Prayers, and Arguments*, as given by Mary Baker Eddy, p. 49

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# **Inspired Bible Lessons**

I am constantly seeing the one divine Mind in operation in the thoughts of those who prepare our weekly Bible Lessons. This week's Lesson has brought a smile and great joy. The same message delivered by Paul to start the Lesson is, many centuries later, delivered again, by Mrs. Eddy, to end the Lesson.

"Your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God." (1 Corinthians 2:5)

"When we come to have more faith in the truth of being than we have in error, more faith in Spirit than in matter, more faith in living than in dying, more faith in God than in man, then no material suppositions can prevent us from healing the sick and destroying error."

Science and Health, page 368:14-19

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Amen to that! Yes, our lesson writers, our readers and Practitioners, and teachers, bless us all continually in sharing inspired thinking with us. I am amazed at how much I am learning and how strong in the Christ has "Fort Plainfield" helped me to be! Lots of Love!

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Thank you for your comment!
Great lesson, very invigorating and empowering.
Many thanks to the lesson writers! My gratitude also to the Practitioners of the church!
God bless all the workers of this beautiful church.

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#### **Rebuke and Action**

I noticed in this week's lesson the word "rebuke" appears twice: first in relation to Jesus rebuking the wind and second, in relation to Jesus rebuking the devil. Rebuke is a strong word. It doesn't say Jesus asked or Jesus prayed by knowing the Truth. He rebuked. In my time as a member at Plainfield, I have learnt that we need to take a strong stand against animal magnetism and the

suggestion that man is subject to sin, disease, and death. We must actively work against this suggestion. There is nothing passive, nor gentle about the word "rebuke".

The modern definition of rebuke is to "express a sharp criticism". Anyone can criticize the storm or devil, but what we need is more than strong criticism. We need action. The original definition of the word rebuke from Anglo-Norman French also indicates action. To rebuke is to "turn back" or "force back". In this sense, Jesus is not just expressing a sharp criticism of animal magnetism and its suggestion of chaos and Illness, he is taking action and forcing it back to its native nothingness, making it disappear like mist exposed to the sun. When the lie is exposed for what it is, we see the true reality of perfection and man's at-one-ment with God.

The rebuking of the wind and forcing it back to its nothingness helped me in a healing this week of cold and flu. I stood firm and rebuked the "winds" of cold and flu and saw them for what they were: lies and false beliefs. I commanded "peace, be still". All sense of illness disappeared and left me with a stronger and greater understanding of how we must actively stand up to sin, disease, and death and take action by forcing it back to its state of nothingness.

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# **Spirit: Not Material Sense**

God is Spirit and "works" through ITS "image and likeness," which is Christ Consciousness, Soul, Infinite Mind. In that consciousness, man no longer feels the existence of his mortal-ego.

Jesus of Nazareth serenely presented Infinite Mind to the world. The Christ Mind or Consciousness is AWARENESS beyond all notions of good and evil, thus beyond all notions of error, egotism, personal sense, mortality, matter, selfishness, self-preservation, human knowledge, condemnation, and violence.

The Supreme Principle of God is Omnipresence:

Oneness. ALL is God, Spirit, Mind in Reality.

Christ Consciousness, or Divine Science, is the goal of the Spiritual Life, as well as "the Way" to achieve that goal. The Four Gospels and *Science and Health* are good company, both a rite of passage.

And, what of God, Spirit, Mind? Call on It earnestly, with sincerity, with intense longing; It pervades the entire universe; Its guidance, "the still small voice," reveals Itself to any man or woman who dives into Divine Love. In every respect, it is the Sermon on the Mount that echoes with Divine Love.

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#### Hymn 41

From The Christian Science Hymnal, 1932 edition

Come, labor on:

Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain? While all around him waves the golden grain, And to each servant does the Master say, Go work today.

Come, labor on:

Claim the high calling that we all may share; To all the world the joyful tidings bear; Redeem the time: its hours too swiftly fly, Harvest draws nigh.

#### Come, labor on:

Away with gloomy doubts and faithless fear. No arm so weak but may do service here; By means the simplest can our God fulfill His righteous will.

#### Come, labor on:

The toil is pleasant, the reward is sure; Blessed are they who to the end endure; How full their joy, how sweet their rest shall be, O Lord, with Thee.

