Plainfield Christian Science Church Independent

Full-Text Lesson Sermon

February 2025

Plainfield Christian Science Church

Independent

905 Prospect Avenue P.O. Box 5619 Plainfield, NJ 07061-5619

(908) 756-4669

www.plainfieldcs.com

Saturday Adult Bible Study – 10:00 a.m. Sunday Roundtable – 10:00 a.m. Sunday Service – 11:00 a.m. Sunday School – 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Meeting – 8:15 p.m.

The Bible, and the Christian Science text-book, are our only preachers. [The] scriptural texts, and their correlative passages from our text-book, — these comprise our sermon.

The canonical writings, together with the word of our text-book corroborating and explaining the Bible texts in their denominational, spiritual import and application to all ages, past, present, and future, constitute a sermon undivorced from truth, uncontaminated or fettered by human hypotheses, and *authorized* by Christ.

— from the April 1897 Christian Science Journal

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The First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts

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THE DAILY DUTIES

by Mary Baker Eddy

Daily Prayer

It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to pray each day: "Thy kingdom come;" let the reign of divine Truth, Life, and Love be established in me, and rule out of me all sin; and may Thy Word enrich the affections of all mankind, and govern them!

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 4

A Rule for Motives and Acts

Neither animosity nor mere personal attachment should impel the motives or acts of the members of The Mother Church. In Science, divine Love alone governs man; and a Christian Scientist reflects the sweet amenities of Love, in rebuking sin, in true brotherliness, charitableness, and forgiveness. The members of this Church should daily watch and pray to be delivered from all evil, from prophesying, judging, condemning, counseling, influencing or being influenced erroneously.

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 1

Alertness to Duty

It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to defend himself daily against aggressive mental suggestion, and not be made to forget nor to neglect his duty to God, to his Leader, and to mankind. By his works he shall be judged, — and justified or condemned.

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 6

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SUNDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2025

SUBJECT—LOVE

GOLDEN TEXT: ROMANS 8:28

"All things work together for good to them that love God."

RESPONSIVE READING: I John 4:7-12

- **7.** Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.
- **8.** He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.
- 9. In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.
- **10.** Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.
- 11. Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.
- **12.** No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

LESSON SERMON

The Bible

1. Jeremiah 31:3

The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, *saying*, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.

2. Ephesians 5:1,2

- Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;
- And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

3. Ruth 1: 1 (a certain)-6, 8, 14 (and Orpah), 16, 19 (to 1st.)

- ...a certain man of Beth-lehem-judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he, and his wife, and his two sons.
- And the name of the man *was* Elimelech, and the name of his wife Naomi, and the name of his two sons Mahlon and Chilion, Ephrathites of Beth-lehem-judah. And they came into the country of Moab, and continued there.
- And Elimelech Naomi's husband died; and she was left, and her two sons.
- And they took them wives of the women of Moab; the name of the one *was* Orpah, and the name of the other Ruth: and they dwelled there about ten years.
- And Mahlon and Chilion died also both of them; and the woman was left of her two sons and her husband.
- Then she arose with her daughters in law, that she might return from the country of Moab: for she had heard in the country of Moab how that the LORD had visited his people in giving them bread.
- And Naomi said unto her two daughters in law, Go, return each to her mother's house: the LORD deal kindly with you, as ye have dealt with the dead, and with me.
- ...and Orpah kissed her mother in law; but Ruth clave unto her.

- SUBJECT: LOVE
- And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee, *or* to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people *shall be* my people, and thy God my God:
- So they two went until they came to Beth-lehem.

4. Ruth 2: 1, 2, 8-12

- And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech; and his name *was* Boaz.
- And Ruth the Moabitess said unto Naomi, Let me now go to the field, and glean ears of corn after *him* in whose sight I shall find grace. And she said unto her, Go, my daughter.
- Then said Boaz unto Ruth, Hearest thou not, my daughter? Go not to glean in another field, neither go from hence, but abide here fast by my maidens:
- Let thine eyes be on the field that they do reap, and go thou after them: have I not charged the young men that they shall not touch thee? and when thou art athirst, go unto the vessels, and drink of *that* which the young men have drawn.
- Then she fell on her face, and bowed herself to the ground, and said unto him, Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou shouldest take knowledge of me, seeing I *am* a stranger?
- And Boaz answered and said unto her, It hath fully been shewed me, all that thou hast done unto thy mother in law since the death of thine husband: and *how* thou hast left thy father and thy mother, and the land of thy nativity, and art come unto a people which thou knewest not heretofore.
- The LORD recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the LORD God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust.

5. Ruth 4: 13, 17

- So Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife: and when he went in unto her, the LORD gave her conception, and she bare a son.
- And the women her neighbours gave it a name, saying, There is a son born to Naomi; and they called his name Obed: he *is* the father of Jesse, the father of David.

SUBJECT: LOVE

6. I John 4: 16 (God is)-19

- God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.
- Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.
- There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.
- We love him, because he first loved us.

7. John 13: 31 (Jesus said) only, 34, 35

- Jesus said,
- A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.
- By this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

8. Hebrews 10: 23, 24

- Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; (for he *is* faithful that promised;)
- And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

9. I Peter 3 : 8-12 (to :)

- Finally, *be ye* all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, *be* pitiful, *be* courteous:
- Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.
- For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:
- Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.
- For the eyes of the Lord *are* over the righteous, and his ears *are open* unto their prayers:

10. I Peter 5 : 2-4

- Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight *thereof*, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
- Neither as being lords over *God's* heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.
- And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

Science and Health

1. 6:17 ("God)-18

"God is Love." More than this we cannot ask, higher we cannot look, farther we cannot go.

2. 454:17-24

Love for God and man is the true incentive in both healing and teaching. Love inspires, illumines, designates, and leads the way. Right motives give pinions to thought, and strength and freedom to speech and action. Love is priestess at the altar of Truth. Wait patiently for divine Love to move upon the waters of mortal mind, and form the perfect concept. Patience must "have her perfect work."

3. 13:2-4

Love is impartial and universal in its adaptation and bestowals. It is the open fount which cries, "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters."

4. 112:32 (God)-8

God is the Principle of divine metaphysics. As there is but one God, there can be but one divine Principle of all Science; and there must be fixed rules for the demonstration of this divine Principle. The letter of Science plentifully reaches humanity to-day, but its spirit comes only in small degrees. The vital part, the heart and soul of Christian Science, is Love. Without this, the letter is but the dead body of Science, — pulseless, cold, inanimate.

5. 19:6-11

Jesus aided in reconciling man to God by giving man a truer sense of Love, the divine Principle of Jesus' teachings, and this truer sense of Love redeems man from the law of matter, sin, and death by the law of Spirit, — the law of divine Love.

6. 494 : 10-15

Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need. It is not well to imagine that Jesus demonstrated the divine power to heal only for a select number or for a limited period of time, since to all mankind and in every hour, divine Love supplies all good.

The miracle of grace is no miracle to Love.

7. 242:15 (Self-love)-20

Self-love is more opaque than a solid body. In patient obedience to a patient God, let us labor to dissolve with the universal solvent of Love the adamant of error, — self-will, self-justification, and self-love, — which wars against spirituality and is the law of sin and death.

8. 337:7-13

For true happiness, man must harmonize with his Principle, divine Love; the Son must be in accord with the Father, in conformity with Christ. According to divine Science, man is in a degree as perfect as the Mind that forms him. The truth of being makes man harmonious and immortal, while error is mortal and discordant.

9. 57:18-30

Happiness is spiritual, born of Truth and Love. It is unselfish; therefore it cannot exist alone, but requires all mankind to share it.

Human affection is not poured forth vainly, even though it meet no return. Love enriches the nature, enlarging, purifying, and elevating it. The wintry blasts of earth may uproot the flowers of affection, and scatter them to the winds; but this severance of fleshly ties serves to unite thought more closely to God, for Love supports the struggling heart until it ceases to sigh over the world and begins to unfold its wings for heaven.

10. 266: 6-19

Would existence without personal friends be to you a blank? Then the time will come when you will be solitary, left without sympathy; but this seeming vacuum is already filled with divine Love. When this hour of development comes, even if you cling to a sense of personal joys, spiritual Love will force you to accept what best promotes your growth. Friends will betray and enemies will slander, until the lesson is sufficient to exalt you; for "man's extremity is God's opportunity." The author has experienced the foregoing prophecy and its blessings. Thus He teaches mortals to lay down their fleshliness and gain spirituality. This is done through selfabnegation. Universal Love is the divine way in Christian Science.

11. 257: 24-29

Who hath found finite life or love sufficient to meet the demands of human want and woe, — to still the desires, to satisfy the aspirations? Infinite Mind cannot be limited to a finite form, or Mind would lose its infinite character as inexhaustible Love, eternal Life, omnipotent Truth.

12. 518 : 13-23

God gives the lesser idea of Himself for a link to the greater, and in return, the higher always protects the lower. The rich in spirit help the poor in one grand brotherhood, all having the same Principle, or Father; and blessed is that man who seeth his brother's need and supplieth it, seeking his own in another's good. Love giveth to the least spiritual idea might, immortality, and goodness, which shine through all as the blossom shines through the bud. All the varied expressions of God reflect health, holiness, immortality — infinite Life, Truth, and Love.

13. 469:30-5

With one Father, even God, the whole family of man would be brethren; and with one Mind and that God, or good, the brotherhood of man would consist of Love and Truth, and have unity of Principle and spiritual power which constitute divine Science.

14. 410:14-21

Every trial of our faith in God makes us stronger. The more difficult seems the material condition to be overcome by Spirit, the stronger should be our faith and the purer our love. The Apostle John says: "There is no fear in Love, but perfect Love casteth out fear. ... He that feareth is not made perfect in Love." Here is a definite and inspired proclamation of Christian Science.

15. 572 : 12-17

Love fulfils the law of Christian Science, and nothing short of this divine Principle, understood and demonstrated, can ever furnish the vision of the Apocalypse, open the seven seals of error with Truth, or uncover the myriad illusions of sin, sickness, and death.

16. 225 : 21-22

Love is the liberator.

THE DAILY DUTIES

by Mary Baker Eddy

Daily Prayer

It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to pray each day: "Thy kingdom come;" let the reign of divine Truth, Life, and Love be established in me, and rule out of me all sin; and may Thy Word enrich the affections of all mankind, and govern them!

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Take Notice

"Christian Scientists, be a law to yourselves that mental malpractice cannot harm you either when asleep or when awake."

(S&H, p. 442)

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2025

SUBJECT—SPIRIT

GOLDEN TEXT: JOHN 6:63

"It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." — Christ Jesus

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 119: 33-37, 40

- **33.** Teach me, O LORD, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it *unto* the end.
- **34.** Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with *my* whole heart.
- 35. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight.
- **36.** Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness.
- **37.** Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; *and* quicken thou me in thy way.
- **40.** Behold, I have longed after thy precepts: quicken me in thy righteousness.

LESSON SERMON

The Bible

1. Psalm 71 : 1 (to :), 3, 6 (my praise), 16

- In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust:
- Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou *art* my rock and my fortress.
- 6 ...my praise *shall be* continually of thee.
- I will go in the strength of the Lord GOD: I will make mention of thy righteousness, *even* of thine only.

2. Isaiah 42 : 1-6

- Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, *in whom* my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.
- He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street.
- A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth.
- He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.
- Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein:
- I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles;

3. Matthew 8 : 5-10, 13

And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,

SUBJECT: SPIRIT

- And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.
- And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.
- The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.
- For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this *man*, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth *it*.
- When Jesus heard *it*, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.
- And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, *so* be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.
- 4. John 4: 5 (to 2nd,), 6, 7, 9-11, 13-21, 23, 24
- Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar,
- Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with *his* journey, sat thus on the well: *and* it was about the sixth hour.
- There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink.
- Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.
- Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.
- The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water?
- Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again:
- But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

draw.

- The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to
- Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither.
- The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband:
- For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly.
- The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.
- Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.
- Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.
- But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.
- God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

5. Romans 8: 1-6, 9 (to 1st.), 10 (the Spirit), 11, 14

- There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
- For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.
- For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:
- That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
- For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

SUBJECT: SPIRIT

- For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.
- But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you.
- ...the Spirit is life because of righteousness.
- But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.
- For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

6. I Thessalonians 5:19

19 Quench not the Spirit.

Science and Health

1. 331:11 (The)-16

The Scriptures imply that God is All-in-all. From this it follows that nothing possesses reality nor existence except the divine Mind and His ideas. The Scriptures also declare that God is Spirit. Therefore in Spirit all is harmony, and there can be no discord; all is Life, and there is no death.

2. 124: 25-26 (to 1st.)

Spirit is the life, substance, and continuity of all things.

3. 468:8-15

Question. — What is the scientific statement of being?

Answer. — There is no life, truth, intelligence, nor substance in matter. All is infinite Mind and its infinite manifestation, for God is All-in-all. Spirit is immortal Truth; matter is mortal error. Spirit is the real and eternal; matter is the unreal and temporal. Spirit is God, and man is His image and likeness. Therefore man is not material; he is spiritual.

4. 138:14-18

The supremacy of Spirit was the foundation on which Jesus built. His sublime summary points to the religion of Love.

Jesus established in the Christian era the precedent for all Christianity, theology, and healing.

5. 139:4-9

From beginning to end, the Scriptures are full of accounts of the triumph of Spirit, Mind, over matter. Moses proved the power of Mind by what men called miracles; so did Joshua, Elijah, and Elisha. The Christian era was ushered in with signs and wonders.

6. 494 : 15 (Jesus)-24

Jesus demonstrated the inability of corporeality, as well as the infinite ability of Spirit, thus helping erring human sense to flee from its own convictions and seek safety in divine Science. Reason, rightly directed, serves to correct the errors of corporeal sense; but sin, sickness, and death will seem real (even as the experiences of the sleeping dream seem real) until the Science of man's eternal harmony breaks their illusion with the unbroken reality of scientific being.

7. 428: 22-29

The great spiritual fact must be brought out that man *is*, not *shall be*, perfect and immortal. We must hold forever the consciousness of existence, and sooner or later, through Christ and Christian Science, we must master sin and death. The evidence of man's immortality will become more apparent, as material beliefs are given up and the immortal facts of being are admitted.

8. 425:23-28

Consciousness constructs a better body when faith in matter has been conquered. Correct material belief by spiritual understanding, and Spirit will form you anew. You will never fear again except to offend God, and you will never believe that heart or any portion of the body can destroy you.

9. 170: 14-17, 22-30 next page

The demands of Truth are spiritual, and reach the body through Mind. The best interpreter of man's needs said: "Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink."

Spiritual causation is the one question to be considered, for more than all others spiritual causation relates to human progress. The age seems ready to approach this subject, to ponder somewhat the supremacy of Spirit, and at least to touch the hem of Truth's garment.

The description of man as purely physical, or as both material and spiritual, — but in either case dependent upon his physical organization, — is the Pandora box, from which all ills have gone forth, especially despair. Matter, which takes divine power into its own hands and claims to be a creator, is a fiction, in which paganism and lust are so sanctioned by society that mankind has caught their moral contagion.

Through discernment of the spiritual opposite of materiality, even the way through Christ, Truth, man will reopen with the key of divine Science the gates of Paradise which human beliefs have closed, and will find himself unfallen, upright, pure, and free, not needing to consult almanacs for the probabilities either of his life or of the weather, not needing to study brainology to learn how much of a man he is.

Mind's control over the universe, including man, is no longer an open question, but is demonstrable Science. Jesus illustrated the divine Principle and the power of immortal Mind by healing sickness and sin and destroying the foundations of death.

Mistaking his origin and nature, man believes himself to be combined matter and Spirit. He believes that Spirit is sifted through matter, carried on a nerve, exposed to ejection by the operation of matter. The intellectual, the moral, the spiritual, — yea, the image of infinite Mind, — subject to non-intelligence!

No more sympathy exists between the flesh and Spirit than between Belial and Christ.

The so-called laws of matter are nothing but false beliefs that intelligence and life are present where Mind is not. These false beliefs are the procuring cause of all sin and disease. The opposite truth, that intelligence and life are spiritual, never material, destroys sin, sickness, and death.

10. 491:9-16

Man's spiritual individuality is never wrong. It is the likeness of man's Maker. Matter cannot connect mortals with the true origin and facts of being, in which all must end. It is only by acknowledging the supremacy of Spirit, which annuls the claims of matter, that mortals can lay off mortality and find the indissoluble spiritual link which establishes man forever in the divine likeness, inseparable from his creator.

11. 167: **17-19**, **22-31**

To have one God and avail yourself of the power of Spirit, you must love God supremely.

It is not wise to take a halting and half-way position or to expect to work equally with Spirit and matter, Truth and error. There is but one way — namely, God and His idea — which leads to spiritual being. The scientific government of the body must be attained through the divine Mind. It is impossible to gain control over the body in any other way. On this fundamental point, timid conservatism is absolutely inadmissible. Only through radical reliance on Truth can scientific healing power be realized.

12. 393:8-15

Mind is the master of the corporeal senses, and can conquer sickness, sin, and death. Exercise this God-given authority. Take possession of your body, and govern its feeling and action. Rise in the strength of Spirit to resist all that is unlike good. God has made man capable of this, and nothing can vitiate the ability and power divinely bestowed on man.

THE DAILY DUTIES

by Mary Baker Eddy

Daily Prayer

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(S&H, p. 442)

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2025

SUBJECT—SOUL

GOLDEN TEXT: MATTHEW 22:37

"Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind."

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 103: 1-4, 13, 18, 20-22

- 1. Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, *bless* his holy name.
- **2.** Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:
- **3.** Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;
- **4.** Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies.
- 13. Like as a father pitieth *his* children, *so* the LORD pitieth them that fear him.
- 18. To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.
- **20.** Bless the LORD, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.
- 21. Bless ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.
- 22. Bless the LORD, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the LORD, O my soul.

LESSON SERMON

The Bible

1. Matthew 4:23

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

2. Luke 5: 17 (to 3rd,), 18 (to:), 19-25

- And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by,
- And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy:
- And when they could not find by what *way* they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with *his* couch into the midst before Jesus.
- And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.
- And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?
- But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, What reason ye in your hearts?
- Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk?
- But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house.
- And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God.

3. Matthew 14 : 22 (to 2nd ,), 23 (and when the)-33

And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side,

- ...and when the evening was come, he was there alone.
- But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.
- And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.
- And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.
- But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.
- And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.
- And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.
- But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.
- And immediately Jesus stretched forth *his* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?
- And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.
- Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

4. Matthew 17:1 (Jesus)-9 (to 4th,), 14-20

- Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart,
- And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light.
- And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.
- Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias.

- While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.
- And when the disciples heard *it*, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid.
- And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid.
- And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man, save Jesus only.
- And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man,
- And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a *certain* man, kneeling down to him, and saying,
- Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for ofttimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water.
- And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him.
- Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me.
- And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour.
- Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out?
- 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.
- 5. Acts 1: 2 (after), 3, 7 (to 1st,), 8 (ye shall receive) (to:), 9-11
- 2 ...after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:
- To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:
- And he said unto them,
- 8 ... ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:

- And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.
- And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;
- Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

6. Matthew 5 : 8

Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

7. Luke 17 : 21 (behold)

21 ...behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

Science and Health

1. 120:4-6

Soul, or Spirit, is God, unchangeable and eternal; and man coexists with and reflects Soul, God, for man is God's image.

2. 30:19-25

As the individual ideal of Truth, Christ Jesus came to rebuke rabbinical error and all sin, sickness, and death, — to point out the way of Truth and Life. This ideal was demonstrated throughout the whole earthly career of Jesus, showing the difference between the offspring of Soul and of material sense, of Truth and of error.

3. 476: 28-32

When speaking of God's children, not the children of men, Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is within you;" that is, Truth and Love reign in the real man, showing that man in God's image is unfallen and eternal.

4. 310 : 18 (We)-22

We are commonly taught that there is a human soul which sins and is spiritually lost, — that soul may be lost, and yet be immortal. If Soul could sin, Spirit, Soul, would be flesh instead of Spirit.

5. 481:28-32

Soul is the divine Principle of man and never sins, — hence the immortality of Soul. In Science we learn that it is material sense, not Soul, which sins; and it will be found that it is the sense of sin which is lost, and not a sinful soul.

6. 273 : 24-28

Jesus walked on the waves, fed the multitude, healed the sick, and raised the dead in direct opposition to material laws. His acts were the demonstration of Science, overcoming the false claims of material sense or law.

7. 381 : 8-19

When infringing some supposed law, you say that there is danger. This fear is the danger and induces the physical effects. We cannot in reality suffer from breaking anything except a moral or spiritual law. The so-called laws of mortal belief are destroyed by the understanding that Soul is immortal, and that mortal mind cannot legislate the times, periods, and types of disease, with which mortals die. God is the lawmaker, but He is not the author of barbarous codes. In infinite Life and Love there is no sickness, sin, nor death, and the Scriptures declare that we live, move, and have our being in the infinite God.

8. 210:5-18

The Principle and proof of Christianity are discerned by spiritual sense. They are set forth in Jesus' demonstrations, which show — by his healing the sick, casting out evils, and destroying death, "the last enemy that shall be destroyed," — his disregard of matter and its so-called laws.

Knowing that Soul and its attributes were forever manifested through man, the Master healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, feet to the lame, thus bringing to light the scientific action of the divine Mind on human minds and bodies and giving a better understanding of Soul and salvation. Jesus healed sickness and sin by one and the same metaphysical process.

9. 477:6-7

Man is not a material habitation for Soul; he is himself spiritual.

10. 204:30 (The belief)-6

The belief that God lives in matter is pantheistic. The error, which says that Soul is in body, Mind is in matter, and good is in evil, must unsay it and cease from such utterances; else God will continue to be hidden from humanity, and mortals will sin without knowing that they are sinning, will lean on matter instead of Spirit, stumble with lameness, drop with drunkenness, consume with disease, — all because of their blindness, their false sense concerning God and man.

11. 9:17-21 (to 1st.)

Dost thou "love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind"? This command includes much, even the surrender of all merely material sensation, affection, and worship.

12. 334:10 (The)-20

The invisible Christ was imperceptible to the so-called personal senses, whereas Jesus appeared as a bodily existence. This dual personality of the unseen and the seen, the spiritual and material, the eternal Christ and the corporeal Jesus manifest in flesh, continued until the Master's ascension, when the human, material concept, or Jesus, disappeared, while the spiritual self, or Christ, continues to exist in the eternal order of divine Science, taking away the sins of the world, as the Christ has always done, even before the human Jesus was incarnate to mortal eyes.

13. 171:4-16

Through discernment of the spiritual opposite of materiality, even the way through Christ, Truth, man will reopen with the key of divine Science the gates of Paradise which human beliefs have closed, and will find himself unfallen, upright, pure, and free, not needing to consult almanacs for the probabilities either of his life or of the weather, not needing to study brainology to learn how much of a man he is.

Mind's control over the universe, including man, is no longer an open question, but is demonstrable Science. Jesus illustrated the divine Principle and the power of immortal Mind by healing sickness and sin and destroying the foundations of death.

14. 307: 25 (Truth)-30

Truth has no beginning. The divine Mind is the Soul of man, and gives man dominion over all things. Man was not created from a material basis, nor bidden to obey material laws which Spirit never made; his province is in spiritual statutes, in the higher law of Mind.

15. 208 : **20-24**

Let us learn of the real and eternal, and prepare for the reign of Spirit, the kingdom of heaven,
— the reign and rule of universal harmony, which cannot be lost nor remain forever unseen.

16. 590:1 (KINGDOM)-3

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. The reign of harmony in divine Science; the realm of unerring, eternal, and omnipotent Mind; the atmosphere of Spirit, where Soul is supreme.

THE DAILY DUTIES

by Mary Baker Eddy

Daily Prayer

It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to pray each day: "Thy kingdom come;" let the reign of divine Truth, Life, and Love be established in me, and rule out of me all sin; and may Thy Word enrich the affections of all mankind, and govern them!

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 4

A Rule for Motives and Acts

Neither animosity nor mere personal attachment should impel the motives or acts of the members of The Mother Church. In Science, divine Love alone governs man; and a Christian Scientist reflects the sweet amenities of Love, in rebuking sin, in true brotherliness, charitableness, and forgiveness. The members of this Church should daily watch and pray to be delivered from all evil, from prophesying, judging, condemning, counseling, influencing or being influenced erroneously.

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 1

Alertness to Duty

It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to defend himself daily against aggressive mental suggestion, and not be made to forget nor to neglect his duty to God, to his Leader, and to mankind. By his works he shall be judged, — and justified or condemned.

Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 6

Take Notice

"Christian Scientists, be a law to yourselves that mental malpractice cannot harm you either when asleep or when awake."

(S&H, p. 442)

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2025

SUBJECT—MIND

GOLDEN TEXT: JOB 36:4

"He that is perfect in knowledge is with thee."

RESPONSIVE READING: Proverbs 3:5-8, 13-15, 17

- 5. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
- **6.** In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.
- 7. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.
- **8.** It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.
- **13.** Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.
- **14.** For the merchandise of it *is* better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.
- **15.** She *is* more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.
- 17. Her ways *are* ways of pleasantness, and all her paths *are* peace.

LESSON SERMON

The Bible

1. Daniel 12:3

And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

2. Ecclesiastes 9 : 13-15 (to ;)

- This wisdom have I seen also under the sun, and it *seemed* great unto me:
- There was a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it:
- Now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city;

3. Psalm 19: 1-3, 7-10

- The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.
- ² Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.
- There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.
- The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.
- The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes.
- The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether.
- More to be desired *are they* than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.
- 4. Daniel 2: 1, 2, 4, 5 (to 4th ,), 6 (to :), 10 (to :), 12 (to ,), 16, 19, 23, 27 (to 2nd ,), 28 (there) (to .), 46 (to king), 47 (answered), 48
- And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him.

- Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, for to shew the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.
- Then spake the Chaldeans to the king in Syriack, O king, live for ever: tell thy servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation.
- The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, The thing is gone from me: if ye will not make known unto me the dream, with the interpretation thereof, ye shall be cut in pieces,
- But if ye shew the dream, and the interpretation thereof, ye shall receive of me gifts and rewards and great honour:
- The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, There is not a man upon the earth that can shew the king's matter:
- For this cause the king was angry and very furious,
- Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would shew the king the interpretation.
- Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven.
- I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast *now* made known unto us the king's matter.
- Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said,
- 28 ...there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days.
- Then the king ...
- ...answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a truth *it is*, that your God *is* a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret.
- Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise *men* of Babylon.

5. Isaiah 50 : 4, 7, 10

- The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to *him that is* weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.
- For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed.
- Who *is* among you that feareth the LORD, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh *in* darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the LORD, and stay upon his God.

6. I Corinthians 2 : 9 (as)-16

- 9 ...as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.
- But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.
- For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.
- Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.
- Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.
- But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.
- But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.
- For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

Science and Health

1. 342:2-4

The hour has struck when proof and demonstration, instead of opinion and dogma, are summoned to the support of Christianity, "making wise the simple."

2. 275:14-24

All substance, intelligence, wisdom, being, immortality, cause, and effect belong to God. These are His attributes, the eternal manifestations of the infinite divine Principle, Love. No wisdom is wise but His wisdom; no truth is true, no love is lovely, no life is Life but the divine; no good is, but the good God bestows.

Divine metaphysics, as revealed to spiritual understanding, shows clearly that all is Mind, and that Mind is God, omnipotence, omnipresence, omniscience, — that is, all power, all presence, all Science. Hence all is in reality the manifestation of Mind.

3. 6:5-7

God is not separate from the wisdom He bestows. The talents He gives we must improve.

4. 372:1 *only*

Remember, brain is not mind.

5. 165: **6-11**

To measure intellectual capacity by the size of the brain and strength by the exercise of muscle, is to subjugate intelligence, to make mind mortal, and to place this so-called mind at the mercy of material organization and non-intelligent matter.

6. 469: 7-11

Question. — What is intelligence?

Answer. — Intelligence is omniscience, omnipresence, and omnipotence. It is the primal and eternal quality of infinite Mind, of the triune Principle, — Life, Truth, and Love, — named God.

7. 128:4-19

The term Science, properly understood, refers only to the laws of God and to His government of the universe, inclusive of man. From this it follows that business men and cultured scholars have found that Christian Science enhances their endurance and mental powers, enlarges their perception of character, gives them acuteness and comprehensiveness and an ability to exceed their ordinary capacity. The human mind, imbued with this spiritual understanding, becomes more elastic, is capable of greater endurance, escapes somewhat from itself, and requires less repose. A knowledge of the Science of being develops the latent abilities and possibilities of man. It extends the atmosphere of thought, giving mortals access to broader and higher realms. It raises the thinker into his native air of insight and perspicacity.

8. 89:18-24

Mind is not necessarily dependent upon educational processes. It possesses of itself all beauty and poetry, and the power of expressing them. Spirit, God, is heard when the senses are silent. We are all capable of more than we do. The influence or action of Soul confers a freedom, which explains the phenomena of improvisation and the fervor of untutored lips.

9. 84: 3-23, 28-12

The ancient prophets gained their foresight from a spiritual, incorporeal standpoint, not by foreshadowing evil and mistaking fact for fiction, — predicting the future from a groundwork of corporeality and human belief. When sufficiently advanced in Science to be in harmony with the truth of being, men become seers and prophets involuntarily, controlled not by demons, spirits, or demigods, but by the one Spirit. It is the prerogative of the ever-present, divine Mind, and of thought which is in rapport with this Mind, to know the past, the present, and the future.

Acquaintance with the Science of being enables us to commune more largely with the divine Mind, to foresee and foretell events which concern the universal welfare, to be divinely inspired, — yea, to reach the range of fetterless Mind.

To understand that Mind is infinite, not bounded by corporeality, not dependent upon the ear and eye for sound or sight nor upon muscles and bones for locomotion, is a step towards the Mind-science by which we discern man's nature and existence.

All we correctly know of Spirit comes from God, divine Principle, and is learned through Christ and Christian Science. If this Science has been thoroughly learned and properly digested, we can know the truth more accurately than the astronomer can read the stars or calculate an eclipse.

This Mind-reading is the opposite of clairvoyance. It is the illumination of the spiritual understanding which demonstrates the capacity of Soul, not of material sense. This Soul-sense comes to the human mind when the latter yields to the divine Mind.

Such intuitions reveal whatever constitutes and perpetuates harmony, enabling one to do good, but not evil. You will reach the perfect Science of healing when you are able to read the human mind after this manner and discern the error you would destroy.

10. 216:11-18

The understanding that the Ego is Mind, and that there is but one Mind or intelligence, begins at once to destroy the errors of mortal sense and to supply the truth of immortal sense. This understanding makes the body harmonious; it makes the nerves, bones, brain, etc., servants, instead of masters. If man is governed by the law of divine Mind, his body is in submission to everlasting Life and Truth and Love.

11. 419: 12-16, 20 *only*

Disease has no intelligence with which to move itself about or to change itself from one form to another. If disease moves, mind, not matter, moves it; therefore be sure that you move it off. Meet every adverse circumstance as its master.

Mind produces all action.

12. 393:8-15

Mind is the master of the corporeal senses, and can conquer sickness, sin, and death. Exercise this God-given authority. Take possession of your body, and govern its feeling and action. Rise in the strength of Spirit to resist all that is unlike good. God has made man capable of this, and nothing can vitiate the ability and power divinely bestowed on man.

13. 184:16-17

Controlled by the divine intelligence, man is harmonious and eternal.

THE DAILY DUTIES

by Mary Baker Eddy

Daily Prayer

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