# Plainfield Christian Science Church Independent

Full-Text Lesson Sermon

January 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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## SUNDAY JANUARY 5, 2025

## SUBJECT—GOD

GOLDEN TEXT: PSALM 62:11

"God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God."

## RESPONSIVE READING: II Samuel 22: 2-4, 21, 22, 28, 32, 33

- 2. The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer;
- 3. The God of my rock; in him will I trust: *he is* my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower, and my refuge, my saviour; thou savest me from violence.
- **4.** I will call on the LORD, *who is* worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.
- **21.** The LORD rewarded me according to my righteousness: according to the cleanness of my hands hath he recompensed me.
- 22. For I have kept the ways of the LORD, and have not wickedly departed from my God.
- **28.** And the afflicted people thou wilt save: but thine eyes *are* upon the haughty, *that* thou mayest bring *them* down.
- **32**. For who *is* God, save the LORD? and who *is* a rock, save our God?
- **33.** God *is* my strength *and* power: and he maketh my way perfect.

#### **LESSON SERMON**

#### The Bible

# 1. I Chronicles 29: 11, 13

- Thine, O LORD, *is* the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all *that is* in the heaven and in the earth *is thine;* thine *is* the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.
- Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

# 2. Jeremiah 32 : 16 (I prayed)-18 (to 1st ,), 18 (the Great)-20, 26, 27

- <sup>16</sup> I prayed unto the LORD, saying,
- Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, *and* there is nothing too hard for thee:
- Thou shewest lovingkindness unto thousands, ... the Great, the Mighty God, the LORD of hosts, *is* his name,
- Great in counsel, and mighty in work: for thine eyes *are* open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings:
- Which hast set signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, *even* unto this day, and in Israel, and among *other* men; and hast made thee a name, as at this day;
- Then came the word of the LORD unto Jeremiah, saying,
- Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?

# 3. Joshua 6: 1, 2, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15 (to:), 16, 20, 27

- Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in.
- And the LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, *and* the mighty men of valour.

- And Joshua the son of Nun called the priests, and said unto them, Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD.
- And he said unto the people, Pass on, and compass the city, and let him that is armed pass on before the ark of the LORD.
- And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall *any* word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.
- So the ark of the LORD compassed the city, going about *it* once: and they came into the camp, and lodged in the camp.
- And the second day they compassed the city once, and returned into the camp: so they did six days.
- And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times:
- And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the LORD hath given you the city.
- So the people shouted when *the priests* blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.
- So the LORD was with Joshua; and his fame was *noised* throughout all the country.

#### 4. Isaiah 52 : 10

The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

#### 5. Mark 1:1

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God;

# 6. Mark 3: 1-7, 8 (when), 10, 11, 14, 15

- And he entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand.
- And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him.
- And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth.
- And he saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace.
- And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched *it* out: and his hand was restored whole as the other.
- And the Pharisees went forth, and straightway took counsel with the Herodians against him, how they might destroy him.
- But Jesus withdrew himself with his disciples to the sea: and a great multitude from Galilee followed him, and from Judæa,
- 8 ... when they had heard what great things he did, came unto him.
- For he had healed many; insomuch that they pressed upon him for to touch him, as many as had plagues.
- And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, Thou art the Son of God.
- And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach,
- And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:

# 7. Ephesians 3: 14, 16, 20, 21

For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

- That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;
- Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,
- Unto him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

# Science and Health

#### 1. 275:6-9

The starting-point of divine Science is that God, Spirit, is All-in-all, and that there is no other might nor Mind, — that God is Love, and therefore He is divine Principle.

#### 2. 127:30-3

Christian Science eschews what is called natural science, in so far as this is built on the false hypotheses that matter is its own lawgiver, that law is founded on material conditions, and that these are final and overrule the might of divine Mind. Good is natural and primitive. It is not miraculous to itself.

# 3. 182:19-22, 30-1 (to;)

Obedience to material law prevents full obedience to spiritual law, — the law which overcomes material conditions and puts matter under the feet of Mind.

To admit that sickness is a condition over which God has no control, is to presuppose that omnipotent power is powerless on some occasions. The law of Christ, or Truth, makes all things possible to Spirit;

#### 4. 344:32-9

In the Bible the word *Spirit* is so commonly applied to Deity, that Spirit and God are often regarded as synonymous terms; and it is thus they are uniformly used and understood in Christian Science. As it is evident that the likeness of Spirit cannot be material, does it not follow that God cannot be in His unlikeness and work through drugs to heal the sick? When the omnipotence of God is preached and His absoluteness is set forth, Christian sermons will heal the sick.

# 5. 357: 17-23 (to 2nd,), 25-32

History teaches that the popular and false notions about the Divine Being and character have originated in the human mind. As there is in reality but one God, one Mind, wrong notions about God must have originated in a false supposition, not in immortal Truth, and they are fading out. They are false claims, which will eventually disappear,

If what opposes God is real, there must be two powers, and God is not supreme and infinite. Can Deity be almighty, if another mighty and self-creative cause exists and sways mankind? Has the Father "Life in Himself," as the Scriptures say, and, if so, can Life, or God, dwell in evil and create it? Can matter drive Life, Spirit, hence, and so defeat omnipotence?

#### **6.** 284 : 15-16

Can Deity be known through the material senses?

# 7. **285**: 1-2, 23-31

Matter is not sentient and cannot be cognizant of good or of evil, of pleasure or of pain.

By interpreting God as a corporeal Saviour but not as the saving Principle, or divine Love, we shall continue to seek salvation through pardon and not through reform, and resort to matter instead of Spirit for the cure of the sick. As mortals reach, through knowledge of Christian Science, a higher sense, they will seek to learn, not from matter, but from the divine Principle, God, how to demonstrate the Christ, Truth, as the healing and saving power.

#### **8.** 444 : 31-18

The teacher must make clear to students the Science of healing, especially its ethics, — that all is Mind, and that the Scientist must conform to God's requirements. Also the teacher must thoroughly fit his students to defend themselves against sin, and to guard against the attacks of the would-be *mental assassin*, who attempts to kill morally and physically. No hypothesis as to the existence of another power should interpose a doubt or fear to hinder the demonstration of Christian Science. Unfold the latent energies and capacities for good in your pupil. Teach the great possibilities of man endued with divine Science. Teach the dangerous possibility of dwarfing the spiritual understanding and demonstration of Truth by sin, or by recourse to material means for healing. Teach the meekness and might of life "hid with Christ in God," and there will be no desire for other healing methods. You render the divine law of healing obscure and void, when you weigh the human in the scale with the divine, or limit in any direction of thought the omnipresence and omnipotence of God.

# 9. 406: 19-24 (to,)

Resist evil — error of every sort — and it will flee from you. Error is opposed to Life. We can, and ultimately shall, so rise as to avail ourselves in every direction of the supremacy of Truth over error, Life over death, and good over evil, and this growth will go on until we arrive at the fulness of God's idea,

#### 10. 407:6-20

Man's enslavement to the most relentless masters — passion, selfishness, envy, hatred, and revenge — is conquered only by a mighty struggle. Every hour of delay makes the struggle more severe. If man is not victorious over the passions, they crush out happiness, health, and manhood. Here Christian Science is the sovereign panacea, giving strength to the weakness of mortal mind, — strength from the immortal and omnipotent Mind, — and lifting humanity above itself into purer desires, even into spiritual power and good-will to man.

Let the slave of wrong desire learn the lessons of Christian Science, and he will get the better of that desire, and ascend a degree in the scale of health, happiness, and existence.

#### 11. 387:27-32

The history of Christianity furnishes sublime proofs of the supporting influence and protecting power bestowed on man by his heavenly Father, omnipotent Mind, who gives man faith and understanding whereby to defend himself, not only from temptation, but from bodily suffering.

## **12. 55: 16-26**

My weary hope tries to realize that happy day, when man shall recognize the Science of Christ and love his neighbor as himself, — when he shall realize God's omnipotence and the healing power of the divine Love in what it has done and is doing for mankind. The promises will be fulfilled. The time for the reappearing of the divine healing is throughout all time; and whosoever layeth his earthly all on the altar of divine Science, drinketh of Christ's cup now, and is endued with the spirit and power of Christian healing.

# 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 JANUARY 12, 2025

## SUBJECT—SACRAMENT

GOLDEN TEXT: ACTS 9:6

"Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?"

# RESPONSIVE READING: Hebrews 3:1, 2, 4-8, 14

- 1. Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;
- 2. Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house.
- **4.** For every house is builded by some *man*; but he that built all things *is* God.
- **5.** And Moses verily *was* faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after;
- 6. But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.
- 7. To day if ye will hear his voice,
- **8.** Harden not your hearts,
- **14.** For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end.

#### LESSON SERMON

#### The Bible

- 1. Psalm 123:1,2
- Unto thee lift I up mine eyes, O thou that dwellest in the heavens.
- Behold, as the eyes of servants *look* unto the hand of their masters, *and* as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; so our eyes *wait* upon the LORD our God, until that he have mercy upon us.
- 2. Numbers 10 : 12 (to;)
- And the children of Israel took their journeys out of the wilderness of Sinai;
- 3. Numbers 11: 1, 2, 4, 16 (to 2nd ,), 17 (to:), 18 (to 1st:), 21, 22 (to 1st?), 23, 24 (to 2nd ,), 31 (to 3rd ,)
- And *when* the people complained, it displeased the LORD: and the LORD heard *it*; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the LORD burnt among them, and consumed *them that were* in the uttermost parts of the camp.
- And the people cried unto Moses; and when Moses prayed unto the LORD, the fire was quenched.
- And the mixt multitude that *was* among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat?
- And the LORD said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel,
- And I will come down and talk with thee there:
- And say thou unto the people, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow, and ye shall eat flesh:
- And Moses said, The people, among whom I *am*, *are* six hundred thousand footmen; and thou hast said, I will give them flesh, that they may eat a whole month.
- Shall the flocks and the herds be slain for them, to suffice them?
- And the LORD said unto Moses, Is the LORD'S hand waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not.

- And Moses went out, and told the people the words of the LORD,
- And there went forth a wind from the LORD, and brought quails from the sea, and let *them* fall by the camp,

#### 4. Isaiah 52 : 13

Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high.

# 5. John 9: 1-7, 13-16, 30-33

- And as *Jesus* passed by, he saw a man which was blind from *his* birth.
- And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?
- Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.
- I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.
- As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.
- When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,
- And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.
- They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind.
- And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes.
- Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see.
- Therefore said some of the Pharisees, This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them.

- The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence he is, and *yet* he hath opened mine eyes.
- Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.
- Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind.
- If this man were not of God, he could do nothing.

# 6. Luke 22 : 1, 14, 24-27

- Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover.
- And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him.
- And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest.
- And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors.
- But ye *shall* not *be* so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.
- For whether *is* greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? *is* not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.

# 7. Romans: 13:1, 3 (Wilt), 4 (to 1st.)

- Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.
- Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:
- For he is the minister of God to thee for good.

## 8. Ephesians 5: 17, 19-21

Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord *is*.

- Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;
- Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;
- Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

# Science and Health

#### 1. 202:3-5

The scientific unity which exists between God and man must be wrought out in life-practice, and God's will must be universally done.

# 2. 241 : 1 (He, who)-4, 19-30

He, who knows God's will or the demands of divine Science and obeys them, incurs the hostility of envy; and he who refuses obedience to God, is chastened by Love.

The substance of all devotion is the reflection and demonstration of divine Love, healing sickness and destroying sin. Our Master said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

One's aim, a point beyond faith, should be to find the footsteps of Truth, the way to health and holiness. We should strive to reach the Horeb height where God is revealed; and the cornerstone of all spiritual building is purity. The baptism of Spirit, washing the body of all the impurities of flesh, signifies that the pure in heart see God and are approaching spiritual Life and its demonstration.

#### 3. 33:18-26

When the human element in him struggled with the divine, our great Teacher said: "Not my will, but Thine, be done!" — that is, Let not the flesh, but the Spirit, be represented in me. This is the new understanding of spiritual Love. It gives all for Christ, or Truth. It blesses its enemies, heals the sick, casts out error, raises the dead from trespasses and sins, and preaches the gospel to the poor, the meek in heart.

# 4. 144 : 14 (Human will-power)-22

Human will-power is not Science. Human will belongs to the so-called material senses, and its use is to be condemned. Willing the sick to recover is not the metaphysical practice of Christian Science, but is sheer animal magnetism. Human will-power may infringe the rights of man. It

produces evil continually, and is not a factor in the realism of being. Truth, and not corporeal will, is the divine power which says to disease, "Peace, be still."

# 5. 206:10 (Will-power)-14

Will-power is capable of all evil. It can never heal the sick, for it is the prayer of the unrighteous; while the exercise of the sentiments — hope, faith, love — is the prayer of the righteous. This prayer, governed by Science instead of the senses, heals the sick.

#### 6. xi: 1-21

Many imagine that the phenomena of physical healing in Christian Science present only a phase of the action of the human mind, which action in some unexplained way results in the cure of disease. On the contrary, Christian Science rationally explains that all other pathological methods are the fruits of human faith in matter, — faith in the workings, not of Spirit, but of the fleshly mind which must yield to Science.

The physical healing of Christian Science results now, as in Jesus' time, from the operation of divine Principle, before which sin and disease lose their reality in human consciousness and disappear as naturally and as necessarily as darkness gives place to light and sin to reformation. Now, as then, these mighty works are not supernatural, but supremely natural. They are the sign of Immanuel, or "God with us," — a divine influence ever present in human consciousness and repeating itself, coming now as was promised aforetime,

To preach deliverance to the captives [of sense], And recovering of sight to the blind, To set at liberty them that are bruised.

## **7.** 40: 25-30

Our heavenly Father, divine Love, demands that all men should follow the example of our Master and his apostles and not merely worship his personality. It is sad that the phrase *divine service* has come so generally to mean public worship instead of daily deeds.

#### 8. 51:19-32

His consummate example was for the salvation of us all, but only through doing the works which he did and taught others to do. His purpose in healing was not alone to restore health, but to demonstrate his divine Principle. He was inspired by God, by Truth and Love, in all that he said and did. The motives of his persecutors were pride, envy, cruelty, and vengeance, inflicted on the physical Jesus, but aimed at the divine Principle, Love, which rebuked their sensuality.

Jesus was unselfish. His spirituality separated him from sensuousness, and caused the selfish materialist to hate him; but it was this spirituality which enabled Jesus to heal the sick, cast out evil, and raise the dead.

#### 9. 168:15-23

Because man-made systems insist that man becomes sick and useless, suffers and dies, all in consonance with the laws of God, are we to believe it? Are we to believe an authority which denies God's spiritual command relating to perfection, — an authority which Jesus proved to be false? He did the will of the Father. He healed sickness in defiance of what is called material law, but in accordance with God's law, the law of Mind.

#### 10. 349:3-12

As Paul asked of the unfaithful in ancient days, so the rabbis of the present day ask concerning our healing and teaching, "Through breaking the law, dishonorest thou God?" We have the gospel, however, and our Master annulled material law by healing contrary to it. We propose to follow the Master's example. We should subordinate material law to spiritual law. Two essential points of Christian Science are, that neither Life nor man dies, and that God is not the author of sickness.

#### 11. 37:16-25

When will Jesus' professed followers learn to emulate him in *all* his ways and to imitate his mighty works? Those who procured the martyrdom of that righteous man would gladly have turned his sacred career into a mutilated doctrinal platform. May the Christians of to-day take up the more practical import of that career! It is possible, — yea, it is the duty and privilege of every child, man, and woman, — to follow in some degree the example of the Master by the demonstration of Truth and Life, of health and holiness.

# 12. 371: 22-23 (to;), 27-32

No impossible thing do I ask when urging the claims of Christian Science; ... The necessity for uplifting the race is father to the fact that Mind can do it; for Mind can impart purity instead of impurity, strength instead of weakness, and health instead of disease. Truth is an alterative in the entire system, and can make it "every whit whole."

#### 13. 17:1-3

Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Enable us to know, — as in heaven, so on earth, — God is omnipotent, 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

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Church Manual, Article VIII, Sect. 1

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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 JANUARY 19, 2025

#### SUBJECT—LIFE

GOLDEN TEXT: ACTS 26:8

"Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?"

RESPONSIVE READING: John 5: 19, 21, 24-29

- 19. Then answered Jesus and said unto them,
- **21.** For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth *them*; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will.
- **24.** 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.
- **25.** Verily, Verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live.
- **26.** For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;
- 27. And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.
- **28.** Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,
- **29.** And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life.

#### LESSON SERMON

#### The Bible

- 1. Genesis 5 : 23, 24
- And all the days of Enoch were three hundred sixty and five years:
- And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.
- 2. Hebrews 11:5
- By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.
- 3. Matthew 3: 13-17
- Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.
- But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?
- And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer *it to be so* now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.
- And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:
- And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.
- 4. John 11: 1-11, 15, 17, 20 (to:), 21-27, 32-34, 38, 39 (to 1st.), 40 (Said)-44
- Now a certain *man* was sick, *named* Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.
- <sup>2</sup> (It was *that* Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.)
- Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.

- When Jesus heard *that*, he said, This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.
- Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.
- When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was.
- Then after that saith he to *his* disciples, Let us go into Judæa again.
- His disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again?
- Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day? If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world.
- But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.
- These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.
- And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him.
- Then when Jesus came, he found that he had *lain* in the grave four days already.
- Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him:
- Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.
- But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give *it* thee.
- Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again.
- Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.
- Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:
- And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?
- She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.

- Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.
- When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled,
- And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see.
- Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.
- Jesus said, Take ye away the stone.
- Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?
- Then they took away the stone *from the place* where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up *his* eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.
- And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said *it*, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.
- And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.
- And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.

#### 5. John 17 : 1-3

- These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:
- As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.
- And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

# 6. I John 5: 11, 13, 20

And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

- These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.
- And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, *even* in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

#### Science and Health

#### 1. 586:9-10

FATHER. Eternal Life; the one Mind; the divine Principle, commonly called God.

# 2. 331:11 (The)-17

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. Everything in God's universe expresses Him.

#### 3. 214:5-8

If Enoch's perception had been confined to the evidence before his material senses, he could never have "walked with God," nor been guided into the demonstration of life eternal.

# 4. 245: 27 only

Impossibilities never occur.

#### **5. 213**: **11-15**

Every step towards goodness is a departure from materiality, and is a tendency towards God, Spirit. Material theories partially paralyze this attraction towards infinite and eternal good by an opposite attraction towards the finite, temporary, and discordant.

#### **6. 241** : **13-18**

The Bible teaches transformation of the body by the renewal of Spirit. Take away the spiritual signification of Scripture, and that compilation can do no more for mortals than can moonbeams to melt a river of ice. The error of the ages is preaching without practice.

SUBJECT: LIFE

## 7. 428:30-10

The author has healed hopeless organic disease, and raised the dying to life and health through the understanding of God as the only Life. It is a sin to believe that aught can overpower omnipotent and eternal Life, and this Life must be brought to light by the understanding that there is no death, as well as by other graces of Spirit. We must begin, however, with the more simple demonstrations of control, and the sooner we begin the better. The final demonstration takes time for its accomplishment. When walking, we are guided by the eye. We look before our feet, and if we are wise, we look beyond a single step in the line of spiritual advancement.

# 8. 428:15-21

We should consecrate existence, not "to the unknown God" whom we "ignorantly worship," but to the eternal builder, the everlasting Father, to the Life which mortal sense cannot impair nor mortal belief destroy. We must realize the ability of mental might to offset human misconceptions and to replace them with the life which is spiritual, not material.

#### 9. 493:28-15

If Jesus awakened Lazarus from the dream, illusion, of death, this proved that the Christ could improve on a false sense. Who dares to doubt this consummate test of the power and willingness of divine Mind to hold man forever intact in his perfect state, and to govern man's entire action? Jesus said: "Destroy this temple [body], and in three days I [Mind] will raise it up;" and he did this for tired humanity's reassurance.

Is it not a species of infidelity to believe that so great a work as the Messiah's was done for himself or for God, who needed no help from Jesus' example to preserve the eternal harmony? But mortals did need this help, and Jesus pointed the way for them. 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.

# 10. 242:1-8

Through repentance, spiritual baptism, and regeneration, mortals put off their material beliefs and false individuality. It is only a question of time when "they shall all know Me [God], from the least of them unto the greatest." Denial of the claims of matter is a great step towards the joys of Spirit, towards human freedom and the final triumph over the body.

# 11. 254 : 2-15

Individuals are consistent who, watching and praying, can "run, and not be weary; ... walk, and not faint," who gain good rapidly and hold their position, or attain slowly and yield not to discouragement. God requires perfection, but not until the battle between Spirit and flesh is fought and the victory won. To stop eating, drinking, or being clothed materially before the spiritual facts of existence are gained step by step, is not legitimate. When we wait patiently on God and seek Truth righteously, He directs our path. Imperfect mortals grasp the ultimate of spiritual perfection slowly; but to *begin* aright and to continue the strife of demonstrating the great problem of being, is doing much.

#### 12. 544:7-17

Birth, decay, and death arise from the material sense of things, not from the spiritual, for in the latter Life consisteth not of the things which a man eateth. Matter cannot change the eternal fact that man exists because God exists. Nothing is new to the infinite Mind.

In Science, Mind neither produces matter nor does matter produce mind. No mortal mind has the might or right or wisdom to create or to destroy. All is under the control of the one Mind, even God.

#### 13. 428:3-14

Life is real, and death is the illusion. A demonstration of the facts of Soul in Jesus' way resolves the dark visions of material sense into harmony and immortality. Man's privilege at this supreme moment is to prove the words of our Master: "If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death." To divest thought of false trusts and material evidences in order that the spiritual facts of being may appear, — this is the great attainment by means of which we shall sweep away the false and give place to the true. Thus we may establish in truth the temple, or body, "whose builder and maker is God."

#### 14. 200:9-12 (to 1st,)

Life is, always has been, and ever will be independent of matter; for Life is God, and man is the idea of God,

# 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 JANUARY 26, 2025

#### SUBJECT—TRUTH

GOLDEN TEXT: ISAIAH 25:7

"And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the vail that is spread over all nations."

RESPONSIVE READING: Isaiah 60:1,2
Isaiah 25:1,4,8

- 1. Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.
- 2. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.
- 1. O LORD, thou *art* my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful *things*; *thy* counsels of old *are* faithfulness *and* truth.
- **4.** For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones *is* as a storm *against* the wall.
- 8. He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken *it*.

#### LESSON SERMON

#### The Bible

# 1. John 1: 1, 5, 14, 17, 18

- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.
- And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.
- For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.
- No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him*.

## 2. II Corinthians 3: 12-16

- Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech:
- And not as Moses, *which* put a vail over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished:
- But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which *vail* is done away in Christ.
- But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart.
- Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away.

# 3. **Matthew 4 : 23 (Jesus)**

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.

#### 4. Matthew 9 : 2-8

And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.

- And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This *man* blasphemeth.
- <sup>4</sup> And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?
- For whether is easier, to say, *Thy* sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?
- But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.
- And he arose, and departed to his house.
- But when the multitudes saw *it*, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.

# 5. Luke 4:1 (And Jesus) only

1 And Jesus ...

# 6. Luke 7:11 (went into)-16

- ...went into a city called Nain; and many of his disciples went with him, and much people.
- Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her.
- And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not.
- And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare *him* stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise.
- And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother.
- And there came a fear on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people.

# 7. John 13: 3, 12 (said unto them,) *only*

- Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;
- ...said unto them,

SUBJECT: TRUTH

# 8. John 14: 1, 4-12, 15-17

- Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
- And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.
- Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?
- Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
- If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.
- Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us.
- Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou *then*, Shew us the Father?
- Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.
- Believe me that I *am* in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.
- Verily, Verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
- 15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.
- And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;
- Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

# 9. I John 4: 1, 4, 6

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

- 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.
- We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

#### 10. Isaiah 26:2

Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in.

# Science and Health

#### 1. 497:3 (As)-4

As adherents of Truth, we take the inspired Word of the Bible as our sufficient guide to eternal Life.

# 2. 282:26 only

Truth is the intelligence of immortal Mind.

# 3. 510:9-12

Truth and Love enlighten the understanding, in whose "light shall we see light;" and this illumination is reflected spiritually by all who walk in the light and turn away from a false material sense.

#### 4. 26:10-18, 28-32

The Christ was the Spirit which Jesus implied in his own statements: "I am the way, the truth, and the life;" "I and my Father are one." This Christ, or divinity of the man Jesus, was his divine nature, the godliness which animated him. Divine Truth, Life, and Love gave Jesus authority over sin, sickness, and death. His mission was to reveal the Science of celestial being, to prove what God is and what He does for man.

Our Master taught no mere theory, doctrine, or belief. It was the divine Principle of all real being which he taught and practised. His proof of Christianity was no form or system of religion and worship, but Christian Science, working out the harmony of Life and Love.

# 5. 317:1-5

Jesus uttered things which had been "secret from the foundation of the world," — since material knowledge usurped the throne of the creative divine Principle, insisted on the might of matter, the force of falsity, the insignificance of spirit, and proclaimed an anthropomorphic God.

# 6. 596:28 (to 2nd.)

VEIL. A cover; concealment; hiding; hypocrisy.

#### **7.** 567: 18-23

That false claim — that ancient belief, that old serpent whose name is devil (evil), claiming that there is intelligence in matter either to benefit or to injure men — is pure delusion, the red dragon; and it is cast out by Christ, Truth, the spiritual idea, and so proved to be powerless.

#### 8. 286:6-15

The understanding of Truth gives full faith in Truth, and spiritual understanding is better than all burnt offerings.

The Master said, "No man cometh unto the Father [the divine Principle of being] but by me," Christ, Life, Truth, Love; for Christ says, "I am the way." Physical causation was put aside from first to last by this original man, Jesus. He knew that the divine Principle, Love, creates and governs all that is real.

#### 9. 316:7-11

Christ, Truth, was demonstrated through Jesus to prove the power of Spirit over the flesh, — to show that Truth is made manifest by its effects upon the human mind and body, healing sickness and destroying sin.

#### 10. 289:14-20

The fact that the Christ, or Truth, overcame and still overcomes death proves the "king of terrors" to be but a mortal belief, or error, which Truth destroys with the spiritual evidences of Life; and this shows that what appears to the senses to be death is but a mortal illusion, for to the real man and the real universe there is no death-process.

#### 11. 288:31-2

The eternal Truth destroys what mortals seem to have learned from error, and man's real existence as a child of God comes to light. Truth demonstrated is eternal life.

#### 12. 136: 29-7

The disciples apprehended their Master better than did others; but they did not comprehend all that he said and did, or they would not have questioned him so often. Jesus patiently persisted in teaching and demonstrating the truth of being. His students saw this power of Truth heal the sick, cast out evil, raise the dead; but the ultimate of this wonderful work was not spiritually discerned, even by them, until after the crucifixion, when their immaculate Teacher stood before them, the victor over sickness, sin, disease, death, and the grave.

#### 13. 326:3-22

If we wish to follow Christ, Truth, it must be in the way of God's appointing. Jesus said, "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also." He, who would reach the source and find the divine remedy for every ill, must not try to climb the hill of Science by some other road. All nature teaches God's love to man, but man cannot love God supremely and set his whole affections on spiritual things, while loving the material or trusting in it more than in the spiritual.

We must forsake the foundation of material systems, however time-honored, if we would gain the Christ as our only Saviour. Not partially, but fully, the great healer of mortal mind is the healer of the body.

The purpose and motive to live aright can be gained now. This point won, you have started as you should. You have begun at the numeration-table of Christian Science, and nothing but wrong intention can hinder your advancement. Working and praying with true motives, your Father will open the way. "Who did hinder you, that ye should not obey the truth?"

#### **14.** 40:31-7

The nature of Christianity is peaceful and blessed, but in order to enter into the kingdom, the anchor of hope must be cast beyond the veil of matter into the Shekinah into which Jesus has passed before us; and this advance beyond matter must come through the joys and triumphs of the righteous as well as through their sorrows and afflictions. Like our Master, we must depart from material sense into the spiritual sense of being.

# 15. 482 : 27 (Christian)-31

Christian Science is the law of Truth, which heals the sick on the basis of the one Mind or God. It can heal in no other way, since the human, mortal mind so-called is not a healer, but causes the belief in disease.

#### **16. 37** : 22-31

It is possible, — yea, it is the duty and privilege of every child, man, and woman, — to follow in some degree the example of the Master by the demonstration of Truth and Life, of health and holiness. Christians claim to be his followers, but do they follow him in the way that he commanded? Hear these imperative commands: "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect!" "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature!" "Heal the sick!"

#### **17. 371** : **30-32**

Truth is an alterative in the entire system, and can make it "every whit whole."

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by Mary Baker Eddy

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Mrs. Mary Beth Singleterry CS
331 Claremont Road
Bernardsville,
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Cell / text: (908) 208-0526
Email: mbsingleterry@gmail.com

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Mrs. Florence Roberts CS 2146 Eastlake Road NE Atlanta, Georgia 30307 (404) 510-1332 E-mail: froberts2004@yahoo.com

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