Plainfield Christian Science Church Independent

Full-Text Lesson Sermon

July 2025

Plainfield Christian Science Church Independent

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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 JULY 6, 2025

SUBJECT—GOD

GOLDEN TEXT: EXODUS 33:14

"My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest."

RESPONSIVE READING: Colossians 1:3, 10-13, 16, 17, 19

- **3.** We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
- 10. That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;
- 11. Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;
- **12.** Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:
- **13.** Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:
- **16.** For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:
- 17. And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.
- **19.** For it pleased *the Father* that in him should all fulness dwell.

LESSON SERMON

The Bible

1. **Deuteronomy 6 : 4, 5**

- ⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God *is* one LORD:
- And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

2. II Chronicles 7:14

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

3. Judges 6: 6, 11 (Gideon)-13 (to 1st?), 14, 23 (to:)

- And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites; and the children of Israel cried unto the LORD.
- Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide *it* from the Midianites.
- And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD *is* with thee, thou mighty man of valour.
- And Gideon said unto him, Oh my Lord, if the LORD be with us, why then is all this befallen us?
- And the LORD looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?
- And the LORD said unto him, Peace *be* unto thee; fear not:

4. Judges 7: 2-4 (to:), 5 (to:), 6 (to:), 7 (to:), 16, 20, 21

And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people that *are* with thee *are* too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me.

- Now therefore go to, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, Whosoever *is* fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.
- And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people *are* yet *too* many; bring them down unto the water, and I will try them for thee there:
- So he brought down the people unto the water:
- And the number of them that lapped, *putting* their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men:
- And the LORD said unto Gideon, By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand:
- And he divided the three hundred men *into* three companies, and he put a trumpet in every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and lamps within the pitchers.
- And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow *withal:* and they cried, The sword of the Lord, and of Gideon.
- And they stood every man in his place round about the camp: and all the host ran, and cried, and fled.

5. Judges 8: 22, 23, 28

- Then the men of Israel said unto Gideon, Rule thou over us, both thou, and thy son, and thy son's son also: for thou hast delivered us from the hand of Midian.
- And Gideon said unto them, I will not rule over you, neither shall my son rule over you: the LORD shall rule over you.
- Thus was Midian subdued before the children of Israel, so that they lifted up their heads no more. And the country was in quietness forty years in the days of Gideon.

6. Psalm 62:11, 12

- God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God.
- Also unto thee, O Lord, *belongeth* mercy: for thou renderest to every man according to his work.

SUBJECT: GOD

7. Isaiah 60:1,3,4 (to 1st:)

- Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.
- And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.
- Lift up thine eyes round about, and see:

8. Isaiah 61 : 1-3

- The Spirit of the Lord God *is* upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to *them that are* bound;
- To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;
- To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

9. John 8: 31, 32, 36

- Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed;
- And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.
- If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

10. Galatians 5 : 1, 13

- Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.
- For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only *use* not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

11. I Peter 2:1,5,16

Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

- Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.
- As free, and not using *your* liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.

12. Psalm 46: 11 (to 1st.)

The Lord of hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge.

Science and Health

1. 224:28 (Truth)-4

Truth brings the elements of liberty. On its banner is the Soul-inspired motto, "Slavery is abolished." The power of God brings deliverance to the captive. No power can withstand divine Love. What is this supposed power, which opposes itself to God? Whence cometh it? What is it that binds man with iron shackles to sin, sickness, and death? Whatever enslaves man is opposed to the divine government. Truth makes man free.

2. 106:6-14

Like our nation, Christian Science has its Declaration of Independence. God has endowed man with inalienable rights, among which are self-government, reason, and conscience. Man is properly self-governed only when he is guided rightly and governed by his Maker, divine Truth and Love.

Man's rights are invaded when the divine order is interfered with, and the mental trespasser incurs the divine penalty due this crime.

3. 227: 7-20

The law of the divine Mind must end human bondage, or mortals will continue unaware of man's inalienable rights and in subjection to hopeless slavery, because some public teachers permit an ignorance of divine power, — an ignorance that is the foundation of continued bondage and of human suffering.

Discerning the rights of man, we cannot fail to foresee the doom of all oppression. Slavery is not the legitimate state of man. God made man free. Paul said, "I was free born." All men should be free. "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." Love and Truth make free, but evil and error lead into captivity.

SUBJECT: GOD

4. 368:10-19

Against the fatal beliefs that error is as real as Truth, that evil is equal in power to good if not superior, and that discord is as normal as harmony, even the hope of freedom from the bondage of sickness and sin has little inspiration to nerve endeavor. When we come to have more faith in the truth of being than we have in error, more faith in Spirit than in matter, more faith in living than in dying, more faith in God than in man, then no material suppositions can prevent us from healing the sick and destroying error.

5. 380:32-7

Every law of matter or the body, supposed to govern man, is rendered null and void by the law of Life, God. Ignorant of our God-given rights, we submit to unjust decrees, and the bias of education enforces this slavery. Be no more willing to suffer the illusion that you are sick or that some disease is developing in the system, than you are to yield to a sinful temptation on the ground that sin has its necessities.

6. 256:19 (Who)-23

Who is it that demands our obedience? He who, in the language of Scripture, "doeth according to His will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay His hand, or say unto Him, What doest Thou?"

7. 205 : 32-13

When we fully understand our relation to the Divine, we can have no other Mind but His, — no other Love, wisdom, or Truth, no other sense of Life, and no consciousness of the existence of matter or error.

The power of the human will should be exercised only in subordination to Truth; else it will misguide the judgment and free the lower propensities. It is the province of spiritual sense to govern man. Material, erring, human thought acts injuriously both upon the body and through it.

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.

8. 226:14-21

God has built a higher platform of human rights, and He has built it on diviner claims. These claims are not made through code or creed, but in demonstration of "on earth peace, good-will toward men." Human codes, scholastic theology, material medicine and hygiene, fetter faith and

spiritual understanding. Divine Science rends asunder these fetters, and man's birthright of sole allegiance to his Maker asserts itself.

9. 253:9-31

I hope, dear reader, I am leading you into the understanding of your divine rights, your heaven-bestowed harmony, — that, as you read, you see there is no cause (outside of erring, mortal, material sense which is not power) able to make you sick or sinful; and I hope that you are conquering this false sense. Knowing the falsity of so-called material sense, you can assert your prerogative to overcome the belief in sin, disease, or death.

If you believe in and practise wrong knowingly, you can at once change your course and do right. Matter can make no opposition to right endeavors against sin or sickness, for matter is inert, mindless. Also, if you believe yourself diseased, you can alter this wrong belief and action without hindrance from the body.

Do not believe in any supposed necessity for sin, disease, or death, knowing (as you ought to know) that God never requires obedience to a so-called material law, for no such law exists. The belief in sin and death is destroyed by the law of God, which is the law of Life instead of death, of harmony instead of discord, of Spirit instead of the flesh.

10. 225:8-22

The powers of this world will fight, and will command their sentinels not to let truth pass the guard until it subscribes to their systems; but Science, heeding not the pointed bayonet, marches on. There is always some tumult, but there is a rallying to truth's standard.

The history of our country, like all history, illustrates the might of Mind, and shows human power to be proportionate to its embodiment of right thinking. A few immortal sentences, breathing the omnipotence of divine justice, have been potent to break despotic fetters and abolish the whipping-post and slave market; but oppression neither went down in blood, nor did the breath of freedom come from the cannon's mouth. 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!

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.

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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 JULY 13, 2025

SUBJECT—SACRAMENT

GOLDEN TEXT: JOHN 14:31

"But that the world may know that I love the Father; and as the Father gave me commandment, even so I do." — Christ Jesus

RESPONSIVE READING: Matthew 5:6, 8, 11, 12, 43-46, 48

- **6.** Blessed *are* they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.
- **8.** Blessed *are* the pure in heart: for they shall see God.
- **11.** Blessed are ye, when *men* shall revile you, and persecute *you*, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
- **12.** Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great *is* your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.
- 43. Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.
- **44.** But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;
- 45. That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.
- **46.** For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?
- **48.** Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

LESSON SERMON

The Bible

- 1. Matthew 26: 6-8 (to 2nd ,), 10, 12, 13, 20-29, 32, 36, 38-40, 42, 43 (to:), 44, 45, 46 (behold), 47, 49, 50
- Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper,
- There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat *at meat*.
- But when his disciples saw *it*, they had indignation,
- When Jesus understood *it*, he said unto them, Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me.
- For in that she hath poured this ointment on my body, she did *it* for my burial.
- Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, *there* shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her.
- Now when the even was come, he sat down with the twelve.
- And as they did eat, he said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.
- And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I?
- And he answered and said, He that dippeth *his* hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me.
- The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born.
- Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said.
- And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed *it*, and brake *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.
- And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

- For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.
- But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.
- But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee.
- Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.
- Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.
- And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou *wilt*.
- And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?
- He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.
- And he came and found them asleep again:
- And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.
- Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take *your* rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.
- ...behold, he is at hand that doth betray me.
- And while he yet spake, lo, Judas, one of the twelve, came, and with him a great multitude with swords and staves, from the chief priests and elders of the people.
- And forthwith he came to Jesus, and said, Hail, master; and kissed him.
- And Jesus said unto him, Friend, wherefore art thou come? Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus, and took him.

2. John 19: 16 (And), 17, 18 (to ,), 41 (to ,), 42 (to Jesus)

- And they took Jesus, and led *him* away.
- And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called *the place* of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha:
- Where they crucified him,
- Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre,
- There laid they Jesus

3. Matthew 28: 1-3, 5, 6 (to 1st.), 7 (to 1st;), 8, 9 (to 1st.), 10

- In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first *day* of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.
- And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.
- His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow:
- And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.
- ⁶ He is not here: for he is risen, as he said.
- And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead;
- And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.
- And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail.
- Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.

4. John 21: 1, 4 (when), 6, 7 (to 1st.), 8 (to;), 9, 12-14, 25

After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias; and on this wise shewed he *himself*.

- SOBJECT. SHERMINERYT
- 4 ...when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.
- And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.
- Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord.
- And the other disciples came in a little ship;
- As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread.
- Jesus saith unto them, Come *and* dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord.
- Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise.
- This is now the third time that Jesus shewed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead.
- And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

Science and Health

1. 26:21-23

Jesus' teaching and practice of Truth involved such a sacrifice as makes us admit its Principle to be Love.

2. 117:16-23

As a divine student he unfolded God to man, illustrating and demonstrating Life and Truth in himself and by his power over the sick and sinning. Human theories are inadequate to interpret the divine Principle involved in the miracles (marvels) wrought by Jesus and especially in his mighty, crowning, unparalleled, and triumphant exit from the flesh.

SUBJECT: SACRAMENT

3. 314:10-12, 19-22

The Jews, who sought to kill this man of God, showed plainly that their material views were the parents of their wicked deeds. ... This materialism lost sight of the true Jesus; but the faithful Mary saw him, and he presented to her, more than ever before, the true idea of Life and substance.

4. 47:10 (Judas)-26

Judas conspired against Jesus. The world's ingratitude and hatred towards that just man effected his betrayal. The traitor's price was thirty pieces of silver and the smiles of the Pharisees. He chose his time, when the people were in doubt concerning Jesus' teachings.

A period was approaching which would reveal the infinite distance between Judas and his Master. Judas Iscariot knew this. He knew that the great goodness of that Master placed a gulf between Jesus and his betrayer, and this spiritual distance inflamed Judas' envy. The greed for gold strengthened his ingratitude, and for a time quieted his remorse. He knew that the world generally loves a lie better than Truth; and so he plotted the betrayal of Jesus in order to raise himself in popular estimation. His dark plot fell to the ground, and the traitor fell with it.

5. 32:3-14

In ancient Rome a soldier was required to swear allegiance to his general. The Latin word for this oath was *sacramentum*, and our English word *sacrament* is derived from it. Among the Jews it was an ancient custom for the master of a feast to pass each guest a cup of wine. But the Eucharist does not commemorate a Roman soldier's oath, nor was the wine, used on convivial occasions and in Jewish rites, the cup of our Lord. The cup shows forth his bitter experience, — the cup which he prayed might pass from him, though he bowed in holy submission to the divine decree.

6. 586 : 23-25

GETHSEMANE. Patient woe; the human yielding to the divine; love meeting no response, but still remaining love.

7. 47:31-9

During his night of gloom and glory in the garden, Jesus realized the utter error of a belief in any possible material intelligence. The pangs of neglect and the staves of bigoted ignorance smote him sorely. His students slept. He said unto them: "Could ye not watch with me one hour?"

Could they not watch with him who, waiting and struggling in voiceless agony, held uncomplaining guard over a world? There was no response to that human yearning, and so Jesus turned forever away from earth to heaven, from sense to Soul.

8. 39:1-9

Meekly our Master met the mockery of his unrecognized grandeur. Such indignities as he received, his followers will endure until Christianity's last triumph. He won eternal honors. He overcame the world, the flesh, and all error, thus proving their nothingness. He wrought a full salvation from sin, sickness, and death. We need "Christ, and him crucified." We must have trials and self-denials, as well as joys and victories, until all error is destroyed.

9. 32:28-10

The Passover, which Jesus ate with his disciples in the month Nisan on the night before his crucifixion, was a mournful occasion, a sad supper taken at the close of day, in the twilight of a glorious career with shadows fast falling around; and this supper closed forever Jesus' ritualism or concessions to matter.

His followers, sorrowful and silent, anticipating the hour of their Master's betrayal, partook of the heavenly manna, which of old had fed in the wilderness the persecuted followers of Truth. Their bread indeed came down from heaven. It was the great truth of spiritual being, healing the sick and casting out error. Their Master had explained it all before, and now this bread was feeding and sustaining them.

10. 33:13-26

For this truth of spiritual being, their Master was about to suffer violence and drain to the dregs his cup of sorrow. He must leave them. With the great glory of an everlasting victory overshadowing him, he gave thanks and said, "Drink ye all of it."

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.

11. 34:18-18 next page

Through all the disciples experienced, they became more spiritual and understood better what the Master had taught. His resurrection was also their resurrection. It helped them to raise

themselves and others from spiritual dulness and blind belief in God into the perception of infinite possibilities. They needed this quickening, for soon their dear Master would rise again in the spiritual realm of reality, and ascend far above their apprehension. As the reward for his faithfulness, he would disappear to material sense in that change which has since been called the ascension.

What a contrast between our Lord's last supper and his last spiritual breakfast with his disciples in the bright morning hours at the joyful meeting on the shore of the Galilean Sea! His gloom had passed into glory, and his disciples' grief into repentance, — hearts chastened and pride rebuked. Convinced of the fruitlessness of their toil in the dark and wakened by their Master's voice, they changed their methods, turned away from material things, and cast their net on the right side. Discerning Christ, Truth, anew on the shore of time, they were enabled to rise somewhat from mortal sensuousness, or the burial of mind in matter, into newness of life as Spirit.

This spiritual meeting with our Lord in the dawn of a new light is the morning meal which Christian Scientists commemorate. They bow before Christ, Truth, to receive more of his reappearing and silently to commune with the divine Principle, Love. They celebrate their Lord's victory over death, his probation in the flesh after death, its exemplification of human probation, and his spiritual and final ascension above matter, or the flesh, when he rose out of material sight.

12. 35:25-29

Our Eucharist is spiritual communion with the one God. Our bread, "which cometh down from heaven," is Truth. Our cup is the cross. Our wine the inspiration of Love, the draught our Master drank and commended to his followers.

13. 497 : 24 (And)-27

And we solemnly promise to watch, and pray for that Mind to be in us which was also in Christ Jesus; to do unto others as we would have them do unto us; and to be merciful, just, and pure.

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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(S&H, p. 442)

SUNDAY JULY 20, 2025

SUBJECT—LIFE

GOLDEN TEXT: PSALM 27:1

"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

RESPONSIVE READING: **Psalm 27 : 3-5, 8, 11, 13 Psalm 23 : 6**

- 3. Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this *will* I *be* confident.
- 4. One *thing* have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.
- 5. For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me: he shall set me up upon a rock.
- **8.** When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.
- 11. Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies.
- **13.** *I had fainted*, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.
- **6.** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

LESSON SERMON

The Bible

1. Proverbs 12 : 28

In the way of righteousness is life; and in the pathway thereof there is no death.

2. Deuteronomy 33: 1 (to Israel), 12 (The beloved), 25, 27 (to:), 29

- And this *is* the blessing, wherewith Moses the man of God blessed the children of Israel ...
- The beloved of the LORD shall dwell in safety by him; *and the LORD* shall cover him all the day long, and he shall dwell between his shoulders.
- Thy shoes *shall be* iron and brass; and as thy days, *so shall* thy strength *be*.
- The eternal God *is thy* refuge, and underneath *are* the everlasting arms:
- Happy *art* thou, O Israel: who *is* like unto thee, O people saved by the LORD, the shield of thy help, and who *is* the sword of thy excellency! and thine enemies shall be found liars unto thee; and thou shalt tread upon their high places.

3. Numbers 13: 1, 2, 25-28 (to:), 33

- And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
- Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, every one a ruler among them.
- And they returned from searching of the land after forty days.
- And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and shewed them the fruit of the land.
- And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this *is* the fruit of it.
- Nevertheless the people *be* strong that dwell in the land, and the cities *are* walled, *and* very great:

SUBJECT: LIFE

- And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, *which come* of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.
- 4. Numbers 14: 6-9, 20 (to ,), 22, 23 (to ,), 24, 36-38
- And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, *which were* of them that searched the land, rent their clothes:
- And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, *is* an exceeding good land.
- If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.
- Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they *are* bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD *is* with us: fear them not.
- And the LORD said,
- Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice;
- Surely they shall not see the land which I sware unto their fathers,
- But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.
- And the men, which Moses sent to search the land, who returned, and made all the congregation to murmur against him, by bringing up a slander upon the land,
- Even those men that did bring up the evil report upon the land, died by the plague before the LORD.
- But Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, *which were* of the men that went to search the land, lived *still*.
- 5. Joshua 14: 6-12 (to;), 13, 14, 15 (And the land)
- Then the children of Judah came unto Joshua in Gilgal: and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite said unto him, Thou knowest the thing that the LORD said unto Moses the man of God concerning me and thee in Kadesh-barnea.

- Forty years old *was* I when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh-barnea to espy out the land; and I brought him word again as *it was* in mine heart.
- Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God.
- And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God.
- And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while *the children of* Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I *am* this day fourscore and five years old.
- As yet I *am as* strong this day as *I was* in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength *was* then, even so *is* my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in.
- Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day;
- And Joshua blessed him, and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh Hebron for an inheritance.
- Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite unto this day, because that he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel.
- And the land had rest from war.

6. Psalm 16: 1, 5, 6, 8, 11

- Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust.
- The LORD is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.
- The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant *places*; yea, I have a goodly heritage.
- I have set the LORD always before me: because *he is* at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
- Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence *is* fulness of joy; at thy right hand *there are* pleasures for evermore.

SUBJECT: LIFE

Science and Health

1. 200:9-13

Life is, always has been, and ever will be independent of matter; for Life is God, and man is the idea of God, not formed materially but spiritually, and not subject to decay and dust.

2. 151:18 (The)-24

The blood, heart, lungs, brain, etc., have nothing to do with Life, God. Every function of the real man is governed by the divine Mind. The human mind has no power to kill or to cure, and it has no control over God's man. The divine Mind that made man maintains His own image and likeness.

3. 246: 1-16, 20-31

Man is not a pendulum, swinging between evil and good, joy and sorrow, sickness and health, life and death. Life and its faculties are not measured by calendars. The perfect and immortal are the eternal likeness of their Maker. Man is by no means a material germ rising from the imperfect and endeavoring to reach Spirit above his origin. The stream rises no higher than its source.

The measurement of life by solar years robs youth and gives ugliness to age. The radiant sun of virtue and truth coexists with being. Manhood is its eternal noon, undimmed by a declining sun. As the physical and material, the transient sense of beauty fades, the radiance of Spirit should dawn upon the enraptured sense with bright and imperishable glories.

Except for the error of measuring and limiting all that is good and beautiful, man would enjoy more than threescore years and ten and still maintain his vigor, freshness, and promise. Man, governed by immortal Mind, is always beautiful and grand. Each succeeding year unfolds wisdom, beauty, and holiness.

Life is eternal. We should find this out, and begin the demonstration thereof. Life and goodness are immortal. Let us then shape our views of existence into loveliness, freshness, and continuity, rather than into age and blight.

4. 247:13-18

Immortality, exempt from age or decay, has a glory of its own, — the radiance of Soul. Immortal men and women are models of spiritual sense, drawn by perfect Mind and reflecting those higher conceptions of loveliness which transcend all material sense.

SUBJECT: LIFE

5. 248:5-11

Men and women of riper years and larger lessons ought to ripen into health and immortality, instead of lapsing into darkness or gloom. Immortal Mind feeds the body with supernal freshness and fairness, supplying it with beautiful images of thought and destroying the woes of sense which each day brings to a nearer tomb.

6. 407 : 21-28

If delusion says, "I have lost my memory," contradict it. No faculty of Mind is lost. In Science, all being is eternal, spiritual, perfect, harmonious in every action. Let the perfect model be present in your thoughts instead of its demoralized opposite. This spiritualization of thought lets in the light, and brings the divine Mind, Life not death, into your consciousness.

7. 245:30 (decrepitude)-31

...decrepitude is not according to law, nor is it a necessity of nature, but an illusion.

8. 5:16 (God)-18

God pours the riches of His love into the understanding and affections, giving us strength according to our day.

9. 183:16-25

The supposed laws which result in weariness and disease are not His laws, for the legitimate and only possible action of Truth is the production of harmony. Laws of nature are laws of Spirit; but mortals commonly recognize as law that which hides the power of Spirit. Divine Mind rightly demands man's entire obedience, affection, and strength. No reservation is made for any lesser loyalty. Obedience to Truth gives man power and strength. Submission to error superinduces loss of power.

10. 79:29-3

Mind-science teaches that mortals need "not be weary in well doing." It dissipates fatigue in doing good. Giving does not impoverish us in the service of our Maker, neither does withholding enrich us. We have strength in proportion to our apprehension of the truth, and our strength is not lessened by giving utterance to truth.

11. 385: 1-21

It is proverbial that Florence Nightingale and other philanthropists engaged in humane labors have been able to undergo without sinking fatigues and exposures which ordinary people could

not endure. The explanation lies in the support which they derived from the divine law, rising above the human. The spiritual demand, quelling the material, supplies energy and endurance surpassing all other aids, and forestalls the penalty which our beliefs would attach to our best deeds. Let us remember that the eternal law of right, though it can never annul the law which makes sin its own executioner, exempts man from all penalties but those due for wrong-doing.

Constant toil, deprivations, exposures, and all untoward conditions, *if without sin*, can be experienced without suffering. Whatever it is your duty to do, you can do without harm to yourself. If you sprain the muscles or wound the flesh, your remedy is at hand. Mind decides whether or not the flesh shall be discolored, painful, swollen, and inflamed.

12. 414:32 (Matter)-5

Matter cannot be inflamed. Inflammation is fear, an excited state of mortals which is not normal. Immortal Mind is the only cause; therefore disease is neither a cause nor an effect. Mind in every case is the eternal God, good. Sin, disease, and death have no foundations in Truth.

13. 199:8 (Muscles)-14

Muscles are not self-acting. If mind does not move them, they are motionless. Hence the great fact that Mind alone enlarges and empowers man through its mandate, — by reason of its demand for and supply of power. Not because of muscular exercise, but by reason of the blacksmith's faith in exercise, his arm becomes stronger.

14. 167:6-10

We apprehend Life in divine Science only as we live above corporeal sense and correct it. Our proportionate admission of the claims of good or of evil determines the harmony of our existence, — our health, our longevity, and our Christianity.

15. 492 : 7 (Being)-12

Being is holiness, harmony, immortality. It is already proved that a knowledge of this, even in small degree, will uplift the physical and moral standard of mortals, will increase longevity, will purify and elevate character. Thus progress will finally destroy all error, and bring immortality to light.

16. 578 : 16-18

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house [the consciousness] of [LOVE] for ever.

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 JULY 27, 2025

SUBJECT—TRUTH

GOLDEN TEXT: JOHN 8:32

"Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 19:7-11
Psalm 117:1,2

- 7. The law of the LORD *is* perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD *is* sure, making wise the simple.
- **8.** The statutes of the LORD *are* right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD *is* pure, enlightening the eyes.
- **9.** The fear of the LORD *is* clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD *are* true *and* righteous altogether.
- **10.** More to be desired *are they* than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.
- 11. Moreover by them is thy servant warned: *and* in keeping of them *there is* great reward.
- 1. O praise the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people.
- **2.** For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the LORD *endureth* for ever.

LESSON SERMON

The Bible

1. Proverbs 3 : 1-5, 21-23

- My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:
- For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.
- Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:
- So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.
- Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
- My son, let not them depart from thine eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion:
- So shall they be life unto thy soul, and grace to thy neck.
- Then shalt thou walk in thy way safely, and thy foot shall not stumble.

2. I Kings 18: 16 (Ahab went)-26, 29, 30, 33-39, 41, 46 (to;)

- Ahab went to meet Elijah.
- And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, *Art* thou he that troubleth Israel?
- And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.
- Now therefore send, *and* gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table.
- So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel.

- And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD *be* God, follow him: but if Baal, *then* follow him. And the people answered him not a word.
- Then said Elijah unto the people, I, *even* I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets *are* four hundred and fifty men.
- Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay *it* on wood, and put no fire *under*: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay *it* on wood, and put no fire *under*:
- And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.
- And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, Choose you one bullock for yourselves, and dress *it* first; for ye *are* many; and call on the name of your gods, but put no fire *under*.
- And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed *it*, and called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, hear us. But *there was* no voice, nor any that answered. And they leaped upon the altar which was made.
- And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the *time* of the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that *there was* neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.
- And Elijah said unto all the people, Come near unto me. And all the people came near unto him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD *that was* broken down.
- And he put the wood in order, and cut the bullock in pieces, and laid *him* on the wood, and said, Fill four barrels with water, and pour *it* on the burnt sacrifice, and on the wood.
- And he said, Do *it* the second time. And they did *it* the second time. And he said, Do *it* the third time. And they did *it* the third time.
- And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water.
- And it came to pass at *the time of* the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou *art* God in Israel, and *that* I *am* thy servant, and *that* I have done all these things at thy word.

- Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou *art* the LORD God, and *that* thou hast turned their heart back again.
- Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that *was* in the trench.
- And when all the people saw *it*, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he *is* the God; the LORD, he *is* the God.
- And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for *there is* a sound of abundance of rain.
- And the hand of the LORD was on Elijah;

3. Psalm 119: 160

Thy word *is* true *from* the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments *endureth* for ever.

4. **Philippians 4 : 4-9**

- ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord alway: *and* again I say, Rejoice.
- Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord *is* at hand.
- Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.
- And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
- Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things *are* honest, whatsoever things *are* just, whatsoever things *are* pure, whatsoever things *are* lovely, whatsoever things *are* of good report; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, think on these things.
- Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

SUBJECT: TRUTH

5. III John: 2-4

- Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.
- For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth.
- I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

Science and Health

1. vii: 13 (The)-21, 27-8

The time for thinkers has come. Truth, independent of doctrines and time-honored systems, knocks at the portal of humanity. Contentment with the past and the cold conventionality of materialism are crumbling away. Ignorance of God is no longer the steppingstone to faith. The only guarantee of obedience is a right apprehension of Him whom to know aright is Life eternal. Though empires fall, "the Lord shall reign forever."

Since the author's discovery of the might of Truth in the treatment of disease as well as of sin, her system has been fully tested and has not been found wanting; but to reach the heights of Christian Science, man must live in obedience to its divine Principle. To develop the full might of this Science, the discords of corporeal sense must yield to the harmony of spiritual sense, even as the science of music corrects false tones and gives sweet concord to sound.

2. 293:28-31

Christian Science brings to light Truth and its supremacy, universal harmony, the entireness of God, good, and the nothingness of evil.

3. 304:3-21

It is ignorance and false belief, based on a material sense of things, which hide spiritual beauty and goodness. Understanding this, Paul said: "Neither death, nor life, ... nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God." This is the doctrine of Christian Science: that divine Love cannot be deprived of its manifestation, or object; that joy cannot be turned into sorrow, for sorrow is not the master of joy; that good can never produce evil; that matter can never produce mind nor life result in death. The perfect man — governed by God, his perfect Principle — is sinless and eternal.

Harmony is produced by its Principle, is controlled by it and abides with it. Divine Principle is the Life of man. Man's happiness is not, therefore, at the disposal of physical sense. Truth is not contaminated by error. Harmony in man is as beautiful as in music, and discord is unnatural, unreal.

4. 288: 10-26, 31-2

When the final physical and moral effects of Christian Science are fully apprehended, the conflict between truth and error, understanding and belief, Science and material sense, foreshadowed by the prophets and inaugurated by Jesus, will cease, and spiritual harmony reign. The lightnings and thunderbolts of error may burst and flash till the cloud is cleared and the tumult dies away in the distance. Then the raindrops of divinity refresh the earth. As St. Paul says: "There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God" (of Spirit).

The chief stones in the temple of Christian Science are to be found in the following postulates: that Life is God, good, and not evil; that Soul is sinless, not to be found in the body; that Spirit is not, and cannot be, materialized; that Life is not subject to death; that the spiritual real man has no birth, no material life, and no death.

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.

5. 372:26-32

In Christian Science, a denial of Truth is fatal, while a just acknowledgment of Truth and of what it has done for us is an effectual help. If pride, superstition, or any error prevents the honest recognition of benefits received, this will be a hindrance to the recovery of the sick and the success of the student.

6. 493:1 (Christian)-2, 6-8

Christian Science speedily shows Truth to be triumphant. ... All the evidence of physical sense and all the knowledge obtained from physical sense must yield to Science, to the immortal truth of all things.

7. 287:32 (Truth)-8

Truth cannot be contaminated by error. The statement that *Truth is real* necessarily includes the correlated statement, that *error*, *Truth's unlikeness*, *is unreal*.

The suppositional warfare between truth and error is only the mental conflict between the evidence of the spiritual senses and the testimony of the material senses, and this warfare between the Spirit and flesh will settle all questions through faith in and the understanding of divine Love.

8. 450 : 15 (Some)-26

Some people yield slowly to the touch of Truth. Few yield without a struggle, and many are reluctant to acknowledge that they have yielded; but unless this admission is made, evil will boast itself above good. The Christian Scientist has enlisted to lessen evil, disease, and death; and he will overcome them by understanding their nothingness and the allness of God, or good. Sickness to him is no less a temptation than is sin, and he heals them both by understanding God's power over them. The Christian Scientist knows that they are errors of belief, which Truth can and will destroy.

9. 254:10-15

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.

10. 371:22-32

No impossible thing do I ask when urging the claims of Christian Science; but because this teaching is in advance of the age, we should not deny our need of its spiritual unfoldment. Mankind will improve through Science and Christianity. 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."

11. 254 : 27-32

If you launch your bark upon the ever-agitated but healthful waters of truth, you will encounter storms. Your good will be evil spoken of. This is the cross. Take it up and bear it, for through it you win and wear the crown. Pilgrim on earth, thy home is heaven; stranger, thou art the guest of God.

12. 380: 4 (Truth) (to .)

Truth is always the victor.

THE DAILY DUTIES

by Mary Baker Eddy

Daily Prayer

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