

Love is the Liberator

from *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, by Mary Baker Eddy

“What I say unto you I say unto all, WATCH.” — CHRIST JESUS

The Fifth Commandment

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A LADY WITH A
LAMP SHALL STAND
IN THE GREAT HIS-
TORY OF THE LAND

A NOBLE TYPE
OF GOOD
HEROIC
WOMANHOOD
LONGFELLOW

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from *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, by Mary Baker Eddy



Drawing by Luanne Tucker

A note about the sketch by Luanne:

Boston Light - Little Brewster Island (outer Boston Harbor), Massachusetts

Boston Light was the first light station in North America and is the country's oldest continuously used lighthouse site. The original structure, built in 1716, was destroyed during the Revolutionary War. Rebuilt in 1783, it has been called "the ideal American lighthouse." Designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1964, it is the only manned lighthouse in the United States.

The Fifth Commandment

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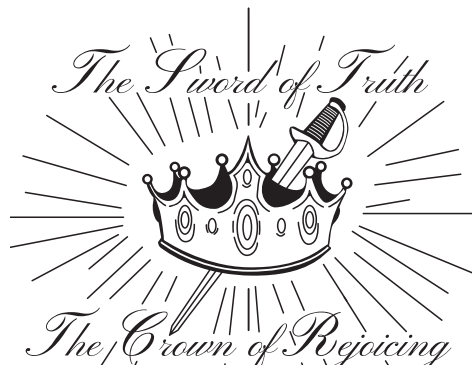
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About the cover:

From *In Defense of Mary Baker Eddy, and the Remnant of Her Seed*, by Paul R. Smillie:

In the *Christian Science Sentinel* of September 6, 1913 on page ten, Archibald McLellan stated three most important points about the cover of the *Sentinel* and a minor change made at that time on its cover. Speaking of this change he said, "Beyond this there can be neither desire nor occasion for change in the *Sentinel*, because," he said, "Mrs. Eddy's instructions forbid any change." He explained this by saying, "Mrs. Eddy likewise gave instructions." The word "instructions" is most important. Speaking then of the two women, the lamps and the inscriptions beneath them, he said they had been "preserved as expressive of our Leader's thought. ..." Mrs. Eddy requested that the cover of the *Sentinel* be light blue in color."



This church is in no way affiliated with
The First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Massachusetts
or with the Church of Scientology

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The Fifth Commandment

“Honour Thy Father and Thy Mother”

Emily A. Ashcroft

Christian Science Journal, December 1918

Christian Science shows us that our only Father-Mother is God, infinite Life, Truth, and Love. Therefore, if we take this commandment in its scientific meaning, it is God whom we must honor. As we realize the attributes of our Father-Mother God, we will see how the honoring of Him will extend eternally our consciousness of life.

We see that since God is our Father and Mother, He is the source or origin of man's existence; and God, who is Life itself, not only is the origin but the eternal sustainer of man's being. Our heavenly Father expresses His own being, through His spiritual ideas, His sons and daughters. God is changeless, therefore His expression or reflection must be changeless; that is, it forever expresses Life, and this reflection is the Son of God. No fear of death can enter the consciousness of the Son of God; no belief that life depends upon matter, or is mortal. Everlasting life is his perpetual consciousness. Christ Jesus demonstrated this truth and desired others to demonstrate it, for he said, “I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”

As the Son of God, all that man possesses he inherits from God. He has no ancestors antecedent to God. Thus the true law of heredity becomes the most life-giving, joy-giving, and harmonious law conceivable. As a child develops, how often we hear the remark, “Isn't he like his mother!” or, “He has his father's ways.” Sometimes this remark is no great compliment to the child, nor perhaps to the parent, but if applied to one as the child of God, what depth of meaning it would convey! God's man is the exact image of his divine Parent, and his activities and characteristics are a perfect reflection of the activity of his Father-Mother God.

A duty of a father and mother is to provide suitable and sufficient food and clothing for the

children; and the latter are taught to depend upon their parents for this supply. In our endeavor to honor our Father-Mother God, we must learn to depend absolutely upon Him for our supply, and in order to do this successfully, we must realize what supply is. We need to see that supply is never material, but always consists of right ideas. A sense of lack is not due to lack of matter, but to a seeming lack of right ideas, and the overcoming of this ignorance, through spiritual perception, is all that is required for the supply to be outwardly manifested. Our heavenly Father is never incapable of supplying our needs, nor is He ever unwilling to do so. He clothes man with holiness, beauty of character, joy, purity, freshness, love, truth, life, and thus all his needs are supplied.

A teacher, watching a little child trying to work out a problem in arithmetic, knows that the answer is already supplied, and that the child has only to reason out the correct answer in order to make it his own. Even the little child knows that there is a correct answer and that it is for him as much as for anyone else, if he only works according to rule. So it is with us.

Another duty of the parent is to provide a home for his children. In her interpretation of the last verse of the Twenty-third Psalm, Mrs. Eddy interprets “the house of the Lord,” as “the consciousness of Love” (*S&H*, p. 578). As the children of God, then, this is our home — lighted by the brightness of spiritual understanding, filled with the warmth of infinite, impartial, universal, spiritual Love, peopled by God's ideas. No evil can possibly befall those in this dwelling. Every day is one round of usefulness and joy. Harmony reigns supreme. Every individual child expresses perfect, spontaneous obedience. No son ever leaves his Father's home, for there are sufficient opportunities in it for manifesting all his capabilities and gratifying all his desires, which are spiritual and pure.

A father is expected to look after the education of his children. Our divine Father-Mother, infinite Mind, not only does this, but is Himself the Mind, intelligence, of His own

children, or spiritual ideas. These ideas express perfectly the divine intelligence. There is no past in the divine Mind to be either remembered or forgotten, and no future to fear or to feel ignorant of. There is simply the eternal now, in which all is present and all is known. There is no training of the so-called physical senses in God's school, no need of the study of the psychology of the human mind, for the real senses of man are spiritual, bestowed upon him by his Father-Mother, and needing no training. No material laws, human philosophy, scholastic theology, no intricacies of mortal belief, have to be studied. The only science is the Science of being, Christian Science; the only law, the infinite law of Love and Truth; and the child of God knows these eternally.

Still another duty of a parent is to look after his child's health. A well-known proverb implies that prevention is better than cure, and surely our heavenly Father-Mother has provided for this in making His children incapable of sickness. Health is the holiness of the divine consciousness and is therefore unchangeably perfect. When we really understand that God is our Life, that our supply, our abiding place, our consciousness, our intelligence, our health, all come from God, this knowledge must inevitably be followed by length of days in "the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." This land is the kingdom of heaven, defined by Mrs. Eddy in the Glossary of *Science and Health* (p. 590) as "the reign of harmony in divine Science; the realm of unerring, eternal, and omnipotent Mind; the atmosphere of Spirit, where Soul is supreme."

The Father-Mother God Frederick Dixon

Christian Science Sentinel, August 6, 1921

The Fifth Commandment, "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee" may seem almost the easiest to understand, but is, in some ways, perhaps the most difficult.

Jesus no doubt saw clearly that the man who did not honor his material father and mother would be incapable of honoring his spiritual

Father-Mother, God. The writer of the first epistle of John makes this quite clear, when he says, "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?"

Now, though Jesus was insistent that men should honor their material parents, he was equally clear that the real Father and Mother of all mankind was God, Principle. He told the Pharisees plainly that the material father was personified evil, meaning undoubtedly by this, the belief that human generation was not the reality, but that spiritual creation was. And this he made equally clear to the multitude when he insisted, "Call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven." And this is surely what Mrs. Eddy is referring to when she writes, "The material body, which you call *me*, is mortal mind, and this mind is material in sensation, even as the body, which has originated from this material sense and been developed according to it, is material." (*S&H*, p. 416)

The spiritual lesson, then, which has to be derived from the superficial material meaning of the Commandment, is that which Jesus drew, and which Mrs. Eddy has explained in *Science and Health*. It is that the real Father-Mother is God, and that man, in the image and likeness of God, cannot be a human being, but must be a divine idea. In this way only can the human family be made one, and in this way only is it possible to understand what Jesus meant when he replied to those who declared that his mother and his brethren sought him, "Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother." Thus the fatherhood and motherhood of God has to be realized exceedingly clearly if healing is to be accomplished, in the only way it can be accomplished, through Love.

The man who saw all creation as the children of divine Mind, and who claimed for all God's children the fatherhood of Principle, had reduced the whole question of family, nation,

and humanity, to its true metaphysical significance. The unity of mankind, he recognized, could only be brought about by unity of thinking. The children of God were those who understood and acted on Principle. These people, whether fishermen from Capernaum or publicans from the receipt of custom, were to him brother, and sister, and mother. He was prepared to love them all alike, just as he knew they must love him.

God was not his Father alone, but the Father of all who did the will of Principle. Never once did he claim that this fatherhood was confined to himself. He spoke of our Father and your Father indiscriminately, obviously meaning that the real man had only one Father and one Mother, Principle. Mrs. Eddy says, "Father-Mother is the name for Deity, which indicates His tender relationship to His spiritual creation. As the apostle expressed it in words which he quoted with approbation from a classic poet: 'For we are also His offspring.'" (*S&H*, p. 332)

In honoring his human father and mother, whom he has seen, he is but taking a preliminary step to honoring his spiritual Father-Mother God, whom he has not seen. The crucifixion of the flesh means, if it means anything at all, the getting clear on this momentous question. Behind it lie all the passions of separation with which the world is flooded, because these passions have their source in the belief of a limited love of the human being for a select and selected number of other human beings. This is not honoring divine Mind, for it is attempting to limit love first to family, and then to nation, in a way which is the foundation of strife. In order to obliterate all strife, to heal the sick, it is absolutely essential that the practitioner should realize that nothing but the image and likeness of God exists. It was, among other reasons, because he realized this so clearly, that the human being gave place always, in Christ Jesus' consciousness, to the image and likeness of God, with the result that the patient was healed. Mrs. Eddy writes, "Jesus beheld in Science the perfect man, who appeared to him where sinning mortal man appears to mortals. In this perfect man the Saviour saw God's own likeness, and this correct view of man healed the sick." (*S&H*, p. 476-477)

Thus Jesus, in honoring his Father-Mother God, made the days of the human being longer in the land which Principle had given him; for he taught the world how to master sin, and thus, in overcoming sin, to overcome disease and death.

The Christian Science Journal, May 1894

Editor

Honour thy father and mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

This includes honor to the earthly parents. There cannot be too much honor accorded to our earthly parents, or too much obedience to them so far as they rightly demand obedience. But is this all our divine injunction means? Who are our parents? Whom did Jesus say was our Parent? The Heavenly Parent, and the Heavenly Parent is our Father-Mother God. Then in its highest sense, the commandment is to honor our Heavenly Parent, God. How shall he be honored? By having no other gods, no other Power, Intelligence, Life, Love or Truth than Him. To honor is to obey. Obedience to God then is compliance with this commandment.

Obedience

Ruth Ingraham

Christian Science Sentinel, April 15, 1911.

It is sometimes remarked that much difficulty is experienced at this time in the government of children, and that Christian Science parents do not teach their children to obey. They say, "Oh, Love will take care of them," and let it go at that. In consequence of this, the child follows his own will, acquires an exalted estimate of his own judgment and capabilities, and has very little respect for authority, while his teachers and others have to suffer for his parents' neglect. Yet, the Fifth Commandment tells us, "Honour thy father and mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

In the days of our fathers, children were taught submission to their elders in thought, speech, and action, almost to the point of losing their individuality. The old-fashioned orthodox parent often required obedience through fear of punishment, rather than love of doing right.

Against the extreme severity and narrowness of this training, as we all know, there has been a very natural revolt. Human nature is apt to go from one extreme to the other in all things; its unreasoning impulse carrying it past a safe middle course before it stops to find its bearings. So in the present day and generation we witness the undignified spectacle of parents meekly submitting to the encouraged tyranny of even their young children.

While not holding for the rigid old-fashioned discipline, obedience is realized to be of paramount importance. The cruelty of not requiring a child to obey has been proven throughout history. A child's first lesson must be one of obedience, for his own safety's sake and for the sake of all with whom he may come in contact in his later life. How, then, shall we who realize that only by the strictest obedience to Principle is any good to be gained, we who are admonished in the Bible and in our textbook to obey the divine law, how shall we slight or ignore the sacred obligation to bring up our children to be obedient to Truth?

It is vain to say, "Love will take care of him," if we are making no effort to help him realize this sacred truth for himself. A casting aside of responsibility in this way is equivalent to declaring that there is no sin while we are indulging in sin — and our textbook deals very plainly with this error.

Respect for authority, together with a systematically developed ability to discriminate between the false authority and the true, should be the equipment of every child of Christian Science parents. In St. Paul's epistle to the Ephesians, he counsels the children to obey their parents, "for this is right." On page 62 of *Science and Health* we read, "The entire education of children should be such as to form habits of obedience to the moral and spiritual law." The untrained human will which chafes, rebels, or mocks at authority, does not make for true

freedom, but for a brief license which ends in bitterness and tears, until the road is retraced and the steps learned anew that lead from sense to Soul.

The Fifth Commandment

A. Lincoln Rothblum

Christian Science Sentinel, August 29, 1936

Among the first lessons taught to pupils in the Christian Science Sunday School is included a right apprehension of the spirit and the letter of the Fifth Commandment, "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee," must precede its practical application in human affairs.

In the home, the affection and care for the child by the father and mother provide a glimpse of the constant protection and provision of God, divine Love, for His entire creation. Children may attest their gratitude for Love's beneficence, by yielding instant obedience to their parents.

Christian Science emphasizes the necessity for obedience to divine Principle. It also stresses the imperative need for obedience to wise parental authority. The Apostle Paul enjoins, "Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord."

On page 236 of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* the spiritually scientific reason for obedience is established by Mrs. Eddy's declaration, "Children should obey their parents; insubordination is an evil, blighting the buddings of self-government." Young people, as well as their more mature brothers and sisters, are privileged to prove, through Christian Science, that permanent progress and rich rewards of well-doing follow when they honor their Father-Mother God by rendering obedience to their human parents. The benefit and bliss of obedience demonstrated in childhood make home a preparatory school for later years: it becomes the cultural center for much that constitutes the good in human experience.

Man, in the image and likeness of his Maker,

expresses dominion through obedience to the mandates of Mind, and this spiritual fact demonstrated in human experience is bright with promise of definite progress and higher intellectual attainments. The mental atmosphere of room, auditorium, and playground is accordingly elevated by such spiritualized thinking. By these signs school-mates yet unacquainted with the blessings of obedience, may recognize that young Christian Scientists are endeavoring to honor their Father-Mother God, and to reflect credit upon their parents.

Pointedly the Bible presents the comparative effects on parents of the obedience and the disobedience of their children in school and elsewhere by the proverb, "A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish son is the heaviness of his mother."

Through the Science of Christianity, growing boys and girls may realize the consequent nothingness of unworthy motives, which vainly attempt to present hindrances to proper conduct. By an increasing realization of the Christ-consciousness there may be demonstrated the protected liberty of action within the encircling security and safety of Soul. Children of every age, who cultivate obedience, are God-guided and God-governed, and earn the benediction, "All honor and success to those who honor their father and mother," as Mrs. Eddy says on page 29 of her *Message to The Mother Church for 1901*.

With Christlike affection for children, Mrs. Eddy gives wondrous encouragement to young people, whereby their obedience, demonstrated in daily pursuits, may lay the foundation for grand careers and serve to illustrate a lofty standard of local and world citizenship. In tender phrases, Mrs. Eddy writes (*Miscellaneous Writings*, p. 110): "Beloved children, the world has need of you, — and more as children than as men and women: it needs your innocence, unselfishness, faithful affection, uncontaminated lives," and farther on she adds, "What grander ambition is there than to maintain in yourselves what Jesus loved, and to know that your example, more than words, makes morals for mankind!"

Poem 310

Max Dunaway

Daily Angels

A little more meekness,
A little more love,
A little more faith
In the good God above;

A little more patience,
A little more trust,
A little more mercy,
To make us more just;

A little more kindness,
A little more truth,
A little more friendship,
A little more ruth,

A little more courage,
A little more prayer,
A little more vision
Of good everywhere;

A little more gladness
A little more joy,
Will heal all our troubles,
All ills will destroy.

Items By and About Mary Baker Eddy



Working for Australia David L. Keyston

The Healer, page 168

Once Mrs. Eddy wrote in her diary, “Today I worked for Australia.” Later she received a letter from a lady there who said that she was suddenly healed of a serious physical condition. Mrs. Eddy looked up in her diary, and found that the date corresponded with the date of this lady’s healing.”

Mrs. Eddy is purported to have commented that at the time she did the metaphysical work for Australia, she *knew* that it had had an effect. So when she heard of this confirmation, apparently more than a year later, she was grateful to know that her spiritual intuitions had in fact been correct, and that the blessing was manifested to praise God.

“So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.” (Isaiah 55:11, 12)

Praying to Protect

Gilbert Carpenter

Watches Prayers Arguments, pages 13, 14

When one contemplates the workers at Pleasant View praying for the benefit of the Cause and humanity, and Mrs. Sargent working on the weather, analysis will show that actually the latter was also working for the benefit of humanity, since one cannot work scientifically on the weather, without endeavoring to excommunicate the so-called human mind from the world, in order that divine Mind may come in and govern in this physical universe, so-called. If a student should become fixed in the notion that the entire mission of Science is to heal mankind, it would help him to read these watches, so that he might learn that, in Mrs. Eddy’s eyes, it was no misuse of Truth to apply it to the weather and other general discords. The task of the working Scientist must include correcting the weather, if it violates the law of harmony, as well as to work on what ever else comes to his notice in the world that calls for divine help. On page 427 of the textbook we read: “Immortal Mind, governing all, must be acknowledged as supreme in the physical realm, so-called, as well as in the spiritual.”

Working for the Cause and World David L. Keyston

The Healer, page 168-169

Three times a day Mrs. Eddy took time to work for the Cause of Christian Science and for all the world. There were those in Germany, it is related, that tried for three years to bring about the first world war. But Mrs. Eddy was working, and this evil intent could not be accomplished then.

Similarly, it was not until right after Mrs. Eddy's passing [December 3, 1910] that three monumental events took place in this country, which have served to keep the populace in bondage to political and financial enterprise ever since. Was it merely coincidental that two of these three major developments were also significant planks in Karl Marx's *Communist Manifesto*, serving to erode individual rights and liberty, giving socialism its first stranglehold on this country?, what many believe to be the culminating ultimate social and political evil.

These events were the following:

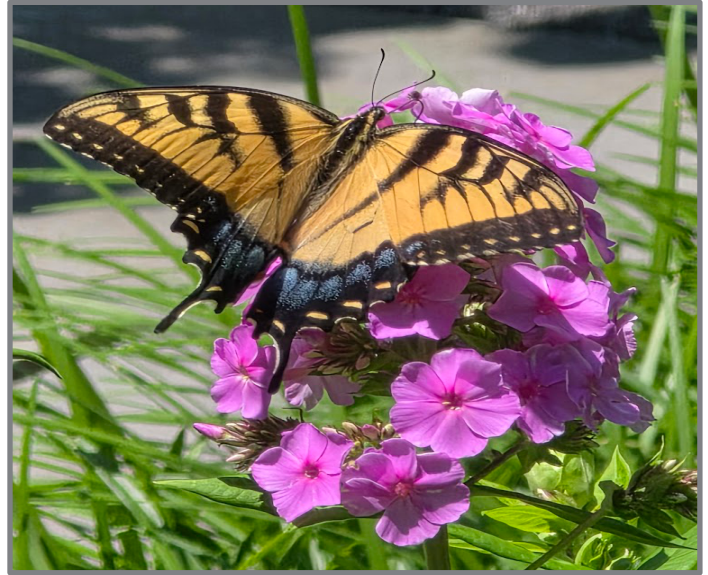
1. The Federal Reserve Bank — a centralized banking system
2. a graduated tax system
3. the popular election of senators.

Additionally, the formation of the League of Nations (the fore-runner of the United Nations), occurred about this time. The first step in the destruction or subordination of this God-inspired and ordained nation to international interests, subverting our sovereignty and nationalism to outside interests was put in place.

What evil Mrs. Eddy kept at bay while she was here we may never fully know. James Gilman relates the following on this topic (*Recollections of Mary Baker Eddy*, p. 48); "malicious animal magnetism had been trying all over the land to precipitate evil leading into all sorts of sin and destruction, seeking to lay its work to Christian Scientists, but said she, 'I have been holding it back.'" (A whole volume could be written on the work Mrs. Eddy did for the world in holding crime and evil in check.)

"Mrs. Eddy once told her household: 'If I

should be taken from you, the students will have to do a great deal of work for the universal welfare, to make up for what I have done.'"



Poem 311

Max Dunaway

Daily Angels

The most contagious thing I ever saw
Was not disease based on some mortal law.
It was not panic, horrific and severe,
Nor anything that filled men's hearts with fear.

For what is more contagious now, than these:
The good of life; its simple harmonies;
The things that bring all men in one accord
With Love their only Mind, their only Lord?

A friendly happy smile will multiply
Much faster than will any evil lie.
A loving deed itself will reproduce
More readily than any cruel abuse.

Even the laughter of a little child
Will touch the stony heart and make it mild.
And men will give of time and thought and deed
To help a fellow man in some dire need.

Good is the most contagious thing I know.
To what immense proportions does it grow!
For it is propagated by God's hand
And therefore in His allness must expand.

History Corner

Sunday School and Christening at The Mother Church Clifford P. Smith

Christian Science Journal, December 1933

The first Christian Science Sunday School was conducted in 1881 by Asa G. Eddy. Although conducted for the Church of Christ, Scientist, it is not mentioned in the Church's minutes. Probably it was informal, and did not last long. Probably, also, it was for adults, rather than for children. Mrs. Eddy preserved the history of this inception of our Sunday School by mentioning it in certain editions of *Science and Health* and on page 42 of *Retrospection and Introspection*.

In the fall of 1883, the Church of Christ, Scientist, decided to have a Sunday School, and arranged to hold it before the Sunday service. Yet, the execution of this plan was postponed. Instead, for a time, the main feature of the Sunday service was to be a Bible lesson, rather than a sermon.

The Sunday School of the Church of Christ, Scientist, was actually formed on October 25, 1885 (*The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, p. 55). There were elected a Superintendent, an Assistant Superintendent, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Chorister, and a Committee on Music, besides six teachers. After the Church service on the next Sunday, the Superintendent of the Sunday School invited all who desired to become members, which invitation was accepted by "seventy adults and children." The number of children, as compared with the number of older persons, was not recorded, but a few Sundays later, when the Sunday School numbered one hundred and two pupils besides eleven officers and teachers, a visitor noted that "those present were mostly adults" (*Journal* for January, 1886, Vol. 3, p. 185). This Sunday School met at a different time from the Church service, either before or after; and it continued, subject to interruptions and vacations, until the Church of Christ, Scientist, was reorganized, in 1892, as The First Church of Christ, Scientist. The Mother Church.

In contrast with our present usages, an early

episode that seems odd or strange was a christening of children by the Pastor of the Church of Christ, Scientist. On February 26, 1888, in Chickering Hall, Mrs. Eddy christened twenty-nine children. Their names, plus the fact that she christened them at this time and place, were entered in the Church record. As described in *The Christian Science Journal* for March, 1888, the christening service took the place of the regular Sunday service, and included an address on names and baptism by the Pastor. The christening itself was described in these words: "Raising her hands over each in turn, she then repeated the name, and very slowly and emphatically pronounced this blessing: 'May the baptism of Christ with the Holy Spirit cleanse you from sin, sickness, and death.'" The rite did not include the use of water. Three of the children were Mrs. Eddy's grandchildren. This christening appears to have been both the first and the last in the Church of Christ, Scientist.

Mrs. Eddy showed her love for children in many ways. In *The Christian Science Journal* for April, 1895, she made the following announcement: "On the first Sunday of each month a sermon shall be preached to the children, from selections taken from the Scriptures and *Science and Health*, specially adapted to the occasion, and read after the manner of the Sunday service." The first of these children's services occurred on April 14, 1895. As reported in the next issue of the *Journal*, the main features of the service were the children's sermon and music by a choir from First Church of Christ, Scientist, of New York City. In the *Journal* for the next month, there was an announcement that the children's service would occur once in four months, and the date of the next one was given, but this plan appears to have been abandoned before this date.

In the October number of the *Journal*, there was a notice from Mrs. Eddy headed, "What We Can Do for the Children," in which she notified loyal Christian Scientists "to organize immediately a Sunday School for the children," to be held immediately after Sunday services. The notice continued with directions for the lessons substantially the same as those which now constitute Article XX, Section 3, of the

Church Manual. The Sunday School of The Mother Church *for children* was organized on October 5, 1895, having a Superintendent, an Assistant Superintendent, and two teachers. At first, the ages of the children were not limited. In January of the next year, the rule was adopted that children under twelve could be admitted, but children could not remain after becoming fifteen years of age (Church Minutes, Vol. II, p. 142).

Another service for children occurred on Sunday, June 10, 1906, when The Mother Church dedicated its new edifice. On this day there were six services, at one of which (12:30 p.m.) children were given preference in seating the congregation; and they filled most of the seats. In its report of this dedication, the Boston *Herald* reported the children's service as follows: "It was 'children's day' at noon, for the service at half past twelve was specially reserved for them. They filled all the seats in the body of the church, and when it came to the singing, the little ones were not a whit behind their elders, their shrill trebles rising with the roll of the organ in almost perfect time. In every respect their service was the same as all the others."

The articles for children or young people which began lately to be marked as such in the *Christian Science Sentinel* are not the first to be distinguished in such a way. From 1886 to 1889, *The Christian Science Journal* had a department headed "Home," which was mainly for children and parents. Then, except for an interval in 1889, it had a "Home and Children's Department" until 1891. For a few months in 1903, the *Sentinel* included a department or section headed "For the Children." The articles or items for children in the *Journal* from 1886 to 1891 consisted chiefly of healings by children, stories having a moral or spiritual point, poems (mostly reprinted), and reviews of books. Articles on Christian Science or on teaching Christian Science to children became more frequent toward the end of this period, but never became more than occasional. The section "For the Children" in the *Sentinel* contained articles and poems (partly reprinted) intended to interest and instruct juvenile readers; and it was a distinct improvement over the earlier departments in the *Journal*. Nevertheless, this section in the *Sentinel* was

discontinued then for the lack of enough articles having a spiritual value. Presumably the corresponding department in the *Journal* was discontinued for the same reason.

Correspondence to Mrs. Eddy's Biographer Forwarding a Letter from a College Classmate of Her Brother, Ex-Governor Moody Currier

Out of the large correspondence commending my labors, I present to my biographer the enclosed letter from one of New Hampshire's noblest sons — ex-Gov. Moody Currier. It has the special merit of being free from preconceived views; it breathes the inborn strength of our Granite state; it kindles anew the fires of religious freedom, lighting an illustrious life, and lifting the shadows of over three-score years and ten.

Manchester, N.H.

August 17, 1895

My Dear Mrs. Eddy:

Some days since, I had the pleasure of receiving by express two nice volumes, containing your card, showing that I am indebted to you for the very welcome present, for which I most heartily thank you. From a hasty examination I am sure I shall receive much satisfaction in their further perusal and study.

It gives me great pleasure to find your system so free from mystical creeds and theological dogmas. Every theory of philosophy or religion, in order to stand the scientific criticism of the present day, must be founded upon the eternal laws of God. The original method of your teachings reminds me very forcibly of the characteristic manner of your lamented brother, Albert, who thoroughly despised every appearance of sham and pretense in the pretended teachers of mankind.

I wish to congratulate you upon the broad and independent foundation on which you are now building your great work, and trust that your fame and renown may last as long as the principles you teach.

Very sincerely yours,
Moody Currier

Interesting Squibs

Joy does not mean that one has run away from trouble; it means that he has overcome it.

Louise Knight Wheatley

When you let matter alone and handle claims wholly as claims of mortal mind so-called, you will have wonderful success in your work.

Bicknell Young

If subtle suggestion argues that something mysterious called time can somehow affect seeing and hearing, ask, if you wish, for an explanation. There is none. There is no right or reason in such argument.

Paul Stark Seeley

God tells us to burden Him with whatever burdens us.

Anonymous

When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us.

Helen Keller

We must enlarge our conception in order to bring out enlarged results. We must think "big," in order to demonstrate "big."

Bicknell Young

Those who always pray are necessary to those who never pray.

Victor Hugo

If you want to change the future, you must change what you're doing in the present.

Mark Twain

No man ever sank under the burden of the day. It is when tomorrow's burden is added to the burden of today, that the weight is more than a man can bear. Never load yourself so. If you find yourselves so loaded, at least remember this: it is your doing, not God's.

George MacDonald

You are not only responsible for what you say, but also for what you do not say.

Martin Luther

Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passions, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.

John Adams

The meek are not those who are never angry, for such are insensible; but those who, feeling anger, control it, and are angry when they ought to be.

Theophyl

God eagerly awaits the chance to bless the person whose heart is turned toward Him.

Anonymous

In prayer, more is accomplished by listening than by talking.

Jane Frances de Chantal

So much remains to be accomplished that we have no time to consider what has been done.

Charles Spurgeon

Living for others is Life's fulness;
living for self, its poverty, nakedness, starvation.
Live then *to bless*; thus alone
forever blest art thou.

Theodore D. Weld

Plainfield Church Roundtable Discussion



*“Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.”
Eph. 6:11*

Elliott’s Commentary says, “The special emphasis in this verse is on ‘the whole armour,’ ... not on its strength or its brightness, but on its completeness, leaving no one point unguarded by carelessness.”

“To put on the ‘armour of God’ is declared to be to ‘put on the Lord Jesus Christ.’ Hence its completeness corresponds to the divine perfection of His true humanity. We are to put on His image in all the harmony of truth and righteousness, of peace and faith, to receive and use His salvation and wield the spiritual energy of His Word.”

Matthew Poole’s Commentary says: “‘That ye may be able to stand’; either to fight, or rather to overcome. He that loses the victory is said to fall; he that gains it, to stand.”

“Against the wiles of the devil:’ The devil useth arts and stratagems, as well as force and violence, and therefore, if any part of your spiritual armour be wanting, he will assault you

where he finds you weakest.

From *Matthew Henry*: “Our Redeemer is almighty, and in the power of his might we may overcome.”

During her classes, Mrs. Evans often asked us to stand up and tell her what our weak spot was, and how error would try to use it to get to us. She was helping us to recognize our weak spots and to shore them up. As Mrs. Eddy writes, “Mankind must learn that evil is not power. Its so-called despotism is but a phase of nothingness. Christian Science despoils the kingdom of evil.” (*S&H*, 102:30)

This church happens to be the center of Independent Christian Science, and the devil doesn’t like it; mortal mind, so-called, doesn’t like it, because Christian Science is mortal mind’s destroyer. Christian Science teaches only one Mind, God. Especially when doing work for church, we need to be aware of that weak spot and put on the “whole armor of God.” If you can learn to strengthen your citadel and stand up to the errors that would try to keep you from doing what God wants you to do, the growth will be immense.

What is sin? The personification of evil, dishonesty, and craftiness — that's what the wiles of the devil are. We are to prove that the so-called wiles of the devil are nothingness. In belief, it seems to be something, so we have to prove its nothingness — and we can, and we do, and this is how. But it would seem to be crafty, to get you off guard or get you upset about some cherished thing. That's why we put everything on God's altar; we give everything to God.

Remember when these errors come, they are designed to make us forget or neglect our duty to God, to our Leader, and to mankind. (*Manual*) They are designed to do that. Be prepared, don't be dismayed, and don't give in to it. Stand up to it, and you will be victorious! Error wants you silent; it will seem to attack your weak spot because it comes tailor-made just for you. That's why it's important for us to learn what our weak spots are. The only way we can learn what they are is to learn from our mistakes, be humble enough to admit them, and learn from them — that's how we make our weak spots our strong points.

In an article from a 1926 *Christian Science Sentinel* by Ella Hoag called "Standing for God," she makes the point, in order to stand fast, you need to be standing fast "in the Lord." If your motive is to serve God, if your motive is right, if your motive is love, you will stand, and you will keep standing, and nothing will knock you over. If you're standing for your own agenda, you'll get knocked over very easily. When you see people who have a righteous cause, they will stand, and it's admirable. Certainly, look at Mrs. Eddy or Christ Jesus. They crucified him and he still stood, and he rose from the dead. You're undefeatable if you stand in the Lord. If you are standing on what's right, what's principled, no matter how much error blows, it will not knock you down.

What is the whole armour of God? It's our thoughts, our conviction of our oneness with God, what you know to be true about God, about God's creation, however little it might be. And if it's the truth about God and God's creation, you put it on, and you don't put anything else on, you don't dilute it. It gives you everything — loins girt with truth, the breastplate of righteousness,

preparation of the gospel. We have to have that foundation in the Bible and *Science and Health*. You protect yourself with the shield of faith, and the sword of Spirit. It's like a complete armoring of our thoughts.

Yes, the sword of the spirit is the word of God. The Word! You combat error with the Word. That's why I call it your arsenal. When Jesus was tempted of the devil, what did he say? He said, "It is written." He knew the Bible of that time, and he combatted the error with, "It is written." So remember that, "Put on the whole armour of God."

Standing for God

Ella W. Hoag

Christian Science Sentinel, September 11, 1926

Men have always agreed that, to stand for anything, has meant to remain fixed and steadfast in loyalty; that whatever the opposition or resistance, to stand must imply an immovable allegiance. In his epistle to the Philippians, Paul wrote, "Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved." And when testifying his love for the Thessalonians he declared, "Therefore, brethren, we were comforted over you in all our affliction and distress by your faith: for now we live, if ye stand fast in the Lord."

Paul understood full well that there is only one safe place to stand, and that is "in the Lord;" and how impossible it would be to "stand fast in the Lord" if the desire were for any but the unselfish and unselfed purpose of standing for God! No selfish aim could be sufficient to hold one firmly in such a stand, since selfishness always gives way under stress of temptation and trial. No one has ever stood firmly and effectively against evil unless with the purest, holiest motive, the love of God, good. To consider what standing for God includes, one must understand something of God Himself; and Christian Science is here revealing the entire truth about Him.

Christian Science reveals the truth that God is infinite divine Mind — is all-intelligence; that

He is all-pervading Spirit; that He is all Soul, including all spiritual sense; that He is all Life, Truth, Love. In *Miscellaneous Writings* (p. 206) Mrs. Eddy also speaks of God as “the active, all-wise, law-creating, law-disciplining, law-abiding Principle.” And then she goes on to say, “The real Christian Scientist is constantly accentuating harmony in word and deed, mentally and orally, perpetually repeating this diapason of heaven: ‘Good is my God, and my God is good. Love is my God, and my God is Love.’” Standing for God as Christian Science instructs us to do, is not only the way whereby we fulfill our duty to God, but it is the way to deliver ourselves and others from all that is false and undesirable.

Does corporeal sense testify of discord and distress? How wonderful to be able to stand unmoved because the ever-present evidences of Soul and its perfections are at hand! These are all expressions of all-satisfying Life, Truth, Love.

It is not, therefore, strange that one thus steadfastly allegiant to good should continually unfold into a larger, fuller, more perfectly demonstrated understanding of God and unity with Him. How easy, then, to declare and prove perpetually that our God is good, and good is our God! That Love is our God, and our God is Love! To stand thus is constantly and continually to express the perfect government of divine Principle, Love, wherein and whereby all good is unfolded.



Poem 59

Max Dunaway

Daily Angels

Dear Lord, how can I say that I may fail,
My strength may not sufficient be?
When of myself I have no power to do
A single thing. This much I know is true:
I but reflect what You give me.

Poem 458

Max Dunaway

Daily Angels

My fellow men, what do we here?
Why do we sit in chilling fear?
Why drop our eyes in heavy doubt?
The enemy awaits without.

Will he withdraw, if we stand not?
Will he surrender, if unfought?
Will he grow weak, if we despair?
Or stronger, if we bravely dare?

No. Who in battle grows more strong
Than he who will defy the wrong?
Who overcomes, puts down the foe,
But he who with his God will go?

And you are strong if you will fight
Upon the side of holy right.
In battling claims of sinning sense
You side with God's omnipotence.

Replace your fear with certainty
Of good that routs the enemy.
He runs before a joyous trust
And falls at last into the dust.

Raise now your eyes, lift up your voice,
Give thanks to God. Rejoice! Rejoice!
And up and to the battle then.
What do we here, my fellow men?

From the Early Workers



Cleansing the Temple Louise C. Martin

Christian Science Journal, July 1911

In the twenty-first chapter of Matthew there is a remarkable incident. We read that Jesus entered the temple, cast out all that sold and bought, and overthrew the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves.

For many years this account presented a picture to me which I could scarcely associate with the gentle, loving Nazarene. Since then, however, the full significance of this lesson has dawned upon me, and it is no longer a surprise that Jesus used this radical means in cleansing the temple of what St. Paul calls “the root of all evil;” namely, the love of money.

In this age of commercialism and materiality, the love of money is perhaps the most prevalent and subtle evil among all peoples. Our most civilized nations seem engaged in a game of reckless scrambling for gold — and integrity, honesty, and truth are trampled upon in the frantic attempt to get it. To those who have entered the path which leads to the “land of Christian Science” (*S&H*, p. 226), a new world is revealed — the world of Spirit or Mind, of love for God and man, of peace and holiness. Within the sacred boundary of this holy city, money availeth

nothing. In his invitation to this divine habitation, Isaiah cried, “Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.” The prophet, although urging those who have no money, emphatically says “buy,” implying that something we claim as our own must be given in exchange for this wine and milk of the Spirit. Then what shall be paid?

Christian Scientists, who have come to this fount, can answer the question. Long-cherished habits and indulgences, false estimates of our brother, arrogant justification of our own deeds and misdeeds, — these are the things we must part with (or pay) in exchange for true concepts, inspiring thoughts, holy motives and aims, a correct view of our brother as the image of God. There must be an uncompromising denial and dismissal of the subtle argument that would justify error in self, while condemning it in another.

Well did the prophet say “buy and eat,” for we cannot hoard these wrong thoughts and at the same time partake of the “fruit of the Spirit” and relish its sweetness. The false concept must be cast away before the true can become our own. Perhaps at times the price seems a great one to pay, and before the new idea dawns in its glory,

we might say in our ignorance that we had lost that which was so pleasant and desirable. Nevertheless, we must all learn, since “a great sacrifice of material things must precede this advanced spiritual understanding” (*S&H*, p. 16).

This deeply rooted claim of evil, that money can buy peace and happiness, can and will be met, and it is the business of every Christian Scientist to search his consciousness and see if he is serving this falsity in any respect. He may think that since he gives liberally to the church, and fulfils other demands in an external way, he should receive a rich reward of peace and plenty. Perhaps he does these things at a sacrifice, and yet his problem of supply remains. An assertive suggestion of self-righteousness may whisper, “I do not see why it is that I cannot overcome the claim of limitation.” What hinders his demonstration? The living, acting Christ must come into that temple. The thought of material, personal ownership must be driven out, for “the earth is the Lord’s, and the fulness thereof”; the belief that the acquisition of money is the gain of substance must be overturned; and the deep-seated falsity that we can manipulate Mind to produce material accumulation must be completely upset. Let us search deeply, and see if the basic motive of our every deed is to “glorify God,” to magnify good to cause the light of Truth so to shine before men that the darkness of error may find no abiding-place.

Then will no grievous experience follow the triumphal entry into Jerusalem (the joyous welcome of the Christ into our consciousness). We have spread our garments in the way, have thrown off our material opinions and cast them down at the feet of Truth; we have waved the palm branches of praise and thanksgiving; have gone before and followed singing, “Hosanna in the highest,” as we were filled with joy over this triumphal appearance of Truth in our midst. So let us “grieve not the holy Spirit” by hiding away within the temple the stupid, dear beliefs which must be beaten out “with many stripes,” that the healing of the lame and blind may be accomplished. Let us keep the ear attuned to Spirit, and the eye that it be not heavy with blindness, while we tend our lamps, so that even though the bridegroom come at midnight, he

shall find the temple spotless and the light glowing within.

“My Presence

Shall Go with Thee”

Duncan Sinclair

Christian Science Sentinel, June 20, 1925

The seers of the Old Testament were conscious of the presence of God. Some of the Hebrew prophets were able to do wondrous things, — wondrous in the eyes of those whose consciousness was less spiritual. And what peace must have accompanied that realization! When Moses, in difficulty, prayed to God for His presence, God assured him, “My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest.” (Ex. 33) The Psalms contain many references to the omnipresence of God: “Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there,” — meaning, surely, that God is everywhere.

Christ Jesus lived and acted as always in the presence of the Father. He completely identified himself with God, stating that he could do nothing of himself, and that it was God who did the works; thereby testifying to the ever-presence of God.

Nothing is of greater value than to know of God’s omnipresence; for to know that God is omnipresent is to realize that Life, Love, Truth, and good are ever with us. Consequently, the supposed opposites of Life, Love, Truth, and good are not present anywhere — which destroys the beliefs of sickness and sin, those false beliefs which so grievously torment the human race.

We find great comfort, courage, and healing by realizing the allness of God, persistently and with conviction, keeping before the thought Mrs. Eddy’s words: “The God-principle is omnipresent and omnipotent. God is everywhere, and nothing apart from Him is present or has power.” (*S&H*, p. 473)

Evil may be trying hard to convince us, through suggestion, that it is real. Its tumult may

seem to be heard on every side. But what of that; is not God in the midst of us? Is not God, good, omnipresent; and has not Christian Science revealed to us the utter unreality of evil? Then let us affirm and realize the truth, thereby destroying the false evidence of material sense which would convince us that evil is real. How heartening are Mrs. Eddy's words: "God is individual, incorporeal. He is divine Principle, Love, the universal cause, the only creator, and there is no other self-existence. He is all-inclusive, and is reflected by all that is real and eternal and by nothing else." (S&H, p. 331)

"Lively Stones"

Ella W. Hoag

Christian Science Sentinel, May 27, 1922

"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." (1 Peter 2)

Peter's use of the word "stones" in combination with the word "lively" is quite unusual, but brings a practical lesson. To every alert worker in Christian Science, Peter's "lively stones" present a picture of great attractiveness; for there is nothing he desires more earnestly than to be invincibly steadfast in his allegiance to Principle, — to be as immovable as any stone.

At the same time, his purpose is always to express the greatest activity in the exercise of those very stone-like qualities. When Peter goes on to say that these lively stones "are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices," what does the offering of spiritual sacrifice mean, except the yielding of every material belief to the qualities of good, that the spiritual structure of righteousness may appear.

We each must be a "lively" stone. Each one must be firm, secure, and strong in his allegiance to Principle, and therefore not easily moved or disturbed by apparently adverse influence, — just steadily fixed in righteousness. But he must be equally quick to allow anything and everything that is unlike Principle to be cut away, that the

perfecting of the whole may appear in all its beauty.

One of the most important lessons for all Christian Scientists is to have their stones fit in the universal structure. One great difficulty is that each one is often thinking more about his own stone than of the perfection of the whole structure. Because of this he is apt to believe his stone is quite perfect as it is, and if it cannot appear just as he presents it — very well, then, it need not appear at all! He argues to himself that all his praying and studying and working has enabled him to get so close to God, divine Mind, that necessarily his stone must be perfect. But then — it doesn't fit! So, what is to be done about it? He must remember to be a "lively" stone; and this surely means the willingness to sacrifice even what may appear as beautiful to him, if it does not join in the presenting of a perfect structure.

Today, stones still need much polishing. There is still many a rough corner here and many a bump there to be smoothed away. There is many a human opinion, many a human desire, that must be sacrificed before the stones shall appear in all their beauty and perfection. Then Christian Scientists will do well always to remember to be "lively stones;" or, as our Leader tells us (Poems, p. 76): —

"Be awake;
Like this stone, be in thy place
Stand, not sit."

"A Double Portion Of Thy Spirit"

Ada C. Best

Christian Science Journal, April 1911

In the second chapter of II Kings we read: "And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me."

The first twenty-two verses of this chapter contain a wonderful lesson of faithfulness and love. Elisha, when plowing in his father's fields,

recognized Elijah as a prophet of Truth, followed him, and ministered unto him. Thus when Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee," Elisha was ready to ask for a greater understanding of the truth that had enabled Elijah to heal the sick, raise the dead, and divide the waters so that they might walk on dry ground.

In response to this request, Elijah answered and said, "Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee." In other words, if Elisha were able to perceive the underlying fact of divine Principle, and to recognize God's man as "never born and never dying" (*S&H*, p. 258), he would receive a double portion of the spirit, and his prayer would be answered.

They continued their journey, no doubt talking of the Father's loving-kindness, of the Life that knows no death. Suddenly, there appeared a chariot and horses of fire and parted them asunder, and Elijah was taken up by a whirlwind into heaven. "And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof." Such rejoicing! The wonder of it! Not a moment's grief — there was only time to rejoice. Elisha had recognized his God as a God of life, not a God of death, and not for one instant did he tarry to agree with any sense testimony of separation. No; he took up the mantle which had fallen from Elijah, and went back and stood by the bank of Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah and smote the waters and said, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" And when he had smitten the waters, they parted and Elisha went over.

Mrs. Eddy says: "Divine Science is absolute, and permits no halfway position in learning its Principle and rule — establishing it by demonstration." (*S&H*, p. 274) Had Elisha believed for one moment that his teacher had died, he would have been on the same plane of thought as the sons of the prophets who afterward sent men to search for Elijah. Elisha went to work to put into practice that which he had been taught. He went forward in the power of the Spirit and with "signs following." When the sons of the prophets saw him they said, "The

spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha."

Christian Science teaches that all may demonstrate the truth of man's birthright as a child of God. Our beloved Leader has said, "Follow your Leader, only so far as she follows Christ." (*Messages to The Mother Church*, p. 78) The way has been pointed out. The truth of being is revealed. It only remains for us to practice it.

Let us take up the study of our textbook with a double portion of the spirit, and with the garment of praise, separate the waters of mortal mind and cross over on dry ground. Then will "the sons of the prophets" recognize the life-giving power of Spirit, and come and bow themselves before Truth in the acknowledgment of "God with us;" then, too, can we say with the poet, —

Henceforth my heart shall sigh no more
For olden time and holier shore:
God's love and blessing, then and there,
Are now and here and everywhere.

More Light

William D. McCrackan

Christian Science Sentinel, September 21, 1918

Humanity cries for more light; yet in reality the light of Truth is here and the ultimate is always at hand. The kingdom of God spoken of by John the Baptist, Jesus, and Paul is always present, though not always humanly perceived. Its invariable characteristic is light.

The New Jerusalem knows no darkness. As we read in the Apocalypse: "And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light."

The experience of spiritual progress may be described as that of emerging into the light, leaving the darkness of the world behind, the blackness of sin, the density of mesmerism. A spiritual joyousness, spontaneous and invigorating, accompanies this advance. In the full light of the kingdom of heaven on earth there is no knowledge of evil; for evil is error, hence unreal. There the sting of the serpent has been extracted; former enemies are friends, what were

supposed to be trying, difficult experiences are recognized as having been privileges; the all-embracing atmosphere of spiritual light is felt to include the totality of man and universe. In the Glossary of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* the word “sun” is defined by Mrs. Eddy as “the symbol of Soul governing man, — of Truth, Life, and Love.”

The child thought, which Jesus described as essential to those who enter the kingdom of God, is that uncontaminated state of consciousness which does not accept the supposititious powers and threats of material sense. Christian Science parents can do much to give their children a fair start. We read on page 237 of *Science and Health*, “Children should be taught the Truth-cure, Christian Science, among their first lessons, and kept from discussing or entertaining theories or thoughts about sickness. To prevent the experience of error and its sufferings, keep out of the minds of your children either sinful or diseased thoughts. The latter should be excluded on the same principle as the former. This makes Christian Science early available.” Much valuable advice is given by Mrs. Eddy in her writings as to the proper education of children — and this advice is applicable to adults as well.

A special injunction rests upon Christian Scientists to reflect the light lest darkness again settle upon the earth and the footprints of former reformers be swept away by a returning tide of the restless sea of error. Jesus once said to his disciples: “Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them.”

Was Jesus momentarily oppressed by the suggestion of a possible reversal of his teachings in the future? Did he perceive what his disciples did not, — the ruthless determination of the darkness not to yield before the light; the purpose of the blackness of myth and mysticism, of obscurantism and occultism to raise an army of Antichrist to combat the Christ, Truth, he came to impart? Was this the reason why he “did hide himself from them,” that he might pray for

the world and avert the threatened danger? Christian Scientists in this era are not exempt from the obligations imposed upon the children of light in all times. Loyally attentive to the warnings of their Leader, they stand ready to repulse open and secret attempts to plunge the world once more into pre-Christian gloom.

The facts of being abide steadfast upon the rock of Truth. The unquenchable light of Soul irradiates true being. Eternal life excludes fear and malice, pain and suffering. The Father-Mother God’s impartiality blesses all. The new and true has displaced the old and false; the beauty of holiness reigns and all the earth keeps silence; thus God’s work is finished. The cry of humanity for more light and ever more light is already answered. Years ago the Discoverer of Christian Science was able to utter the glorious assurance in her poem “Christ and Christmas”:

For Christian Science brings to view
The great I Am, —
Omniscient power, — gleaming through
Mind, mother, man.



Poem 48

Max Dunaway

Daily Angels

Dear God, when someone says, “Do you not sense
That this thing may befall or that one chance?”
Inside I laugh in joyous confidence;
I know You govern every circumstance.

What can occur, except as You direct?
What can it do, save manifest Your laws?
How can I doubt or something ill expect?
When You are good, the one and only cause?

Current Articles



God's Creatures

Elizabeth Dow

One morning recently I woke up to what looked sort of like signs that a mouse had been on my kitchen counter, which was quite distressing to me. I run a pretty tight ship around here, and mice don't belong in the house. Further, I have always been somewhat squeamish of crawling things in many categories.

As I was spraying down the counter though, I was recognizing that I should not give in to these feelings of fear and dismay over the situation that was beginning to overcome me. I was contemplating this while opening the window shades for the day, when I nearly jumped out of my skin, seeing that there was a bat hanging upside down on the window trim. In forty some years of living in northern New Hampshire, it's not entirely uncommon to have bats show up once in a while where they don't belong, but what was unusual for me was my response. I knew that it was right here and now that I had to demonstrate my dominion over fear, and it had nothing to do with a little furry creature, (quite a large one, I might add) hanging on my window.

I began to think very clearly, and the first thought that came was that all of God's creatures

are harmless, useful, and indestructible, as Mrs. Eddy writes in *Science and Health*. (p. 514) I figured if this is true, then the reverse — that there is a creature that is bad and harmful — could not be true. So, what happened then was that without even thinking about it, my response and main concern in the situation became to move the bat without hurting him. Normally, I would have called someone else to get the bat, and at the very least my last concern would have been one of his well being. This feeling that came over me of wanting to preserve the bat's well being was very unexpected and somehow very comforting to me, and it was then that I realized that it was because I was reflecting God's love.

I calmly put a towel in the bottom of a bucket, got a ladder and some gloves, and gently pushed him into the bucket and carried it very harmoniously outdoors. This may not seem like a big thing to many people, but for me it was revolutionary, and the best part of it was how my thought was totally transformed from one of protecting myself from the bat, to protecting the bat, God's creature. That was certainly nothing I could have ever dreamed of and brings me to my knees to realize the wonder and amazing glory of how God works. In Genesis, God gives man

dominion over all the Earth and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the Earth. I am so grateful for this truth, and the practical way in which I saw it realized this morning.

Practicing Instead of Only Reading Christian Science

Michaela Enzmann

I am grateful for the encouragement in this church to not only study, but also practice Christian Science. During a Sunday Roundtable discussion on Watching Point 24, from *500 Watching Points* by Gilbert Carpenter, it was noted that not only studying Christian Science, but also applying and practicing it, is necessary, and that a balance between the two is required.

Before coming to Plainfield, as many others who have spoken up, I too had the notion that by studying or reading Mrs. Eddy's writings, and our daily Bible lesson, I would be harvesting the effects of Christian Science.

Watching Point 24 says that if "the effort to think right ceases, growth ceases." Not only reading, but also changing our thinking, is important for spiritual growth. I often corrected my thinking when I had physical issues, and I attribute it to Christian Science that I didn't need a medical doctor for many years.

However, I did not practice Christian Science or change my thinking when I was getting annoyed or angry. If those feelings took hold of me, I let them do that. I would try to change my thought and would say to myself, "There is only one Mind," but this was a statement without substance — I didn't feel it, I didn't feel my Oneness with the Father and all His creation. I often felt entitled to be angry because someone had done something wrong to me.

Here at the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, I am learning that anger or any other bad feelings, like discouragement or annoyance, are animal magnetism, that they are sin, and that I have to cast them out of my thinking.

The constant reminders during the Roundtables, Bible studies, and testimony

meetings here at Plainfield have helped me to practice this change of thinking more, to cast out the wrong thoughts and fill my consciousness, as much as possible, with divine thoughts. I am very grateful for the teaching we receive here. I also thank my practitioner, who is always helping me to practice and to get my thinking onto the right path.

"My Times Are in Thy Hand"

Bruce Singleterry

There's a passage from Psalms that has helped me very often, and I just love it. It goes like this: "My times are in thy hand." Imagine that! The things that we do, the timing, the scheduling of things, it's all in God's hands. That's so important. There have been times when I have tried to plan it all out myself, and, needless to say, things did not work out very well. Also, it caused me a lot of mental turmoil worrying about it, which is, quite frankly, nothing more than fear.

This helped me very recently. One morning it looked like I had this, that, and every other thing to do, and I was not quite sure what else was going to come up. I started to feel a little anxious about it, but then I remembered that passage from Psalms, "My times are in thy hand." It helped me to stand up and be firm in my thought that I was going to trust God with the things I did today, and not only that but whatever it is that He had for me to do, I would do for His glory, and He would order them. So instead of being concerned about the future, about what's going on, I just knew that the One that ordered all things, ordered my steps today one by one.

You know how it says in the Bible, Jesus spoke the word and he calmed the tossing sea? My mentality had been approaching this condition of being like a tossing sea, but the word of God stilled it. I'm so grateful for that.

Now, I don't always know what I have to do each day, but that doesn't bother me, because God knows. When I'm so firm about my times being in His hand, all of a sudden ideas come to me that I really need to take care of, and I don't

think I would have remembered them if I was worried about things. So I'm very grateful for God's word, and the inspiration that goes with it because it makes all things right.

Peace, Be Still!

Lenni Moore

I continue to be grateful for everything we are learning as students of Christian Science at this church, and that we're taught to know and expect that the weather, like everything else, needs to express God's control and dominion, and that's something I hadn't really known before I found independent Christian Science.

I had a really interesting experience about a month or so ago. We woke up in the middle of the night to a pretty violent storm. There had been a really crazy, close-by lightning strike that woke us up, woke the dog up, and we were pretty startled by it. We also heard a storm siren going off in the distance as well, one of those tornado sirens they have dotted around the area. I checked my phone's weather app, and there was a big red band of storms on the radar, and it looked like this thing was going to be going on for a couple of hours. At first, I was thinking, "Should we go down to the storm shelter, or what should we do?" But then I thought, "No, I'm not going down to that storm shelter, this is my opportunity to express God's control and dominion over everything." I felt strongly that I had a right to expect that this thing wasn't just going to blow through and disturb me and my neighbors or cause damage or anything like that. So, I hunkered down and started to pray about it.

One of the things that came to me to handle was the idea of excess, because we had been getting a *lot* of rain — it had been a very rainy spring and early summer, and we really didn't need any more rain at the moment — and we certainly didn't need it the way it was coming down in waves. So, I worked with the idea that God expresses Himself in perfect balance, sending us exactly what we need and nothing that we don't need — there's never too much or too little. Then another thought that came is that God owns every channel, including the weather. He governs the weather, and animal magnetism

couldn't work through the weather to bring a lack of peace or any destruction to our area. I also remembered how Jesus calmed the storm and how he was at peace, he was not impressed by the craziness going on around him, and he spoke with authority to that storm -- he said, "Peace, be still."

All these different things just started to flood into my thought, and I got a very strong sense of peace about God's control and dominion over everything. Well, I probably worked that way for 20 to 30 minutes until the sense of peace was so clear that I felt good enough to go to sleep. Things had died down substantially outside, there were no more lightning strikes, the rain had greatly subsided, and the siren had turned off. I was able to fall asleep, and when I woke up in the morning, there was no damage in our yard, no evidence of any sort of tornado touchdowns or anything like that. I heard nothing about that in the local news or anything from neighbors.

I was just very grateful for that experience, so grateful to feel that sense of dominion and knowing God's power over everything. It strengthened my faith in God's government.

God's Precious Flock

Izzy S.

A couple of months ago, on a very warm Saturday, I spent the afternoon with two children who we look after, up at the ponies' field, teaching them to ride. We've had rather a heatwave here in England, and this was probably the first day that it was so very surprisingly hot.

After some hours we drove back to the house, ready for a cool drink and a sit down. As I parked the car, the children ran in the house, I gathered my things together including my phone which I had left in the car and had not looked at for some time. To my surprise the screen was full of messages from different people trying to get hold of me to tell me that one of my sheep was in a bad way.

I immediately called the children, we jumped back in the car and drove to the sheep's field. It was a few weeks before lambing time and I knew that heavily-pregnant ewes with very full, thick fleeces would be feeling this heat more than

anyone. All the way there I declared out loud whatever truths came to me. God is Governing. There is nothing going on but good. The sheep are perfect reflections of God. The sheep are God's perfect children, they cannot be touched by error. And whatever else I could think of. I was aware at the time that the children were with me, and I was very glad that they were able to witness this response to a claim of error. In fact the youngest child started to join in with me.

We got to the field and one of my girls, Merche, or Mercedes — named after a dear Spanish auntie — was next to the gate, flat on her side. I got her to her feet and into a pen while we checked the other sheep, which all seemed to be fine. Then we drove back to the house, filled some water containers and grabbed some other bits, and then went straight back to the field.

The ewe drank two buckets of water and I gave her a mineral drench, all the time knowing as hard as I could that there is no imbalance or lack in God. She made a fast recovery, and about a month later she had two beautiful lambs, Esther and Abigail.

I'm so grateful for everything that worked out. I was also really grateful that the children were able to witness my reaction to this, and were able to see that good outcome. And later we talked through how God was clearly governing the entire incident. I try to share the amazingness of Christian Science teachings with children as much as possible and often talk about leaving things in God's care, and giving thanks for God's love and protection. I try to make it as practical as possible so they can see how I put Christian Science into my daily life without a second thought really.

So although their household is not in any way open to religion, I hope that the Truths that I share, and what they are able to witness, will filter through.

I'm so grateful for all of God's goodness, and for the opportunity He has given me to share my life with these dear children, and with a little flock of sheep, and all the fun, joy and challenges they have brought and continue to bring, enabling me to practice what I am learning.

And I'm so grateful for what I am learning in Christian Science, which gives clear instructions

on the only way to approach life's challenges, so they can be successfully overcome.

Thank you so much for everything that goes on at the Plainfield Church, Independent. It is an honour to be a small part of this movement.

Learning Patience

Lynda Spencer

I am very grateful for our Roundtable classes, which overflow with spiritual precepts and practical steps for practicing pure Christian Science as taught by Mary Baker Eddy and the early workers.

Recently, the virtue of patience was discussed, along with its importance. A few years ago, a definition of impatience was shared during another Roundtable class that resonated with me. It was that impatience, a false trait, usually comes from thwarted self-will, characterized by restlessness, agitation, nervousness, impulsivity, worry, and dissatisfaction, to name a few. I am grateful for the change in character that has occurred since that time, which was a result of my practitioner's prayers and instruction.

Step by step, lesson after lesson, I have been gaining a better understanding of the need for patience and breaking the stubborn hold of impatience. I am learning to trust God's disposal of events, forgive myself and others, be patient with my own and others' growth, be quieter, and express greater endurance. I have been learning to recognize my emotions and understand what makes me rush. I am also learning the importance of not tolerating what is wrong in God's eyes and the courage to face problems.

As Mary Baker Eddy states: "Then, we should go forth into life with the smallest expectations, but with the largest patience; with a keen relish for and appreciation of everything beautiful, great, and good, but with a temper so genial that the friction of the world shall not wear upon our sensibilities." (Excerpt from "Taking Offense" in *Miscellaneous Writings*, page 224)

Before this journey at the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, these were just words that I was trying to follow, albeit ineffectively, out of personal effort. Through pure Christian Science, I have gone deeper to

address the beliefs I held on to and to replace them with the Truth about God's man.

I am deeply grateful to Christ Jesus, Mary Baker Eddy, and the dedicated workers at this church who are faithful soldiers of God.

Singing Praises to God

Nancy Stein

While reading John Morgan's article "True Vision," I was impressed by the following beautiful lines: "I look with the eye of Love's benevolence and behold in man all the hues and qualities of God. In this view there is full recognition of the divine nature."

These inspiring words reminded me of a wonderful experience I had last week at the grocery store. As I was going about my shopping, I was silently declaring statements of truth about God's man. After I left the store and was heading to my car I happened to see a young man who was collecting the carts from the parking lot, and he was joyfully singing his heart out. It made me so happy, and I smiled as I passed him, and continued on to my car. As I opened my trunk I saw him walking toward me with a big smile on his face, and he said to me, "I was just singing praises to God."

I told him how wonderful it was to hear him doing that, and that I wished more people would, especially in these challenging times. This led to a beautiful conversation where he told me, "Well they will! It says in the Bible, 'Every knee shall bow to me.'" As he helped me put my groceries in the car, he told me that he didn't always do this. In fact he was in the system for a while, and listening to music with bad language and bad messages, and he was heading down the wrong path. But one day he turned to God with his whole heart, and it changed his life. He told me he loves God, and he loves music, and now while he works he sings and praises God, and all these words come to him, and he makes up songs, and when he goes home he records them to be able to share these songs about God with others.

We talked a little more about God and the gifts he gives to each of us in order to bless others. We parted with a quick hug, wishing each other a happy day, feeling uplifted and blessed by

the divine brotherly love that led to this beautiful encounter. As I look back now, I realize that we were both seeing in each other "those hues and qualities of God, man's divine nature." I am so very grateful to God for this gift he gave to me that day, and which I think about often.

The Importance of Words

Jeremy Palmer

Many years before coming to Plainfield, I was watching that old show Judge Judy, and in one episode she told one of the people in her courtroom, "words are your tool, sir." That impressed me enough that I realized I must have been watching that show only to gain that one insight, so I turned it off and never watched again — but that thought stayed with me.

Coming to this church, and learning how important words are in Christian Science, and, as John says in the Bible, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1), it became clear that I needed to change my toolset of words, and work to eliminate and replace words that seemingly reinforced false beliefs and "poor thought-models." (*S&H*, p. 259)

So I began by switching out the word "chance" for "opportunity," and the word "fortunate" for "blessed," and the word "unfortunate" for the understanding that there was no demonstration in that instance, and knowing that the feeling of anything being lucky or unlucky is just the failure to see that God is All and how in Him there "is no variableness" (James 1:17).

This increased vigilance about the words I use, translated into making me more vigilant about thinking correctly, has helped me immensely over my time here. It has stopped me from feeling that "things just happen" or that I, or anyone, could ever be "a victim of circumstance," — and has made me understand God's perpetual goodness and my perpetual accountability to God as I go about my daily life.

How wonderful to know it is not luck or chance that brought us here, and that our past history did not make us either unfortunate or

fortunate; but, once we learn to understand Christian Science correctly, it becomes clear it is God alone who is working His purpose out in each of our lives. Only Christian Science gives us the ability to see Truth, Life, and Love at work, and to recognize each day the God-given opportunities to be His reflection and gain every blessing that God has laid out before us.

Immanuel “God With Us”

Florence Roberts

I am so grateful to be in this church, because here I've learned the word Immanuel, meaning “God with us.” I am so grateful for this word because, as I ponder it, it really makes perfect sense. If God is All, and I am His expression, reflection, or manifestation, then the absolute truth is that I am always in His presence!

I grew up learning about God. I knew God, but it was a far-away God. I would pray for His help, and it did come, but all the time I thought of God as being so far away. Isn't it wonderful to learn that God is with us right here, wherever we might be, and because of that, *Science and Health* tells us on page 475 that “Man is incapable of sin, sickness, and death.” On page 476 it says, “In divine Science, God and the real man are inseparable as divine Principle and idea.” How wonderful is that! It means that I must always know who I am in this relationship with our Father-Mother God, good. So in this presence of Love, I should also know there can't be any pain, any sickness, any sorrow, or any lack, because in these, too, God, good, cannot exist in the same space with evil.

I am so grateful for all that I've learned here, and what Christian Science has done in my life.

Speak with Authority to Your “Mountains”

Mary Beth Singleterry

Mary Baker Eddy's chapter on Prayer in *Science and Health* is truly a masterpiece. She says that Jesus' prayers were humble protests of Truth. That word “protest” means to make a solemn

declaration. So, prayer is actually affirmation, as Mrs. Eddy has said — you are declaring the Truth in the face of an error or a problem.

In Mark chapter 11, Jesus is quoted as saying, “Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatever he saith.”

Speak to your mountains! As many of you know from my testimonies, I had many challenges which seemed to me like huge, insurmountable mountains. Here, Christ Jesus is saying, you speak to those mountains. Don't let those mountains speak to you, you tell them a thing or two! When you do that, and keep at it, even though you may not get immediate results, if you keep at it, it works!

You often hear us say to study pages 390 to 393 in *Science and Health*. This is how you speak to those mountains. We call these pages Mrs. Eddy's command statements. “Dispute the testimony of the material senses with divine Science.” “Suffer no claim of sin or of sickness to grow upon the thought.” “Rise in the conscious strength of the spirit of Truth to overthrow the plea of mortal mind.” “Banish the belief that you can possibly entertain a single intruding pain which cannot be ruled out by the might of Mind.”

Those are just a few of the quotes from pages 390 to 393. This is how you speak to your mountain, whether it seems like a physical mountain, a mountain of despair, financial problems. Whatever it is, you speak to that mountain and don't listen to what it has to say. In doing so, you will chip away at it, and, to quote Mrs. Eddy, it will “diminish until it finally disappears.”

This is the power of prayer as taught by Mary Baker Eddy in our textbook. I am so grateful for this understanding of the prayer of affirmation. It can bring all to pass because truly, nothing is impossible to God!

Letters of Gratitude



Before coming to our Plainfield Independent Christian Science Church, I never thought about forming a covenant with God, but that all changed several years ago. I have come to realize that covenants are fluid and change as we progress spiritually. I now know to pray with my covenant daily, and I have recently added a quote by Peter V. Ross, which I found in one of our church newsletters. "Tell yourself every hour that Life is perpetually and peacefully in operation throughout your system without interference at any point. As you talk along this line, consciousness will form you anew." I am grateful for the guidance of my practitioner, who has taught us about forming a covenant with God.

I feel closer to God and strive to keep my covenant with Him. And because I am faithful, "Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." Psalm 23

New Jersey

As a youth, some of my seven siblings had a judgmental oriented question. "If you're so smart, why aren't you rich?"

If I were to hear such a question today, my

response would be:

"I *am* rich for I have access to a beautiful website to go to and return to. A website which allows me to listen to inspired readers reading inspired articles re the Christ Truth, as well as listen to the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, inspired Bible lessons based on the King James Bible and *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, by Mary Baker Eddy. In addition, add that I am rich because I understand, at least in part, the Science of the Christ, which establishes Reality. Thank you God, Christ Jesus, and Mary Baker Eddy."

Thank you, Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent.

South Dakota

This letter is a thank you all, and a tentative retribute with some translations — if it is acceptable, "silver and gold have I none," right now.

Hi, I'm from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The way of God is unknown to our "human mind." All my life, I was searching for the meaning of life. My spiritual search began when I was 16. Now, in earthly years, I am 65.

About seven or eight years ago, after I retired, I started to look hard for this. I was looking to know what the term “mortal mind” really means because saying “it is nothing” is nonsense — we suffer, we are enslaved by beliefs, false selfhoods. In South America, it is hard to be educated with Jesuit Catholicism, so horrible. No wonder many of the testimonials from people from Latin America cry so much! It is enslavement (of the mind) in all educational systems.

To shorten my history, one night, I was so sad and lost, not understanding this principle. So I picked up my cell phone (I have difficulty reading on phone, but I did open it), went to YouTube, and there it was: “Place” author M. B. Eddy, channel Plainfield CS Church.

I felt like love. I heard it, but the only thing that registered was love and warmth. I downloaded many videos to watch on my TV; the testimonials from 2019 to 2025, Bible Lessons, readings, Roundtables — I embedded the English subtitles to better understand.

For the Bible Lessons and readings, I pick the texts and translate them into Portuguese, and put them on my tablet. I want to abbreviate my letter, not to overburden you. I, in my heart, am from this ethereal church.

But now, I can't contribute. Only with books that I pick up on your website and translate into Portuguese (Brazil), and then make into e-books. Although I did not proofread them. Many single and short texts from many authors. Many Bible lessons in Portuguese and in English (just in case to validate the correct translation). I can send them. My only purpose is to retribute, be in God, and serve only Him. And to make it more suitable for this church.

I say thank you!

Brazil

Beloved Plainfield Christian Science Church
Independent:

“O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.” Psalm 107:1

I am very grateful for all the wonderful resources and thought-provoking topics and discussions about Christian Science as Mrs. Eddy

intended for it to be, and her love for God and mankind.

The Daily Watch and Roundtable meetings are great blessings for me. Before finding the Plainfield website, I had many misconceptions about Christian Science. A testimony was given about giving tithes. As I listened, the thought came to me that in all giving, give with love. What a great gift of love to us, one and all, God's great gift of the Science of the Christ.

Thank you, Christian Science Church, Independent, and all that you do for mankind.

North Carolina

Thank you for all the information you provide on your website. I am using the resources you post and feel grateful, thankful, and blessed by each and everyone who works to put the information online.

You touch so many lives, and I, for one, cannot thank you enough for all you do.

Blessings to all of you!

With a loving and grateful heart!
Texas

Firstly, I'd like to express thanks for the Roundtable on Everlasting Punishment in May 2025, which included a discussion about two pamphlets about animal magnetism and Roman Catholicism. I have found these on the Roundtable page of the Plainfield website, and I have been reading them. They have been very helpful. This is another really good source of articles which I was previously unaware of, and I am very grateful to Plainfield for making these available.

I'd like to express thanks for three testimonies in recent weeks from people who have lost loved ones, and have embraced the CS teachings that life goes on, and that we are never deprived of anything good or needful. We recently lost our much-loved pet cat, and by applying similar thoughts about the situation, we felt able, in just a few days, to re-home another cat that the cat charity had been having difficulty rehoming because she had various requirements, which we could meet easily. So she

is settling in now, and we are pleased to have her with us. Of course, we will never forget our previous cat, but we know that she is continuing and is still being cared for by her heavenly Father.

I am very grateful to Mrs. Eddy for her years of tireless work to give Christian Science to the world, to my very kind Plainfield practitioner for her support, and to the Plainfield church for all that you do.

*Much love to you all.
England*

Dear Members,

God bless every hand and heart!

Enclosed are two checks for a donation in support of the tremendous missionary work and outreach made available to our world.

*Most sincerely, and thank you,
Mississippi*

Dear Plainfield Church,

We are so grateful for the Plainfield Church. The services are so very uplifting! The website is a terrific reading room and listening room!

Please accept this check as an expression of our love and affection for all that the Plainfield Church is doing.

Vermont

I wanted to thank you all at Plainfield for a recent testimony meeting. I'm especially grateful for Imogene's testimony. I have struggled with the question of the vaccines since they were introduced. Unfortunately, I gave them power that they didn't have. What Imogene shared was very helpful to me, her practitioner's realization that matter, in any form, is powerless, as proven in her experience. I have pondered that all day and will remember that whenever I am tempted to give any power to anything other than God.

Thank you, Plainfield, for all you do!

Connecticut

It is with a heart full of gratitude that I send this

monthly contribution check to support all the wonderful work accomplished at this Independent Christian Science Church!

All the work that is done here truly reflects the words from *Science and Health*, "Love is reflected in love!" The world benefits; it is drawn to this church and its website, and feels the warmth, caring, and healing that continually go out to all.

*With love and gratitude.
Virginia*

Dear All,

I loved the Fourth Commandment in "Love is the Liberator." Thank you so much to all who worked so hard in preparing this for all of us.

*Warmest gratitude.
Kenya*

Hello, my Brothers and Sisters, in Plainfield, NJ!

What a blessing you are! I'm forever thankful for being led to your wonderful Church and website. Only Jesus gets the Glory for how all that happened! I could have, just as easily, clicked on the Mother Church in Boston, but I did not. I do not know why I didn't, but I clicked on yours instead, and I have been listening ever since.

God works in mysterious ways. I'm so thankful for Him leading me here. I've always been a stickler for the "Truth," and you all have a special way of sharing and teaching it, and I want to thank you for all your dedication. God bless you all!

I still listen and always will.

Texas

Testimonies of Healing



Chronic Nosebleeds Healed Through Christian Science

from B. N. in New Jersey

I had a wonderful healing — one of many that I have had since I started practicing Christian Science and coming to the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent. For many years, ever since I was a child, I used to bleed frequently from my nose. It was happening so often that my parents became very worried and began seeking medical advice, but none of them could help me. So I was left to grow up with it, and hope that it would stop someday. But it didn't and continued through my teenage and into my early adult years. That was when I first found the Plainfield Christian Science Church.

As soon as I started growing in my knowledge of God, the understanding of myself began to improve, including spiritual awareness and physical health. It was then that I found my real self; nose bleeding and other symptoms became a thing of the past, and fear of them coming back was gone as well.

It's been more than twenty years and not even the least of the symptoms has ever come back. I have no doubt that if I had not found Christian Science, I would still be living with fear and its symptoms. My life is now a complete

reflection of divine Love, and perfect love casts out fear. I wholeheartedly believe that Christian Science is the only way out of the bondage of fear and sickness.

Infected Tooth Healed Through Prayer

from K. in North Carolina

I had begun feeling pain and much discomfort in a tooth with a crown on it. I went to the dentist and they took x-rays. In looking at the x-ray images, there appeared to be a dark cloud in the roots of this tooth. I had been feeling upset in recent weeks over things some family members had said and done, and sitting in the dentist's chair, I could clearly see this dark cloud as the evidence of these discordant thoughts I had been harboring. The dentist talked about setting up an appointment to get that worked on, but I knew what I needed to do, so I thanked him and left.

I called my practitioner and she mentioned two articles called "Home," one by Mary Baker Eddy, and one by Ella Hoag. I studied these articles, and began replacing unloving thoughts with only pure thoughts of God's love. For example, Mrs. Eddy's article "Home" says, "Our home is in divine Mind, is spiritual consciousness, the eternal harmony of Soul. ...

Nothing can destroy the harmony of our home.” And at the end of *Science and Health* is the spiritual sense of Psalm 23, which says, “and I will dwell in the house [the consciousness] of [Love] forever.”

I reasoned that I would *never* be upset with God, so I could never be upset with God’s idea, man, either. God is All, and “in Him we live, and move, and have our being.” There is only Principle and idea, nothing else. The whole dark cloud of disturbed thoughts was just an illusion that had hypnotized me into thinking that a lack of harmony could be part of my experience, and it most certainly cannot when I don’t let it control me. When you put a drop of water on a hot burner, it’s sizzles and disappears completely, and all discomfort and pain disappeared completely with these new realizations. There is only one Mind, God, and we are all harmonious ideas of this Mind.

I am very grateful for Mrs. Eddy’s clear receptivity to God’s messages in writing *Science and Health* and her other writings for our education, and most grateful to God and Christ Jesus. Practitioner support as I progress in understanding is such a treasure!

Discouragement Healed

from B. S. in California

I wish to express my gratitude for a healing of feeling discouraged. It seemed like there was a lot for me to do and I was feeling a bit overwhelmed and discouraged. I was reading the latest issue of *Love is the Liberator*, issue 224, June 2025, titled *The Fourth Commandment*. As I was reading the section called “Interesting Squibs” (pg. 11), the last one really caught my eye. It said,

“The work of God does not so often lag because we are discouraged, but we are discouraged because we allow the work to lag. The best preventative against discouragement is to push on the work with all possible zeal, whatever difficulties may be in the way. The workers least subject to discouragement are those who work the hardest.” (Anon. C.S.J., April 1905)

Well, that was a wake up call! With that I got to work and completed the job I needed to finish!

Now, when I am tempted to feel discouraged, I remember that squib and get going. I am very grateful for the *Love is the Liberator* magazine, most especially those “Interesting Squibs.” I am grateful for the Plainfield Church and for all of its offerings on the website, the publications, services, Roundtables and much more. I am also grateful for practitioner help over the years.

Headaches Healed

from M. M. in Mississippi

A few years ago I would frequently get severe headaches. They were really painful, and I’d take pain medication all the time. But since I started coming to this church and learning about Christian Science, that’s all changed. I haven’t taken any pain medication in years, and I honestly don’t even get headaches anymore. It’s been such a blessing.

But yesterday morning, I woke up feeling totally drained and had one of those old, familiar headaches. Right away, before I even got out of bed, I remembered what we’re taught here at Plainfield...to start the day with the Truth. So I began saying those powerful statements: “God is my Life, God is the only pure and perfect Life,” and “God is my Mind, God is the only pure and perfect Mind.”

Still, right after, my first thought was, “Oh no. .. I’ve got such a long day ahead, how am I going to get through this?” I honestly just wanted to go back to bed. But then I remembered one of my favorite articles, “Oneness,” by Bicknell Young. I’ve read and listened to it so many times. There’s a line in it that really stood out to me in that moment:

“Someday a suggestion appears at the door of thought and says, ‘You have a headache.’ This is a suggestion. If you don’t delete it there, you may say, ‘I have a headache.’ Then it becomes a belief and if you don’t delete it there, you suffer from it.”

In the article he explains how this all has to do with our oneness with God and us knowing that we have one Mind, we think like God. We can destroy all these negative thoughts and beliefs.

I knew I didn’t have to accept that suggestion. I reminded myself that if it’s not good, it didn’t

come from God, and I wasn't going to let it stay in my thinking. So I went about my morning like usual, taking care of my animals (my cats, dogs, and ducks!) and I listened to the Bible Lesson. Before I even realized it, I felt completely fine. The headache was gone, my energy came back, and I thanked God for this quick but meaningful healing and experience. I ended up having a great day. I was able to happily accomplish everything that I needed to do.

I'm so grateful for what we're taught here, and for how practical and powerful these truths are in everyday life.

Eye Pain Healed

from A. B. in England

I would like to express my sincere thanks for a recent experience. I received a normal invitation from the optician to come for a checkup. My previous checkup had been quite a while before. Recently I had been experiencing some pain in one eye. I had been reading and considering some of the very helpful articles to do with eyes and vision on the Plainfield Church website, but still felt anxious about this appointment. As I have been learning from the wonderful teaching at Plainfield, and due to this prayerful study, I was feeling so much better that it was wrong to be fearful, and instead we should have more faith in the Allness of God, and His constant care for us. I contacted a Plainfield practitioner to ask if she would give me some extra support, and she very kindly said she would. She reminded me that God is the only physician, all that God can see is His own perfection, therefore that is all we can see or experience. I kept that in thought until the date of my appointment, and had a very good experience at the optician's office. He did some extra tests this time, and at the end said that all was well, for which I am most grateful.

I am so thankful for all the teaching provided by the Plainfield practitioner, for all the materials and writings to be found on the church website, and for the support of the wonderful, dedicated practitioner. I am also very grateful to God for leading me to this exceptional church, which teaches Mrs. Eddy's pure Christian Science.

Results of Fall Healed

from C. P. In North Carolina

I would like to thank everyone who shares testimonies of healing during the Wednesday evening meetings. Listening to such a vital practice of Christian Science every week is a huge inspiration, especially during a challenge such as I experienced a few weeks ago when I was overseas.

I had just returned to my London hotel after picking up a large van at the airport. Everything had gone so well with the rental agency; a downpour while driving a large vehicle on the other side of the road hadn't ruffled me; and the parking space right in front of the hotel that was empty when I left was still waiting for me. I felt so grateful.

In checking that the van was within the lines and wouldn't block anyone, I didn't realize that the stone ramp had gotten very slick from the rain. My feet slid right out from under me, and I slammed down on the ground and hit my head. There were a number of people nearby who immediately rushed over and began expressing their alarm: "Don't move." "You've hit your head." "We need to call an ambulance."

But I was already praying. I sat up, slid over against a wall, and began affirming my Oneness with God. My thought was immediately flooded with all the testimonies I had heard about falls and accidents. I felt awash with confidence. In a few moments, I stood up and went back into the hotel, where the management was rushing toward me.

Now, when I left for the airport a few hours earlier, I had noticed a woman who needed to use two hand crutches to get around in the lobby. It seemed very difficult for her to walk, and I had immediately affirmed her true identity in God as perfect, whole, and free. Now she was coming toward me, saying, "I'm a nurse. Sit down and I'll have a look at you." Then she said to the management, "You're in luck. I'm a neurological nurse."

In that moment, I knew that she was a Godsend because she could defuse everyone's fear. So, I sat down, all the while holding to the

Truth about both her and me. She asked if it hurt. I told her it didn't. She told me I probably had a concussion and all the things that could go wrong in the next 24 hours. She asked if I was staying with someone, which I was not. She told me to put ice on the bump. Then she sent me on my way with great British humor and much love.

When I got back up to my room, however, I was shaking and my head felt rattled. I reached out to my practitioner, who gave me some things to work with. Eventually, I was able to fall asleep.

When I woke up the next morning, I felt so grateful for the whole experience. Then I opened my daily email from Plainfield. I had to smile. This was the quote: "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." (Deut. 33:12)

That day, I loaded up eight people's luggage, drove for over six hours through traffic to a variety of destinations, walked over six miles, and got my group and their luggage settled in three different AirBNBs at our final destination.

There were times during the day when I felt exhausted, or was tempted to believe that I might have that concussion she had mentioned, but I never stopped holding to the fact that God was between my shoulders. By the following day, the whole experience seemed like a distant memory — except for the immense gratitude that continued to flood through me.

These testimony meetings are so filled with confidence and joy. They inspire all of us to demonstrate the vital practice of Christian Science every single day.

Thank you to everyone who testifies — and to Plainfield for such a vital understanding of Christian Science.

Claiming Divine Mind, Not a Forgetful, Human Mind

from K. F. in Virginia

Peter V. Ross, an early worker in Christian Science, gave a lecture to a group of students of Christian Science entitled "A Challenge to the Wrong Thinking of the Ages," he writes: "You have seen the surf riders of the South Seas, at

least you have seen pictures of them. They seem to lean back on an unseen power and receive its impulse and propulsion. They glide over the waves with as much assurance as others walk the city streets. You could cultivate the habit of leaning back on the all-knowing Mind and permitting it to give you direction. This Mind would then keep you out of mistakes, out of dangers, out of follies."

This morning, I was cooking some poached eggs while steaming broccoli for a casserole to take to my parents for dinner. In the midst of this, I received a phone call about an appointment that I had scheduled but had forgotten about. I was fifteen minutes late! I told them I could be there in five minutes, and the woman on the phone agreed that would work. I quickly turned off the burners and ran out the front door.

It was very tempting to berate myself, when the suggestion came that maybe I hadn't turned the stove burners off, but I decided it would be better to just be grateful—so grateful that divine Mind was my mind, and that it certainly protected me from any danger and potential damage. I realized that the work I have been doing each day, accepting divine Mind as my true mind rather than the human, mortal mind, which is limited and sometimes forgetful, has blessed me. My appointment went peacefully, and when I arrived home, the burners were off and everything was safe.

In that same lecture, Peter V. Ross states, "Why are the same scars and limps and idiosyncrasies imaged forth year after year? Because the individual holds them in thought. He refuses to forget the accidents, the ailments, the misfortunes that have appeared to cross his path in this material world. He describes them, boasts of them, whenever he can find an audience. In short, he fills thought with the worst sort of building materials for consciousness to use."

I realized that having this experience provided absolute proof that God, divine Mind, is right with us every minute to guide us through this human experience, mistakes and all. We can then smile, laugh, throw up our arms, and say, "Thank you, God!" and be glad that we are listening, willing to obey, and trusting in His love for us.

Sudden Illness Healed

Maryland

Thank you, Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, for the wonderful work you are doing. A practitioner from this church once shared this statement with me that “every discord is mesmerism without intelligence, power or the ability to be real, it is powerless and nothingness.” This truth has blessed me in many ways, and I am very grateful for it.

I would like to express gratitude for the recent healing in which the above Christian Science truth was proved. On a bright and sunny day, I went out to work in my garden and about an hour later, I went inside the house for lunch. Shortly after I experienced a sudden illness. I was shaking to the point that I was incapacitated. I quickly sent a message to my practitioner in this church and was very grateful for her immediate response. Within an hour the seeming discord was rendered powerless.

Over the years I’ve read and studied the 91st Psalm and learned a lot about this Psalm from the PlainfieldCS.com website and the Roundtable discussion, and I am very grateful for all your teachings. This day, through the power of Christ and the work of the practitioner from this church I was awakened to what it means to “dwell in the secret place of the most High God,” as His immortal perfect child.

The next day, I was about my business as usual. On page 162 of the Christian Science textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, Mary Baker Eddy writes, “Christian Science brings to the body the sunlight of Truth, which invigorates and purifies. Christian Science acts as an alterative, neutralizing error with Truth. It changes the secretions, expels humors, dissolves tumors, relaxes rigid muscles, restores carious bones to soundness. The effect of this Science is to stir the human mind to a change of base, on which it may yield to the harmony of the divine Mind.” I am very grateful to God for Mrs. Eddy’s discovery and for her gift to all. Thank you, Plainfield Church, for your gift to all who venture to your website.

Mother and Child Saved During Delivery Through Prayer

from E. D. in New Hampshire

I would like to express my gratitude for a healing that took place many years ago when my first daughter arrived. I had been in labor for many hours, and suddenly the doctor, very much in distress, told my husband, knowing that there was a Christian Science practitioner working, that he should call the practitioner.

The doctor was very concerned that the bladder was obstructing the birth, and that both the baby and I were in grave danger. About that time, my mother had come to the hospital to see if the baby had arrived yet. Upon entering the room, the doctor announced “your mother is here,” to which my mother said, “More importantly, the Christ is here,” meaning that the Christ, Truth, was right there ever so powerful, in that very place where the lie seemed to be screaming, “its” supposed authority.

I recently asked my mother what she remembered of the situation from her perspective (being that it occurred over 40 years ago), she said, “Knowing that Elizabeth was fully taken care of as she had a Christian Science practitioner working for her pregnancy, I merely went in to see if the baby had come yet, and as I walked into the maternity area, the doctor came out wiping his face with a towel, he said, ‘Are you the practitioner?’ I said, ‘No, I’m the mother.’ He said, ‘You had better call the practitioner quickly — the baby is ready to come, but the bladder is in the way, and if it doesn’t move, it will be fatal for mother and baby.’ I turned on my heel to find a telephone and then was made aware that Elizabeth had heard I was there. The nurse announced out loud ‘your mother is here.’ I realized there was nothing her ‘human mother’ could do but I could not leave without speaking to Elizabeth so I said ‘The Christ is here!’ and in a short time, it was found that the bladder had moved and the baby arrived, healthy and well.”

I was up within a couple of days, taking care of the household. Further, the child spoken of is and always has been a wonderful expression of Christly qualities.

I am without words to express my sincere gratitude to God and Christian Science.



Drawing by Luanne Tucker

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Come Join Us!

Wednesday Evening Testimony Meeting — 8:15 P.M.

Saturday Bible Study — 10:00 A.M.

Sunday Roundtable Discussion — 10:00 A.M.

Sunday Service and Sunday School — 11:00 A.M.

NURSERY AVAILABLE FOR ALL SERVICES

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