

Here is my testimony of a healing which demonstrated the power of the Truth of the Three Degrees of Scientific Translation revealed to Mrs. Eddy and put forth on pp. 115-116 of Science and Health. This was proof to me of the power that even a glimmer of the oneness of God and man, accepted wholeheartedly and without any mental reservation, is enough light to completely displace the darkness of unreal material beliefs. Just prior to my healing, I had spent several weeks studying a most enlightening book about Spiritual Translation as put forth in Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy, on pp. 115-116. The book, written by John Morgan, a marvelous practitioner and student of John Doorly from England, is entitled Scientific Translation. It unfolds every word of the Translation in such a way that they are seen in their Scientific meaning and express, in spite of Mrs. Eddy's claim of her "philological inadequacy" [S. and H. MH pg116], her exact and exquisite understanding of the scientific relation of man to God. The profound clarity this book brought to Mrs. Eddy's Translation enabled me to disregard the materia medica view of "being in the third degree" and to translate the material term back into its original spiritual tongue. I am most grateful for Mrs. Eddy's unspeakable gift to mankind, her book which is the Comforter promised by Christ Jesus, and for her students who selflessly give of the fruitage of their understanding of the Comforter to all who are truly seeking for that understanding.

About ten years ago, (before cell phones!), my husband and I and our two sons were enjoying a canoe trip on a river four hours from our home in North Carolina. We came to a part of the river which was largely blocked by a huge log which had fallen across the river. This caused us to have to portage around that point. We had to get ourselves and the canoes up a very slippery muddy bank, around the log, and back down into the water. While my guys were moving the canoes, I was in charge of holding on to my son's Dalmatian. When the canoes were finally positioned on the bank on the other side, I had to gingerly get myself and the dog down the muddy bank. I lost my footing and slid to the bottom, hitting my arm on the ground on the way down. It appeared to me and to my family that I had broken my arm. As one of my sons grabbed a towel out of my canoe and made a sling for my arm, I turned my thought to God, grateful for my complete safety and my unbreakable relationship with my Divine Principle. I was not in any pain whatsoever at any time.

My family was distraught since we were so many miles from any help of any kind. They wanted to get me to a doctor to set my arm. A couple that had portaged just a short time before us was resting in their canoe nearby and had witnessed our predicament. They knew of a house a little ways down on the river and offered to

paddle as fast as they could to the house to hopefully use their phone to call for an ambulance to meet us somewhere along the river. They would meet us as we made our way down the river to let us know if they had been successful. As we raced down the river, my teenage son paddling for all he was worth, I sat up front singing my favorite hymns and declaring my and our inseparability from safety, wholeness, abundant supply meeting every need, and of our inclusiveness in the consciousness in Love. I reassured my son that I felt fine, there was no emergency, and he could slow down! We met the kind couple paddling back to tell us that they had indeed been able to call an ambulance and instructed us as to where we were to meet it.

While I was in the ambulance, the paramedics were amazed at how calm and pain free I was. They took my pulse and asked if I was an athlete of some kind since my heartbeat indicated a person in very fit physical condition. I replied that my only exercise, aside from being a schoolteacher of young children, was walking or bike riding around my neighborhood!

When we arrived at the emergency room of the hospital, a doctor looked at my arm and told us it was not broken but that I had dislocated my elbow. He could wrench it back into place but said it would be extremely painful, and they would need to administer a very powerful painkiller in order to do it. We told him that I was a Christian Scientist and my husband would like to call a practitioner to pray for me. He said fine but he could not help me unless I allowed him to anesthetize me. I remembered Mrs Eddy's loving exception for Christian Scientists to leave the adjustment of broken bones and dislocations to a skillful surgeon until the advancing age could more clearly admit to the efficacy and supremacy of Mind. (Science and Health, p. 401:27-32) I gave him permission to do it, and was then hooked up to a heart monitor. I was told they needed to do that in order to be sure that I was in a good condition for such a strong painkiller and to monitor me while I was "out". As I was lying there waiting for the shot, I heard one of the nurses exclaim in a frightened voice, "She's in the third degree!". Having just spent several weeks deeply studying John Morgan's marvelous book, *Spiritual Translation*, I immediately said to myself, "Yes, that's exactly where I am---in the Third Degree"! I mentally agreed with great joy that I was, indeed, the wisdom, purity, spiritual understanding, spiritual power, love, health, and holiness of my divine being! There simply was no such thing as any other kind of "third degree"! All it could ever mean was the reality of God and man as His image, one incorporeal infinite Person. Within a few moments, they saw that I was all right and they could administer the shot of painkiller. I learned from my husband afterward that the doctor had told him that he wanted me to undergo an operation

for a pacemaker, and he wanted to keep an eye on me overnight. Sensing that my family was a little afraid for me, I agreed to stay overnight. My husband went home and brought back some things for my stay, including my beloved Science And Health and John Morgan's book, Spiritual Translation.

As the nurses monitored my heart all night long, I spent several hours praying with the many lessons to be learned from Mrs. Eddy's "Revelation in a nutshell" on pp. 115-116 in Science And Health. I realized that truly I had seen evidence of Mrs. Eddy's next paragraph on p. 116, "In the third degree mortal mind disappears, and man as God's image appears. Science so reverses the evidence before the corporeal human senses, as to make this Scriptural testimony true in our hearts, "The last shall be first, and the first last," so that God and His idea may be to us what divinity really is and must of necessity be, - all-inclusive." The fear of mortal mind, caused by its own beliefs, (materia medica beliefs) dissipated when the understanding of how the spiritual universe works, by reflection, was brought to bear upon it. This understanding includes the great fact that the spiritual universe is the only universe!

The next day the doctor told me that I was free to leave as I had shown no signs of needing a pacemaker.

I'm so very grateful for this experience because it gave me an opportunity to put into action the Truth behind Scientific Translation in order to see it demonstrated in a practical way. It also helped me to understand better the indescribable grace of God as iterated in "The last shall be first, and the first last." This line is taken from Matthew 20:16 as the point of Jesus' parable about the workers in their master's vineyard who were all paid the same amount no matter how long they had worked. When those who had worked the longest complained to the master, that was what he told them. I never really understood the meaning of that very well. It just seemed terribly unfair! As I began to grasp, through the workings of the Three Degrees of Scientific Translation, the reality of that which man is, I began to comprehend the true Scientific meaning of the Biblical word, "grace". The old theological meaning, with which I had grown up, meant that because we had allowed Jesus to come into our life God would graciously overlook and forgive our sins since Jesus had died in taking our sins upon himself. I often wondered if God really had overlooked all my sins or if there were some that would keep me out of heaven!

Because Divine Principle is omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient, omni-active perfection, and is Mind, it cannot know of, nor react to, sin. The word "grace" then

does not mean, in the “new tongue” compassionately overlooking and thus forgiving our sins. It means that man, being the Divine image and reflection of God, the Principle of the universe, has no sin, for what God “sees” in man is His own image, reflected back to Him. There is no “other” out there for Him to see! Mind is constantly aware of its own holy Self - which is “man”. In all of the universe there never has been a sinful man “out there” for God to forgive or cast out. In other words, creation is constructed in such a way that it is absolutely impossible for it to be corrupted. The Perfect Infinite One, all of its qualities, forms, and actions existing solely because of reflection, is just One. Forms have no existence due to themselves or other forms, but can only exist because they are inseparable from the Mind perceiving them. Is that not the greatest of grace, to realize that man has never been wretched, never needed the old theological belief of grace? The beloved hymn of most Christian denominations, “Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me...” comes to mind. My mother had a wonderful healing soon after taking up the study of Christian Science when she suddenly realized that she was not a wretch and had never been a wretch in the Mind that is God, but had forever dwelt in Mind as a precious reflection of His pure goodness!

In the Scientific Translation we are shown how, starting out with the Truth of what has always been -God, man, idea One (Reality), though error would have us believe in an alternate reality of a consciousness the opposite of Reality, from depravity to a mixture of good and evil, we (man) have never been less than the “only I or Us”, Mind and its reflection. All we have ever been or can be is “the full representation of Mind”. (See Science And Health, p.591:5-7 and 16-20. “The last (Third Degree) shall be first (the SCIENTIFIC TRANSLATION OF IMMORTAL MIND) and the first last.” Once the human is identified with the divine, understood as divinity’s reflection, the human is as immune from sin as the divine. All of the workers in God’s vineyard receive in the end the same reward. There are no individual mortal men expressing personal sense in varying degrees in God’s kingdom - all are equally reflecting the qualities of God. “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:” (Ephesians 2:8) “But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.”) (Ephesians 4:7)

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Jan. 2010

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