

On the back cover and in the Foreword of the book "The Science of Celestial Being" put out by "the Bookmark" in Santa Clarita CA (800-220-7767) is the following statement, followed by the enclosed epilogue. We present here two of the articles from the book and will present the entire book little by little over the next few months.

Christ Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is within you." Mary Baker Eddy wrote, "Heaven is not a locality, but a divine state of Mind. . . ." How often have you read in Revelation of "new heavens and a new earth" and longed for some insight into this spiritual universe? Christian Science opens the way to understanding this hidden realm. As an early Christian Science teacher and practitioner, Julia Johnston was among the first to define it in such a way that you begin to realize that you are already in the spiritual universe although you are not yet deeply aware of its presence. In this collection of ten articles originally published in *The Christian Science Journal*, you begin to visualize this realm of divine Mind. Mrs. Johnston's articles give a powerful description of the spiritual laws, qualities, structure and contents of this unseen realm. Through her extraordinary talent for sharing her vision, you learn that the future is not destined to be a dark and endless struggle between the forces of good and evil, but a gradual emerging into the light of this realm of infinite Love — bright with the promise of ever-increasing good for all of humanity. As you come to understand the divine Cause filling all time and space, you share Mrs. Johnston's vision of the health and harmony that the world is destined to know. She lifts you above a world of chaos and confusion into an atmosphere of hope and assurance. She outlines a future bright with John's promise of "a new Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven." This is a book you will return to many times as your understanding of Christian Science unfolds.

Articles by Julia M. Johnston were originally published in the Christian Science periodicals between 1920 and 1964. She focused mainly on the idea of translating the universe and man from a false viewpoint that is material and mortal to one that reveals reality to be spiritual and eternal.

We find one source for these powerful ideas in Revelation where John recorded the coming of ". . . new heavens and a new-earth." Mrs. Eddy carried this vision further when she wrote ". . . the heavens and earth to one human consciousness, that consciousness which God bestows, are spiritual, while to another, the unilluminated human mind, the vision is material."

The goal in Christian Science is not to change the universe from matter to Spirit, but to translate the one we are in here and now from the illusion that it is material to the understanding that it is celestial — God-created and God-sustained. We know so well the human mixture of good and evil. Spirit and matter. Truth and error. We know so little about the hidden realm of divine Love.

Mrs. Johnston is one who achieved the spiritual transformation of consciousness to such a degree that she could describe this hidden realm of Mind with unusual clarity. She discerned its nature, laws, and content, and shared her vision with us. As we read her articles we are lifted out of the mundane world about us, with its confusion and chaos, into the heavenly atmosphere of divine Love — perfect God, perfect man, perfect universe.

Many articles have been written for *The Christian Science Journal* over the years, but very few have opened up such deep insights into the kingdom of God and become so enduring as those by Mrs. Johnston.

"THE SCIENCE OF CELESTIAL BEING"

In speaking of Jesus, Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, writes in *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, "His mission was to reveal the Science of celestial being, to prove what God is and what He does for man." In another of her writings, *No and Yes*, she refers to the celestial nature of man: "Man is a celestial; and in the spiritual universe he is forever individual and forever harmonious." From these two references the student may deduce that man, as the offspring of God, is divinely cared for through spiritual laws, everlastingly loved and provided for. This deduction leads to a clearer sense of the eternal coexistence of God and man, and to a deeper comprehension of the Master's work.

The Science of celestial being," or divine Science, maintains the order of heavenly existence, demonstrates spiritual perfection, and is the law of immortality. It is the only Science of man. It governs him absolutely and eternally. Through this Science all the essentials of his eternal being are supplied to him from the divine substance of Spirit. The Science of man's being preserves the indestructible relationship between the infinite source, the essentials of existence, and man's individual expression of Life.

"All that is true is a sort of necessity, a portion of the primal reality of things," our Leader writes in her *Message to The Mother Church for 1901*. Then all that is of God is necessary and available to man as His likeness, this availability depending upon the Science of man's oneness with celestial substance. Since the essentials of existence dwell forever in this substance, they are never developed in matter nor manipulated by it. Thus no shortage, waste, or absence of anything indispensable to perfect being can ever really occur. All that man receives from God is eternal, never passing through a finite form or a negative condition.

Spirit is the only source of man's existence, for Spirit is eternal Life. It is the origin of all that is necessary for well-being. Spirit being omnipresent, everything intrinsic to harmonious existence is always present in sufficiency, in infinitude. There could be no permanent harmony or continuity for man were not the essentials of his being forever included in omnipresence. The same power that creates man must possess and control the necessary constituents and relationship that maintain his Godlikeness.

"The Science of celestial being" holds man tributary to exhaustless supply; hence man exists at the point of individual, changeless, infinite income of unfluctuating sufficiency. In the unbroken rhythm of scientific existence, lack, error, matter are unknown. Man is forever endowed with every quality of perfection. He is royally furnished with all that is commensurate with his high position as the everlasting representative of God.

That which is essential to present eternal existence must partake of the nature of infinity. It must be equally and continually available for all creation. "The Science of celestial being" imparts to man without cessation the elements of divinity, the essence of immortality, the nature of holiness, for these are essential to his continuity. It maintains the undisturbed order of heaven, the fullness of perfection in man, whereby he remains the likeness of God, not for a moment only, nor for the future alone, but for eternity. He can be this identity only because he is supplied with the essentials of immortality from the infinite source to which he is tributary. The Master's assertion that the kingdom of God is in man issued from his understanding of the Science of man's celestial being.

Man dwells forever in the substance of Spirit as the natural and inevitable expression of eternal Life. Celestial being is man's present and perpetual estate. Governed by divine Science, he moves through divine impulsion, possesses Christly equipment, and expresses divine achievement.

Since man is celestial, his essentials are those of eternity. If we were to enumerate some of these, would they not include inseparability from divine cause, obedience to Principle, existence within divine Mind, immortal nature, eternal essence, underlying perfection, spiritual source, incorruptible substance, oneness with God? Is one of these essentials in matter? Is one of these created or maintained by the so-called human mind? Is one of these temporal or nonexistent? No! Rather are they changeless, enduring facts of Life, of Truth. Then the essentials of existence are not accumulated by human struggle, nor lost because of human frailty. That which is necessary for man's existence is never in matter to end, decay, die, be absent, or cut off, but is of Spirit. The simplicity, soundness, and perfection of this divine plan are noteworthy.

The Science of celestial order includes the forces of unending existence. These forces are the power of divine Love, of Spirit and its

holiness, of Life and its continuance. Divine Science possesses the forces of perpetuation, unfoldment, and peace. There are no forces unlike these. The forces of Love hold man and the universe within Love's embrace. They unfold the infinite purpose as gently as the petals of a rose and hold the cosmos of celestial identities in perfect order. These forces spring from the depths of reality and are the elemental movements of creative and preservative Mind. They are the energies of omnipotence. The forces of Love are dynamic, harmless, progressive, benedictory.

Since the essentials of being and the forces of existence coexist naturally in eternal Life and co-operate in divine Science, man's harmonious existence is assured. Again and again in fulfilling his mission Christ Jesus proved this to be true. In the stilling of the storm and the immediate arrival of the ship at the shore whither the men would be, in the feeding of multitudes in a desert place, in the raising of Lazarus, the essentials of existence and the forces of Love were proved ever present, spiritual, and demonstrable through the understanding of "the Science of celestial being."

Jesus once prayed that his followers might understand the truth of being as he did. St. John records his revealing prayer in the following words: "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovest me before the foundation of the world." Jesus' followers then, as now, were people engaged in the various trades and professions of human welfare. They lived in humble circumstances. They were beset by limitations and aggressions. Their surroundings savored of the densest materialism. Yet Jesus taught them that the kingdom of God, the kingdom of heaven, is in man; hence that man must be heavenly, and celestial Science must eternally govern his being.

Jesus would not have prayed as he did, had it been impossible for his students to understand man's naturally spiritual selfhood. He knew that men must see this glory before starting to demonstrate it. Then the human footsteps move patiently through the valley of humility, and by the renunciation of mortal selfhood the ascent to heights of spiritual realization is won. Of such experience Mrs. Eddy says in *Miscellaneous Writings*, "Self-renunciation of all that constitutes a so-called material man, and the acknowledgment and achievement of his spiritual identity as the child of God, is Science that opens the very flood-gates of heaven; whence good flows into every avenue of being, cleansing mortals of all uncleanness,

destroying all suffering, and demonstrating the true image and likeness." In this statement may be glimpsed the functioning of the forces of Love in human experience.

As men recognize and accept the truths of divine Science, they gain understanding whereby to handle the collective claims of error, claims based on the false beliefs of materiality and of all that is supposedly associated with it. From such beliefs follow the assumption that famine, pestilence, disorder, and limitation of every sort are inescapable. So-called mortal mind, while falsely claiming to be able to furnish the essentials of existence and the forces of their operations through matter, admits that matter is limited, imperfect, undependable, dangerous here today and gone tomorrow. Then it is wise to abandon such wrong reasoning and bring to bear upon every situation all the strength of deliverance from error that abides in the power of spiritual understanding. This will help to hold in check the world crimes of mortal sense that would doom millions to death because matter cannot supply sufficient sustenance; that would threaten the human race with extinction because mortal mind believes its own dream of ultimate destruction.

Christian Scientists are not indifferent to or troubled about these aggressive, erroneous claims. Rather do they follow the example of their Master and of their Leader in effective, intelligent denial of these claims in their own experiences, and then in collective situations presented to their thought. They are equipped, together with all enlightened Christians, with spiritual understanding wherewith to challenge and overcome so-called world evil, as well as personal faults, because these are not large and small difficulties. They are only the nothingness of error.

So long as the way of salvation seems to wind through materialism there is no solution for the problem of human experience. The mission of Christian Science is to show the way, entirely apart from materiality, whereby men may be ushered into everlasting harmony. This way of redemption is the mental awakening to the ever-presence of the kingdom of heaven within man. This awakening reveals celestial being and divine Science as the forever facts of man. As this truth disproves the beliefs of mortals, it verifies the facts of immortality. As it presses evil to final extinction, it unfolds the presence of holiness. As it challenges the arrogance of error, it reveals the majesty of divine reality. As it loosens humanity's hold on physicality, it strengthens its grasp on spirituality. As Truth causes every mirage of law and power to vanish from the material

concept of existence, it reveals the eternal Science of the universe of Spirit and of Spirit's indestructible, harmonious man.

No greater opportunities for Christian miracles natural proofs of divine law awaited our Master's immediate disciples than those rising before his followers in this generation. Because of this, the Christian devotion to God's Word should be as spontaneous now as then. Divine healing is as essential an element of each one's Christianity today as it was of the Master's experience. Jesus successfully practiced the Science of spiritual existence in daily affairs, and he required his followers to do so. This Science is forever able to demonstrate the allness and omnipotence of Life that is Love, of Life that eternally maintains the primal dignity of existence, causing it to bloom in ageless beauty.

Old limited beliefs about the world are fast falling by the wayside. Why cannot ancient misconceptions of man likewise fade away? So-called physical science has invaded the atmosphere, explored the bed of the ocean, and with radar touched the moon. The little affairs of the finite are yielding to the infinite. The infinite is pouring itself out upon men. A mortal has no place in the unfolding concept of the eternal universe and spiritual family of man. Only he, who is incorporeal, free, can exist in the immeasurable universe of Mind. Then let there be no holding back from the recognition of man's celestial being as recorded in the first chapter of Genesis. "And God said .Let us make man in our image after our image and likeness." Let there be a reaching upward in thought to behold and accept man's true selfhood with the glory that God gave to it before the world was, and that endures when the mortal sense of things has ceased to be entertained.

As men ally themselves with "the Science of celestial being," all the laws of Spirit, the forces of Love. The essentials of well-being abide with them. Keeping pace with the movements of divine Revelation, they will abandon beliefs in mortality before it collapses and will be established in spiritual reality as it unfolds. Then there need be no vacuum of desolation in human experience.

"FROM ZONE TO ZONE"

God's universe is one infinite, spiritual reflection of divine substance and Life. Throughout the length, breadth, depth, and height of the universe the laws of harmony continuously operate. Divine Science is the government of this measureless realm filled with divine ideas and their identities obedient to their creative Mind. Here are spiritually scientific statements which hold vast import for students of world affairs.

Spiritual facts, when discerned and accepted, affect global events as naturally as individual situations. As humanity progresses out of the chaos of materialistic belief, inspired thought, becoming aware of the unaltered divine order, necessarily reaches out for further spiritual perception wherewith to behold the unshaken reality of things.

Spiritual perception alone cognizes the eternal unity of universal existence and the control of divine Science. Through such penetration, everlasting Love, impartial, constant, ever Godward in its impulses, is seen to be the only animating power of all elements and formations, of all intelligence and action. Wholly and continually the universe of Mind's ideas reflects divine, scientific order, functioning in accord with supreme harmony.

Necessarily that which emanates from God must exist within the infinitude of divine Mind, partake of the nature of Soul, and be formed of the substance of Love, for the terms Mind, Soul, Love, God, are synonymous in Science. The universe contains only celestial bodies held in the unbroken rhythm of heavenly concord, controlled by the moral and spiritual forces of Mind, and dwelling in the atmosphere of Soul. The seasons of the universe are periods of constant spiritual unfoldment which bring forth fadeless evidence of the presence of divine qualities throughout creation.

God eternally coexists with His universe, with that which is embraced in His all-inclusiveness of Christian Science. Mary Baker Eddy writes in *Miscellaneous Writings*: "It is not a search after wisdom, it is wisdom: it is God's right hand grasping the universe, all time, space, immortality, thought, extension, cause, and effect; constituting and governing all identity, individuality, law, and power. This holy provision ensures constant perfection, endless government, and changeless sovereignty for universal existence.

At no time and in no part of the universe can there occur a break in the divine control. God cannot be excluded for an instant from infinitude, and His laws are established for eternity. Preservation permeates their every action of unfoldment. Without opposition, resistance, or delay, the majesty of spiritual law pursues its glorious way. Thus universal manifestation, rising from boundless perfection, lives, moves, and has being in terms of for-ever ness, all ness, divinity.

Knowing only the existence of immortality in the substance of Spirit, untouched by sin and death, the universe expresses the glory of God, radiant, eternal reality. All identities which comprise the universe exist in unity because, in the divine order, each idea is tributary directly to divine Mind, always sharing its inexhaustible essence. Thus the grandeur of all existence, indestructible throughout its vastness, is maintained by God's Science.

In contrast with this unified immensity and stability of everlasting perfection, belief in a power apart from God is like a grain of sand on a tidal shore. Human, erring sense, having no conception of infinity or perfection, believes that the universe is material and divided into both discordant and harmonious parts. It believes in subdivisions of the earth named zones, then in belief attributes to these zones certain conditions of good or evil. The frigid zones are believed to be regions of the universe where storms originate which spread disaster. The torrid zone is believed to be an expanse where fevers and pestilences breed. Other divisions are labeled earthquake zones, hurricane zones, and so on.

When humanity becomes involved in the acceptance of evil belief, the subdivisions of erroneous sense multiply and there seem to be enemy zones whence springs the anguish of war, battle zones where carnage stains the earth, and danger zones where destruction awaits the traveler. Mortal mind defines these zones as areas where evil holds sway and from which good has been eliminated. Then mortal belief declares that if men dwell within, or pass through, such territory, they are subject to disaster and destruction. Having no concept of God's infinite kingdom, mortal sense would like to believe in these little spaces where it might reign for a season. But God's Science grasps all time and space, all cause and effect, all power and law. There can be no such thing as territory where evil holds control, where God's law has ceased to function. There is no space deserted by God, or forbidden to God. There is no opportunity for

error to start, accumulate, or dominate. The assumption that there is a moment when God is not supreme is mortal illusion.

David knew the falsity of error's claim to possess and govern a zone of existence anywhere. In declaring the boundless presence of God, good, he wrote: "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. I'll take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me."

God's omnipotence precludes the possibility of a danger zone in creation. Man never passes through evil's realm, or exists for a moment within it, for evil, being nonexistent, possesses no domain. All ideas of the creator live and disport themselves in perfect safety throughout the endless realm of Mind. They know no fear, no peril, in boundless Love. They know that they can never go beyond Love's care.

With these spiritual facts. Christian Science strips error of its claim of zones wherein to annul the laws of harmony, restrict the action of man, and menace the universal peace. There is no occasion for evil in immeasurable good, no breeding time for paganism, no room for animal magnetism, no tract for war, no place for pestilence, no region for captivity, no chance for discord, sin, or death. In order that humanity may be aware of man's forever safety in the universe of Soul, Mrs. Eddy has given to the world the revelation of divine Science. In her poem "Christ and Christmas" is a significant statement of this Science:

"Fast circling on, from zone to zone.
Bright, blest, afar. O'er the grim night of
chaos shone
One lone, brave star.

"In tender mercy. Spirit sped
A loyal ray
To rouse the living, wake the dead.
And point the Way.

"The Christ-idea, God anoints
Of Truth and Life;
The Way in Science He appoints.
That stills all strife. "

In pondering these words the Christian Science student may become vividly aware of the Christ-power, the true idea of God and His universe, touching all human consciousness to cognizance of God's omnipotence and omnipresence. Neither starting nor stopping, but ever circling on, the Christ challenges one belief after another of error's kingdoms, powers, and accomplishments and ends these beliefs, setting free the helpless, the fearful, the bound. The true idea, appearing wherever error claims to be, proves that only God and His manifestation are there. Rising over "the grim night of chaos," the light of the Christ dispels the darkness of error and "stills all strife" by revealing the undisturbed tranquility of universal spiritual existence.

"Fast circling on, from zone to zone," the Christ arouses the living to put their trust in God and His eternal plan of goodness. It makes a way of escape for humanity from the beliefs of persecution and captivity, for it demonstrates the eternal unity of God and man, and this truth defies and conquers the lie that men can be isolated from divine help. It quickens men to resist the arrogance of mortal mind and to become aware of angels, God's thoughts, with them to deliver to the uttermost.

The Christ is the deliverer of men both before and after the claim of death may have asserted itself. It is the master of the beliefs of battle and the grave. It is the Saviour of many, the deliverer of masses, the swift, coincident message and manifestation of eternal Life to all men. No edicts, walls, guards, circumstances, or localities can shut out the Christ from anyone. The true idea is inseparable from men, an ever present influence in human thought, a supreme and timely Saviour possessing adequate power to disprove and dispel every claim of evil to have reality, presence, or power anywhere in God's universe. Of the Christ it can never be said that there is too little or that it is too late to meet human need.

The true idea of one infinite God, good, storms the citadels of paganism and compels the collapse of belief in other gods. Before its flaming light the flimsy structures of mysticism, superstition, imagination, and imposition fade into obscurity. The Christ ends their mesmerism and abolishes their slavery. It is indeed an active Saviour at hand for all mankind.

The Christ is the message and evidence to all men of infinite Love's ever-presence and all-embrace. It brings the realization of the height of Love reaching beyond the heavens, above the stars, over the winds. Up

and up as far as thought can go. Love is still the Most High. Soaring cannot pass the borders of its care, nor lose the law of its enfolding.

The Christ reveals the depth of Love, below the horizon beneath the waters, under all formation, the foundation of all the creation of Truth, abides Love. Deeper than human reasoning can go, immeasurably beyond the line of exploration, far below the soundings and diggings of human research, at the very center of the universe is Love.

The Christ shows the breadth of Love. Across all waters and over all lands, beyond all space and time, never ceasing, never absent, here and hereafter, stretches the breadth of Love. Worlds upon worlds turn in its grasp, and the tiniest identity of Life is nourished in its bosom. On and on in endless being. Love lives and knows and keeps its own.

As human consciousness beholds this infinitude of Love, God, and His spiritual universe, the claims of hate, war, and desolation draw to a close, for they can have no kingdom, or mandate, where Love is known to be. The zoning of human belief which would give locality and freedom to evil becomes obsolete, and the omnipresence of divine good appears as reality.

God, the creator of all, is at peace, and His universe is thriving in that peace. Throughout the realm of reality there is no danger zone, no war zone; there is no area where evil abides, or operates; there is no barren shore, no waste place, no treacherous depth, no uninhabited space, no prison wall, no fearsome power, no enemy land. Then let us know no fear. Let us walk abroad in safety and win the victory over belief in any power apart from God. In Science and Health Mrs. Eddy says: "The depth, breadth, height, might, majesty, and glory of infinite Love till all space. That is enough!"