

June 5, 2006 – Subject: God the Preserver of Man.

Dear Friends: Mary Baker Eddy gave her students 26 subjects for weekly Bible Lessons, to be covered twice yearly. Flowing through the year in her order of the subjects, we hereby present fresh views of each one by outstanding Christian Scientists. In this way, we hope to partake with you of new unfoldments of her infinite revelation.

Our selection this week is from: TALKS on the SCIENCE OF THE BIBLE VOI. IX by John Doorly

The Christ: Love-Protection and Deliverance

Now we come to the tone of Love, and this is our caption: Love, the divine motherhood, involves divine protection and deliverance. In the ChrIst translation, divine Principle says, “I am divine Principle, I manifest myself as the one divine fatherhood, Life, as the one divine sonship, Truth, and as the one divine motherhood, Love; that is my ideal of myself, the one and infinite relationship in which every other relationship is embodied.”

Here we see how Love, the divine motherhood, involves divine protection and deliverance. “Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego; ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, came forth of the midst of the fire. And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king’s counselors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them” (Dan. 3: 26, 27). I wish we could learn to let the smell of the fire pass from us. When we are healed of a disease, or overcome a sin, instead of leaving it behind us we are tempted to go back and rake it up-the smell of smoke is on our garments – and then we are surprised that there is a relapse. But here, with the coming of the Christ, not even the smell of smoke was on them.

I once had a very wonderful proof of that. A prominent businessman I knew was having a difficult time with his business, and he came and asked me to help him. I helped him, and the situation began to clear, but he could never forget his misfortunes. He went back to them time and time again, and his bitterness was awful. So I asked him to come and see me, and I said to him, "Look here, unless you quit going back over this condition and raking it all up, I won't help you any more. What is the use of going back over it? There's no truth in it, it never happened. You're going back to a situation outgrown, and that is a belief of spiritualism." He saw the point, and he stopped going back over it, and the condition worked out wonderfully.

"Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God." You know, in a way this story is very similar to the story of Joseph. You remember that according to the story of Joseph, God used Pharaoh to do many wonderful things, and here we have the sense that God used Nebuchadnezzar to do many wonderful things – for instance, he brought the Hebrews down into Babylon and allowed them to continue with the re-writing of the Scriptures. Also the woman sense, which was so prominent in the story of Joseph, enters into this story very shortly. The writer shows that there isn't anything which God, divine Love, can't do. "Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort. Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, in the province of Babylon" (Dan. 3:28-30).

Mrs. Eddy writes, "Love never loses sight of loveliness. Its halo rests upon its object" (S. & H. 248:3-4). God's Christ is always fulfilled in Love, the divine motherhood, and Love never loses sight of the loveliness of its Christ. The Christ is God's ideal of everything, and it is also the truth about everything, which is

over all and in all and through all. There is one thing that can never happen to you: you can never get outside of God. No matter where you go or what you do, you must always be in the infinite, but you must know that you're in the infinite, and that you have a Christ – a demonstrable, potential, dynamic Christ. That Christ is Truth, the truth about everything as God knows it, and included in that is the truth that God knows about you, which is the Christ to you as a mortal, and which is ever-present and ever-available.

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