

March 21st, 2005 — Subject: Reality

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 first selection this week is from TALKS GIVEN BY JOHN DOORLY ON THE SCIENCE OF THE BIBLE VOL.. SEVEN.

“How beautiful upon the mountains” —the exalted sense of things —
”are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!”

Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the Lord hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem” (Isa. 52: 1,7,9). From everlasting to everlasting the divine Principle, Life, Truth, and Love, is forever translating itself to the point of infinite ideas, the truth about all mankind, and all we have to do is to understand it and be willing to let it use us, because it is of the nature of omnipotence. As I have said to you time and time again, the chaos and the mist and the mud and the slime of the material universe have melted into the civilization which we know today because of the infinite Christ translation forever going on. The lie of mortality, the lie which believes in itself and supports itself, is irresistibly translated out of itself by the Christ-idea. The Christ reflecting Christianity shows us that when men listen, when they understand, they are able to use the Christ-idea in reflection-in true demonstration.

“Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted” (Isa. 53:4). Jesus had the incomparable joy, the holy joy, of overcoming sin, disease, and death, and yet the world has always regarded him as a crucified Saviour. Men have lost sight of the fact that he overcame sin, disease, and death, metaphysically and scientifically, and that he did it so that men might learn the way, and instead of that they have esteemed him “stricken of God;” because they haven’t understood the Science of Jesus’ demonstration, they have fooled themselves into thinking that God could have been cruel enough to allow what they call His only begotten Son to be crucified. It is a hideous doctrine Jesus was the

master Metaphysician. He demonstrated the Christ translation. He identified himself with it, and that translation used him. He said, “the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.”

“But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed” (Isa. 53: 5). Mrs. Eddy describes his stripes as “the rejection of error” (S.&H. 20:15); and it is true that as you are consecrated and intelligent enough to reject error scientifically and metaphysically, the Christ translation uses you and you are healed. Jesus willingly undertook the proof that man is spiritual and not material; he said, in effect, “You think that man is material; well, crucify me, and I will prove to you that man is God’s idea and that he can never be touched,” and he did that to perfection. There is nothing miraculous in Science. Jesus’ demonstration was a natural, ordered, scientific demonstration of reality. If anybody tells me that something of the nature of good happened once but won’t happen again, I don’t believe it, because if it ever happened then it can happen again and it can happen infinitely, because it is a part of law. If it can’t happen again, then it isn’t true that it ever happened.

“He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities” (Isa. 53:11). As you understand the Christ translation operating as Christianity, and you identify yourself with the definite translation of Soul, which brings salvation, then you will be able to bear the afflictions of many, you will be able to translate suffering out of itself, and bring mankind into the realm of reality. Moreover, there will be nothing extraordinary or miraculous about it; in fact, it will be entirely natural, because the abnormal things are sin, disease, and death, just as in mathematics the abnormal things are mistakes. The disappearance of sin, disease, and death before the forever translation of the Christ-idea — before divine Principle, Life, Truth, and Love, forever translating itself as infinite individual spiritual ideas — is an entirely normal thing. Men have been accustomed to regard the spiritual as the abnormal, but thank God they are getting over that.

In this tone of Soul Mrs. Eddy writes: “Knowing that Soul and its attributes” — identity, joy, sinlessness, incorporeality, salvation, translation, rule, spiritual sense — “were forever manifested through

man, the Master healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, feet to the lame, thus bringing to light the scientific action of the divine Mind on human minds and bodies and giving a better understanding of Soul and salvation. Jesus healed sickness and sin by one and the same metaphysical process” (S. & H. 210:11-18). If you hear the translation of the Christ-idea forever going on through divine Principle, Life, Truth, Love, Soul, Spirit, and Mind, and you love it and you understand it, you will be identified with it. Jesus said, “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.” God’s highest expression is man. The only man is the Godlike man. That is the man which Jesus demonstrated and that man is the Mind of Christ. Man is the conscious idea of God, he is “the conscious identity of being as found in Science. (S.&H. 475:16-17)

Our second selection is from SCIENCE AND HEALTH WITH KEY TO THE SCRIPTURES by Mary Baker Eddy.

Zion: *Spiritual foundation and superstructure; inspiration; spiritual strength. Emptiness; unfaithfulness; desolation. (S.&H. 599)*

Our third selection is from MARY BAKER EDDY GOD’S GREAT SCIENTIST by Helen Wright.

...Mrs. Eddy presented two aspects to her pupils which were so perfectly blended that one gained, in her presence, the feeling of her perfect harmony with life. One aspect was her clear and unflinching spiritual sense; her unswerving reliance on God; her consciousness of His ever-presence... The other aspect was her great humanity; her uncommon, common sense, as shown in her practical application of Jesus’ teachings to all the little things of everyday living. [Mrs. Eddy revealed the divine and proved it in her human experience, but it was her exalted degree of humanity, the second degree, that enabled her to be a transparency for the divinity of the third degree and give the revelation of generic man revealed through divine Science, to mankind. (See 1910 ed. 115:26 to 3 for second and third degree qualities).

This perfect blending of the spiritual and practical gave us an example of what makes a real Christian Scientist. (We Knew Mary Baker Eddy, Series 1, p. 79-80).

As Mrs. Eddy said of Jesus, Christian Scientists can say of her, "Through the magnitude of her human life, she demonstrated the divine Life." She demonstrated the coincidence of the human and the divine. This is why we must learn the Science she discovered, and follow her instructions faithfully... Thus do we find the one Mind that is God to be our individual Mind.

NO HIGHER AND LOWER PERSONAL MINDS

...Truth and error never touch. The whole problem of human existence, so-called, is the accepted belief that there is a human mind and that Truth and error are at war. The fact is, Truth is real, and error is the suppositional absence of Truth. When we see this, we don't personalize Jesus or Mrs. Eddy. We honor, revere, and learn from their teaching and their human example which teaches us to turn from person to the idea but we never think of them as having a personal mind that is far beyond the rest of us; in fact we understand they spare us not one individual experience. Mrs. Eddy's personal experience is of no help to us unless the Principle she explained is acknowledged and obeyed. Jesus and Mrs. Eddy were examples of the Mind that is ever-present. We have the same Mind since, in reality there is only one Mind

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