

**June 20, 2005 – Subject: Christian Science**

**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 GIVEN BY JOHN W. DOORLY ON THE SCIENCE OF THE BIBLE VOL TWO.

In the Epistle to the Hebrews there is a wonderful reference to this story of Noah: “By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith” (Heb. 11:7). Noah was “moved with fear;” we don’t need to be moved by fear. We want to be moved by spiritual sense.

- When Noah enters the ark, we begin to see the illustration of Spirit as Spirit. We have seen how Noah saw the necessity of preparing an ark; his sense of the one creator gave him purity of thought. Now we see the symbolization of Spirit as Spirit, which we epitomized as *substance* and *understanding*. The purity of reality is the only substance and it must be gained through understanding. Noah and his family and his sense of creation, symbolized by the animals and everything else he took into the ark were the only things that lived - that is the story.

**Alone with God**

“Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark” (Gen. 7:23). Mrs. Eddy says, “The Christian Scientist is alone with his own being and with the reality of things” (Mess.’01, 20:8-9), because he is absent from materiality and alone with infinity. If you don’t know infinity, you are awfully lonely, but if you know infinity, you can’t be lonely. If you know infinity, you begin to put on the Mind of Christ, and to see that the sick man can be healed, the sinner reformed, and the unrighteous man made righteous. Then you can never be lonely. Everyone of us has to “come to the point

where we are glad and more than glad to be alone with God. When I am alone with God and quiet and can think, that is the happiest time of existence, and I don't waste it. I fill my thought with what God is and what I am and my relationship to God. I know that because God is *Mind*, I am idea an idea of power, Intelligence wisdom, law, creative ability. Because God is *Spirit*, I am substantial idea, pure idea, at the point of development and birth, an idea of strength. Because God is *Soul*, I am forever identified as idea, as sinless, incorporeal, satisfied, sanctified. Because God is *Principle*, I am, I am proved, I am demonstrated, I am based, I am founded, I live in the realm of Science and system. Because God is *Life*, I am an idea that is exalted, forever multiplied, I live in the realm of eternity, I know nothing of death or age, I live in the realm of immortality. Because God is *Truth*, I am an idea of consciousness; I am at the point of infinite standard, I have the form of the Son of God; Truth is the great Physician, the great Surgeon, the great Redeemer, the great Restorer. Because God is *Love*, I am perfect, fulfilled, glorified, forever ascended; I live in the realm of infinite motherhood. And so I build up my sense of what I am, and that becomes dominion in my thought, and then I the poor old Adam in me begins to take his proper place and he doesn't speak out of turn. We've all got to see that the Adam in us doesn't speak out of turn, and we do that by knowing what we really are.

### **“The Windows of Heaven Were Opened”**

It is a wonderful symbol, this story of Noah, - a really wonderful symbol. “In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened” (Gen. 7:11). “In the second month” means at the point of Spirit, the calculus of reality; “the seventeenth day” means the “seven” applied to the flesh. Noah was in the realm of Truth-he was in the “six hundredth year” of his life; it was “the second month” - at the point of Spirit as Spirit, the calculus of reality; and it was “the seventeenth day of the month” - he was using the seven days as applied to the human.

Jesus said, “Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: and the rain descended, and the floods came,

and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock” (Matt. 7:24, 25). That “rock” is Truth, operating in the calculus of Spirit through the seven days of creation as applied to the human.

“...and the windows of heaven were opened.” We read in Malachi: “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it” (Mal. 3:10). “Metaphysics resolves things into thoughts, and exchanges the objects of sense for the ideas of Soul” (S. & H. 269:14-16), so when mortal mind says that “all the fountains of the great deep” are “broken up,” and that “the windows of heaven” are opened to bring down the belief of a flood from above, you must see those “windows of heaven” as they really are, - as bringing an infinitude of spiritual blessings.

In connection with the “great deep” being “broken up,” “remember that Mrs. Eddy says, “The breaking up of material beliefs may seem to be famine and pestilence, want and woe, sin, sickness, and death, which assume new phases until their nothingness appears. These disturbances will continue until the end of error, when all discord will be swallowed up in spiritual Truth” (S. & H. 96:15-20). Remember that “the end of error” comes to you every time some particular error that is seeking to overcome you is destroyed. Mrs. Eddy once said to a man, “If I have healed you of one sin, I have resurrected you from one death.” When error comes to you in any way at all, as disease or sin or death, and you overcome that, error, that is the end of that error for you.

Look at our world today. If only we use the Science of Christianity, think what we can do to end the error in the world today! If we don’t, God help us! The Christ-idea will go on developing, but “Marvels, calamities, and sin will much more abound as truth urges upon mortals its resisted claims” (S. & H. 223:28-30)

Today we have to separate ourselves from the materialistic basis of material science and of religion believing in the reality of both good and evil. The promise is: “A thousand shall fall at thy side and ten thousand at thy right hand: but it shall not come nigh thee” (Ps. 91:7).

You want to be free from materialistic theories not only to be free yourself, but in order that you may be able to help the other fellow to be free, and unless you are free yourself you can't begin to help the other fellow. So be in your "six hundredth year" – that's a good age! Have an ark – Truth. As you understand Truth, the Christ, and as you understand the calculus of reality, Truth operating as Spirit, and as you apply it to the human through the days of creation, then the "fountains of the great deep" may be "broken up" - that's bound to happen - but you will see the end of some particular error.

And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights? (Gen. 7:12). "Forty" always symbolizes the application of the divine infinite calculus to the human; here it is the counterfeit sense of that calculus, of course, an attempt to counterfeit the calculus of reality in human experience. The human so-called calculus of thought was let loose, as it is today. Human thought claims that it has a calculus that has been developing for three thousand million years, and it claims that this calculus operates according to science and system. This calculus of human thought partakes of the nature of chance, accident, chaos, personal sense, but it claims that it is a calculus, and today it puts forward the claim that it operates according to science, and that is why the, Christ has come to us today as Science, because nothing else could meet the false so-called calculus but Science. Every thinker must at some time find safety in the ark of the Christ-idea, the seven days of creation and the three degrees. The allness of Spirit (Noah) must be understood and demonstrated through the scientific sense of the three degrees (Ham, Shem, and Japheth.).

### **Your Ark Will Be Lifted Up**

"And the flood was forty days upon the earth; and the waters increased, and bare up the ark, and it was lift up above the earth" (Gen. 7:17). If you are really a Christian Scientist and you understand the Christ-idea, then as the waters increase, claiming to operate in a calculus of human thought, all they will do is to lift up your ark. As Mrs. Eddy says, "It requires courage to utter truth; for the higher Truth lifts her voice, the louder will error scream, until its inarticulate sound is forever silenced in oblivion" (S. & H. 97:22-25). The Bible says, "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him" (Isa. 59:19), and "The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods

lift up their waves. The Lord on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, yea, than the mighty waves of the sea. Thy testimonies are very sure: holiness becometh thine house, O Lord, forever” (Ps. 93:3-5). Your “house” is your consciousness, your ark, your sense of individuality (“In my Father’s house are many mansions”), and if you have understanding and are in earnest, then the flood will only serve to lift it up; your sense of reality, your health, your happiness and your holiness will be lifted up, and also “all whom your thoughts rest upon are thereby benefited” (My. 210:10-11).

I don’t see how those who love Truth, and especially those who have children, can fail to see their duty to stem those waters – lust for power, materiality, greed, selfishness – that are claiming to burst their bounds today. Jesus said, “ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?” (Matt. 16:3). Today it’s a crime not to see what is happening and not to see the remedy for it. Therefore it is up to each one of us, to give the truth to mankind. We must do it. If you get and don’t give, that is absorption. If you get and you do give, that is reflection. Today, as you look out on the world-picture, think what it would mean if the world understood just this one symbol, – the story of Noah and the ark, – what it would mean if mankind really understood Spirit as Spirit, if they saw the nature of substance and understanding, if they saw that the only thing in the world that is worth having is the “Substance of things hoped for” (Heb. 11:1), and if they saw that that substance comes to us as understanding. If mankind really saw that, they would seek understanding morning, noon, and night. You know, if we are not really in earnest, we won’t go anywhere, individually or collectively. We have got the answer – there is no question about it – but how are we going to get it across to mankind? We can only get it across through *being it*, and as we *are it*, the spiritual idea will develop itself through us and it will use us. These are the days when we’ve got to be doing things.

“And the waters prevailed, and were increased greatly upon the earth; and the ark went upon the face of the water” (Gen. 7:18). The ark went upon the false identity – the “face” – of the waters, and they were made to lift up the ark – “the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters” (Gen. 1:2).

“And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high hills, that were under the whole heaven, were covered. Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered” (Gen. 7:19, 20). All the high hills” of pride and self were covered by the waters, but the ark was lifted up. Isaiah says, “For the day of the Lord of hosts shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon everyone that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low” (Isa. 2:12). Now, 5 cubits is only 27 feet, so if the mountains were covered, they couldn’t have been very high mountains! But it is just a symbol. “Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail” – means that thought was flooded by false identity, and false individuality – the “three” and the “five” of Soul and Life, Mrs. Eddy says, “The false evidence of material sense contrasts strikingly with the testimony of Spirit. Material sense lifts its voice with the arrogance of reality and says: ...The world is my kingdom. I am enthroned in the gorgeousness of matter. But a touch, an accident, the law of God, may at any moment annihilate my peace, for all my fancied joys are fatal. Like bursting lava, I expand but to my own despair, and shine with the resplendency of consuming fire” (S. & H. 252:15-17, 24-30). If you are Noah, if you begin by having a sense of the real creator and that brings you purity of thought, it may bring about a flood, but you will be able to deal with it and it will only lift your understanding higher.

### **Be Awake and Aware**

Some people go through this world blind to certain conditions, and they are not *awake* to what those conditions are trying to do. The one effort of malicious animal magnetism is to destroy the Christ-idea, because only in the Christ-idea can mankind find salvation. The effort of malicious animal magnetism, symbolized by “floods” and so on, is to destroy the Christ-idea. Noah was a righteous man, and so he began to perceive the necessity of overcoming his belief of a flood; in fact, Noah analyzed and uncovered the situation. There is always an ark – “a thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee” (Ps. 91:7). As you begin to understand the Christ-idea in its Science, and you begin to lay hold of this divine system of metaphysics, which shows you how to demonstrate the truth about God and man, you will become aware of the floods, but you needn’t be

afraid of them. The time you need to be afraid is if you are *not* aware of the “floods.” “What say unto you I say unto all, Watch” (Mark 13:37). If you are not aware of the floods, then you are in danger. There is one thing that we British people seem to lack, and that is awareness. We are often caught unready. Now why? We don’t have to be. You know as well as I do that today the salvation of the world in a great measure depends on the English-speaking peoples and their awareness, and the English-speaking peoples never seem to be awake and aware. They never move until they are hit.

But why be hit? Look at the price that one pays. Evil will always say, “Let us alone; ...art thou come to destroy us?” (Mark 1:24). The only thing that can show you how to be aware of the floods and the way to deal with them is spiritual sense, purity of thought nothing else can show you.

### **The Radiation of Spirit**

“And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast, and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man: all in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died. And every living substance was destroyed which was upon the face of the ground, both man, and cattle, and the creeping things, and the fowl of the heaven; and they were destroyed from the earth: and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him in the ark” (Gen. 7:21-23). To Noah the animal qualities that had been named by Adam and the false sense of manhood died, and they must die to each one of us.

Mrs. Eddy, in talking about this so-called calculus of mortal thought that we have to deal with, says, “Vertebrata,”-creatures with backbones, – “articulata,”– creatures like worms, – “mollusca,” – creatures like oysters, – “and radiata,” – creatures like starfish, – are mortal and material concepts classified, and are supposed to possess life and mind. These false beliefs will disappear, when the radiation of Spirit destroys forever all belief in intelligent matter. Then will the new heaven and new earth appear, for the former things will have passed away:” (S. & H. 556: 3-9). This “new heaven and new earth” come to you and to me every day, as we understand,

ideas of reality, as we symbolize intelligently those ideas of reality in the way that the Bible shows us, as they become real to us and operate in our thought and begin to analyze, uncover, and annihilate the mortal sense of things. We begin to see material concepts disappearing, and in proportion as they disappear, we may call it humanly a little more love, a little more honesty, a little more tolerance, a little more patience and affection. That is the way it may seem to come to us, but surely we can have a sense of Science more definite than that. You can have a sense of music as sentiment or emotion, but you can also have a sense of it as chords and harmony and so on, and then you have a sense of it, which is power in the realm of music. And so today we are learning to attain the kingdom of God through the divine system of metaphysics... and don't think of it as some sudden happening. It comes little by little, "for precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little" (Isa. 28:10). If you think these things out, and a new spiritual sense comes to you in any situation, then as that happens, you are "born anew." Because of that spiritual sense, mortal sense is bound to disappear. Could you imagine a dark room in which you turned on the light and there wouldn't be light? Well, how much more as you entertain one of God's ideas (which is forever in the Mind of God and is omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, and omni-active) will the darkness of mortal belief disappear. Material concepts are bound to disappear, but as long as they last, they will only serve to lift up your ark, – your understanding.

Don't let's be half-timers. Let's be whole-timers. Science is so wonderful, so worthwhile, so real, so living, and so vital. Above all, "with all thy getting get understanding" (Prov. 4: 7). Don't be a serpent. Don't try to swallow the nature of God as a whole and then go to sleep. Understand God. Mrs. Eddy says "In Latin the word rendered *disciple* signifies student; and the word indicates that the power of healing was not a supernatural gift to those learners, but the result of their cultivated spiritual understanding of the divine Science, which their Master demonstrated healing the sick and sinning". (S. & H. 271:11-16)

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