

**November 21, 2005 – Subject: Ancient and Modern Necromancy, alias Mesmerism and Hypnotism, Denounced.**

**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 – An Association Address by Clarence Steves, C.S.B. – 1963.

Mrs. Eddy once said: “God told Moses to handle the serpent. But Moses said, “There isn’t any serpent. Where is the serpent?” Then Mrs. Eddy replied, “Handle it.” Aren’t some of us as Moses, saying “there isn’t any serpent”? But God commanded Moses to handle error, and when he had handled it, he could say there wasn’t any. Why? Because he had translated it into spiritual reality, making the seeming into the being.

Now be certain you see what you handle. You handle it as nothing. Then keep it nothing. Daily handle its claim of curse. You handle it by living the Love that is light. You handle it completely. You nullify it by Love. Therefore, when any suggestion of hate or resentment or fear or uncertainty comes, instantly say to it, “I know you for what you are; go back from whence you came; you are the devil, the liar, NOTHING!! And the light of ever-present Love obliterates you, and leaves only the functioning Christ, the Light of the world!” This is giving the cup of cold water to all!

This treatment is scientific knowing. It is the spiritual understanding, the healing power, the power of the Word felt. It is Love living and knowing. It knows: I AM wonderful, the Father’s daily delight.

The question is often asked: Why are we not healing the cases we should? To this question Mrs. Eddy replied: “It is because you do not understand how to handle animal magnetism.” Mrs. Eddy says the specific term for error or mortal mind is animal magnetism. (S&H 103:18) The specific term for all evil, whether it claims to be personal

or impersonal, is animal magnetism. We have a chapter in our Textbook that unmask animal magnetism. It shows that it is not a person, a place or a thing, but is hypnotism or mesmerism. Hypnotism or mesmerism needs a personal mind through which to operate. So animal magnetism has no basis when it is seen that the “I” is God, and that man has no “I,” but God!

Mr. Edward Kimball told of a woman who came into his office needing help because she believed she had feathers on her arms. He knew there were no feathers, but the aggressive mental suggestion had her see and feel feathers where there were no feathers. So we do not treat the feathers. We treat the patient for the belief that there is a private ego or mind that can have such delusions.

It is very important for us to see that there is no personal mind to hypnotize, or to be hypnotized. Mind is God and there is no separation between Mind and what Mind knows, between Mind and what Mind sees. Therefore we must learn how to handle animal magnetism. To handle animal magnetism means, in everyday language, to realize that divine Love is All-presence and All-power, the only activity. To see divine Love, right where animal magnetism seems to be, brings the deflection into proper view. Love is the only presence, the only power, the only Mind or Life there is. Then we are to look through the mask that animal magnetism presents, and see divine Love. It is then that we feel the immensity and the ever-presence of Love, filling all space. What you have called “animal magnetism” thus vanishes, and all that is left to be experienced is the Love, that is divine Principle.

Mary Baker Eddy writes of angels entertained unawares. However, the treatment makes us entertain the angel aware, for we find in our Leader’s Message for 1902 (19:23), “... A danger besets thy path? – A spiritual behest, in reversion, awaits you.” This deflection, rightly viewed, will make every experience a Mind-experience. Mass mesmerism or malpractice claims to be our experience until we handle animal magnetism from the divine standpoint, and then we have peace, because we have disarmed it. We see that if any action is going on at all, the action is God’s Love-action. If it is going on at all, it is Mind, Love, identifying Itself. The substance is Love. It then

ceases to be delusion, or illusion, As Jacob said, "... I will not let thee go, except thou bless me." Divine Mind is All-in-all, and we must make every experience, every situation, every happening declare for God, divine Love. When we look it straight in the face we can say to any happening: "If you are real, if you are true, then you have the magnificence of Love; if you have any action, then it is Love-action; if you have any life, then it is Love-Life." In other words, make every experience declare God, Love – divine Principle!

Where man is, God is. Then all that is present is God being Father-Mother, All-harmonious! What God is being Father to, – is the son or man. We must not deal with animal magnetism as an entity having identity. When we make every situation reveal Love, then the offensive act ceases to be offensive, but becomes loving and kind, The dying man ceases to die, because Love alone is Life. The disease seems to lose its destructive activity, and Love is All that is present, saying; "I am hale, whole, and hearty." Love then becomes our All-in-all, and we are lost in the eminence of this one divine presence. In this Christ-knowing, every case will be healed, no matter what the claim, no matter what the name or label. Our Leader says; "The use of a lie is that it unwittingly confirms Truth." (Un. 36:6) Therefore, animal magnetism must be made to bring forth Love All-power, All-presence, spontaneously expressing Itself, See that this Love is All-penetrating, is All -inclusive, and leaves nothing out. Thus it is present in all its purity, to be experienced as conscious identity, or man.

Love is impartial in its adaptations and bestowals. It is unselfish, because it includes ALL. By making everything declare Love because Love is All, we find All is infinite Love and Its infinite manifestation. We find Love indeed is All-in-all. What is called "oneself" is divine Mind expressing its own infinite identification, not a person with a mind. No! God is infinite Mind. Man has no mind but that of God. There is no personal, or private so-called mind.

Daniel did not look at lions and change them into divine ideas. Daniel did not consider himself to be a person. Daniel knew himself to be the functioning of the presence of the Love that is God. He knew all that could appear as his experience was Love loving. Let the King

believe there were ferocious lions. That did not change the basic fact as Daniel saw it, Love was all there is or was to the King, – and Love is all there is or was to the lions. This is why Daniel could say to the King, “Oh King, live forever.” Because Love is All. Was not this what happened to the boys in the fiery furnace? They made the fire bring forth the presence of Love. So in this purifying Love there was no flesh to be dissolved, there was no flesh to be burned; there was nothing carnal to objectify itself. There was simply Love experiencing its own loveliness.

Is this not what Joseph did? Certainly Joseph had every reason to permit carnality or animal magnetism to seem real. But Joseph saw only the Love that is God present to be experienced, whether he was sold into slavery, imprisoned, maligned by Potiphar’s wife – it was of no importance. He had but one thing to do, and that was to witness to the presence of the Love that is Principle. That is what Jacob finally did also. He saw his brother’s face as if it were the face of God, and the evangel said; “Love is all.”

On the cross, Jesus said; “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” Jesus, living the Christ, that is, – witnessing to the Love that is God, knew no crucifixion; he knew no death. He didn’t rise from the dead, because he had never been born to die. He said, “Before Abraham was, I am.” Yes, this seemed to restore what is called life, but Life had never died to be restored. Jesus knew himself to be the Principle that is Love. Jesus was not a person forgiving persons; Jesus was not a person living the Christ. Jesus lived the Christ and there was no personal Jesus. There was no Jesus to limit him. There was no Jesus to act or react. There was simply the Love that is Principle being experienced, and identified as the being of all. That is why Jesus could say with such certainty, “... that they may be one, even as we are one: ...” (In. 17:22) He knew the oneness of all being. He had nothing out there to forgive. He had nothing out there to hate, because he knew the motivating power of Life to be Love, God.

Thus it is, that this Love must wrap all, embrace all. Put the garment of Love upon everything you see or meet or hear. Then we can experience what Mrs. Eddy tells us; “...Man is the climax of creation;

and God is not without an ever-present witness, testifying of Himself..." (No. 17:13) Man is the climax of Love in being.

Man is the floodtide of Love. Love is divine Principle.

What about Mary Baker Eddy? Did Mrs. Eddy live as a person telling the Truth to the world? Or did she say: Of myself I can do nothing? When Mrs. Eddy asked them in her class if they loved her and they said "yes", she said: "No, love and include me, but don't love me." She meant don't love the personal sense. Make what looks like the person bring forth Love's presence. She was not fooled by animal magnetism. She knew it, she unmasked it. In other words, she unmasked that which was called Mary Baker Eddy. She did not permit Mary Baker Eddy to be the avenue through which God worked, but she saw the nothingness of the flesh. She saw the nothingness of incarnate error. Living the Christ identity, Mrs. Eddy could say to the world (not as Mary Baker Eddy but as the Christ nature of God): "... follow your Leader only so far as she follows Christ..." ('01:34:25). It was this precious Leader, Mary Baker Eddy, who was prepared to lay her earthly all on the altar of Divine Science, and who could later write that, "To carry out his holy purpose, he must be oblivious of human self." in writing of Christ Jesus. (Mis. 162:28)

Thus it is with us. We must be oblivious of any personal self that wants to love or be loved. All must see that the Love that is Principle is present and identifying Itself. This Love brings comfort, it brings peace, it brings home, it brings companionship, it brings abundance, and it brings food. Never leave it in the appearance. Always take it back, clothe it in Love, and see that right here is the Love that is God, saying I Am. Then one sees that all there is to what is called oneself is I AM THAT I AM.

Let this Love that is impartial, this Love that is universal let this Love so flood our homes, our government, that the Love that is Principle is seen to be All-in-all. Let us feel this Love. Let us feel it permanently, consciously, eternally, infinitely. For this Love that is Principle leaves no personal ego to say "I". It leaves only the I that is Principle-present to say I AM.

In Sunday School, we were talking about the Bible story concerning the shepherd who left the ninety and nine, and went after the one lost sheep. Someone asked the question, "What were the ninety and nine doing? Were they gossiping about the one that had left the fold?" The Master Shepherd went after the one. Now what were the ninety-nine doing? The ninety-nine were knowing that one had never been divided into a hundred parts. The ninety-nine were knowing that there is no ninety-nine, that there is only one, indivisible, adorable One, and this One identifying itself multifariously, and that there had never been a lost sheep. This parable is given to us to show us the ONE always remains ONE!

Make every experience reveal God, Love, because there can be only God, Love. Man is what God is loving, what God is being, what God is knowing. Watch carefully on this point, because suggestion would tempt you to believe that there is something operating as your experience besides the Mind that is Principle. Man has no mind but God. The Mind of Love is the Mind of man. Insist on this "in season and out of season"; Let nothing else abide with you as Mind but this one divine Love, filling all space, leaving no room for aught but Itself. Only God, infinite Love, is All, and this governs, controls, identifies, because It is All. The grandest, safest, wisest way is to make everything reveal the Love of God, and then it ceases to be afflictive, it ceases to be frightening, because it is God saying I AM. The action is God, the functioning is God, the movement is God. All is God – circulation, temperature, everything is God – pressure is God, everything concerning the body is God, because it is all going on in Mind, as Mind, and nothing else is present to function, to act, or to be acted upon.

This is the law to your experience. It is the law to every happening. Be the law, so that nothing can misinterpret what is going on. Let the divine Principle interpret itself. This true interpretation is the Father saying; "This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased." The Love that is All-penetrating, All-inclusive, this Love becomes the Love that is you and me. Rest in this. Live it. Rejoice in it. Make everything reveal God. God is All, declaring Himself to be the God of All. This is what I AM, this is what I have always been – the delightfulness of

my Father-Mother God. This is the only day there ever has been.  
The day in which Love alone is Life.

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