

September 23— 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.

The selection this week is from Helen Wright's book—MARY BAKER EDDY REVEALS YOUR DIVINITY. Please [click here](#) for a short biography of Helen Wright.

## PART I - LET THERE BE LIGHT

### Brief 1: HUMANITY ASKS FOR ENLIGHTENMENT

*Understanding Brings Light, Dispelling Darkness*

In Homer's Iliad, thought to be the oldest surviving work of Western literature, there is a scene in which we hear a fervent cry for light. In this story of war and human passion, we come to a fierce battle, raging on the blood-stained plain before the city of Troy. The battle is between the warriors of Troy and their Greek enemies. The god Zeus, in order to help the Trojans, causes darkness to cover the battlefield. In that awful darkness a Greek warrior prays with a loud voice:

*Father Zeus, deliver us from the darkness and make the sky clear. Let us see with our eyes. Slay us in the light, if slay us you must. (Iliad, 17:645-647).*

The Greek warrior's prayer for light expresses an irresistible compulsion to see and understand even if that light would mean his death.

Long before the Greeks, and long before the Trojan war, the hunger for light existed. Six thousand years ago in the fertile crescent of the Middle East the ancient Chaldees initiated what we call civilization. Their contemplation of the star-studded heaven with its "beauty, grandeur, order" created the urge for a deeper knowledge of their surroundings.

*Civilization Began with the Hunger for Light*

The Chaldees' yearning—indeed the whole Western world's burning desire for understanding, which ran parallel with Bible revelation and history—has carried mankind forward. As "desire [for an understanding of God] is prayer" (S&H 1:11), this insatiable longing for more light has, through the ages, step by painful step, enabled man to gain a higher and clearer vision of man's true identity.

A great leap forward came about 500 B.C. when Greek philosophers emerged from mythology and began to reason with ideas. Following close upon the Greek emergence from mythology, a second giant, progressive leap came in the *spiritual* realm, with the advent of Christ Jesus, the one anointed with light, the Founder of Christianity."

Guided by the twin torches of reason and revelation, mankind continued its search for nearly 2000 years, until Mary Baker Eddy came to show the way out of the night of Illusion into the clear daylight of reality—of our true being—proclaiming that a hypnotic state alone hid from us our everpresent divine perfection.

Chapter IV of the first edition of Science and Health opens with the proclamation:

*The evermore of Truth is changing the universe; thought is expanding beyond words; we are losing our swaddling clothes, asking for more light; yea, reaching forth to the stature of Soul [our true identity] outside the body. "LET THERE BE LIGHT," is the demand of Life and Love, changing chaos to order and discord to the music of the spheres.*

And so it came to pass that with the advent of Mary Baker Eddy came the fulfillment of Bible prophecy, namely, "the Comforter. . . the spirit of Truth," promised by Jesus.

*Mary Baker Eddy Weds Reason and Revelation*

In fulfilling this promised Comforter, divine Science, the spirit of Truth, Mrs. Eddy combined the reasoning inherited from the Greek philosophers, with revelation.

The Christian world had for almost 2000 years been schooled in the reasoning and logic begun by such Greek philosophers as Parmenides, Democritus, Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle. Mary Baker Eddy saw that, in order to make her spiritual discovery and revelation understandable to the Christian world and Western thought, she would have to begin where her readers were. They had been accustomed to reasoning in a two-value logic, namely: that both good and evil are real, that *both* Spirit and matter, *both* life and death, are real.

Mrs. Eddy used an infinite logic, a divinely scientific logic, to reason with her readers, showing them that good is all, evil is unreal; that Spirit is the real and only, and matter is mortal error; that Life is real, and death is the illusion. When this reasoning, this divine logic and revelation, is understood it will have "for you a light above the sun, for God [the kingdom of God within you]" is the light thereof" (S&H 558:15).

Prehistoric man used torches to drive away the darkness from his cave and to overcome fear of the unknown. Similarly a great ever-expanding consciousness results as Science, this "light above the sun," explains your true identity, your divinity, revealing that you are not mortal, you are immortal. Mary Baker Eddy, God's Great Scientist, brought the light the world is hungering for when she broke through the eons-old conviction that man is mortal, wombed and tombed in matter, and revealed mortality—a flesh-blood-bones man, and a matter universe—as illusion only, as the product of hypnotism.

*Light was the Symbol of the Life-giving Creator"* (First ed. p. 233:13).

Science lifts the veil that human birth casts over you, which hides from you your present oneness with divine Love. This Science, this Second Coming of the Christ, enables you to understand and realize your true divine identity. But this Science must be learned. "Reason, rightly directed, serves to correct the errors "of corporeal sense" (S&H 494:19).

Learning that "man and the universe are evolved from Spirit... that man springs solely from Mind [the Mind that is your true Mind, the kingdom of God within your consciousness]" (S&H 69:2; 543:28), brings deliverance from the claim of mortal mind. This claim, illusion, or false belief is that you have a mind of your own separate and apart from the one Mind, the Mind that is the all-knowing infinite good. We all must learn that spiritual facts have nothing to do with mortal illusions, material conceptions.

*The Spiritual Cause*

St. Paul speaks of the blinding of our minds by “the veil untaken away in the reading of the Old Testament, which veil is done away in Christ” (II Cor. 3:14). Of this same veil, Isaiah promises that in a high state of consciousness—“mountain”—God will destroy “the face of the covering cast over all people, and [will destroy] the veil that is spread over all nations”—the veil being the belief of having been born humanly instead of having existed “before Abraham.” This veil hides from us our true identity, the I AM that knows no beginning no ending, but holds you “forever in the rhythmic round of unfolding bliss.” The kingdom of God within you, *understood*, will swallow up death in victory: and the Lord God will wipe away all tears from off all faces” (Isa 25:7, 8).

Paul tells us to forget those things that are behind. As we learn, we must daily be unlearning what it has cost us no small labor to acquire. The same principles which have swept away traditional abuses, are continuing to strip the thin, tawdry veil from attractive superstitions, and are working actively in literature and society to promote our release from misconceptions.

Spiritual evolution—impelled by the Life that is God—has always been at work, causing the search for light for understanding. It is this insatiable desire to know, to discover, that will eventually cause man to “look out from [the stars] upon the universe” (S&H 125:29), and to have complete dominion over all. It is always the spiritual cause that is behind mankind’s advancement.

Today our most advanced physical scientists are beginning to glimpse Mary Baker Eddy’s reasoning that: “In the material world *thought* has brought to light with great rapidity many useful wonders. With like activity have thought’s swift pinions been rising towards the realm of the real, to the SPIRITUAL CAUSE of those lower things which give impulse to inquiry” (S&H 268:1, emphasis added).

*What did the “spiritual cause” give impulse to?*

It gave impulse to “inquiry,” meaning such things as the Greeks’ inquiry in their cry for light, the Chaldees’ hunger for understanding, the whole Western world’s burning desire for spiritual knowledge. Down the ages, since the beginning of recorded time, this has been the force, the drive that impelled exploration, research and study. The divine urging of the Christ has released infinitely greater power in human history than any that physical science has delivered. The greatest of these powers is the miracle of Love that is silently working transforming human consciousness. It is today culminating in a great spiritual evolution, as mankind stands at the threshold of comprehension, turning away from the illusory sense of mortality, to behold its divine nature, its divinity, the godliness which truly animates every man, woman and child on earth.

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