

Science and Health and the Church Manual

Jesus: Pentecost: Mary Baker Eddy: Today

W. Gordon Brown

PART I SCIENCE AND HEALTH

Ecclesiastical Rejection

Over the years volumes have been written and spoken regarding the failure of the Boston hierarchy to comply with the Manual's divinely inspired estoppel clauses, and about its failure therefore to follow the example of its Leader when, in 1889, she dissolved her two central organizations, and, under God's direction, left only individual self-governed branch churches to constitute the Christian Science church.

This initial rejection on the part of officialdom, dating from 1910, is seen in retrospect, some seventy years later, to be responsible for the sorry state of affairs in which the church finds itself today. And this original flouting of Principle (at first unwittingly and ignorantly) is (if we look deeply enough beneath the surface of consciousness into the total perspective of world affairs) basic also to the years of world war that followed almost immediately the passing of Mary Baker Eddy, and which have been continuing in one form or another ever since.

For what could, ideally, have been brought into being at that crucial moment of history was the beginnings of the city (civilization) of world peace, not world war - the New Jerusalem (Jeru-salem, city of peace), the Church Universal and Triumphant, the means of which and the workings of which had already been set forth in the foursquare textbook for all to understand and obey.

This becomes evident when we realize that (in the words of Science and Health page 568) "the twelfth chapter of the Apocalypse [portraying the mission of the God-crowned woman] typifies the divine method of warfare in Science, and the glorious results of this warfare." The outcome of the woman having, on a world scale, waged triumphantly the divine method of warfare in Science, is clearly the advent of an era of universal freedom and peace.

Published by
Gordon and Estelle Brown
England 1988
© Copyright W. Gordon Brown 1988
ISBN 0 904320 05 7

Printed by Villiers Publications Ltd 26a Shepherds Hill, London N6 5AH

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