

Wed FIGHT 2018 07 11

Fight the good fight

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

- The Bible

1. Ex. 14:14

14 The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

2. Ps. 35:1

1 PLEAD *my cause*, O LORD, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me.

3. Ps. 144:1

1 BLESSED *be* the LORD my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, *and* my fingers to fight:

4. Gen. 32:3 Jacob, 6-9, 11, 24-30 Jacob; 33:1, 4

3 Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother unto the land of Seir, the country of Edom.

6 ¶ And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, We came to thy brother Esau, and also he cometh to meet thee, and four hundred men with him.

7 Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed: and he divided the people that *was* with him, and the flocks, and herds, and the camels, into two bands;

8 And said, If Esau come to the one company, and smite it, then the other company which is left shall escape.

9 ¶ And Jacob said, O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, the LORD which saidst unto me, Return unto thy country, and to thy kindred, and I will deal well with thee:

11 Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau: for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, *and* the mother with the children.

24 Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

25 And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.

26 And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.

27 And he said unto him, What *is* thy name? And he said, Jacob.

28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

29 And Jacob asked *him*, and said, Tell *me*, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore *is* it *that* thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed

him there.

30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

1 AND Jacob lifted up his eyes, and looked, and, behold, Esau came, and with him four hundred men. And he divided the children unto Leah, and unto Rachel, and unto the two handmaids.

4 And Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck, and kissed him: and they wept.

5. II Tim. 3:1-5 in, 12, 14, 15

1 in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*;

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

6. Matt 23:1

1 THEN spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples,

7. Matt. 10:34-39

34 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword.

35 For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law.

36 And a man's foes *shall be* they of his own household.

37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me is not worthy of me.

39 He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

8. Rev. 12:7-11 there (to ;), 13-17

- 7 there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,
- 8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.
- 9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.
- 10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.
- 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony;
- 13 And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man *child*.
- 14 And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.
- 15 And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.
- 16 And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.
- 17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

9. I Tim. 6:12

- 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

10. II Tim. 4:7, 8

- 7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith:
- 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

11. Eph. 6:10-13

- 10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.
- 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
- 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.
- 13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

- Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy

1. SH viii:12-16

The question, What is Truth, is answered by demonstration, — by healing both disease and sin; and this demonstration shows that Christian healing con-
15 fers the most health and makes the best men. On this basis Christian Science will have a fair fight.

2. SH 216:3

3 Who shall say that man is alive to-day, but may be dead to-morrow? What has touched Life, God, to such strange issues? Here theories cease, and Sci-
6 ence unveils the mystery and solves the problem of man. Error bites the heel of truth, but cannot kill truth. Truth bruises the head of error — destroys error.
9 Spirituality lays open siege to materialism. On which side are we fighting?

The serpent of error

3. SH 529:21

21 Whence comes a talking, lying serpent to tempt the children of divine Love? The serpent enters into the metaphor only as evil. We have nothing in the
24 animal kingdom which represents the species described, — a talking serpent, — and should rejoice that evil, by whatever figure presented, contradicts itself and
27 has neither origin nor support in Truth and good. Seeing this, we should have faith to fight all claims of evil, because we know that they are worthless and unreal.

Mythical serpent

4. SH 308:14-12

The Soul-inspired patriarchs heard the voice of Truth,
15 and talked with God as consciously as man talks with man.

Jacob was *alone*, wrestling with error, — struggling with a mortal sense of life, substance, and intelligence
18 as existent in matter with its false pleasures and pains, — when an angel, a message from Truth and Love, appeared to him and smote the sinew,
21 or strength, of his error, till he saw its unreality; and Truth, being thereby understood, gave him spiritual strength in this Peniel of divine Science. Then said
24 the spiritual evangel: “Let me go, for the day breaketh;” that is, the light of Truth and Love dawns upon thee. But the patriarch, perceiving his error and his need
27 of help, did not loosen his hold upon this glorious light until his nature was transformed. When Jacob was asked, “What is thy name?” he straightway answered;
30 and then his name was changed to Israel, for “as a prince” had he prevailed and had “power with God and with

Wrestling of Jacob

men.” Then Jacob questioned his deliverer, “Tell me,
309:1 I pray thee, *thy* name;” but this appellation was withheld,
for the messenger was not a corporeal being, but a name-
3 less, incorporeal impartation of divine Love to man, which,
to use the word of the Psalmist, *restored* his Soul, — gave
him the spiritual sense of being and rebuked his material
6 sense.

The result of Jacob’s struggle thus appeared. He had
conquered material error with the understanding of Spirit
9 and of spiritual power. This changed the man.

He was no longer called Jacob, but Israel, —
a prince of God, or a soldier of God, who had fought
12 a good fight.

Israel the new
name

5. SH 19:6-16

Jesus aided in recon-
ciling man to God by giving man a truer sense of Love,
the divine Principle of Jesus’ teachings, and this truer
9 sense of Love redeems man from the law of matter,
sin, and death by the law of Spirit, — the law of divine
Love.

12 The Master forbore not to speak the whole truth, de-
claring precisely what would destroy sickness, sin, and
death, although his teaching set households at variance,
15 and brought to material beliefs not peace, but a
sword.

6. SH 225:5-22, 25-4

You may know when first Truth leads by the few-
6 ness and faithfulness of its followers. Thus it is that
the march of time bears onward freedom’s
banner. The powers of this world will fight,
9 and will command their sentinels not to let truth pass
the guard until it subscribes to their systems; but Science,
heeding not the pointed bayonet, marches on. There is
12 always some tumult, but there is a rallying to truth’s
standard.

Truth’s ordeal

The history of our country, like all history, illustrates
15 the might of Mind, and shows human power to be propor-
tionate to its embodiment of right thinking. A
few immortal sentences, breathing the omnipo-
18 tence of divine justice, have been potent to break despotic
fetters and abolish the whipping-post and slave market;
but oppression neither went down in blood, nor did the
21 breath of freedom come from the cannon’s mouth. Love
is the liberator.

Immortal
sentences

The despotic tenden-

cies, inherent in mortal mind and always ger-
27 minating in new forms of tyranny, must be rooted out
through the action of the divine Mind.

Men and women of all climes and races are still in
30 bondage to material sense, ignorant how to obtain their
freedom. The rights of man were vindicated in a single
section and on the lowest plane of human life, when Afri-
226:1 can slavery was abolished in our land. That was only
prophetic of further steps towards the banishment of a
3 world-wide slavery, found on higher planes of existence
and under more subtle and depraving forms.

7. SH 492:7

Being is holiness, harmony, immortality. It is already
proved that a knowledge of this, even in small degree,
9 will uplift the physical and moral standard
of mortals, will increase longevity, will purify
and elevate character. Thus progress will finally destroy
12 all error, and bring immortality to light. We know that
a statement proved to be good must be correct. New
thoughts are constantly obtaining the floor. These two
15 contradictory theories — that matter is something, or
that all is Mind — will dispute the ground, until one is
acknowledged to be the victor. Discussing his cam-
18 paign, General Grant said: “I propose to fight it out on
this line, if it takes all summer.” Science says: All is
Mind and Mind’s idea. You must fight it out on this
21 line. Matter can afford you no aid.

Mind one and all

8. SH 566:25-1

Revelation xii. 7, 8. And there was war in heaven:
Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the
27 dragon fought, and his angels, and prevailed not; neither
was their place found any more in heaven.

The Old Testament assigns to the angels, God’s divine
30 messages, different offices. Michael’s charac-
teristic is spiritual strength. He leads the
hosts of heaven against the power of sin, Satan, and
567:1 fights the holy wars.

Angelic offices

9. SH 574:27-30

The very
circumstance, which your suffering sense
deems wrathful and afflictive, Love can make an angel
30 entertained unawares.

10. SH 21:1-4

21:1 If Truth is overcoming error in your daily walk and
conversation, you can finally say, "I have fought a
3 good fight . . . I have kept the faith," be-
cause you are a better man.

Moral victory

11. SH 45:16 (only)

Glory be to God, and peace to the struggling hearts!

- Hymns

Hymn 290

Hymn 290

WILLIAM GASKELL

Adapted

(290)

CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

JAMES W. ELLIOTT

Press on, press on, ye sons of light,
Untiring in your holy fight,
Still treading each temptation down,
And battling for a brighter crown.

Press on, press on, and fear no foe,
With calm resolve to triumph go;
Victorious over every ill,
Press on to higher glory still.

Press on, press on, still look in faith
To Him who conquers sin and death;
Then shall ye hear His word, Well done!
True to the last, press on, press on.

Hymn 61

Hymn 59–61

JOHN S. B. MONSELL*

(59)

PARK STREET

FREDERICK M. A. VENUA, ARR.

(60)

PENTECOST

WILLIAM BOYD

Music by permission of Novello & Co. Ltd.

(61)

VALOUR

HUGH P. ALLEN

Music by permission of Hugh P. Allen

Fight the good fight with all thy might,
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right;
Lay hold on Life, and it shall be
Thy joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God's good grace,
Lift up thine eyes, and seek His face;
Life with its way before us lies,
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Faint not nor fear, His arms are near;
He changeth not, and thou art dear;
On Him rely and thou shalt see
That Christ is all in all to thee.

Hymn 326

Hymn 326

JAMES MONTGOMERY*

(326)

TRURO

PSALMODIA EVANGELICA, 1790

The Christian warrior, see him stand
In all the armor of his God;
The Spirit's sword is in his hand;
His feet are with the gospel shod:

In panoply of truth complete,
Salvation's helmet on his head,
With righteousness, a breastplate meet,
And faith's broad shield before him spread.

With this omnipotence he moves;
From this the alien armies flee;
Until he more than conqueror proves,
Through Christ, who gives him victory.

Thus strong in his Redeemer's strength,
Sin, death and hell he tramples down,
Fights his good fight and wins at length,
Through mercy, an immortal crown.

