

# 2018-11-14 after the fire

Wednesday



Last week, in our Bible Lesson, we were reminded of the Old Testament account in the book of Daniel, of three well-respected Jewish men being thrown into the fiery furnace by their king, for not worshipping the idols of the land; and how they walked out of that fire through their unwavering faith in God, unscathed, without even "the smell of fire" having passed on them. Our readings today also start with the Old Testament, with the prophet Elijah, who, fearing for his life, fled to Horeb, "the mount of God".



## Holy Bible

### 1. I Kings 19:9, 11–13 Go

¶ And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD *came* to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah? ... Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; *but* the LORD *was* not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; *but* the LORD *was* not in the earthquake: And after the earthquake a fire; *but* the LORD *was* not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice. And it was *so*, when Elijah heard *it* that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, *there came* a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?

### 2. James 5:16–18 The

The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

### 3. Isa. 51:1 (to ), 1 2nd ye (to :), 3 the

Hearken to me, ... ye that seek the LORD: ... the LORD shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.

### 4. Jer. 17:7, 8

Blessed is the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and *that* spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

**5. Joel 1:19, 20**

O LORD, to thee will I cry: for the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and the flame hath burned all the trees of the field. The beasts of the field cry also unto thee: for the rivers of waters are dried up, and the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

**6. Joel 2:18 (to Lord), 19 answer (to 2nd ), 21–25 (to ), 26, 27 (to :)**

¶ Then will the LORD ... answer and say unto his people, ... ¶ Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the LORD will do great things. Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength. Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first *month*. And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, ... And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed. And ye shall know that I *am* in the midst of Israel, and *that I am* the LORD your God, and none else:

**7. Isa. 35:3, 4**

¶ Strengthen ye the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees. Say to them *that are* of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come *with* vengeance, *even* God *with* a recompence; he will come and save you.

**8. Deut. 33:27 (to ;), 28**

The eternal God *is thy* refuge, and underneath *are* the everlasting arms: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; ... Israel then shall dwell in safety alone: the fountain of Jacob *shall be* upon a land of corn and wine; also his heavens shall drop down dew.

**9. Ps. 147:1, 3, 5, 7, 8**

Praise ye the LORD: for *it is* good to sing praises unto our God; for *it is* pleasant; *and* praise is comely. ... He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds. ... Great *is* our Lord, and of great power: his understanding *is* infinite. ... Sing unto the LORD with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God: Who covereth the heaven with clouds, who prepareth rain for the earth, who maketh grass to grow upon the mountains.

**10. Isa. 43:1–3 now (to :)**

now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called *thee* by thy name; thou *art* mine. When thou passest through the waters, I *will be* with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I *am* the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour:



## Science and Health

### 1. SH 586:13

**FIRE.** Fear; remorse; lust; hatred; destruction; affliction purifying and elevating man.

### 2. SH 22:11–22

“Work out your own salvation,” is the demand of Life and Love, for to this end God worketh with you. “Occupy till I come!” Wait for your reward, and “be not weary in well doing.” If your endeavors are beset by fearful odds, and you receive no present reward, go not back to error, nor become a sluggard in the race. When the smoke of battle clears away, you will discern the good you have done, and receive according to your deserving. Love is not hasty to deliver us from temptation, for Love means that we shall be tried and purified.

Wait for  
reward

### 3. SH 57:15–30

Beauty, wealth, or fame is incompetent to meet the demands of the affections, and should never weigh against the better claims of intellect, goodness, and virtue. Happiness is spiritual, born of Truth and Love. It is unselfish; therefore it cannot exist alone, but requires all mankind to share it. Human affection is not poured forth vainly, even though it meet no return. Love enriches the nature, enlarging, purifying, and elevating it. The wintry blasts of earth may uproot the flowers of affection, and scatter them to the winds; but this severance of fleshly ties serves to unite thought more closely to God, for Love supports the struggling heart until it ceases to sigh over the world and begins to unfold its wings for heaven.

Affection's  
demands

Help and  
discipline

### 4. SH 326:3–14

If we wish to follow Christ, Truth, it must be in the way of God's appointing. Jesus said, “He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also.” He, who would reach the source and find the divine remedy for every ill, must not try to climb the hill of Science by some other road. All nature teaches God's love to man, but man cannot love God supremely and set his whole affections on spiritual things, while loving the material or trusting in it more than in the spiritual. We must forsake the foundation of material systems, however time-honored, if we would gain the Christ as our only Saviour.

Loving God  
supremely

**5. SH 161:5–8 (to ;)**

Holy inspiration has created states of mind which have been able to nullify the action of the flames, as in the Bible case of the three young Hebrew captives, cast into the Babylonian furnace;

**6. SH 481:7–12**

Material sense never helps mortals to understand Spirit, God. Through spiritual sense only, man comprehends and loves Deity. The various contradictions of the Science of Mind by the material senses do not change the unseen Truth, which remains forever intact.

**7. SH 181:21–25**

If you are too material to love the Science of Mind and are satisfied with good words instead of effects, if you adhere to error and are afraid to trust Truth, the question then recurs, “Adam, where art thou?”

Not words  
but deeds

**8. SH 318:22–23, 26**

The Science of Mind denies the error of sensation in matter, and heals with Truth. ... Material methods are temporary, and are not adapted to elevate mankind.

**9. SH 293:13–16, 21**

The material so-called gases and forces are counterfeits of the spiritual forces of divine Mind, whose potency is Truth, whose attraction is Love, whose adhesion and cohesion are Life, perpetuating the eternal facts of being. ... There is no vapid fury of mortal mind — expressed in earthquake, wind, wave, lightning, fire, bestial ferocity — and this so-called mind is self-destroyed. The manifestations of evil, which counterfeit divine justice, are called in the Scriptures, “The anger of the Lord.” In reality, they show the self-destruction of error or matter and point to matter's opposite, the strength and permanency of Spirit. Christian Science brings to light Truth and its supremacy, universal harmony, the entireness of God, good, and the nothingness of evil.

The counterfeit  
forces

**10. SH 97:29–32; 98:4–21**

Christianity is again demonstrating the Life that is Truth, and the Truth that is Life, by the apostolic work of casting out error and healing the sick. ... The prophet of to-day beholds in the mental horizon the signs of these times, the reappearance of the Christianity which heals the sick and destroys error, and no other sign shall be given. Body cannot be saved except through Mind. The Science of Christianity is misinterpreted by a material age, for it is the healing influence of Spirit (not *spirits*) which the material senses cannot comprehend, — which can only be spiritually discerned. Creeds, doctrines, and human hypotheses do not express Christian Science; much less can they demonstrate it. Beyond the frail premises of human beliefs, above the loosening grasp of creeds, the demonstration of Christian Mind-healing stands a revealed and practical Science. It is imperious throughout all ages as Christ's

Christianity  
still rejected

Spiritual fore-  
shadowings

revelation of Truth, of Life, and of Love, which remains inviolate for every man to understand and to practise.

Revelation  
of Science

**11. SH 323:28–4**

The effects of Christian Science are not so much seen as felt. It is the “still, small voice” of Truth uttering itself. We are either turning away from this utterance, or we are listening to it and going up higher. Willingness to become as a little child and to leave the old for the new, renders thought receptive of the advanced idea. Gladness to leave the false landmarks and joy to see them disappear, — this disposition helps to precipitate the ultimate harmony.

Childlike  
receptivity

**12. SH 559:8–12**

The “still, small voice” of scientific thought reaches over continent and ocean to the globe's remotest bound. The inaudible voice of Truth is, to the human mind, “as when a lion roareth.” It is heard in the desert and in dark places of fear.

**13. SH 45:16 (only)**

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



## Hymns

**1. Hymn. 498:1-3**

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, / Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word. / What more can He say than to you He has said, / To you who to God for your refuge have fled: // Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed, / For I am your God, I will still give you aid; / I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, / Upheld by My gracious, omnipotent hand; // When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, / My grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply; / The flame shall not hurt you; I only design / Your dross to consume and your gold to refine. //

**2. Hymn. 457:1-3**

REFRAIN / Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning; / Teach me to do Your will, O God. / Cause me to know the way where I should place my feet / To walk in the pathway of Your love. // Verse 1 / Not in the storm, nor the earthquake, nor the wave; / You're not in the wind, nor the flame. / In the still of the evening, in the hush of the morning, / Call my name. // REFRAIN // Verse 2 / Truth is my Rock; there is nothing I shall fear. / You still all my worry and woe. / And my heart's overflowing now; I rest where / Your quiet waters flow. // REFRAIN /

**3. Hymn. 317:1-3**

Still, still with Thee when purple morning breaketh, / When the bird waketh, and the shadows flee, / Fairer than morning, lovelier than the daylight, / Dawns the

sweet consciousness, I am with Thee. // Alone with Thee, amid the changing shadows, / Solemn the hush of nature, newly born; / Alone with Thee, in breathless adoration, / In the calm dew and freshness of the morn. // So shall it ever be in the bright morning, / When hearts awaking see the shadows flee, / O, in that hour, and fairer than the dawning, / Rises the glorious thought, I am with Thee. //

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