

2018-10-31 Halloween

Wednesday



"Jesus cast out evil spirits, or false beliefs. The Apostle Paul bade men have the Mind that was in the Christ."

These are Mary Baker Eddy's words, from our Christian Science textbook. In our readings tonight, let us see what that might mean for this particular day of the year - Halloween.



Holy Bible

1. Lev. 19:4

¶ Turn ye not unto idols, nor make to yourselves molten gods: I *am* the LORD your God.

2. Luke 24:5 Why

Why seek ye the living among the dead?

3. Lev. 19:1, 2, 30

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, Ye shall be holy: for I the LORD your God *am* holy. ... ¶ Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I *am* the LORD.

4. II Cor. 6:14–18

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

5. Ps. 106:1, 6, 7 (to 2nd);, 8, 12–14, 34 (to They), 35–37 were, 39, 47

Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for *he is* good: for his mercy *endureth* for ever. ... We have sinned with our fathers, we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly. Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt; they

remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; ... Nevertheless he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known. ... Then believed they his words; they sang his praise. They soon forgot his works; they waited not for his counsel: But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert. ... They ... were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works. And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them. Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils, ... Thus were they defiled with their own works, and went a-whoring with their own inventions. ... Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the heathen, to give thanks unto thy holy name, *and* to triumph in thy praise.

6. Deut. 18:9–13

¶ When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you *any one* that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, *or* that useth divination, *or* an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things *are* an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee. Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God.

7. James 3:13, 17 the, 18 ; 4:4–8, 10

Who *is* a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. ... the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, *and* easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace. ... Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *ye* double-minded. ... Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

8. Gal. 5:1, 5, 6–8 faith, 13 brethren, 15–19 if (to ;), 20 (to 3rd), 21–25

Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. ... For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. ... faith which worketh by love. Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth? This persuasion *cometh* not of him that calleth you. ... brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only *use* not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. ... if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another. *This* I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of

the Spirit, ye are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; ... Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, ... Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

9. Eph. 6:10–13 my

my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 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*. 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

1. SH 330:19 God, 25 The

God is what the Scriptures declare Him to be, — Life, Truth, Love. Spirit is divine Principle, and divine Principle is Love, and Love is Mind, and Mind is not both good and bad, for God is Mind; therefore there is in reality one Mind only, because there is one God. ... The notion that both evil and good are real is a delusion of material sense, which Science annihilates. Evil is nothing, no thing, mind, nor power. As manifested by mankind it stands for a lie, nothing claiming to be something, — for lust, dishonesty, selfishness, envy, hypocrisy, slander, hate, theft, adultery, murder, dementia, insanity, inanity, devil, hell, with all the etceteras that word includes.

The deific definitions

Evil obsolete

2. SH 19:29

Jesus urged the commandment, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me,” which may be rendered: Thou shalt have no belief of Life as mortal; thou shalt not know evil, for there is one Life, — even God, good. He rendered “unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's; and unto God the things that are God's.” He at last paid no homage to forms of doctrine or to theories of man, but acted and spake as he was moved, not by spirits but by Spirit.

Jesus' sinless career

3. SH 70:5–7, 9; 71:1

Whatever is false or sinful can never enter the atmosphere of Spirit. There is but one Spirit. ... The supposition that corporeal beings are spirits, or that there are good and evil spirits, is a mistake. ... Nothing is real and eternal, — nothing is Spirit, — but God and His idea. Evil has no reality. It is neither person, place, nor thing, but is simply a belief, an illusion of material sense.

The infinite one Spirit

4. SH 93:21–30

The belief that Spirit is finite as well as infinite has darkened all history. In Christian Science, Spirit, as a proper noun, is the name of the Supreme Being. It means quantity and quality, and applies exclusively to God. The modifying derivatives of the word *spirit* refer only to quality, not to God. Man is spiritual. He is not God, Spirit. If man were Spirit, then men would be spirits, gods. Finite spirit would be mortal, and this is the error embodied in the belief that the infinite can be contained in the finite.

Derivatives
of spirit

5. SH 469:13–30 The; 470:5–16 (to 1st.)

The exterminator of error is the great truth that God, good, is the *only* Mind, and that the supposititious opposite of infinite Mind — called *devil* or evil — is not Mind, is not Truth, but error, without intelligence or reality. There can be but one Mind, because there is but one God; and if mortals claimed no other Mind and accepted no other, sin would be unknown. We can have but one Mind, if that one is infinite. We bury the sense of infinitude, when we admit that, although God is infinite, evil has a place in this infinity, for evil can have no place, where all space is filled with God. We lose the high signification of omnipotence, when after admitting that God, or good, is omnipresent and has all-power, we still believe there is another power, named *evil*. This belief that there is more than one mind is as pernicious to divine theology as are ancient mythology and pagan idolatry. ... The supposed existence of more than one mind was the basic error of idolatry. This error assumed the loss of spiritual power, the loss of the spiritual presence of Life as infinite Truth without an unlikeness, and the loss of Love as ever present and universal. Divine Science explains the abstract statement that there is one Mind by the following self-evident proposition: If God, or good, is real, then evil, the unlikeness of God, is unreal. And evil can only seem to be real by giving reality to the unreal.

True sense of
infinitude

The sole
governor

The divine
standard of
perfection

6. SH 352:12–32

Would a mother say to her child, who is frightened at imaginary ghosts and sick in consequence of the fear: “I know that ghosts are real. They exist, and are to be feared; but you must not be afraid of them”? Children, like adults, *ought* to fear a reality which can harm them and which they do not understand, for at any moment they may become its helpless victims; but instead of increasing children's fears by declaring ghosts to be real, merciless, and powerful, thus watering the very roots of childish timidity, children should be assured that their fears are groundless, that ghosts are not realities, but traditional beliefs, erroneous and man-made. In short, children should be told not to believe in ghosts, because there are no such things. If belief in their reality is destroyed, terror of ghosts will depart and health be restored. The objects of alarm will then vanish into nothingness, no longer seeming worthy of fear or honor. To accomplish a good result, it is certainly not irrational to tell the truth about ghosts.

Ghosts
not realities

7. SH 292:7–10

Truth will be to us “the resurrection and the life” only as it destroys all error and the belief that Mind, the only immortality of man, can be fettered by the body, and Life be controlled by death.

Primitive
error

8. SH 351:16-21

We cannot bring out the practical proof of Christianity, which Jesus required, while error seems as potent and real to us as Truth, and while we make a personal devil and an anthropomorphic God our starting-points, — especially if we consider Satan as a being coequal in power with Deity, if not superior to Him.

Fatal
premises

9. SH 554:24–26 Jesus

Jesus never intimated that God made a devil, but he did say, “Ye are of your father, the devil.”

10. SH 480:19 Again

Again, God, or good, never made man capable of sin. It is the opposite of good — that is, evil — which seems to make men capable of wrong-doing. Hence, evil is but an illusion, and it has no real basis. Evil is a false belief. God is not its author. The supposititious parent of evil is a lie.

Evil
non-existent

11. SH 183:14

Truth never made error necessary, nor devised a law to perpetuate error.

12. SH 43:32 Truth

Truth and Life must seal the victory over error and death, before the thorns can be laid aside for a crown, the benediction follow, “Well done, good and faithful servant,” and the supremacy of Spirit be demonstrated.

13. SH 392:24 Stand (only)

Stand porter at the door of thought.



Hymns

1. Hymn. 32:1-5

Brood o'er us with Thy shelt'ring wing, / 'Neath which our spirits blend / Like
brother birds, that soar and sing, / And on the same branch bend. / The arrow that
doth wound the dove / Darts not from those who watch and love. // If thou the
bending reed wouldst break / By thought or word unkind, / Pray that his spirit you
partake, / Who loved and healed mankind: / Seek holy thoughts and heavenly
strain, / That make men one in love remain. // Learn, too, that wisdom's rod is
given / For faith to kiss, and know; / That greetings glorious from high heaven, /
Whence joys supernal flow, / Come from that Love, divinely near, / Which chastens

pride and earth-born fear, // Through God, who gave that word of might / Which swelled creation's lay: / "Let there be light, and there was light." / What chased the clouds away? / 'Twas Love whose finger traced aloud / A bow of promise on the cloud. // Thou to whose power our hope we give, / Free us from human strife. / Fed by Thy love divine we live, / For Love alone is Life; / And life most sweet, as heart to heart / Speaks kindly when we meet and part. //

2. Hymn. 12:1-3

Arise ye people, take your stand, / Cast out your idols from the land, / Above all doctrine, form or creed / Is found the Truth that meets your need. / Christ's promise stands: they that believe / His works shall do, his power receive. // Go forward then, and as ye preach / So let your works confirm your speech, / And prove to all with following sign / The Word of God is power divine. / In love and healing ministry / Show forth the Truth that makes men free. // O Father-Mother God, whose plan / Hath given dominion unto man, / In Thine own image we may see / Man pure and upright, whole and free. / And ever through our work shall shine / That light whose glory, Lord, is Thine. //

3. Hymn. 14:1-4

Arise, arise and shine, / On thee hath dawned the day; / God is thy sun, and Christ thy light, / Be thou a steadfast ray. // Sing praise, O waking heart, / For all thy God hath wrought; / For Truth's clear light on thee hath shone, / And purified thy thought. // No more shall sin and wrong / Obscure the light divine, / For God hath given thee His Son, / And lo, all things are thine. // Arise, arise and shine, / Uplift thee from the sod, / And let thy living light show forth / Man's unity with God. //