

2018-12-26 Emmanuel

Wednesday



A much loved Christmas carol starts with "O come, O come, Emmanuel. And ransom captive Israel". Today's readings will take a closer look at this Emmanuel, or "God with us", beginning with the Holy Bible, The Book of the Prophet Isaiah and the Gospel according to St Matthew.



Holy Bible

1. Isa. 7:14 the

the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

2. Matt. 1:23 Emmanuel

Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

3. Matt. 1:16

And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

4. Matt. 4:23

¶ And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

5. Matt. 8:2, 3

And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus put forth *his* hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

6. Matt. 12:22

¶ Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw.

7. Acts 5:12 (to ;)

¶ And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people;

8. Acts 3:1 Peter (to temple), 2, 6–8

Peter and John went up together into the temple ... And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; ... Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted *him* up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

9. John 1:17 the

the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

10. I Kings 8:56–61

Blessed *be* the LORD, that hath given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant. The LORD our God be with us, as he was with our fathers: let him not leave us, nor forsake us: That he may incline our hearts unto him, to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and his statutes, and his judgments, which he commanded our fathers. And let these my words, wherewith I have made supplication before the LORD, be nigh unto the LORD our God day and night, that he maintain the cause of his servant, and the cause of his people Israel at all times, as the matter shall require: That all the people of the earth may know that the LORD *is* God, *and that there is* none else. Let your heart therefore be perfect with the LORD our God, to walk in his statutes, and to keep his commandments, as at this day.

11. Deut. 6:20–24

And when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What *mean* the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD our God hath commanded you? Then thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand: And the LORD shewed signs and wonders, great and sore, upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his household, before our eyes: And he brought us out from thence, that he might bring us in, to give us the land which he sware unto our fathers. And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as *it is* at this day.

12. Dan. 4:3

How great *are* his signs! and how mighty *are* his wonders! his kingdom *is* an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion *is* from

generation to generation.

13. Ps. 46:1–11

God *is* our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; *Though* the waters thereof roar *and* be troubled, *though* the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah. *There is* a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy *place* of the tabernacles of the most High. God *is* in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, *and that* right early. The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted. The LORD of hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah. Come, behold the works of the LORD, what desolations he hath made in the earth. He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire. Be still, and know that I *am* God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. The LORD of hosts *is* with us; the God of Jacob *is* our refuge. Selah.

14. Zeph. 3:14, 15, 16 Fear (to :), 16 Let, 17

¶ Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. The LORD hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, *even* the LORD, *is* in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more. ... Fear thou not: ... Let not thine hands be slack. The LORD thy God in the midst of thee *is* mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

15. Jude 1:25

To the only wise God our Saviour, *be* glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.



1. SH 587:5

GOD. The great I AM; the all-knowing, all-seeing, all-acting, all-wise, all-loving, and eternal; Principle; Mind; Soul; Spirit; Life; Truth; Love; all substance; intelligence.

2. SH 583:10

CHRIST. The divine manifestation of God, which comes to the flesh to destroy incarnate error.

3. SH 333:9–13, 19-27

Christ expresses God's spiritual, eternal nature. The name is synonymous with Messiah, and alludes to the spirituality which is taught, illustrated, and demonstrated in the life of which Christ Jesus was the embodiment. ... Throughout all generations both before and after the Christian era, the Christ, as the spiritual idea, — the reflection of God, — has come with some measure of power and grace to all prepared to receive Christ, Truth. Abraham, Jacob, Moses, and the prophets caught glorious glimpses of the Messiah, or Christ, which baptized these seers in the divine nature, the essence of Love. The divine image, idea, or Christ was, is, and ever will be inseparable from the divine Principle, God.

The divine
Principle
and idea

4. SH 107:1–14; 108:1–5 (to), 19–16; 109:22

IN the year 1866, I discovered the Christ Science or divine laws of Life, Truth, and Love, and named my discovery Christian Science. God had been graciously preparing me during many years for the reception of this final revelation of the absolute divine Principle of scientific mental healing. This apodictical Principle points to the revelation of Immanuel, “God

Christian
Science
discovered

with us,” — the sovereign ever-presence, delivering the children of men from every ill “that flesh is heir to.” Through Christian Science, religion and medicine are inspired with a diviner nature and essence; fresh pinions are given to faith and understanding, and thoughts acquaint themselves intelligently with God. ... Whence came to me this heavenly conviction, — a conviction antagonistic to the testimony of the physical senses? According to St. Paul, it was “the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of His power.” It was the divine law of Life and Love, ... When apparently near the confines of mortal existence, standing already within the shadow of the death-valley, I learned these truths in divine Science: that all real being is in God, the divine Mind, and that Life, Truth, and Love are all-powerful and ever-present; that the opposite of Truth, — called error, sin, sickness, disease, death, — is the false testimony of false material sense, of mind in matter; that this false sense evolves, in belief, a subjective state of mortal mind which this same so-called mind names *matter*, thereby shutting out the true sense of Spirit. My discovery, that erring, mortal, misnamed *mind* produces all the organism and action of the mortal body, set my thoughts to work in new channels, and led up to my demonstration of the proposition that Mind is All and matter is naught as the leading factor in Mind-science. Christian Science reveals incontrovertibly that Mind is All-in-all, that the only realities are the divine Mind and idea. This great fact is not, however, seen to be supported by sensible evidence, until its divine Principle is demonstrated by healing the sick and thus proved absolute and divine. This proof once seen, no other conclusion can be reached. For three years after my discovery, I sought the solution of this problem of Mind-healing, searched the Scriptures and read little else, kept aloof from society, and devoted time and energies to discovering a positive rule. The search was sweet, calm, and buoyant with hope, not selfish nor depressing. ... The revelation of Truth in the understanding came to me gradually and apparently through divine power. When a new spiritual idea is

Mission of
Christian
Science

Light shining
in darkness

New lines
of thought

Scientific
evidence

borne to earth, the prophetic Scripture of Isaiah is renewedly fulfilled: “Unto us a child is born, . . . and his name shall be called Wonderful.”

5. SH 326:12

We must forsake the foundation of material systems, however time-honored, if we would gain the Christ as our only Saviour. Not partially, but fully, the great healer of mortal mind is the healer of the body.

6. SH 149:26–27 God (to), 28–31; 150:4

God, divine Mind, governs all, not partially but supremely, ...

Whatever guides thought spiritually benefits mind and body. We need to understand the affirmations of divine

Tests in
our day

Science, dismiss superstition, and demonstrate truth according to Christ. ... To-day the healing power of Truth is widely demonstrated as an immanent, eternal Science, instead of a phenomenal

exhibition. Its appearing is the coming anew of the

The main
purpose

gospel of “on earth peace, good-will toward men.” This coming, as was promised by the Master, is for its establishment as a permanent dispensation among men; but the mission of Christian Science now, as in the time of its earlier demonstration, is not primarily one of physical healing. Now, as then, signs and wonders are wrought in the metaphysical healing of physical disease; but these signs are only to demonstrate its divine origin, — to attest the reality of the higher mission of the Christ-power to take away the sins of the world.

7. SH xi:9

The physical healing of Christian Science results now, as in Jesus' time, from the operation of divine Principle, before which sin and disease lose their reality in human consciousness and disappear as naturally and as necessarily as darkness gives place to light and sin

to reformation. Now, as then, these mighty works are not supernatural, but supremely natural. They are the sign of Immanuel, or “God with us,” — a divine influence ever present in human consciousness and repeating itself, coming now as was promised aforetime, To preach deliverance to the captives [of sense], And recovering of sight to the blind, To set at liberty them that are bruised.

8. SH 45:16 (only, to ,)

Glory be to God,



Hymns

1. Hymn. 23:1-5

Blest Christmas morn, though murky clouds / Pursue thy way, / Thy light was born where storm enshrouds / Nor dawn nor day! // Dear Christ, forever here and near, / No cradle song, / No natal hour and mother's tear, / To thee belong. // Thou God-idea, Life-encrowned, / The Bethlehem babe— / Beloved, replete, by flesh embound— / Was but thy shade! // Thou gentle beam of living Love, / And deathless Life! / Truth infinite,—so far above / All mortal strife, // Or cruel creed, or earth-born taint: / Fill us today / With all thou art —be thou our saint, / Our stay, always. //

2. Hymn. 11:1-2

Angels at the Saviour's birth / Woke with music all the earth, / Shepherds in the eastern sky / Saw a pale star passing by, / Guiding them at break of day / Where the babe in meekness lay, / Born the gracious news to tell, / God with us, Immanuel. // Star of being, still thy light / Shines before us in the night, / By those radiant beams we find / Christ, the Truth, for all mankind, / Still the tidings angels

bring / With their joyful caroling, / Telling that the dawn has come, /
God and man fore'er at one. //

3. Hymn. 36:1-4

Church of the ever-living God, / The Father's gracious choice; /
Amid the voices of this earth / How mighty is thy voice. // Thy
words, amid the words of earth, / How noiseless and how pure; /
Amid the hurrying crowds of time / Thy step how calm and sure. //
Amid the restless eyes of earth / How steadfast is thine eye, / Fixed
on the silent loveliness / That fills the morning sky. // Untiring
praise we lift on high, / Unfaltering songs we sing, / Unending
festival we keep / In presence of the King. //