

2019-02-20 Calming the storm

Wednesday



Today's readings aim to help you pray effectively about the weather, be that the weather that rages outside or the storm that rages within. As always, the readings are from our Pastor: The Holy Bible and Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, by Mary Baker Eddy.



Holy Bible

1. Gen. 1:1, 31 (to 1st .)

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. ...

And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, *it was* very good. ...

2. Isa. 32:1–3

Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment. And a man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land. And the eyes of them that see shall not be dim, and the ears of them that hear shall hearken.

3. Deut. 13:1–5

If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them; Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him. And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn *you* away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee.

4. Jer. 10:2, 3 (to :), 10–12, 14, 15

Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. For the customs of the people *are* vain: ...

But the LORD *is* the true God, he *is* the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation. Thus shall ye say unto them, The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, *even* they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens. He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion. ...

Every man is brutish in *his* knowledge: every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his molten image *is* falsehood, and *there is* no breath in them. They *are* vanity, *and* the work of errors: in the time of their visitation they shall perish.

5. Ex. 9:27, 28, 33–35

¶ And Pharaoh sent, and called for Moses and Aaron, and said unto them, I have sinned this time: the LORD *is* righteous, and I and my people *are* wicked. Entreat the LORD (for *it is* enough) that there be no *more* mighty thunderings and hail; and I will let you go, and ye shall stay no longer. ...

And Moses went out of the city from Pharaoh, and spread abroad his hands unto the LORD: and the thunders and hail ceased, and the rain was not poured upon the earth. And when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunders were ceased, he sinned yet more, and hardened his heart, he and his servants. And the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, neither would he let the children of Israel go; as the LORD had spoken by Moses.

6. Isa. 25:1, 4

O Lord, thou *art* my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful *things*; *thy* counsels of old *are* faithfulness *and* truth. ...

For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones *is* as a storm *against* the wall.

7. Luke 4:14

¶ And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about.

8. Luke 8:22–25

¶ Now it came to pass on a certain day, that he went into a ship with his disciples: and he said unto them, Let us go over unto the other side of the lake. And they launched forth. But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled *with water*, and were in jeopardy. And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind

and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm. And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him.

9. Ps. 107:1, 2, 6, 29, 30, 42, 43

O give thanks unto the LORD, for *he is good*: for his mercy *endureth* for ever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say *so*, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy; ...

Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, *and* he delivered them out of their distresses. ...

He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they be quiet; so he bringeth them unto their desired haven. ...

The righteous shall see *it*, and rejoice: and all iniquity shall stop her mouth. Whoso *is* wise, and will observe these *things*, even they shall understand the lovingkindness of the LORD.

10. Ps. 46:10 (to :)

Be still, and know that I *am* God: ...



Science and Health

1. SH 295:5–8

God creates and governs the universe, including man. The universe is filled with spiritual ideas, which He evolves, and they are obedient to the Mind that makes them.

Mortals
unlike
immortals

2. SH 509:29; 510:18–20

Knowing the Science of creation, in which all is Mind and its ideas, Jesus rebuked the material thought of his fellow-countrymen: “Ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?” How much more should we seek to apprehend the spiritual ideas of God, than to dwell on the objects of sense! To discern the rhythm of Spirit and to be holy, thought must be purely spiritual. ...

Spiritual ideas
apprehended

... Love alone can impart the limitless idea of infinite Mind. Geology has never explained the earth's formations; it cannot explain them.

Geology
a failure

3. SH 293:13–16, 21–28, 32–4

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. ...

The counterfeit forces

The five physical senses are the avenues and instruments of human error, and they correspond with error. These senses indicate the common human belief, that life, substance, and intelligence are a unison of matter with Spirit.

Instruments of error

4. SH 296:23–28; 297:12–15, 20 (only), 26

When the evidence of Spirit and matter, Truth and error, seems to commingle, it rests upon foundations which time is wearing away. Mortal mind judges by the testimony of the material senses, until Science obliterates this false testimony. ...

Mixed testimony

Erroneous belief is destroyed by truth. Change the evidence, and that disappears which before seemed real to this false belief, and the human consciousness rises higher. ...

Self-improvement

Faith is higher and more spiritual than belief. ... A belief in Truth is better than a belief in error, but no mortal testimony is founded on the divine rock. Mortal testimony can be shaken. Until belief becomes faith, and faith becomes spiritual understanding, human thought has little relation to the actual or divine.

5. SH 298:10, 19; 299:24 2nd Truth

To material sense, the unreal is the real until this sense is corrected by Christian Science.

Truth’s witness

... When the real is attained, which is announced by Science, joy is no longer a trembler, nor is hope a cheat. Spiritual ideas, like numbers and notes, start from Principle, and admit no materialistic beliefs. Spiritual ideas lead up to their divine origin, God, and to the spiritual sense of being. ...

... Truth is spiritual, eternal substance, which cannot destroy the right reflection. Corporeal sense, or error, may seem to hide Truth, health, harmony, and Science, as the mist obscures the sun or the mountain; but Science, the sunshine of Truth, will melt away the shadow and reveal the celestial peaks.

6. SH 300:1, 14–17

Human logic is awry when it attempts to draw correct spiritual conclusions regarding life from matter. Finite sense has no true appreciation

of infinite Principle, God, or of His infinite image or reflection, man. The mirage, which makes trees and cities seem to be where they are not, illustrates the illusion of material man, who cannot be the image of God. ...

Old and
new man

... The mutable and imperfect never touch the immutable and perfect. The inharmonious and self-destructive never touch the harmonious and self-existent.

The tares
and wheat

7. SH 97:17

The more material the belief, the more obvious its error, until divine Spirit, supreme in its domain, dominates all matter, and man is found in the likeness of Spirit, his original being.

8. SH 192:4-5, 6-21

We are Christian Scientists, only as we quit our reliance upon that which is false and grasp the true. ... Human opinions are not spiritual. They come from the hearing of the ear, from corporeality instead of from Principle, and from the mortal instead of from the immortal. Spirit is not separate from God. Spirit is God.

Erring power is a material belief, a blind miscalled force, the offspring of will and not of wisdom, of the mortal mind and not of the immortal. It is the headlong cataract, the devouring flame, the tempest's breath. It is lightning and hurricane, all that is selfish, wicked, dishonest, and impure.

Human power
a blind force

Moral and spiritual might belong to Spirit, who holds the "wind in His fists;" and this teaching accords with Science and harmony. In Science, you can have no power opposed to God, and the physical senses must give up their false testimony.

The one
real power

9. SH 555:6

An inquirer once said to the discoverer of Christian Science: "I like your explanations of truth, but I do not comprehend what you say about error."

This is the nature of error. The mark of ignorance is on its forehead, for it neither understands nor can be understood. Error would have itself received as mind, as if it were as real and God-created as truth; but Christian Science attributes to error neither entity nor power, because error is neither mind nor the outcome of Mind.

Ignorance the
sign of error

10. SH 67:18

The notion that animal natures can possibly give force to character is too absurd for consideration, when we remember that through spiritual ascendancy our Lord and Master healed the sick, raised the dead, and commanded even the winds and waves to obey him. Grace and Truth are potent beyond all other means and methods.

Spiritual
power

11. SH 415:24

To remove the error producing disorder, you must calm and instruct mortal mind with immortal Truth.

12. SH 134:21–8; 135:17

The true Logos is demonstrably Christian Science, the natural law of harmony which overcomes discord, — not because this Science is supernatural or preternatural, nor because it is an infraction of divine law, but because it is the immutable law of God, good. Jesus said: “I knew that Thou hearest me always;” and he raised Lazarus from the dead, stilled the tempest, healed the sick, walked on the water. There is divine authority for believing in the superiority of spiritual power over material resistance.

Basis of miracles

A miracle fulfils God's law, but does not violate that law. This fact at present seems more mysterious than the miracle itself. The Psalmist sang: “What ailed thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? Thou Jordan, that thou wast driven back? Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams, and ye little hills, like lambs? Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob.” The miracle introduces no disorder, but unfolds the primal order, establishing the Science of God's unchangeable law. ...

Lawful wonders

... There is to-day danger of repeating the offence of the Jews by limiting the Holy One of Israel and asking: “Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?” What cannot God do?

13. SH 358:9

Christian Science, understood, coincides with the Scriptures, and sustains logically and demonstratively every point it presents. Otherwise it would not be Science, and could not present its proofs. Christian Science is neither made up of contradictory aphorisms nor of the inventions of those who scoff at God. It presents the calm and clear verdict of Truth against error, uttered and illustrated by the prophets, by Jesus, by his apostles, as is recorded throughout the Scriptures.

Scientific and Biblical facts

14. SH 506:10–12

Through divine Science, Spirit, God, unites understanding to eternal harmony. The calm and exalted thought or spiritual apprehension is at peace.



Hymns

1. Hymn. 172:1-3

Lift up thy light, O man, arise and shine, / Steadfast while loud the storms of life assail;
/ Immortal ray of that great Light divine, / 'Gainst whose all-power no tempest shall prevail. /

Hold high thy lamp above earth's restless tides, / Beacon of hope to those who watch

afar. / Falsehood and fear shall pass, but Truth abides; / Thine be the splendor of her deathless star. /

Should the world's sin and sorrow round thee rave, / Pierce thou the dark with Truth's undaunted ray, / Send out its light of joy to help and save, / That more and more shines to the perfect day.

2. Hymn. 102:1-3

Hear our prayer, O gracious Father, / Author of celestial good, / That Thy laws so pure and holy / May be better understood. /

Armed with faith, may we press onward, / Knowing nothing but Thy will; / Conquering every storm of error / With the sweet words: Peace, be still. /

Like the star of Bethlehem shining, / Love will guide us all the way, / From the depths of error's darkness / Into Truth's eternal day.

3. Hymn. 347:1-4

Though mountains may depart from thee, / And hills be far removed, / His kindness shall remain with thee, / His covenant be proved. /

O thou afflicted, tossed with doubt, / God bids the storm to cease; / His children shall be taught of Him / And great shall be their peace. /

Established in His righteousness, / He holds thee free from fear; / No weapon formed against His own / Shall prosper nor come near. /

All tongues that rise condemning thee / Are silenced by His word; / This is thy precious heritage, / Thou servant of the Lord.