

2019-04-10 Letting in the Christ



With Palm Sunday being celebrated this weekend by Christians worldwide, let us look at ways that we can welcome the Christ into our lives, by turning to our Pastor: The Holy Bible and the Christian Science textbook "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures", by Mary Baker Eddy.



The Holy Bible

1. Rev. 1:4-6

John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne; And from Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him *be* glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

2. Zech. 9:9

¶ Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

3. John 11:55; 12:1, 12-15

¶ And the Jews' passover was nigh at hand: and many went out of the country up to Jerusalem before the passover, to purify themselves. ...

Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead. ...

... ¶ On the next day much people that were come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord. And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written, Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt.

4. John 9:39; 10:1-3, 9, 10

¶ And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind. ...

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice; and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. ...

I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.

5. Ps. 25:8–12, 15, 20, 21

Good and upright *is* the LORD: therefore will he teach sinners in the way. The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way. All the paths of the LORD *are* mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies. For thy name's sake, O LORD, pardon mine iniquity; for it *is* great. What man *is* he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way *that* he shall choose. ...

Mine eyes *are* ever toward the LORD; for he shall pluck my feet out of the net. ...

O keep my soul, and deliver me: let me not be ashamed; for I put my trust in thee. Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee.

6. Isa. 26:2, 3, 7–9

Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in. Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose* mind *is* stayed *on thee*: because he trusteth in thee. ...

The way of the just *is* uprightness: thou, most upright, dost weigh the path of the just. Yea, in the way of thy judgments, O LORD, have we waited for thee; the desire of *our* soul *is* to thy name, and to the remembrance of thee. With my soul have I desired thee in the night; yea, with my spirit within me will I seek thee early: for when thy judgments *are* in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.

7. Ps. 138:4–8

All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O LORD, when they hear the words of thy mouth. Yea, they shall sing in the ways of the LORD: for great *is* the glory of the LORD. Though the LORD *be* high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly: but the proud he knoweth afar off. Though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt revive me: thou shalt stretch forth thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and thy right hand shall save me. The LORD will perfect *that which* concerneth me: thy mercy, O LORD, *endureth* for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands.

8. Rom. 11:26, 27

And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this *is* my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

9. Ps. 149:1–4

Praise ye the LORD. Sing unto the LORD a new song, *and* his praise in the congregation of saints. Let Israel rejoice in him that made him: let the children of Zion be joyful in their King. Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp. For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.

10. Ps. 22:26–28

The meek shall eat and be satisfied: they shall praise the LORD that seek him: your heart shall live for ever. All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee. For the kingdom is the LORD'S: and he *is* the governor among the nations.

11. Rev. 19:6

And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.



Science and Health

1. SH 333:16–23 The

... The advent of Jesus of Nazareth marked the first century of the Christian era, but the Christ is without beginning of years or end of days.

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.

The divine
Principle
and idea

2. SH 583:10

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

3. SH 347:14

Christ, as the spiritual or true idea of God, comes now as of old, preaching the gospel to the poor, healing the sick, and casting out evils. Is it error which is restoring an essential element of Christianity, — namely, apostolic, divine healing? No; it is the Science of Christianity which is restoring it, and is the light shining in darkness, which the darkness comprehends not.

Essential
element of
Christianity

4. SH 30:19–21, 30–17; 31:25–28

As the individual ideal of Truth, Christ Jesus came to rebuke rabbinical error and all sin, sickness, and death, — to point out the way of Truth and Life. ...

... We cannot choose for ourselves, but must work out our salvation in the way Jesus taught. In meekness and might, he was found preaching the gospel to the poor. Pride and fear are unfit to bear the standard of Truth, and God will never place it in such hands.

Jesus acknowledged no ties of the flesh. He said: “Call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.” Again he asked: “Who is my mother, and who are my brethren,” implying that it is they who do the will of his Father. We have no record of his calling any man by the name of *father*. He recognized Spirit, God, as the only creator, and therefore as the Father of all.

Fleshly ties
temporal

First in the list of Christian duties, he taught his followers the healing power of Truth and Love. He attached no importance to dead ceremonies. It is the living Christ, the practical Truth, which makes Jesus “the resurrection and the life” to all who follow him in deed. ...

Healing
primary

Referring to the materiality of the age, Jesus said: “The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth.”

Painful
prospect

5. SH 20:24–14

Material belief is slow to acknowledge what the spiritual fact implies. The truth is the centre of all religion. It commands sure entrance into the realm of Love. St. Paul wrote, “Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us;” that is, let us put aside material self and sense, and seek the divine Principle and Science of all healing.

Behest of
the cross

If Truth is overcoming error in your daily walk and conversation, you can finally say, “I have fought a good fight . . . I have kept the faith,” because you are a better man. This is having our part in the at-one-ment with Truth and Love. Christians do not continue to labor and pray, expecting because of another's goodness, suffering, and triumph, that they shall reach his harmony and reward.

Moral
victory

If the disciple is advancing spiritually, he is striving to enter in. He constantly turns away from material sense, and looks towards the imperishable things of Spirit. If honest, he will be in earnest from the start, and gain a little each day in the right direction, till at last he finishes his course with joy.

6. SH 4:3–5, 12

What we most need is the prayer of fervent desire for growth in grace, expressed in patience, meekness, love, and good deeds. ...

The habitual struggle to be always good is unceasing prayer. Its motives are made manifest in the blessings they bring, — blessings which, even if not acknowledged in audible words, attest our worthiness to be partakers of Love.

7. SH 106:15–29

Let this age, which sits in judgment on Christian Science, sanction only such methods as are demonstrable in Truth and known by their fruit, and classify all others as did St. Paul in his great epistle to the Galatians, when he wrote as follows:

Right
methods

“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, *witchcraft*, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 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.”

8. SH 224:22–28, 31 (only)

A higher and more practical Christianity, demonstrating justice and meeting the needs of mortals in sickness and in health, stands at the door of this age, knocking for admission. Will you open or close the door upon this angel visitant, who cometh in the quiet of meekness, as he came of old to the patriarch at noonday?

Truth brings the elements of liberty. ... No power can withstand divine Love.

9. SH 270:31–5

The life of Christ Jesus was not miraculous, but it was indigenous to his spirituality, — the good soil wherein the seed of Truth springs up and bears much fruit. Christ's Christianity is the chain of scientific being reappearing in all ages, maintaining its obvious correspondence with the Scriptures and uniting all periods in the design of God.

10. SH vii:1–2, 20

TO those leaning on the sustaining infinite, to-day is big with blessings. ...

... Though empires fall, “the Lord shall reign forever.”



Hymns

1. Hymn. 188:1-3

No eye hath seen, nor tongue declared, / Nor hath it entered heart of man, / To know what God hath here prepared / For them that love and trust His plan. /

But He whose Spirit searcheth deep / Hath sent His Word to all mankind, / The Word
that bids them find and keep / The priceless treasures of His Mind. /

O come and find, the Spirit saith, / The Truth that maketh all men free. / The world is
sad with dreams of death. / Lo, I am Life, come unto Me.

2. Hymn. 392:1-4

With love and peace and joy supreme / We hail the new appearing; / From out the
darkness and the dream, / The haven of rest is nearing. /

With gifts of healing in his wings / To light the Christ now guides us, / The heart that
knows him burns and sings, / For endless joy betides us. /

His touch the door of Life unseals / And bids us freely enter, / His word the heaven of
heavens reveals / With Love its bound and center. /

For God is all, and Christ the way; / Our meek and bold defender / Has cleft the night
and lo, the day / Bursts forth in mighty splendor.

3. Hymn. 324:1-3

Take my life, and let it be / Consecrated, Lord, to Thee. / Take my moments and my
days, / Let them flow in ceaseless praise. / Take my hands, and let them move / At the
impulse of Thy love. /

Take my feet, and let them be / Swift and beautiful for Thee. / Take my voice, and let
me sing / Always, only, for my King. / Take my lips, and let them be / Filled with
messages from Thee. /

Take my every thought, to use / In the way that Thou shalt choose. / Take my love; O
Lord, I pour / At Thy feet its treasure store. / I am Thine, and I will be / Ever, only, all
for Thee.