

2019-04-17 Serving - God's way!



In one of Jesus' parables, we read of the reward two servants received, who put the talents their lord entrusted to them to good use: "Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord." (Matt. 25:23) So, how do we use our talents well? Let's turn 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. Gen. 1:1; 2:2, 3

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

2. Isa. 65:18 be, 19, 23, 24

... be ye glad and rejoice for ever *in that* which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. And I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people: and the voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, nor the voice of crying. ...

They shall not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble; for they *are* the seed of the blessed of the LORD, and their offspring with them. And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.

3. Rev. 21:2, 5-7

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ...

And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the

fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

4. John 5:1, 19, 20, 30

After this there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ...

Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel. ...

I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

5. Luke 12:35–37, 42–44

Let your loins be girded about, and *your* lights burning; And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed *are* those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. ...

And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom *his* lord shall make ruler over his household, to give *them their* portion of meat in due season? Blessed *is* that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath.

6. Matt. 25:1–13

Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five *were* foolish. They that *were* foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them: But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps. While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out. But the wise answered, saying, *Not so*; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves. And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut. Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us. But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

7. Prov. 1:20, 23

¶ Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets: ...

Turn you at my reproof: behold, I will pour out my spirit unto you, I will make known my words unto you.

8. Matt. 16:6–12

¶ Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees. And they reasoned among themselves, saying, *It is* because we have taken no bread. *Which* when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread? Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up? How is it that ye do not understand that I spake *it* not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees? Then understood they how that he bade *them* not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

9. Phil. 4:8 brethren, 9

... brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things *are* honest, whatsoever things *are* just, whatsoever things *are* pure, whatsoever things *are* lovely, whatsoever things *are* of good report; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, think on these things. Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.



Science and Health

1. SH 79:19–20, 29–32

Jesus did his own work by the one Spirit. He said: “My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.” ...

Mind-science teaches that mortals need “not be weary in well doing.” It dissipates fatigue in doing

good. Giving does not impoverish us in the service of our Maker, neither does withholding enrich us.

Divine
strength

2. SH 51:28–5

Jesus was unselfish. His spirituality separated him from sensuousness, and caused the selfish materialist to hate him; but it was this spirituality which enabled Jesus to heal the sick, cast out evil, and raise the dead.

From early boyhood he was about his “Father's business.” His pursuits lay far apart from theirs. His master was Spirit; their master was matter. He served God; they served mammon. His affections were pure; theirs were carnal.

Master's
business

3. SH 238:6–9, 10–21

To obey the Scriptural command, “Come out from among them, and be ye separate,” is to incur society's frown; but this frown, more than flatteries, enables one to be Christian. ... “If God be for us, who can be against us?”

To fall away from Truth in times of persecution, shows that we never understood Truth. From out the bridal chamber of wisdom there will come the warning, “I know you not.” Unimproved opportunities will rebuke us when we attempt to claim the benefits of an experience we have not made our own, try to reap the harvest we have not sown, and wish to enter unlawfully into the labors of others. Truth often remains unsought, until we seek this remedy for human woe because we suffer severely from error.

Unimproved opportunities

4. SH 43:27–4

The divine must overcome the human at every point. The Science Jesus taught and lived must triumph over all material beliefs about life, substance, and intelligence, and the multitudinous errors growing from such beliefs.

Love must triumph over hate. 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.

5. SH 14:12–15, 16–22

Become conscious for a single moment that Life and intelligence are purely spiritual, — neither in nor of matter, — and the body will then utter no complaints. ... Sorrow is turned into joy when the body is controlled by spiritual Life, Truth, and Love. Hence the hope of the promise Jesus bestows: “He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; . . . because I go unto my Father,” — [because the Ego is absent from the body, and present with Truth and Love.]

Spiritualized consciousness

6. SH 20:14–16

Jesus bore our infirmities; he knew the error of mortal belief, and “with his stripes [the rejection of error] we are healed.”

7. SH 51:19–24

His consummate example was for the salvation of us all, but only through doing the works which he did and taught others to do. His purpose in healing was not alone to restore health, but to demonstrate his divine Principle. He was inspired by God, by Truth and Love, in all that he said and did.

Example for our salvation

8. SH 20:25–8

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

9. SH 40:25–28

Our heavenly Father, divine Love, demands that all men should follow the example of our Master and his apostles and not merely worship his personality

Service and
worship

10. SH 4:9–16

Outward worship is not of itself sufficient to express loyal and heartfelt gratitude, since he has said: “If ye love me, keep my commandments.”

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.

11. SH 426:5–11

The discoverer of Christian Science finds the path less difficult when she has the high goal always before her thoughts, than when she counts her footsteps in endeavoring to reach it. When the destination is desirable, expectation speeds our progress. The struggle for Truth makes one strong instead of weak, resting instead of wearying one.

Our footsteps
heavenward

12. SH 583:12

CHURCH. The structure of Truth and Love; whatever rests upon and proceeds from divine Principle.

13. SH 519:25; 520:9

God rests in action. Imparting has not impoverished, can never impoverish, the divine Mind. No exhaustion follows the action of this Mind, according to the apprehension of divine Science. The highest and sweetest rest, even from a human standpoint, is in holy work.

Resting in
holy work

... Principle and its idea, man, are coexistent and eternal. The numerals of infinity, called *seven days*, can never be reckoned according to the calendar of time. These days will appear as mortality disappears, and they will reveal eternity, newness of Life, in which all sense of error forever disappears and thought accepts the divine infinite calculus.

14. SH 1:6, 11

Prayer, watching, and working, combined with self-immolation, are God's gracious means for accomplishing whatever has been successfully done for the Christianization and health of mankind.

... Desire is prayer; and no loss can occur from trusting God with our desires, that they may be moulded and exalted before they take form in words and in deeds.



Hymns

1. Hymn. 42:1-2

Come, Thou all-transforming Spirit, / Bless the sower and the seed; / Let each heart
Thy grace inherit; / Raise the weak, the hungry feed; / From the Gospel, from the
Gospel / Now supply Thy people's need. /

O, may all enjoy the blessing / Which Thy holy word doth give; / Let us all, Thy love
possessing, / Joyfully Thy truth receive; / And forever, and forever / To Thy praise and
glory live.

2. Hymn. 554:1-3

One by one, pure thoughts and holy / Lift us out of self and sin; / One by one, bright
gleams of glory / Show the goal we all will win. / One by one, our trusts are
strengthened, / As our lives to God we give; / One by one, our days are lengthened, /
While in Love we move and live. /

One by one, our aims grow purer, / As our deeds reflect our God; / One by one, our
path grows clearer, / Guided by Love's staff and rod. / One by one, our thoughts move
forward / To the time by prophets told; / One by one, our lives move homeward /
Singing of one Lord, one fold. /

Then within Love's ever-presence / We shall live amid its light, / Knowing well that
holy brilliance / Which is called the Infinite. / Know the glories of God's kingdom, /
Hear the music Spirit sings, / Be at one with that great Wisdom / From which all
creation springs.

3. Hymn. 65:1-3

From glory unto glory, / Be this our joyous song; / From glory unto glory, / 'Tis Love
that leads us on; / As wider yet and wider, / The rising splendors glow, / What wisdom
is revealed to us, / What freedom we may know. /

The fullness of His blessing / Encompasseth our way; / The fullness of His promise /
Crowns every dawning day; / The fullness of His glory / Is shining from above, /
While more and more we learn to know / The fullness of His love. /

From glory unto glory, / What great things He hath done, / What wonders He hath

shown us, / What triumphs Love hath won. / From glory unto glory, / From strength to
strength we go, / While grace for grace abundantly / Doth from His fullness flow.

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