

2019-07-17 Speak gently



The readings are from 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. Isa. 40:9 2nd O

... O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift *it* up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!

2. Ps. 18:32, 35 and

It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect. ...

... and thy right hand hath holden me up, and thy gentleness hath made me great.

3. Ps. 119:73, 76, 80

Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding, that I may learn thy commandments. ...

Let, I pray thee, thy merciful kindness be for my comfort, according to thy word unto thy servant. ...

Let my heart be sound in thy statutes; that I be not ashamed.

4. I Pet. 2:11, 12, 17–20

Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul; Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by *your* good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation. ...

Honour all *men*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king. Servants, *be* subject to *your* masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward. For this *is* thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. For what glory *is it*, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer *for it*, ye take it patiently, this *is* acceptable with God.

5. James 3:2, 3, 5–10, 13–18

For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same *is* a perfect man, *and* able also to bridle the whole body. Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body. ...

Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: But the tongue can no man tame; *it is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. ...

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. But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife *is*, there *is* confusion and every evil work. But 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.

6. I Thess. 1:1 Grace; 2:4 as, 5, 7, 10–13

... Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ. ...

... as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts. For neither at any time used we flattering words, as ye know, nor a cloak of covetousness; God *is* witness: ...

But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children: ...

Ye *are* witnesses, and God *also*, how holily and justly and unblameably we behaved ourselves among you that believe: As ye know how we exhorted and comforted and charged every one of you, as a father *doth* his children, That ye would walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory. For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received *it* not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

7. II Tim. 2:24–26; 3:1–5, 9, 14, 17

And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will. ...

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. ...

But they shall proceed no further: for their folly shall be manifest unto all *men*, as theirs also was. ...

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*; ...

That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

8. Titus 2:11–15 (to 1st.); 3:2

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. ...

To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, *but* gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.



Science and Health

1. SH 16:27, 29, 31; 17:2

Our Father-Mother God, all-harmonious,

... Adorable One.

... Thy kingdom is come; Thou art ever-present.

... Enable us to know, — as in heaven, so on earth, — God is omnipotent, supreme.

2. SH 206:28–29

Omnipotent and infinite Mind made all and includes all.

3. SH 311:3–6 (to 1st.)

What we term mortal mind or carnal mind, dependent on matter for manifestation, is not Mind. God is Mind: all that Mind, God, is, or hath made, is good, and He made all.

4. SH 205:22–29; 206:4–6

When we realize that there is one Mind, the divine law of loving our neighbor as ourselves is unfolded;
whereas a belief in many ruling minds hinders man's normal drift towards the one Mind, one God, and leads human thought into opposite channels where selfishness reigns.

Redemption
from
selfishness

Selfishness tips the beam of human existence towards the side of error, not towards Truth. ...

The power of the human will should be exercised only in subordination to Truth; else it will misguide the judgment and free the lower propensities.

5. SH 490:3–14

Will-power is but a product of belief, and this belief commits depredations on harmony. Human will is an animal propensity, not a faculty of Soul. Hence it cannot govern man aright. Christian Science reveals Truth and Love as the motive-powers of man. Will — blind, stubborn, and headlong — cooperates with appetite and passion. From this cooperation arises its evil. From this also comes its powerlessness, since all power belongs to God, good.

Will-power
an animal
propensity

The Science of Mind needs to be understood. Until it is understood, mortals are more or less deprived of Truth.

6. SH 272:3

The spiritual sense of truth must be gained before Truth can be understood. This sense is assimilated only as we are honest, unselfish, loving, and meek. In the soil of an “honest and good heart” the seed must be sown; else it beareth not much fruit, for the swinish element in human nature uproots it. Jesus said: “Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures.” The spiritual sense of the Scriptures brings out the scientific sense, and is the new tongue referred to in the last chapter of Mark's Gospel.

Spirituality
of Scripture

7. SH 117:6–7, 14–15

God is Spirit; therefore the language of Spirit must be, and is, spiritual. ...

Ear hath not heard, nor hath lip spoken, the pure language of Spirit.

8. SH 485:4–5

Science declares that Mind, not matter, sees, hears, feels, speaks.

Error only
ephemeral

9. SH 276:4–9

When the divine precepts are understood, they unfold the foundation of fellowship, in which one mind is not at war with another, but all have one Spirit, God, one intelligent

Universal
brotherhood

source, in accordance with the Scriptural command: “Let this Mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.”

10. SH 467:9

It should be thoroughly understood that all men have one Mind, one God and Father, one Life, Truth, and Love. Mankind will become perfect in proportion as this fact becomes apparent, war will cease and the true brotherhood of man will be established. Having no other gods, turning to no other but the one perfect Mind to guide him, man is the likeness of God, pure and eternal, having that Mind which was also in Christ.

11. SH 332:9–11 Christ

Christ is the true idea voicing good, the divine message from God to men speaking to the human consciousness.

12. SH 326:3–4

If we wish to follow Christ, Truth, it must be in the way of God's appointing.

13. SH 106:7–14

God has endowed man with inalienable rights, among which are self-government, reason, and conscience. Man is properly self-governed only when he is guided rightly and governed by his Maker, divine Truth and Love.

Proper self-
government

Man's rights are invaded when the divine order is interfered with, and the mental trespasser incurs the divine penalty due this crime.

14. SH 405:5–18

Christian Science commands man to master the propensities, — to hold hatred in abeyance with kindness, to conquer lust with chastity, revenge with charity, and to overcome deceit with honesty. Choke these errors in their early stages, if you would not cherish an army of conspirators against health, happiness, and success. They will deliver you to the judge, the arbiter of truth against error. The judge will deliver you to justice, and the sentence of the moral law will be executed upon mortal mind and body. Both will be manacled until the last farthing is paid, — until you have balanced your account with God. “Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”

Mental
conspirators

15. SH 407:6

Man's enslavement to the most relentless masters — passion, selfishness, envy, hatred, and revenge — is conquered only by a mighty struggle. Every hour of delay makes the struggle more severe. If man is not victorious over the passions, they crush out happiness, health, and manhood. Here Christian Science is the sovereign panacea, giving strength to the weakness of mortal mind, — strength from the immortal and omnipotent Mind, — and lifting humanity above itself into purer desires, even into spiritual power and good-will to man.

Universal
panacea

16. SH vii:13–17

The time for thinkers has come. Truth, independent of doctrines and time-honored systems, knocks at the portal of humanity. Contentment with the past and the cold conventionality of materialism are crumbling away.

17. SH 262:10, 20

We must reverse our feeble flutterings — our efforts to find life and truth in matter — and rise above the testimony of the material senses, above the mortal to the immortal idea of God. These clearer, higher views inspire the God-like man to reach the absolute centre and circumference of his being.

... They

will then drop the false estimate of life and happiness, of joy and sorrow, and attain the bliss of loving unselfishly, working patiently, and conquering all that is unlike God. Starting from a higher standpoint, one rises spontaneously, even as light emits light without effort; for “where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

The true
sense

18. SH 406:19–20 (to 1st .)

Resist evil — error of every sort — and it will flee from you.

19. SH 355:11

Let discord of every name and nature be heard no more, and let the harmonious and true sense of Life and being take possession of human consciousness.

20. SH 248:29

Let unselfishness, goodness, mercy, justice, health, holiness, love — the kingdom of heaven — reign within us, and sin, disease, and death will diminish until they finally disappear.



Hymns

1. Hymn. 315:1-3

Speak gently, it is better far / To rule by love than fear; / Speak gently, let no harsh word mar / The good we may do here. /

Speak gently to the erring ones, / They must have toiled in vain; / Perchance unkindness made them so; / O win them back again. /

Speak gently, 'tis a little thing, / Dropped in the heart's deep well; / The good, the joy that it may bring, / Eternity shall tell.

2. Hymn. 453:1-5

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.

3. Hymn. 88:1-3

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me: / I myself would gracious be, / And with words that
help and heal / Would Thy life in mine reveal; / And with actions bold and meek /
Christ's own gracious spirit speak. /

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me: / I myself would truthful be, / And with wisdom kind
and clear / Let Thy life in mine appear; / And with actions brotherly / Follow Christ's
sincerity. /

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me: / I myself would mighty be, / Mighty, that I may prevail
/ Where unaided man must fail; / Ever by triumphant hope / Pressing on and bearing
up.