

2019-08-07 Comfort from above



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. Matt. 5:4

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

2. Ps. 55:1, 5, 17, 18, 22

Give ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not thyself from my supplication. ...

Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me, and horror hath overwhelmed me. ...

Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice. He hath delivered my soul in peace from the battle that was against me: for there were many with me. ...

Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

3. Ps. 25:1, 2, 19–21

Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me. ...

Consider mine enemies; for they are many; and they hate me with cruel hatred. 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.

4. Gen. 6:9 2nd Noah, 11, 13, 17, 18

... Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God. ...

The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. ...

And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth. ...

And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die. But with thee will I establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons, and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.

5. Gen. 8:13 (to :), 15, 16, 20–22; 9:1

¶ And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth: ...

... ¶ And God spake unto Noah, saying, Go forth of the ark, thou, and thy wife, and thy sons, and thy sons' wives with thee. ...

... ¶ And Noah builded an altar unto the Lord; and took of every clean beast, and of every clean fowl, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And the Lord smelled a sweet savour; and the Lord said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done. While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease. ...

And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

6. Ps. 121:7, 8

The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

7. Ps. 72:12–14

For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper. He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy. He shall redeem their soul from deceit and violence: and precious shall their blood be in his sight.

8. John 8:1–12

Jesus went unto the mount of Olives. And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them. And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst, They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou? This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground, as though he heard them not. So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground. And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus

was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more. ¶ Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

9. II Cor. 1:3, 4

Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

10. I Thess. 5:14, 15, 21–24, 28

Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men. ...

Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it. ...

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.



Science and Health

1. SH 201:7 Truth

Truth makes a new creature, in whom old things pass away and “all things are become new.” Passions, selfishness, false appetites, hatred, fear, all sensuality, yield to spirituality, and the superabundance of being is on the side of God, good.

2. SH 234:9–12, 17–27, 31–3

We should become more familiar with good than with evil, and guard against false beliefs as watchfully as we bar our doors against the approach of thieves and murderers. ...

Hospitality
to health
and good

If mortals would keep proper ward over mortal mind, the brood of evils which infest it would be cleared out. We must begin with this so-called mind and empty it of sin and sickness, or sin and sickness will never cease. The present codes of human systems disappoint the weary searcher after a divine theology, adequate to the right education of human thought.

Cleansing
the mind

Sin and disease must be thought before they can be manifested. You must control evil thoughts in the first instance, or they will control you in the second. ...

Evil thoughts and aims reach no farther and do no more harm than one's belief permits. Evil thoughts, lusts, and malicious purposes cannot go forth, like wandering pollen, from one human mind to another, finding unsuspected lodgment, if virtue and truth build a strong defence.

3. SH 254:10

When we wait patiently on God and seek Truth righteously, He directs our path. Imperfect mortals grasp the ultimate of spiritual perfection slowly; but to *begin* aright and to continue the strife of demonstrating the great problem of being, is doing much.

4. SH 22:27

Whosoever believeth that wrath is righteous or that divinity is appeased by human suffering, does not understand God.

5. SH 587:5–6 (to 2nd); 7 Life (only, to 3rd ;)

God. The great I AM; the all-knowing, all-seeing, all-acting, all-wise, all-loving, and eternal; Principle; ... Life; Truth; Love; ...

6. SH 522:29–30, 32–1

Does Life, Truth, and Love produce death, error, and hatred? ... It cannot be so.

7. SH 243:25–27, 30–32; 244:7

Truth has no consciousness of error. Love has no sense of hatred. Life has no partnership with death. ...

Annihilation
of error

Sickness, sin, and death are not the fruits of Life. They are inharmonies which Truth destroys. Perfection does not animate imperfection. ...

If we were to derive all our conceptions of man from what is seen between the cradle and the grave, happiness and goodness would have no abiding-place in man, and the worms would rob him of the flesh; but Paul writes: “The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.”

8. SH 78:28

Spirit blesses man, but man cannot “tell whence it cometh.” By it the sick are healed, the sorrowing are comforted, and the sinning are reformed. These are the effects of one universal God, the invisible good dwelling in eternal Science.

9. SH 570:26–10

When God heals the sick or the sinning, they should know the great benefit which Mind has wrought. They should also know the great delusion of mortal mind, when it makes them sick or sinful. Many are willing to open the eyes of the people to the power of good resident in divine Mind, but they are not so willing to point out the evil in human thought, and expose evil's hidden

Hidden ways
of iniquity

mental ways of accomplishing iniquity.

Why this backwardness, since exposure is necessary to ensure the avoidance of the evil? Because people like you better when you tell them their virtues than when you tell them their vices. It requires the spirit of our blessed Master to tell a man his faults, and so risk human displeasure for the sake of doing right and benefiting our race.

Christly
warning

10. SH 404:3–9 (to 2nd .), 19–2; 405:5–9, 18

If a man is an inebriate, a slave to tobacco, or the special servant of any one of the myriad forms of sin, meet and destroy these errors with the truth of being, — by exhibiting to the wrong-doer the suffering which his submission to such habits brings, and by convincing him that there is no real pleasure in false appetites. A corrupt mind is manifested in a corrupt body. ...

Appetites to
be abandoned

... This conviction, that there is no real pleasure in sin, is one of the most important points in the theology of Christian Science. Arouse the sinner to this new and true view of sin, show him that sin confers no pleasure, and this knowledge strengthens his moral courage and increases his ability to master evil and to love good.

Temperance
reform

Healing the sick and reforming the sinner are one and the same thing in Christian Science. Both cures require the same method and are inseparable in Truth. Hatred, envy, dishonesty, fear, and so forth, make a man sick, and neither material medicine nor Mind can help him permanently, even in body, unless it makes him better mentally, and so delivers him from his destroyers. The basic error is mortal mind. Hatred inflames the brutal propensities. ...

Sin or fear
the root of
sickness

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. ... The good man finally can overcome his fear of sin. This is sin's necessity, — to destroy itself. Immortal man demonstrates the government of God, good, in which is no power to sin.

Mental
conspirators

11. SH 407:6–20

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

Let the slave of wrong desire learn the lessons of Christian Science, and he will get the better of that desire, and ascend a degree in the scale of health, happiness, and existence.

12. 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.

13. SH 266:18 Universal

Universal Love is the divine way in Christian Science.

14. SH 225:21

Love is the liberator.



Hymns

1. Hymn. 458:1-3

Christ comes, with succor speedy, / To those who suffer wrong; / To help the poor and needy, / And bid the weak be strong; / Christ comes to break oppression, / To set the captive free, / To take away transgression, / And rule in equity. /

God's blessings come as showers / Upon the thirsty earth; / And joy and hope, like flowers, / Spring in His path to birth. / Before Him on the mountains / Shall Peace, the herald, go; / From hill to vale the fountains / Of righteousness shall flow. /

To God shall prayer unceasing, / And daily vows, ascend; / Love's kingdom still increasing, / A kingdom without end. / The tide of time shall never / God's covenant remove; / Her name shall stand forever: / Her changeless name of Love.

2. Hymn. 457:1-3

REFRAIN / Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning; / Teach me to do Your will, O God. / Cause me to know the way where I should place my feet / To walk in the pathway of Your love. /

Verse 1 / Not in the storm, nor the earthquake, nor the wave; / You're not in the wind, nor the flame. / In the still of the evening, in the hush of the morning, / Call my name. / / REFRAIN / Verse 2 / Truth is my Rock; there is nothing I shall fear. / You still all my worry and woe. / And my heart's overflowing now; I rest where / Your quiet waters flow. // REFRAIN

3. Hymn. 133:1-3

I cannot always trace the way / Where Thou, Almighty One, dost move; / But I can always, always say / That God is Love, that God is Love. /

When mystery clouds my darkened path, / I conquer dread and doubts reprove; / In this my heart sweet comfort hath, / That God is Love, that God is Love. /

Yes, God is Love: a thought like this / Can every gloomy thought remove, / And turn
all tears, all woes, to bliss, / For God is Love, for God is Love.

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