

# 2019-11-27 Seek ye first the Kingdom of God



## First Hymn

### 1. Hymn. 572

Seek ye first the kingdom of God / And His righteousness, / And all these things shall be added unto you. / Allelu, alleluia! /

Ask and it shall be given unto you. / Seek and ye shall find, / Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. / Allelu, alleluia! /

We do not live by bread alone, / But by every word / That proceeds from the mouth of God. / Allelu, alleluia! /

DESCANT / Alleluia, Alleluia, / Alleluia, Alleluia!



The readings, 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. I Cor. 6:19 know, 20 therefore

... know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

... therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

### 2. Hag. 1:2, 4-6

Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, This people say, The time is not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built. ...

Is it time for you, O ye, to dwell in your ceiled houses, and this house lie waste? Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways. Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.

### 3. Ps. 127:1

Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

### 4. Hag. 1:7–10, 12–14

¶ Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Consider your ways. Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the Lord. Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the Lord of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house. Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit. ...

... ¶ Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the Lord their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the Lord their God had sent him, and the people did fear before the Lord. Then spake Haggai the Lord's messenger in the Lord's message unto the people, saying, I am with you, saith the Lord. And the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people; and they came and did work in the house of the Lord of hosts, their God,

### 5. Acts 17:24, 25

God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

### 6. Hag. 2:1, 3–9

In the seventh month, in the one and twentieth day of the month, came the word of the Lord by the prophet Haggai, saying, ...

Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? and how do ye see it now? is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing? Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the Lord; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josedech, the high priest; and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the Lord, and work: for I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts: According to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so my spirit remaineth among you: fear ye not. For thus saith the Lord of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts. The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts.

### 7. John 12:31, 32

Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

**8. Hag. 2:11–19**

Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Ask now the priests concerning the law, saying, If one bear holy flesh in the skirt of his garment, and with his skirt do touch bread, or pottage, or wine, or oil, or any meat, shall it be holy? And the priests answered and said, No. Then said Haggai, If one that is unclean by a dead body touch any of these, shall it be unclean? And the priests answered and said, It shall be unclean. Then answered Haggai, and said, So is this people, and so is this nation before me, saith the Lord; and so is every work of their hands; and that which they offer there is unclean. And now, I pray you, consider from this day and upward, from before a stone was laid upon a stone in the temple of the Lord: Since those days were, when one came to an heap of twenty measures, there were but ten: when one came to the pressfat for to draw out fifty vessels out of the press, there were but twenty. I smote you with blasting and with mildew and with hail in all the labours of your hands; yet ye turned not to me, saith the Lord. Consider now from this day and upward, from the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, even from the day that the foundation of the Lord's temple was laid, consider it. Is the seed yet in the barn? yea, as yet the vine, and the fig tree, and the pomegranate, and the olive tree, hath not brought forth: from this day will I bless you.

**9. Matt. 6:33 seek**

... seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.



**Science and Health**

**1. SH 16:26–3**

Our Father which art in heaven, Our Father-Mother God, all-harmonious,

Hallowed be Thy name. Adorable One.

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

Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Enable us to know, — as in heaven, so on earth, — God is omnipotent, supreme.

**2. SH 590:1**

**KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.** The reign of harmony in divine Science; the realm of unerring, eternal, and omnipotent Mind; the atmosphere of Spirit, where Soul is supreme.

**3. SH 560:10–15**

Heaven represents harmony, and divine Science interprets the Principle of heavenly harmony. The great miracle, to human sense, is divine Love, and the grand necessity of

existence is to gain the true idea of what constitutes the kingdom of heaven in man.

True estimate  
of God's  
messenger

#### 4. SH 6:3–16

Divine Love corrects and governs man. Men may pardon, but this divine Principle alone reforms the sinner. God is not separate from the wisdom He bestows. The talents He gives we must improve. Calling on Him to forgive our work badly done or left undone, implies the vain supposition that we have nothing to do but to ask pardon, and that afterwards we shall be free to repeat the offence.

Pardon and  
amendment

To cause suffering as the result of sin, is the means of destroying sin. Every supposed pleasure in sin will furnish more than its equivalent of pain, until belief in material life and sin is destroyed. To reach heaven, the harmony of being, we must understand the divine Principle of being.

#### 5. SH 275:10–23

To grasp the reality and order of being in its Science, you must begin by reckoning God as the divine Principle of all that really is. Spirit, Life, Truth, Love, combine as one, — and are the Scriptural names for God. All substance, intelligence, wisdom, being, immortality, cause, and effect belong to God. These are His attributes, the eternal manifestations of the infinite divine Principle, Love. No wisdom is wise but His wisdom; no truth is true, no love is lovely, no life is Life but the divine; no good is, but the good God bestows.

Divine  
synonyms

Divine metaphysics, as revealed to spiritual understanding, shows clearly that all is Mind, and that Mind is God, omnipotence, omnipresence, omniscience, — that is, all power, all presence, all Science.

The divine  
completeness

#### 6. SH 202:15

Outside of this Science all is mutable; but immortal man, in accord with the divine Principle of his being, God, neither sins, suffers, nor dies. The days of our pilgrimage will multiply instead of diminish, when God's kingdom comes on earth; for the true way leads to Life instead of to death, and earthly experience discloses the finity of error and the infinite capacities of Truth, in which God gives man dominion over all the earth.

Harmonious  
life-work

#### 7. SH 66:1–16

Thou art right, immortal Shakespeare, great poet of humanity: Sweet are the uses of adversity; Which, like the toad, ugly and venomous, Wears yet a precious jewel in his head.

Trials teach mortals not to lean on a material staff, — a broken reed, which pierces the heart. We do not half remember this in the sunshine of joy and prosperity. Sorrow is salutary. Through great tribulation we enter the kingdom. Trials are proofs of God's care. Spiritual development germinates not from seed

Salutary  
sorrow

sown in the soil of material hopes, but when these decay, Love propagates anew the higher joys of Spirit, which have no taint of earth. Each successive stage of experience unfolds new views of divine goodness and love.

**8. SH 239:16–27, 28**

To ascertain our progress, we must learn where our affections are placed and whom we acknowledge and obey as God. If divine Love is becoming nearer, dearer, and more real to us, matter is then submitting to Spirit. The objects we pursue and the spirit we manifest reveal our standpoint, and show what we are winning.

Standpoint  
revealed

Mortal mind is the acknowledged seat of human motives. It forms material concepts and produces every discordant action of the body. If action proceeds from the divine Mind, action is harmonious. ... Those two opposite sources never mingle in fount or stream. The perfect Mind sends forth perfection, for God is Mind. Imperfect mortal mind sends forth its own resemblances, of which the wise man said, “All is vanity.”

Antagonistic  
sources

**9. SH 263:32; 264:20–21, 24; 265:3–15**

The fading forms of matter, the mortal body and material earth, are the fleeting concepts of the human mind. They have their day before the permanent facts and their perfection in Spirit appear. The crude creations of mortal thought must finally give place to the glorious forms which we sometimes behold in the camera of divine Mind, when the mental picture is spiritual and eternal. Mortals must look beyond fading, finite forms, if they would gain the true sense of things. Where shall the gaze rest but in the unsearchable realm of Mind? We must look where we would walk, and we must act as possessing all power from Him in whom we have our being. ...

Mind's true  
camera

Spirit and its formations are the only realities of being. Matter disappears under the microscope of Spirit. ... Spiritual living and blessedness are the only evidences, by which we can recognize true existence and feel the unspeakable peace which comes from an all-absorbing spiritual love. ...

Spiritual  
proofs of  
existence

... Man understands spiritual existence in proportion as his treasures of Truth and Love are enlarged. Mortals must gravitate Godward, their affections and aims grow spiritual, — they must near the broader interpretations of being, and gain some proper sense of the infinite, — in order that sin and mortality may be put off.

Godward  
gravitation

This scientific sense of being, forsaking matter for Spirit, by no means suggests man's absorption into Deity and the loss of his identity, but confers upon man enlarged individuality, a wider sphere of thought and action, a more expansive love, a higher and more permanent peace.

**10. SH 323:6**

Through the wholesome chastisements of Love, we are helped onward in the march towards righteousness, peace, and purity, which are the landmarks of Science. Beholding the infinite tasks of truth, we pause, — wait on God. Then we push onward, until boundless thought walks enraptured, and conception unconfined is winged to reach the divine glory.

A bright  
outlook



## Second and Third Hymn

### 2. Hymn. 154

In Thee, O Spirit true and tender, / I find my life as God's own child; / Within Thy light of glorious splendor / I lose the earth-clouds drear and wild. /

Within Thy love is safe abiding / From every thought that giveth fear; / Within Thy truth a perfect chiding, / Should I forget that Thou art near. /

In Thee I have no pain or sorrow, / No anxious thought, no load of care. / Thou art the same today, tomorrow; / Thy love and truth are everywhere.

### 3. Hymn. 474

Father, we Your loving children / Lift our hearts in joy today, / Knowing well that You will keep us / Ever in Your blessed way. / You are Love and You are wisdom, / You are Life and You are All; / In Your Spirit living, moving, / We shall neither faint nor fall. /

Come we daily then, dear Father, / Open hearts and willing hands, / Eager ears, expectant, joyful, / Ready for Your right commands. / We would hear no other voices, / We would heed no other call; / You alone are good and gracious, / You our Mind and You our All. /

In Your house securely dwelling, / Where Your children live to bless, / Seeing only Your creation, / We can share Your happiness, / Share Your joy and spend it freely. / Loyal hearts can feel no fear; / We Your children know You, Father, / Love and Life forever near. /

Father, we Your loving children / Lift our hearts in joy today, / Knowing well that You will keep us / Ever in Your blessed way.