

2020-01-08 Perseverance



First Hymn

1. Hymn. 6

Abide not in the realm of dreams, / O man, however fair it seems; / But with clear eye
the present scan, / And hear the call of God and man. /

Think not in sleep to fold thy hands, / Forgetful of thy Lord's commands: / From duty's
claims no life is free, / Behold, today hath need of thee. /

The present hour allots thy task, / For present strength and patience ask; / And trust His
love whose sure supply / Meets all thy need abundantly.



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. Ps. 73:1-3, 17, 22-26

Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart. But as for me, my feet
were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped. For I was envious at the foolish,
when I saw the prosperity of the wicked. ...

Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end. ...

So foolish was I, and ignorant: I was as a beast before thee. Nevertheless I am
continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand. Thou shalt guide me with
thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory. Whom have I in heaven but thee? and
there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee. My flesh and my heart faileth: but
God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.

2. Ps. 70:4, 5

Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: and let such as love thy
salvation say continually, Let God be magnified. But I am poor and needy: make haste
unto me, O God: thou art my help and my deliverer; O Lord, make no tarrying.

3. Dan. 6:4 the (to 2nd);, 5–7, 9, 11, 12 (to);, 13 and, 16, 19–23

... the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; ...

Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God. Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever. All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions. ...

Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree. ...

Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree; ...

... and said before the king, That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day. ...

Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee. ...

Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions. And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions? Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever. My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt. Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.

4. Ps. 71:1–3

In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion. Deliver me in thy righteousness, and cause me to escape: incline thine ear unto me, and save me. Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou art my rock and my fortress.

5. II Tim. 3:14–17 continue

... continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is

in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

6. Eph. 6:10–20 my

... my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

7. I Tim. 4:16

Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

8. Heb. 12:1 let

... 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,



Science and Health

1. SH 20:27

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

2. SH 209:31–1; 210:5

Spiritual sense is a conscious, constant capacity to understand God. It shows the superiority of faith by works over faith in words. ...

The Principle and proof of Christianity are discerned by spiritual sense. They are set forth in Jesus' demonstrations, which show — by his healing the sick, casting out evils, and destroying death, “the last enemy that shall be destroyed,” — his disregard of matter and its so-called laws.

Jesus’
disregard
of matter

3. SH 450:19–18

The Christian Scientist has enlisted to lessen evil, disease, and death; and he will overcome them by understanding their nothingness and the allness of God, or good. Sickness to him is no less a temptation than is sin, and he heals them both by understanding God's power over them. The Christian Scientist knows that they are errors of belief, which Truth can and will destroy.

Who, that has felt the perilous beliefs in life, substance, and intelligence separated from God, can say that there is no error of belief? Knowing the claim of animal magnetism, that all evil combines in the belief of life, substance, and intelligence in matter, electricity, animal nature, and organic life, who will deny that these are the errors which Truth must and will annihilate? Christian Scientists must live under the constant pressure of the apostolic command to come out from the material world and be separate. They must renounce aggression, oppression and the pride of power. Christianity, with the crown of Love upon her brow, must be their queen of life.

False claims
annihilated

Students of Christian Science, who start with its letter and think to succeed without the spirit, will either make shipwreck of their faith or be turned sadly awry. They must not only seek, but strive, to enter the narrow path of Life, for “wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat.” Man walks in the direction towards which he looks, and where his treasure is, there will his heart be also. If our hopes and affections are spiritual, they come from above, not from beneath, and they bear as of old the fruits of the Spirit.

Treasure
in heaven

4. SH 29:1

Christians must take up arms against error at home and abroad. They must grapple with sin in themselves and in others, and continue this warfare until they have finished their course. If they keep the faith, they will have the crown of rejoicing.

Christian
warfare

5. SH 327:23–24

Moral courage is requisite to meet the wrong and to proclaim the right.

6. SH 514:10–19, 28

Moral courage is “the lion of the tribe of Juda,” the king of the mental realm. Free and fearless it roams in the forest. Undisturbed it lies in the open field, or rests in “green pastures, . . . beside the still waters.” In the figurative transmission from the divine thought to the human, diligence, promptness, and perseverance are likened to “the cattle upon a thousand hills.” They carry the baggage of stern resolve, and keep pace with highest purpose. Tenderness accompanies all the might imparted by Spirit. ...

Qualities
of thought

... All of God's creatures, moving in the harmony of Science, are harmless, useful, indestructible. A realization of this grand verity was a source of

Creatures of
God useful

strength to the ancient worthies. It supports Christian healing, and enables its possessor to emulate the example of Jesus. “And God saw that it was good.”

7. SH 253:32

The divine demand, “Be ye therefore perfect,” is scientific, and the human footsteps leading to perfection are indispensable. Individuals are consistent who, watching and praying, can “run, and not be weary; . . . walk, and not faint,” who gain good rapidly and hold their position, or attain slowly and yield not to discouragement. God requires perfection, but not until the battle between Spirit and flesh is fought and the victory won. To stop eating, drinking, or being clothed materially before the spiritual facts of existence are gained step by step, is not legitimate. 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.

Patience
and final
perfection

8. SH 21:9

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.

9. SH 262:17, 28 (only)

Job said: “I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth Thee.” Mortals will echo Job's thought, when the supposed pain and pleasure of matter cease to predominate. 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

... To begin rightly is to end rightly.

10. SH 495:14

When the illusion of sickness or sin tempts you, cling steadfastly to God and His idea. Allow nothing but His likeness to abide in your thought. Let neither fear nor doubt overshadow your clear sense and calm trust, that the recognition of life harmonious — as Life eternally is — can destroy any painful sense of, or belief in, that which Life is not. Let Christian Science, instead of corporeal sense, support your understanding of being, and this understanding will supplant error with Truth, replace mortality with immortality, and silence discord with harmony.

Steadfast and
calm trust



Second and Third Hymn

Abide with me; fast breaks the morning light; / Our daystar rises, banishing all night; /
Thou art our strength, O Truth that maketh free, / We would unfailingly abide in Thee.
/

I know no fear, with Thee at hand to bless, / Sin hath no power and life no
wretchedness; / Health, hope and love in all around I see / For those who trustingly
abide in Thee. /

I know Thy presence every passing hour, / I know Thy peace, for Thou alone art
power; / O Love divine, abiding constantly, / I need not plead, Thou dost abide with
me.

3. Hymn. 99

He that hath God his guardian made, / Shall underneath th' Almighty's shade / Fearless
and undisturbed abide; / Thus to myself of Him I'll say, / He is my fortress, shield and
stay, / My God; in Him I will confide. /

His tender love and watchful care / Shall free thee from the fowler's snare, / From
every harm and pestilence. / He over thee His wings shall spread / To cover thy
unguarded head. / His truth shall be thy strong defense. /

He gives His angels charge o'er thee, / No evil therefore shalt thou see; / Thy refuge
shall be God most high; / Dwelling within His secret place, / Thou shalt behold His
power and grace, / See His salvation ever nigh.