2020-04-22 God loves you!

Apr 23 2020



First Hymn

1. Hymn. 523

Like as a mother, God comforts all Her children; / Comfort is calm, that bids all tumult cease; / Comfort is hope and courage for endeavor, / Comfort is love, whose home abides in peace. /

Love is true solace in giving joy for sorrow, — / O, in that light, all earthly loss is gain; / Joy must endure, Love's giving is forever; / Life is of God, whose radiance cannot wane. /

O holy presence, that stills all our demanding, / O love of God, that needs but to be known! / Heaven is at hand, when Your pure touch persuades us, / Comfort of God, that seeks and finds Her own.

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:

Isa. 66:12 thus (to 1st ,), 13 (to ;)

... thus saith the Lord, ...

As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; ...

The Holy Bible

1. Isa. 49:13-17

¶ Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the Lord hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted. But Zion said, The Lord hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me. Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me. Thy children shall make haste; thy destroyers and they that made thee waste shall go forth of thee.

2. 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.

3. John 3:16, 17

¶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

4. Matt. 20:30, 32-34

¶ And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that Jesus passed by, cried out, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou son of David. ...

And Jesus stood still, and called them, and said, What will ye that I shall do unto you? They say unto

him, Lord, that our eyes may be opened. So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him.

5. Mark 1:40-42

And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean. And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed.

6. Ps. 103:1-4

Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

7. Luke 13:11–17

¶ And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day. The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day? And when he had said these things, all his adversaries were ashamed: and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him.

8. Ps. 145:8-14, 18

The Lord is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy. The Lord is good to all: and his tender mercies are over all his works. All thy works shall praise thee, O Lord; and thy saints shall bless thee. They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and talk of thy power; To make known to the sons of men his mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of his kingdom. Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and thy dominion endureth throughout all generations. The Lord upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down. ...

The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.

9. John 13:31 Jesus; 14:1, 13, 14, 18–23, 27

... Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him. ...

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. ...

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. ...

I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. ...

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

10. II Thess. 2:16, 17

Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work.

Science and Health

1. SH 494:10–11, 15–2

Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need. ...

The miracle of grace is no miracle to Love. Jesus demonstrated the inability of corporeality, as well as the infinite ability of Spirit, thus helping erring human sense to flee from its own convictions and seek safety in divine Science. Reason, rightly directed, serves to correct the errors of corporeal sense; but sin, sickness, and death will seem real (even as the experiences of the sleeping dream seem real) until the Science of man's eternal harmony breaks their illusion with the unbroken reality of scientific being.

Which of these two theories concerning man are you ready to accept? One is the mortal testimony, changing, dying, unreal. The other is the eternal and real evidence, bearing Truth's signet, its lap piled high with immortal fruits.

Our Master cast out devils (evils) and healed the sick. It should be said of his followers also, that they cast fear and all evil out of themselves and others and heal the sick. God will heal the sick through man, whenever man is governed by God.

2. SH 331:18 God, 26 Life; 332:4–5 Father-Mother, 9–15 Christ, 19 Jesus

... God is individual, incorporeal. He is divine Principle, Love, the universal cause, the only creator, and there is no other self-existence. He is all-inclusive, and is reflected by all that is real and eternal and by nothing else. He fills all space, and it is impossible to conceive of such omnipresence and individuality except as infinite Spirit or Mind. Hence all is Spirit and spiritual.

... Life, Truth, and Love constitute the triune Person called God, — that is, the triply divine Principle, Love. They represent a trinity in unity, three in one, — the same in essence, though multiform in office: God the Father-Mother; Christ the spiritual idea of sonship; divine Science or the Holy Comforter. These three express in divine Science the threefold, essential nature of the infinite. They also indicate the divine Principle of scientific being, the intelligent relation of God to man and the universe.

... Father-Mother is the name for Deity, which indicates His tender relationship to His spiritual creation. ...

... Christ is the true idea voicing good, the divine message from God to men speaking to the human consciousness. The Christ is incorporeal, spiritual, — yea, the divine image and likeness, dispelling the illusions of the senses; the Way, the Truth, and the Life, healing the sick and casting out evils, destroying sin, disease, and death. ...

... Jesus demonstrated Christ; he proved that Christ is the divine idea of God — the Holy Ghost, or Comforter, revealing the divine Principle, Love, and leading into all truth.

3. SH 13:25-29

Because of human ignorance of the divine Principle, Love, the Father of all is represented as a corporeal creator; hence men recognize themselves as merely physical, and are ignorant of man as God's image or reflection and of man's eternal incorporeal existence.

4. SH 475:11-14, 28 (only), 31-1 (to 1st .); 476:4, 9-11, 17-22

Man is spiritual and perfect; and because he is spiritual and perfect, he must be so understood in Christian Science. Man is idea, the image, of Love; he is not physique. ...

Man is incapable of sin, sickness, and death. ... A mortal sinner is not God's man. ... In divine Science, God and the real man are inseparable as divine Principle and idea.

... God is the Principle of man, and man is the idea of God. Hence man is not mortal nor material. ... Mortality is finally swallowed up in immortality. Sin, sickness, and death must disappear to give place to the facts which belong to immortal man.

Mortals are not immortals

or Comforter

Learn this, O mortal, and earnestly seek the spiritual status of man, which is outside of all material selfhood.

5. SH 372:8

The Science of being, in which all is divine Mind, or God and His idea, would be clearer in this age, but for the belief that matter is the medium of man, or that man can enter his own embodied thought, bind himself with his own beliefs, and then call his bonds material and name them divine law.

6. SH 229:15-16, 28-10

By universal consent, mortal belief has constituted itself a law to bind mortals to sickness, sin, and death. ...

... It is the transgression of a belief of mortal mind, not of a law of matter nor of divine Mind, which causes the belief of sickness. The remedy is Truth, not matter, — the truth that disease is *unreal*.

If sickness is real, it belongs to immortality; if true, it is a part of Truth. Would you attempt with drugs, or without, to destroy a quality or condition of Truth? But if sickness and sin are illusions, the awakening from this mortal dream, or illusion, will bring us into health, holiness, and immortality. This awakening is the forever coming of Christ, the advanced appearing of Truth, which casts out error and heals the sick. This is the salvation which comes through God, the divine Principle, Love, as demonstrated by Jesus.

7. SH 224:31 (only)

No power can withstand divine Love.

8. SH 239:18-20

If divine Love is becoming nearer, dearer, and more real to us, matter is then submitting to Spirit.

Standpoint revealed

9. SH 411:10

If Spirit or the power of divine Love bear witness to the truth, this is the ultimatum, the scientific way, and the healing is instantaneous.

10. SH 495:2-3, 6 (only, to If), 7-24

Truth casts out error now as surely as it did nineteen centuries ago. ...

If ... Then classify sickness and error as our Master did, when he spoke of the sick, "whom Followers of Jesus Satan hath bound," and find a sovereign antidote for error in the life-giving power of Truth acting on human belief, a power which opens the prison doors to such as are bound, and sets the captive free physically and morally.

Destruction of all evil

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 Steadfast and clear sense and calm trust, that the recognition of life harmonious — as Life eternally is calm trust — 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.

₽ Second and Third Hymn

2. Hymn. 459

Come, gracious Spirit, heavenly Love, / With light and comfort from above; / Be Truth our guardian, Love our guide, / O'er every thought and step preside, / Be God our guide. /

The light of Truth to us display, / That we may know and choose Your way; / Plant holy joy in every heart, / That we from You may ne'er depart, / Plant joy in every heart. /

Lead us, O Christ, the living Way, / Nor let us from your precepts stray; / Lead us to God, our heavenly rest, / That we may be forever blest, / Forever blest.

3. Hymn. 500

I awake each morn to a brand-new day, / Singing Hallelujah! as I go on my way, / For my heart is fixed on this one guarantee: / The Love that is All holds me tenderly. /

REFRAIN / Tender mercies, oh tender mercies, / Tender mercies are holding me. / Tender mercies, oh tender mercies, / Tender mercies are holding me. /

I can walk with Love through the valley of fear, / Singing Hallelujah! O, my Savior is here! / For my empty longing no hope can fulfill, / But Love meets all need and bids want be still. / / REFRAIN / So no matter the need and no matter the threat, / I'm secure in Your love, no fear, no regret. / Can there be a sweeter comfort, a grace more divine, / Than the thought that Your love is here and is mine? / / REFRAIN

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