

Wed Nearness of God 2021 02 03

The Nearness of God

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

The Bible

Opening verse:

"Move your heart closer and closer to God, and he will come even closer to you."

James 4:8 (to .), The Passion Translation

1. I Sam. 14:36 3rd Let

36 Let us draw near hither unto God.

2. Ps. 73:28 it (to :)

28 *it is* good for me to draw near to God:

3. Ps. 139:7-12, 14, 17, 18 (to :), 23, 24 (to 1st .)

7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou *art* there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou *art there*.

9 *If* I take the wings of the morning, *and* dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

10 Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

11 If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.

12 Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light *are* both alike *to thee*.

14 I will praise thee; for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made: marvellous *are* thy works; and *that* my soul knoweth right well.

17 How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!

18 *If* I should count them, they are more in number than the sand:

23 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:

24 And see *if there be any* wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

4. Ps. 145:18

18 The LORD *is* nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.

5. Ex. 3:1-6 Moses

1 Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, *even* to Horeb.

- And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush *was* not consumed.
- And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.
- And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here *am* I.
- And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest *is* holy ground.
- Moreover he said, I *am* the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.
6. Ex. 20:18 all (to :), 19 (to :), 20-22, 24
- 18 all the people saw the thunders, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking:
- 19 And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear:
- 20 And Moses said unto the people, Fear not: for God is come to prove you, and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not.
- 21 And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God *was*.
- 22 ¶ And the LORD said unto Moses, Thus thou shalt say unto the children of Israel, Ye have seen that I have talked with you from heaven.
- 24 ¶ An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen: in all places where I record my name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee.

7. Mark 12:26 have, 27 (to :)

- 26 have ye not read in the book of Moses, how in the bush God spake unto him, saying, I *am* the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?
- 27 He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living:

• **Psalms: A prayer of Moses the man of God**

8. Ps. 90:1, 2, 4, 14-17

- 1 LORD, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou *art* God.
- 4 For a thousand years in thy sight *are but* as yesterday when it is past, and *as* a watch in the night.
- 14 O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

- 15 Make us glad according to the days *wherein* thou hast afflicted us, *and* the years *wherein* we have seen evil.
- 16 Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children.
- 17 And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

9. Ezek. 34:30 know (to 1st ,)

- 30 know that I the LORD their God *am* with them,

10. Dan. 9:2-4 I, 20-23 (to :)

- 2 I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.
- 3 ¶ And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:
- 4 And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments;
- 20 ¶ And whiles I *was* speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God;
- 21 Yea, whiles I *was* speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation.
- 22 And he informed *me*, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding.
- 23 At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew *thee*; for thou *art* greatly beloved:

11. Dan. 10:10-12, 18, 19 (to 1st .)

- 10 ¶ And, behold, an hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and *upon* the palms of my hands.
- 11 And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling.
- 12 Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.
- 18 Then there came again and touched me *one* like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me,
- 19 And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace *be* unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong.

12. Isa. 48:12, 16 (to 1st ,)

¶ Harken unto me, O Jacob and Israel, my called; I *am* he; I *am* the first, I
12 also *am* the last.

¶ Come ye near unto me,

13. James 4:8 (to 1st .)

8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.

Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy

1. SH 209:13

The im-
manent sense of Mind-power enhances the glory of Mind.

15 Nearness, not distance, lends enchantment to this view.

2. SH 108:23-24 Life (to ;)

21 Life, Truth, and Love are all-powerful and ever-

24 present;

3. SH 57:24

The wintry
blasts of earth may uproot the flowers of affec-
tion, and scatter them to the winds; but this severance
27 of fleshly ties serves to unite thought more closely to
God, for Love supports the struggling heart until it ceases
to sigh over the world and begins to unfold its wings for

30 heaven.

4. SH 2:28-30

The unspoken desire
does bring us nearer the source of all existence and

30 blessedness.

5. SH 16:31 (only)

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

6. SH 297:20-24

Faith is higher and more spiritual than belief. It is
21 a chrysalis state of human thought, in which spiritual
evidence, contradicting the testimony of mate-
rial sense, begins to appear, and Truth, the

24 ever-present, is becoming understood.

Faith higher than
belief

7. SH 596:1-6

596:1 **UNKNOWN.** That which spiritual sense alone compre-
hends, and which is unknown to the material senses.

3 Paganism and agnosticism may define Deity as “the
great unknowable;” but Christian Science brings God
much nearer to man, and makes Him better known as

6 the All-in-all, forever near.

8. SH 218:19-23

If you do believe in God, why do you substitute drugs for the Almighty's power, and
 21 employ means which lead only into material ways of obtaining help, instead of turning in time of need to God, divine Love, who is an ever-present help?

9. SH 412:23

Mentally insist that harmony is the fact, and
 24 that sickness is a temporal dream. Realize the presence of health and the fact of harmonious being, until the body corresponds with the normal conditions of health
 27 and harmony.

10. SH 239:16

To ascertain our progress, we must learn where our affections are placed and whom we acknowledge and
 18 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
 21 the spirit we manifest reveal our standpoint, and show what we are winning.

Standpoint
revealed

11. SH 501:10-13

The incarnation of Truth, that amplification of wonder and glory which angels could only
 12 whisper and which God illustrated by light and harmony, is consonant with ever-present Love.

12. SH 559:23-31

When you
 24 approach nearer and nearer to this divine Principle, when you eat the divine body of this Principle, — thus partaking of the nature, or primal elements, of Truth and Love,
 27 — do not be surprised nor discontented because you must share the hemlock cup and eat the bitter herbs; for the Israelites of old at the Paschal meal thus prefigured this
 30 perilous passage out of bondage into the El Dorado of faith and hope.

13. SH 264:32

The universe of Spirit is peopled with spiritual beings,
 265:1 and its government is divine Science. Man is the offspring, not of the lowest, but of the highest qualities of
 3 Mind. Man understands spiritual existence in proportion as his treasures of Truth and

Godward
gravitation

Love are enlarged. Mortals must gravitate Godward,
 6 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
 9 may be put off.

14. SH 107:7-10

This apodictical Principle points to the revelation of
 Immanuel, “God with us,” — the sovereign ever-pres-
 9 ence, delivering the children of men from
 every ill “that flesh is heir to.”

Mission of
 Christian
 Science

15. SH 455:23

The All-wise does not bestow His highest
 24 trusts upon the unworthy. When He commissions a mes-
 senger, it is one who is spiritually near Himself. No per-
 son can misuse this mental power, if he is taught of God
 27 to discern it.

16. SH 333:23-26

Abraham, Jacob, Moses, and the prophets
 24 caught glorious glimpses of the Messiah, or Christ, which
 baptized these seers in the divine nature, the essence of
 Love.

17. SH 566:25-7

Revelation xii. 7, 8. And there was war in heaven:
 Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the
 27 dragon fought, and his angels, and prevailed not; neither
 was their place found any more in heaven.

The Old Testament assigns to the angels, God’s divine
 30 messages, different offices. Michael’s charac-
 teristic is spiritual strength. He leads the
 hosts of heaven against the power of sin, Satan, and
 567:1 fights the holy wars. Gabriel has the more quiet task
 of imparting a sense of the ever-presence of ministering
 3 Love. These angels deliver us from the depths. Truth
 and Love come nearer in the hour of woe, when strong
 faith or spiritual strength wrestles and prevails through
 6 the understanding of God. The Gabriel of His presence
 has no contests.

Angelic offices

18. SH 581:4

ANGELS. God’s thoughts passing to man; spiritual
 intuitions, pure and perfect; the inspiration of goodness,
 6 purity, and immortality, counteracting all evil, sensuality,
 and mortality.

19. SH 587:19-20

GOOD. God; Spirit; omnipotence; omniscience; omnipresence; omni-action.

20. SH 572:19-22

In Revelation xxi. 1 we read: —

21 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

21. SH 573:3-5, 13-2

3 The Revelator was on our plane of existence, while yet beholding what the eye cannot see, — that which is invisible to the uninspired thought.

Accompanying this scientific consciousness was another revelation, even the declaration from heaven, supreme harmony, that God, the divine Principle of harmony, is ever with men, and they are His people. Thus man was no longer regarded as a miserable sinner, but as the blessed child of God. Why? Because St. John's corporeal sense of the heavens and earth had vanished, and in place of this false sense was the spiritual sense, the subjective state by which he could see the new heaven and new earth, which involve the spiritual idea and consciousness of reality. This is Scriptural authority for concluding that such a recognition of being is, and has been, possible to men in this present state of existence, — that we can become conscious, here and now, of a cessation of death, sorrow, and pain. This is indeed a foretaste of absolute Christian Science. Take heart, dear sufferer, for this reality of being will surely appear sometime and in some way. There will be no more pain, and all tears will be wiped away. When you read this, remember Jesus' words, "The kingdom of God is within you." This spiritual consciousness is therefore a present possibility.

Nearness of
Deity

22. SH 361:4-5

Christ, as the true spiritual idea,
is the ideal of God now and forever, here and everywhere.

Hymns ~ 587, 599, 585**587**

There is a presence walks with us

On every pathless way,
A light outshining midday sun
However dark the day.

.
We reach our hand—and feel God near;
We cry—and She replies.
We open eyes that sense had dimmed;
We stretch our wings and rise

.
Above the mist, above the dark,
Above the threats of fear,
Upheld by Love that never fails
And is forever near.

.
We cannot stray beyond Love's care,
For Love does fill all space;
And where we go the path is marked
By angels of Love's grace.

599d

Whither shall I go from thy spirit?
Or whither shall I flee from Thy presence?
If I ascend up into heaven, Thou art there.
If I make my bed in hell, Thou art there.
If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
Even there shall Thy hand lead me and Thy right hand shall hold me.

.
Descant
Grace unto you and peace from above.
Peace from on high, from my Spirit.
Be still and know I am God.
Be still and know that I am God.
Peace has come, Let it stay.
Peace has come to all today.

585

This is the day the Lord has made;
Be glad, give thanks, rejoice;
Stand in God's presence, unafraid,
In praise lift up your voice.
All perfect gifts are from above,
And all our blessings show
The amplitude of God's dear love
Which every heart may know.

.
The Lord will hear before we call,
And every need supply;
Good things are freely given to all
Who on God's word rely.
We come today to bring Love praise
Not for such gifts alone,

But for the higher, deeper ways
In which God's love is shown.

.
For sin destroyed, for sorrow healed,
For health and peace restored;
For Life and Love by Truth revealed,
We thank and bless the Lord.
This is the day the Lord has made,
In praise lift up your voice.
In shining robes of joy arrayed,
Be glad, give thanks, rejoice.

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