

Wed 4/9/25 - The harmonizing exchange of forgiveness

April 09 2025

Hymn. 163:1–3

Jesus, what precept is like thine: Forgive, as ye would be forgiven; If heeded, O what power divine Would then transform our earth to heaven.

So from our hearts must ever flow A love that will all wrong outweigh; Our lips must only blessings know, And wrath and sin shall die away.

For it is Mind's most holy plan To bring the wanderer back by love; Then let us win our brother man, And glorify our God above.

Words: MARY A. LIVERMORE, ADAPTED Music: Ralph Harrison

Hymn. 340:1–3

There's a wideness in God's mercy, Like the wideness of the sea; There's a kindness in His justice, Which is more than liberty.

For the love of God is broader Than is seen by human mind, And the heart of the Eternal Is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more simple, We should take Him at His word; And our lives would be all sunshine In the sweetness of our Lord.

Words: Frederick W. Faber* Music: Edmund S. Carter

Hymn. 519:1–4

Lean on the sustaining infinite And blessings will be yours. Lean not on person, place, or thing, Or economic laws; But lean upon all-blessing God Who will all needs supply And give to all abundant good That money cannot buy.

Let the healing reign of Truth and Life, The reign of Love divine, Be now established within me To show Soul's clear design Of Oneness, indivisible— Of God and me as one— As water is to ocean wave, As sunbeam is to sun.

Love with a heart of tenderness Your enemies and friends; However hard this may appear, This quality just mends. For Love is God in action true, A presence that is felt; A healing and a saving power That will all discord melt.

So lean, and let, and love; This is the balanced Way. It's free from self-will, pressure, stress; It welcomes in God's day. The leaning is so gentle; The letting is so free. And loving is the only way To think, and speak, and be.

Words: Jill Gooding, Alt. Music: Andrew D. Brewis

Ps. 85:10

¹⁰ Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed *each other*.

Ps. 89:1, 14

- 1 I will sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations.
- ¹⁴ Justice and judgment *are* the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face.

Ps. 86:5 thou

5 ... thou, Lord, *art* good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

Ps. 25:6, 7

- 6 Remember, O LORD, thy tender mercies and thy loving kindnesses; for they *have been* ever of old.
- 7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O LORD.

Isa. 55:7

7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

SH 465:14

The attributes of God are justice,

¹⁵ mercy, wisdom, goodness, and so on.

SH 391:17 (only)

Justice is the moral signification of law.

SH 22:30-31 Mercy

30

Mercv

cancels the debt only when justice approves.

SH 329:26 (only)

The pardon of divine mercy is the destruction of error.

SH 542:19-21

Let Truth uncover and destroy error in God's own way, and let human justice pattern the

Retribution and remorse

21 divine.

Matt. 5:7

7 Blessed *are* the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Luke 6:30-35 (to :), 36-38

- ³⁰ Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask *them* not again.
- And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.
- ³² For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them.
- 33 And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same.
- 34 And if ye lend *to them* of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for

sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again.

- ³⁵ But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: ...
- ³⁶ Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.
- ³⁷ Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven:
- ³⁸ Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Matt. 5:38–44

- ³⁸ ¶ Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:
- ³⁹ But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.
- 40 And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have *thy* cloak also.
- 41 And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.
- 42 Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away.
- ⁴³ ¶ Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.
- ⁴⁴ But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

SH 30:14

Rabbi and priest taught the Mosaic law, which said:

- ¹⁵ "An eye for an eye," and "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed." Not so did Jesus, the new executor for God, present the divine law of Love,
- 18 which blesses even those that curse it.

SH 9:11

If selfishness has given place to kindness,

- 12 we shall regard our neighbor unselfishly, and bless them that curse us; but we shall never meet this great duty simply by asking that it may be done. There is
- a cross to be taken up before we can enjoy the fruition of our hope and faith.

SH 340:23

One infinite God, good, unifies men and nations; con-

- stitutes the brotherhood of man; ends wars; fulfils the Scripture, "Love thy neighbor as thyself;" annihilates pagan and Christian idolatry, — whatever is wrong in
- social, civil, criminal, political, and religious codes; equalizes the sexes; annuls the curse on man, and leaves nothing that can sin, suffer, be punished or destroyed.

Matt. 18:21–35

- ²¹ ¶ Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times?
- ²² Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.
- ²³ ¶ Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.
- 24 And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.
- ²⁵ But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.
- ²⁶ The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.
- ²⁷ Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.
- ²⁸ But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellow-servants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took *him* by the

throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.

- ²⁹ And his fellow-servant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.
- 30 And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.
- ³¹ So when his fellow-servants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.
- ³² Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me:
- ³³ Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow-servant, even as I had pity on thee?
- ³⁴ And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.
- ³⁵ So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

SH 36:19–21, 24

A selfish and limited mind may be unjust, but the unlimited and divine Mind is the immortal law of justice as

21 well as of mercy.

It is useless to suppose that the wicked can gloat over their offences to the last moment and then be suddenly pardoned and pushed into heaven,

or that the hand of Love is satisfied with giving us only toil, sacrifice, cross-bearing, multiplied trials, and mockery of our motives in return for our efforts at well doing.

SH 385:11

Let us remember that the eternal law of right,

though it can never annul the law which makes sin its own executioner, exempts man from all penalties but those due for wrong-doing.

SH 289:9–11

To suppose that sin,Wickednesslust, hatred, envy, hypocrisy, revenge, have lifeWickednessabiding in them, is a terrible mistake.is not man

SH 407:6–9, 11

Man's enslavement to the most relentless masters —
 passion, selfishness, envy, hatred, and revenge — is con quered only by a mighty struggle. Every

Universal panacea

⁹ hour of delay makes the struggle more severe.

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.

Deut. 15:1, 2, 9 (to 2nd ;), 10, 11

- 1 At the end of *every* seven years thou shalt make a release.
- ² And this *is* the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth *aught* unto his neighbour shall release *it*; he shall not exact *it* of his neighbour, or of his brother; because it is called the LORD's release.
- ⁹ Beware that there be not a thought in thy wicked heart, saying, The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand; and thine eye be evil against thy poor brother, and thou givest him nought; ...
- ¹⁰ Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him: because that for this thing the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou puttest thine hand unto.
- ¹¹ For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land.

9

Luke 19:1–10

- 1 And *Jesus* entered and passed through Jericho.
- ² And, behold, *there was* a man named Zacchæus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich.
- ³ And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.
- 4 And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycomore tree to see him: for he was to pass that *way*.
- ⁵ And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchæus, make haste, and come down; for to-day I must abide at thy house.
- ⁶ And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.
- 7 And when they saw *it*, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner.
- 8 And Zacchæus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore *him* fourfold.
- 9 And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.
- ¹⁰ For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Acts 20:35

³⁵ I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Rom. 13:8, 10

- ⁸ Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law.
- 10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love *is* the fulfilling of the law.

SH 17:6

6 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.*And Love is reflected in love;*

SH 40:8–12

Divine Science adjusts the balance as Jesus adjusted

- 9 it. Science removes the penalty only by first removing the sin which incurs the penalty. This is my sense of divine pardon, which I understand to mean God's method
- 12 of destroying sin.

SH 518:15-19

- The rich in spirit help the poor in
 one grand brotherhood, all having the same
 Principle, or Father; and blessed is that man who seeth
- his brother's need and supplieth it, seeking his own in another's good.

SH 55:16-21

My

weary hope tries to realize that happy day, when man shall

- recognize the Science of Christ and love his neighbor as himself, — when he shall realize God's omnipotence and the healing power of the divine Love in what it has done
- $_{\rm 21}~$ and is doing for mankind.

SH 225:14

The history of our country, like all history, illustrates

- the might of Mind, and shows human power to be proportionate to its embodiment of right thinking. A few immortal sentences, breathing the omnipo-
- tence of divine justice, have been potent to break despotic fetters and abolish the whipping-post and slave market; but oppression neither went down in blood, nor did the
- 21 breath of freedom come from the cannon's mouth. Love is the liberator.

Immortal sentences

Assistance in brotherhood

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