

20200923 Categories of Christian Science

Sep 22 2020

📄 Thank you for previewing the Wednesday night readings for our service. The Bible and our textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, are our pastor and the following citations from each form the readings. The KJV (King James Version) are presented below because the KJV is the standard used in our church and presented through Concord, a research and study tool developed by the Mother Church for our movement. The First Reader has elected to read the same verses from the NLT (New Living Translation).

The Subject is "The Categories of Christian Science".

1. Hymn. 543:3

O Science, God-sent message
To tired humanity,
You are Love's revelation
Of Truth that makes us free.
Your kingdom, God, within us
Shows forth Love's sweet control.
God's idea, man, rejoices;
We know the reign of Soul.

2. Hymn. 497:2

Our Father's house has many rooms,
And each with peace and love imbued;
No child can ever stray beyond
The compass of infinitude.

3. Hymn. 485:2

You are my wisdom, and You are my wealth,
You are my substance, my joy, and my health,
My Father and Mother, my haven of peace,
My comfort, my healer, my place of release.

1. Prov. 8:1, 4–17, 22, 30–36

- 1 Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice?
- 4 Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice *is* to the sons of man.
- 5 O ye simple, understand wisdom: and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart.
- 6 Hear; for I will speak of excellent things; and the opening of my lips *shall be* right things.
- 7 For my mouth shall speak truth; and wickedness *is* an abomination to my lips.
- 8 All the words of my mouth *are* in righteousness; *there is* nothing froward or perverse in them.
- 9 They *are* all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge.
- 10 Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold.
- 11 For wisdom *is* better than rubies; and all the things that may be desired are not to be compared to it.
- 12 I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions.
- 13 The fear of the Lord *is* to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.
- 14 Counsel *is* mine, and sound wisdom: I *am* understanding; I have strength.
- 15 By me kings reign, and princes decree justice.
- 16 By me princes rule, and nobles, *even* all the judges of the earth.
- 17 I love them that love me; and those that seek me early shall find me.
- 22 The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old.
- 30 Then I was by him, *as* one brought up *with him*: and I was daily *his* delight, rejoicing always before him;
- 31 Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights *were* with the sons of men.
- 32 Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed *are they that* keep my ways.

- 33 Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not.
- 34 Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.
- 35 For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the Lord.
- 36 But he that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate me love death.

2. I Pet. 1:1 (to 2nd), 13–16, 18–25; 2:1–10

- 1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, ...
- 13 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;
- 14 As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:
- 15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;
- 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.
- 18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, *as* silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers;
- 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:
- 20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,
- 21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.
- 22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, *see that ye* love one another with a pure heart fervently:
- 23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.
- 24 For all flesh *is* as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:
- 25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

- 1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,
- 2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:
- 3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.
- 4 To whom coming, *as unto* a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, *and* precious,
- 5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.
- 6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.
- 7 Unto you therefore which believe *he is* precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,
- 8 And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, *even to them* which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.
- 9 But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:
- 10 Which in time past *were* not a people, but *are* now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

3. I Pet. 3:8–12 (to :)

- 8 Finally, *be ye* all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, *be* pitiful, *be* courteous:
- 9 Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.
- 10 For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:
- 11 Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.
- 12 For the eyes of the Lord *are* over the righteous, and his ears *are open* unto their prayers: ...

1. SH 269:9–20, 22–25 (to 2nd .), 29–31

9 Human philosophy has made God manlike. Christian
Science makes man Godlike. The first is error; the latter
is truth. Metaphysics is above physics, and
12 matter does not enter into metaphysical prem-
ises or conclusions. The categories of metaphysics rest
on one basis, the divine Mind. Metaphysics resolves
15 things into thoughts, and exchanges the objects of sense
for the ideas of Soul.

Divine
metaphysics

These ideas are perfectly real and tangible to spiritual
18 consciousness, and they have this advantage over the ob-
jects and thoughts of material sense, — they are good and
eternal.

I therefore plant myself unreservedly
on the teachings of Jesus, of his apostles, of
24 the prophets, and on the testimony of the
Science of Mind. Other foundations there are none.

Biblical
foundations

The theories I combat are these: (1) that all is matter;
30 (2) that matter originates in Mind, and is as
real as Mind, possessing intelligence and life.

Rejected
theories

2. SH 115:12–18

12 SCIENTIFIC TRANSLATION OF IMMORTAL MIND

God: Divine Principle, Life, Truth, Love,
Soul, Spirit, Mind.

15 Man: God's spiritual idea, individual, per-
fect, eternal.

Idea: An image in Mind; the immediate
18 object of understanding. — *Webster*.

Divine
synonyms
Divine
image

Divine
reflection

3. SH 203:32–1; 204:3; 205:12–13

God is at
1 once the centre and circumference of being.

3 All forms of error support the false conclusions that
there is more than one Life; that material history is as
real and living as spiritual history; that mortal
6 error is as conclusively mental as immortal
Truth; and that there are two separate, an-
tagonistic entities and beings, two powers, — namely,
9 Spirit and matter, — resulting in a third person (mortal
man) who carries out the delusions of sin, sickness, and
death.

Spirit the only
intelligence
and substance

12 God created all through Mind,
and made all perfect and eternal.

4. SH 205:12–13

12 God created all through Mind,
and made all perfect and eternal.

5. SH 206:4–14

The power of the human will should be exercised only
in subordination to Truth; else it will misguide the judg-
6 ment and free the lower propensities. It is the
province of spiritual sense to govern man.

Will-power
unrighteous

9 Material, erring, human thought acts injuriously both
upon the body and through it.

Will-power is capable of all evil. It can never heal
the sick, for it is the prayer of the unrighteous; while
12 the exercise of the sentiments — hope, faith, love — is the
prayer of the righteous. This prayer, governed by Science
instead of the senses, heals the sick.

6. SH 256:1

1 Progress takes off human shackles. The finite must
yield to the infinite. Advancing to a higher plane of ac-
3 tion, thought rises from the material sense to
the spiritual, from the scholastic to the in-

No material
creation

spirational, and from the mortal to the immortal. All
6 things are created spiritually. Mind, not matter, is the
creator. Love, the divine Principle, is the Father and
Mother of the universe, including man.

7. SH 330:8–12, 19

When the following platform is understood and the
9 letter and the spirit bear witness, the infallibility of divine
metaphysics will be demonstrated.

I. God is infinite, the only Life, substance, Spirit, or
12 Soul, the only intelligence of the universe, including man.

II. God is what the Scriptures declare Him to be, —
Life, Truth, Love. Spirit is divine Principle, and divine
21 Principle is Love, and Love is Mind, and
Mind is not both good and bad, for God is
Mind; therefore there is in reality one Mind only, be-
24 cause there is one God.

The deific
definitions

8. SH 331:5–6, 11–3

Life is Mind, the creator
6 reflected in His creations.

V. The Scriptures imply that God is All-in-all. From
12 this it follows that nothing possesses reality nor existence
except the divine Mind and His ideas. The
Scriptures also declare that God is Spirit.
15 Therefore in Spirit all is harmony, and there can be no
discord; all is Life, and there is no death. Everything
in God's universe expresses Him.

Allness of
Spirit

18 VI. God is individual, incorporeal. He is divine Prin-
ciple, Love, the universal cause, the only creator, and
there is no other self-existence. He is all-
21 inclusive, and is reflected by all that is real
and eternal and by nothing else. He fills all space, and

The universal
cause

it is impossible to conceive of such omnipresence and in-
24 dividuality except as infinite Spirit or Mind. Hence all
is Spirit and spiritual.

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

Divine
trinity

9. SH 502:27

27 The creative Principle — Life,
Truth, and Love — is God. The universe reflects God.
There is but one creator and one creation. This crea-
1 tion consists of the unfolding of spiritual ideas and their
identities, which are embraced in the infinite Mind and
3 forever reflected. These ideas range from the infini-
tesimal to infinity, and the highest ideas are the sons
and daughters of God.

Ideas and
identities

10. SH 503:20–22

Immortal and divine Mind presents the idea of God:
21 *first*, in light; *second*, in reflection; *third*, in spiritual and
immortal forms of beauty and goodness.

11. SH 475:7–9, 10–19 (to ;)

The
Scriptures inform us that man is made in
9 the image and likeness of God.

Fleshly
factors unreal

The likeness of Spirit cannot be so

unlike Spirit. Man is spiritual and perfect; and be-
12 cause he is spiritual and perfect, he must be so under-
stood in Christian Science. Man is idea, the image, of
Love; he is not physique. He is the compound idea of
15 God, including all right ideas; the generic term for
all that reflects God's image and likeness; the conscious
identity of being as found in Science, in which man is
18 the reflection of God, or Mind, and therefore is eternal;
that which has no separate mind from God; ...

12. SH 205:32

When we fully understand our relation to the Divine,
1 we can have no other Mind but His, — no other Love,
wisdom, or Truth, no other sense of Life, and no con-
3 sciousness of the existence of matter or error.