

20201014 Gideon as defined by CS



Oct 13 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 citations from 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 theme is Gideon as defined by Christian Science.

1. Hymn. 515:1–5

It matters not what be thy lot,
So Love doth guide;
For storm or shine, pure peace is thine,
Whate'er betide.

And of these stones, or tyrants' thrones,
God able is
To raise up seed—in thought and deed—
To faithful His.

Aye, darkling sense, arise, go hence!
Our God is good.
False fears are foes—truth tatters those,
When understood.

Love looseth thee, and lifteth me,

Ayont hate's thrall:
There Life is light, and wisdom might,
And God is All.

The centuries break, the earth-bound wake,
God's glorified!
Who doth His will—His likeness still—
Is satisfied.

2. Hymn. 553:4

Far beyond the bounds of matter,
Unrestrained by fear or time,
All our plans unfold together
In Soul's harmony and rhyme.

3. Hymn. 457:1

REFRAIN

Cause me to hear Your lovingkindness in the morning;
Teach me to do Your will, O God.
Cause me to know the way where I should place my feet
To walk in the pathway of Your love.

1. Judg. 6:1, 6–10, 11 Gideon, 12, 14–16, 33, 34 (to ,)

- 1 And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord: and the Lord delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years.
- 6 And Israel was greatly impoverished because of the Midianites; and the children of Israel cried unto the Lord.
- 7 ¶ And it came to pass, when the children of Israel cried unto the Lord because of the Midianites,
- 8 That the Lord sent a prophet unto the children of Israel, which said unto them, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, I brought you up from Egypt, and brought you forth out of the house of bondage;
- 9 And I delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all that oppressed you, and drave them out from before you, and gave you their land;

- 10 And I said unto you, I *am* the Lord your God; fear not the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but ye have not obeyed my voice.
- 11 ... Gideon threshed wheat by the winepress, to hide *it* from the Midianites.
- 12 And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him, and said unto him, The Lord *is* with thee, thou mighty man of valour.
- 14 And the Lord looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?
- 15 And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family *is* poor in Manasseh, and I *am* the least in my father's house.
- 16 And the Lord said unto him, Surely I will be with thee, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man.
- 33 ¶ Then all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the children of the east were gathered together, and went over, and pitched in the valley of Jezreel.
- 34 But the spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon, ...

2. Judg. 7:1 (to :), 2–9, 15 (to Gideon), 15–22 returned (to :)

- 1 Then Jerubbaal, who *is* Gideon, and all the people that *were* with him, rose up early, and pitched beside the well of Harod: ...
- 2 And the Lord said unto Gideon, The people that *are* with thee *are* too many for me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel vaunt themselves against me, saying, Mine own hand hath saved me.
- 3 Now therefore go to, proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, Whosoever *is* fearful and afraid, let him return and depart early from mount Gilead. And there returned of the people twenty and two thousand; and there remained ten thousand.
- 4 And the Lord said unto Gideon, The people *are* yet *too* many; bring them down unto the water, and I will try them for thee there: and it shall be, *that* of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go.
- 5 So he brought down the people unto the water: and the Lord said unto Gideon, Every one that lappeth of the water with his tongue, as a dog lappeth, him shalt thou set by himself; likewise every one that boweth down upon his knees to drink.

- 6 And the number of them that lapped, *putting* their hand to their mouth, were three hundred men: but all the rest of the people bowed down upon their knees to drink water.
- 7 And the Lord said unto Gideon, By the three hundred men that lapped will I save you, and deliver the Midianites into thine hand: and let all the *other* people go every man unto his place.
- 8 So the people took victuals in their hand, and their trumpets: and he sent all *the rest of* Israel every man unto his tent, and retained those three hundred men: and the host of Midian was beneath him in the valley.
- 9 ¶ And it came to pass the same night, that the Lord said unto him, Arise, get thee down unto the host; for I have delivered it into thine hand.
- 15 ¶ And it was so, when Gideon ...
- 15 ... returned into the host of Israel, and said, Arise; for the Lord hath delivered into your hand the host of Midian.
- 16 And he divided the three hundred men *into* three companies, and he put a trumpet in every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and lamps within the pitchers.
- 17 And he said unto them, Look on me, and do likewise: and, behold, when I come to the outside of the camp, it shall be *that*, as I do, so shall ye do.
- 18 When I blow with a trumpet, I and all that *are* with me, then blow ye the trumpets also on every side of all the camp, and say, *The sword of the Lord*, and of Gideon.
- 19 ¶ So Gideon, and the hundred men that *were* with him, came unto the outside of the camp in the beginning of the middle watch; and they had but newly set the watch: and they blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers that *were* in their hands.
- 20 And the three companies blew the trumpets, and brake the pitchers, and held the lamps in their left hands, and the trumpets in their right hands to blow *withal*: and they cried, *The sword of the Lord*, and of Gideon.
- 21 And they stood every man in his place round about the camp: and all the host ran, and cried, and fled.
- 22 And the three hundred blew the trumpets, and the Lord set every man's sword against his fellow, even throughout all the host: ...

3. Judg. 8:28

28 ¶ Thus was Midian subdued before the children of Israel, so that they lifted up their heads no more. And the country was in quietness forty years in the days of Gideon.

4. John 14:23; 15:1–5 (to 1st :)

23 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.

1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.

2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

5 I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: ...

1. SH 358:9–23

9 Christian Science, understood, coincides with the Scriptures, and sustains logically and demonstratively every point it presents. Otherwise it would
12 not be Science, and could not present its proofs. Christian Science is neither made up of contradictory aphorisms nor of the inventions of those who scoff
15 at God. It presents the calm and clear verdict of Truth against error, uttered and illustrated by the prophets, by Jesus, by his apostles, as is recorded throughout the
18 Scriptures.

Why are the words of Jesus more frequently cited for our instruction than are his remarkable works? Is
21 it not because there are few who have gained a true knowledge of the great import to Christianity of those works?

Scientific and
Biblical facts

2. SH 497:3–8

3 1. As adherents of Truth, we take the inspired Word
of the Bible as our sufficient guide to eternal Life.

2. We acknowledge and adore one supreme and in-
6 finite God. We acknowledge His Son, one Christ; the
Holy Ghost or divine Comforter; and man in God's
image and likeness.

3. SH 298:8–24 (np)

What is termed material sense can report only a mor-
9 tal temporary sense of things, whereas spiritual sense can
bear witness only to Truth. To material sense,
the unreal is the real until this sense is corrected
12 by Christian Science.

Spiritual sense, contradicting the material senses, in-
volves intuition, hope, faith, understanding, fruition, real-
15 ity. Material sense expresses the belief that mind is in
matter. This human belief, alternating between a sense
of pleasure and pain, hope and fear, life and death, never
18 reaches beyond the boundary of the mortal or the unreal.
When the real is attained, which is announced by Science,
joy is no longer a trembler, nor is hope a cheat. Spirit-
21 ual ideas, like numbers and notes, start from Principle,
and admit no materialistic beliefs. Spiritual ideas lead
up to their divine origin, God, and to the spiritual sense
24 of being.

Angels are not etherealized human beings, evolving
animal qualities in their wings; but they are celestial
27 visitants, flying on spiritual, not material,
pinions. Angels are pure thoughts from God,
winged with Truth and Love, no matter what their indi-
30 vidualism may be. Human conjecture confers upon angels
its own forms of thought, marked with superstitious out-
lines, making them human creatures with suggestive
1 feathers; but this is only fancy. It has behind it no more

Truth's
witness

Thought-
angels

reality than has the sculptor's thought when he carves
3 his "Statue of Liberty," which embodies his concep-
tion of an unseen quality or condition, but which has
no physical antecedent reality save in the artist's own ob-
6 servation and "chambers of imagery."

My angels are exalted thoughts, appearing at the door
of some sepulchre, in which human belief has buried
9 its fondest earthly hopes. With white fin-
gers they point upward to a new and glo-
rified trust, to higher ideals of life and its joys. Angels
12 are God's representatives. These upward-soaring beings
never lead towards self, sin, or materiality, but guide to
the divine Principle of all good, whither every real indi-
15 viduality, image, or likeness of God, gathers. By giving
earnest heed to these spiritual guides they tarry with us,
and we entertain "angels unawares."

18 Knowledge gained from material sense is figuratively
represented in Scripture as a tree, bearing the fruits of
sin, sickness, and death. Ought we not then
21 to judge the knowledge thus obtained to be
untrue and dangerous, since "the tree is known by his
fruit"?

24 Truth never destroys God's idea.

4. SH 565:13

The impersonation of the
spiritual idea had a brief history in the earthly life of our
15 Master; but "of his kingdom there shall be no end,"
for Christ, God's idea, will eventually rule all nations
and peoples — imperatively, absolutely, finally — with di-
18 vine Science. This immaculate idea, represented first
by man and, according to the Revelator, last by woman,
will baptize with fire; and the fiery baptism will burn up
21 the chaff of error with the fervent heat of Truth and Love,

Our angelic
messengers

Knowledge
and Truth

melting and purifying even the gold of human character. After the stars sang together and all was primeval harmony, the material lie made war upon the spiritual idea; but this only impelled the idea to rise to the zenith of demonstration, destroying sin, sickness, and death, and to be caught up unto God, — to be found in its divine Principle.

5. SH 566:1

1 As the children of Israel were guided triumphantly through the Red Sea, the dark ebbing and flowing tides of human fear, — as they were led through the wilderness, walking wearily through the great desert of human hopes, and anticipating the promised joy, — so shall the spiritual idea guide all right desires in their passage from sense to Soul, from a material sense of existence to the spiritual, up to the glory prepared for them who love God. Stately Science pauses not, but moves before them, a pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night, leading to divine heights.

Spiritual
guidance

6. SH 495:27–31 Study

27 ... Study thoroughly the letter and imbibe the spirit. Adhere to the divine Principle of Christian Science and follow the behests of God, abiding steadfastly in wisdom, Truth, and Love.

Rudiments
and growth

7. SH 227:21–6

21 Christian Science raises the standard of liberty and cries: “Follow me! Escape from the bondage of sickness, sin, and death!” Jesus marked out the way. Citizens of the world, accept the “glorious liberty of the children of God,” and be free! This is your divine right. The illusion of material sense, not

Standard
of liberty

27 divine law, has bound you, entangled your free limbs,
crippled your capacities, enfeebled your body, and de-
faced the tablet of your being.

30 If God had instituted material laws to govern man,
disobedience to which would have made man ill, Jesus
would not have disregarded those laws by healing in
1 direct opposition to them and in defiance of all material
conditions.

3 The transmission of disease or of certain idiosyncra-
sies of mortal mind would be impossible if this great fact
of being were learned, — namely, that nothing
6 inharmonious can enter being, for *Life is God*.

No fleshly
heredity