

20210120 Spiritual Union, Support

Jan 20 2021



📄 Thank you for previewing the Wednesday night readings for our service. The Bible and our textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy, are our pastor and the following citations from each comprise our 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 of our readings is "Spiritual Union, Atonement"

1. Hymn. 263:3

So we find the true atonement,
Know in God the perfect Friend;
For in Love is our at-one-ment,
Where all hearts in Him may blend.
Here from prisoning pain and sorrow
Have we all a sure release,
Only God can bring us gladness,
Only God can give us peace.

2. Hymn. 403:3

Let love, in one delightful stream,
Through every bosom flow;
And union sweet, and dear esteem
In every action glow.

3. Hymn. 236:4

Our God is one Mind, the Mind we adore;
Ineffable joy His love doth outpour;
Let nations be one in a union of love,
God's bountiful peace, all earth's treasures above.

1. Ps. 72:1–4

- 1 Give the king thy judgments, O God, and thy righteousness unto the king's son.
- 2 He shall judge thy people with righteousness, and thy poor with judgment.
- 3 The mountains shall bring peace to the people, and the little hills, by righteousness.
- 4 He shall judge the poor of the people, he shall save the children of the needy, and shall break in pieces the oppressor.

2. Acts 9:10–22

- 10 ¶ And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I *am here*, Lord.
- 11 And the Lord *said* unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for *one* called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth,
- 12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting *his* hand on him, that he might receive his sight.
- 13 Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:
- 14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.
- 15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:
- 16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.
- 17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, *even Jesus*, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.
- 18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received

sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

19 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.

20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

21 But all that heard *him* were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

3. Ps. 72:6–11

6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown grass: as showers *that* water the earth.

7 In his days shall the righteous flourish; and abundance of peace so long as the moon endureth.

8 He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth.

9 They that dwell in the wilderness shall bow before him; and his enemies shall lick the dust.

10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.

11 Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.

4. I Cor. 13:4–13

4 Charity suffereth long, *and* is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;

6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

8 Charity never faileth: but whether *there be* prophecies, they shall fail; whether *there be* tongues, they shall cease; whether *there be* knowledge, it shall vanish away.

- 9 For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.
- 10 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.
- 11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.
- 12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.
- 13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these *is* charity.

5. I Pet. 1:1, 2–5 Grace

- 1 Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,
- 2 ... Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.
- 3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
- 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,
- 5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

6. I Pet. 2:1, 2, 13–17

- 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:
- 13 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme;
- 14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.
- 15 For so is the will of God, that with well-doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men:
- 16 As free, and not using *your* liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the

servants of God.

17 Honour all *men*. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king.

7. Ps. 72:17–19

17 His name shall endure for ever: his name shall be continued as long as the sun:
and *men* shall be blessed in him: all nations shall call him blessed.

18 Blessed *be* the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things.

19 And blessed *be* his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled
with his glory; Amen, and Amen.

1. SH 444:10–16, 25 Let

Step by

step will those who trust Him find that “God is our refuge

12 and strength, a very present help in trouble.”

Students are advised by the author to be charitable
and kind, not only towards differing forms of religion

15 and medicine, but to those who hold these dif-
fering opinions.

Refuge and
strength

Charity
to those
opposed

... “Let there be no strife, I

pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herd-

27 men and thy herdmen; for we be brethren.” Immortals,
or God's children in divine Science, are one harmonious
family; but mortals, or the “children of men” in material
30 sense, are discordant and oftentimes false brethren.

2. SH 445:19

Christian Science silences human will, quiets fear with
Truth and Love, and illustrates the unlabored motion

21 of the divine energy in healing the sick. Self-
seeking, envy, passion, pride, hatred, and

revenge are cast out by the divine Mind which heals

24 disease. The human will which maketh and worketh a lie,
hiding the divine Principle of harmony, is destructive to

Divine
energy

health, and is the cause of disease rather than its cure.

3. SH 20:24–5; 21:9

24 Material belief is slow to acknowledge what the
spiritual fact implies. The truth is the centre of all
religion. It commands sure entrance into
27 the realm of Love. St. Paul wrote, “Let us
lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so
easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that
30 is set before us;” that is, let us put aside material self
and sense, and seek the divine Principle and Science of
all healing.

Behest of
the cross

1 If Truth is overcoming error in your daily walk and
conversation, you can finally say, “I have fought a
3 good fight . . . I have kept the faith,” be-
cause you are a better man. This is having
our part in the at-one-ment with Truth and Love.

Moral
victory

9 If the disciple is advancing spiritually, he is striv-
ing to enter in. He constantly turns away from ma-
terial sense, and looks towards the imperishable things
12 of Spirit. If honest, he will be in earnest from the
start, and gain a little each day in the right direction,
till at last he finishes his course with joy.

4. SH 91:5

Let us rid ourselves of the belief that man is separated
6 from God, and obey only the divine Principle, Life and
Love. Here is the great point of departure for all true
spiritual growth.

5. SH 182:19–22, 32

Obedience to material law pre-
vents full obedience to spiritual law, — the law

No
material law

21 which overcomes material conditions and puts
matter under the feet of Mind.

The law of Christ, or

1 Truth, makes all things possible to Spirit; but the so-
called laws of matter would render Spirit of no avail, and
3 demand obedience to materialistic codes, thus departing
from the basis of one God, one lawmaker. To suppose
that God constitutes laws of inharmony is a mistake; dis-
6 cords have no support from nature or divine law, however
much is said to the contrary.

6. SH 144:3–5

3 If Mind is foremost and superior, let us rely upon Mind,
which needs no cooperation from lower powers, even if
these so-called powers are real.

7. SH 201:1–19

THE best sermon ever preached is Truth practised
and demonstrated by the destruction of sin, sickness,
3 and death. Knowing this and knowing too
that one affection would be supreme in us and
take the lead in our lives, Jesus said, “No man can serve
6 two masters.”

We cannot build safely on false foundations. Truth
makes a new creature, in whom old things pass away
9 and “all things are become new.” Passions, selfishness,
false appetites, hatred, fear, all sensuality, yield to spirit-
uality, and the superabundance of being is on the side
12 of God, good.

We cannot fill vessels already full. They must first be
emptied. Let us disrobe error. Then, when
15 the winds of God blow, we shall not hug our

Practical
preaching

The uses
of truth

tatters close about us.

The way to extract error from mortal mind is to pour
18 in truth through flood-tides of Love. Christian perfec-
tion is won on no other basis.

8. SH 208:20

Let us learn
21 of the real and eternal, and prepare for the reign of
Spirit, the kingdom of heaven, — the reign and rule of
universal harmony, which cannot be lost nor remain
24 forever unseen.

9. SH 242:15 In

15 In pa-
tient obedience to a patient God, let us labor to dis-
solve with the universal solvent of Love the adamant
18 of error, — self-will, self-justification, and self-love, —
which wars against spirituality and is the law of sin
and death.

10. SH 248:29

Let unselfishness, goodness, mercy, justice,
30 health, holiness, love — the kingdom of heaven — reign
within us, and sin, disease, and death will diminish until
they finally disappear.

11. SH 367:17

A Christian Scientist occupies the place at this period
18 of which Jesus spoke to his disciples, when he said: “Ye
are the salt of the earth.” “Ye are the light
of the world. A city that is set on an hill can-
21 not be hid.” Let us watch, work, and pray that this salt
lose not its saltness, and that this light be not hid, but
radiate and glow into noontide glory.

The salt of
the earth

12. SH 252:15–16, 31–8

15 The false evidence of material sense contrasts strikingly
with the testimony of Spirit.

Spirit, bearing opposite testimony, saith:

I am Spirit. Man, whose senses are spiritual, is my

1 likeness. He reflects the infinite understanding, for I am
Infinity. The beauty of holiness, the perfection of being,

3 imperishable glory, — all are Mine, for I am
God. I give immortality to man, for I am

Truth. I include and impart all bliss, for I am Love.

6 I give life, without beginning and without end, for I am
Life. I am supreme and give all, for I am Mind. I am
the substance of all, because I AM THAT I AM.

Testimony
of Soul