

Goodness is Eternal

February 5, 2025

To most of the world the idea that goodness is everlasting seems pretty absurd but let's see what our pastor has to say about it. If we look deeply into reality perhaps we will see that God's goodness is actually eternal.

Hymns

1. Hymn. 342

This is the day the Lord hath made; / Be glad, give thanks, rejoice; /
Stand in His 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 His word rely. / We come today to
bring Him praise / Not for such gifts alone, / But for the higher, deeper
ways / In which His 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 hath made, / In praise lift up your voice. / In
shining robes of joy arrayed, / Be glad, give thanks, rejoice.

2. Hymn. 584

The Lord is my Shepherd; I need not a thing. / Green pastures give rest
for my soul. / Love leads me beside the still, still waters. / Love restores
me, and Love makes me whole. /

Love leads me in right paths to honor God's name, / And though I walk through darkest days, / I won't be afraid for Love's here beside me / To protect me and show me the way. /

Though sin would surround me, my cup overflows; / You show that I'm never alone. / Your goodness and love are mine forever; / In the dwelling of Love, I am home.

3. Hymn. 473

Father-Mother God, All-in-all, / Reassuring me every day, / You encourage me on my way. / Father-Mother God, All-in-all. /

REFRAIN / Father-Mother God, All-in-all, / You protect me each step of the way. / I am safe in Love every day, / Father-Mother God, All-in-all. /

You will guide me by day and night. / I go forth with no doubt or fear, / For I feel Your love with me here, / Father-Mother God, All-in-all. //

REFRAIN / Now I find, as never before, / I'm devoted to serving You, / Your pure goodness fills me anew, / Father-Mother God, All-in-all. //

REFRAIN

The Bible

1. Ps. 118:24

This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

2. Prov. 3:5, 6

¶ Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

3. Ps. 23:1–4

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

4. II Kings 4:1–7

Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead; and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the LORD: and the creditor is come to take unto him my two sons to be bondmen. And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me, what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the house, save a pot of oil. Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbours, even empty vessels; borrow not a few. And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full. So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her sons, who brought the vessels to her; and she poured out. And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And the oil stayed. Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy children of the rest.

5. Isa. 41:10

¶ Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

6. Matt. 4:23; 5:1–4

¶ And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. ...

And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him: And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying, Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

7. II Cor. 1:3, 4

Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

8. II Cor. 4:6, 8, 17

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. ...

We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; ...

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

9. I John 1:1–3

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

10. Rev. 21:1 (to ;), 4, 5 (to 1st .)

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; ...

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. ...

11. Rom. 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

12. Deut. 33:27 (to :)

The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms:
...

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

1. SH 304:9–14

This is the doctrine of Christian Science: that divine Love cannot be deprived of its manifestation, or object; that joy cannot be turned into sorrow, for sorrow is not the master of joy; that good can never produce evil; that matter can never produce mind nor life result in death.

2. SH 246:27

Life is eternal. We should find this out, and begin the demonstration thereof. Life and goodness are immortal. Let us then shape our views of existence into loveliness, freshness, and continuity, rather than into age and blight.

3. SH 265:23

Who that has felt the loss of human peace has not gained stronger desires for spiritual joy? The aspiration after heavenly good comes even before we discover what belongs to wisdom and Love. The loss of earthly hopes and pleasures brightens the ascending path of many a heart. The pains of sense quickly inform us that the pleasures of sense are mortal and that joy is spiritual.

4. SH 215:15

We are sometimes led to believe that darkness is as real as light; but Science affirms darkness to be only a mortal sense of the absence of light, at the coming of which darkness loses the appearance of reality. So

sin and sorrow, disease and death, are the suppositional absence of Life, God, and flee as phantoms of error before truth and love.

5. SH 14:12–18

Become conscious for a single moment that Life and intelligence are purely spiritual, — neither in nor of matter, — and the body will then utter no complaints. If suffering from a belief in sickness, you will find yourself suddenly well. Sorrow is turned into joy when the body is controlled by spiritual Life, Truth, and Love.

6. SH 289:27–2

Life is not in matter. Therefore it cannot be said to pass out of matter. Matter and death are mortal illusions. Spirit and all things spiritual are the real and eternal.

Man is not the offspring of flesh, but of Spirit, — of Life, not of matter. Because Life is God, Life must be eternal, self-existent. Life is the everlasting I AM, the Being who was and is and shall be, whom nothing can erase.

7. SH 298:4–12

As a cloud hides the sun it cannot extinguish, so false belief silences for a while the voice of immutable harmony, but false belief cannot destroy Science armed with faith, hope, and fruition.

What is termed material sense can report only a mortal 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 by Christian Science.

8. SH 298:13–20

Spiritual sense, contradicting the material senses, involves intuition, hope, faith, understanding, fruition, reality. 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 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.

9. SH 427:1–2, 13–16

If it is true that man lives, this fact can never change in Science to the opposite belief that man dies. ...

Death is but another phase of the dream that existence can be material. Nothing can interfere with the harmony of being nor end the existence of man in Science.

10. SH 557:18

Divine Science rolls back the clouds of error with the light of Truth, and lifts the curtain on man as never born and as never dying, but as coexistent with his creator.

11. SH 573:19

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.

12. SH 596:23–25

Though the way is dark in mortal sense, divine Life and Love illumine it, destroy the unrest of mortal thought, the fear of death, and the supposed reality of error.

13. SH 45:16

Glory be to God, and peace to the struggling hearts! Christ hath rolled away the stone from the door of human hope and faith, and through the revelation and demonstration of life in God, hath elevated them to possible at-one-ment with the spiritual idea of man and his divine Principle, Love.

14. SH 249:6–9

Let us feel the divine energy of Spirit, bringing us into newness of life and recognizing no mortal nor material power as able to destroy. Let us rejoice that we are subject to the divine "powers that be."