

Identity intact

June 03 2024



Hymn. 382

What is thy birthright, man,
Child of the perfect One;
What is thy Father's plan
For His beloved son?

Thou art Truth's honest child,
Of pure and sinless heart;
Thou treadest undefiled
In Christly paths apart.

Vain dreams shall disappear
As Truth dawns on the sight;
The phantoms of thy fear
Shall flee before the light.

Take then the sacred rod;
Thou art not error's thrall;
Thou hast the gift of God—
Dominion over all.

Words: EMILY F. SEAL

Music: Leighton G. Hayne

Hymn. 406

O Love, our Mother, ever near,
To Thee we turn from doubt and fear!
In perfect peace our thoughts abide;
Our hearts now in this truth confide:
Man is the child of God.

O Light, in Thy light we can see
That man is ever one with Thee.
In love our lives Thou dost enfold,
And now our waiting hopes behold
That man is God's own child.

O joy that ever will remain,
Midst seeming sorrow, hate, and pain,
Our hearts to fill with this glad song
That soars above the mists of wrong:
Man is the loved of Love.

Words: MARGARET GLENN MATTERS

Music: A. L. Peace

Hymn. 467

Eternal Mind the Potter is,
And thought th' eternal clay:
The hand that fashions is divine,
His works pass not away.
Man is the noblest work of God,
His beauty, power and grace,
Immortal; perfect as his Mind
Reflected face to face.

God could not make imperfect man
His model infinite;
Unhallowed thought He could not plan,
Love's work and Love must fit.
Life, Truth and Love the pattern make,
Christ is the perfect heir;
The clouds of sense roll back, and show
The form divinely fair.

God's will is done; His kingdom come;
The Potter's work is plain.
The longing to be good and true
Has brought the light again.
And man does stand as God's own child,
The image of His love.
Let gladness ring from every tongue,
And heaven and earth approve.

Words: MARY ALICE DAYTON

Music: Andrew D. Brewis

Ps. 8:1, 4–6

- 1 O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.
- 4 What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?
- 5 For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.
- 6 Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all *things* under his feet:

Mark 1:14, 15, 22

- 14 Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God,
- 15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.
- 22 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

John 5:1–10, 16, 17, 19, 20 (to :)

- 1 After this there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
- 2 Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep *market* a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches.
- 3 In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water.
- 4 For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.
- 5 And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years.
- 6 When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time *in that case*, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole?
- 7 The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.
- 8 Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk.
- 9 And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath.
- 10 ¶ The Jews therefore said unto him that was cured, It is the sabbath day: it is not lawful for thee to carry *thy* bed.
- 16 And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus, and sought to slay him, because he had done these things on the sabbath day.
- 17 ¶ But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work.
- 19 Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also

doeth the Son likewise.

20 For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: ...

John 14:1, 2, 4–6, 10–14 3rd the

- 1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
- 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
- 4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.
- 5 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?
- 6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
- 10 ... the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.
- 11 Believe me that I *am* in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.
- 12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
- 13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
- 14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do *it*.

II Cor. 5:7, 8

- 7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)
- 8 We are confident, *I say*, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

SH 216:28

- When you say, "Man's body is material," I say with Paul: Be "willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." Give up your material belief of mind in matter, and have but one Mind, even God; for this Mind forms its own likeness. The loss of man's identity through the understanding which Science confers is impossible; and the notion of such a possibility is more absurd than to conclude that individual musical tones are lost in the origin of harmony.

Personal
identity

SH 261:21

- 21 Detach sense from the body, or matter, which is only a form of human belief, and you may learn the meaning

Immutable

of God, or good, and the nature of the immu-
24 table and immortal. Breaking away from the
mutations of time and sense, you will neither
lose the solid objects and ends of life nor your own iden-
27 tity. Fixing your gaze on the realities supernal, you will
rise to the spiritual consciousness of being, even as the bird
which has burst from the egg and preens its wings for a
30 skyward flight.

identity
of man

SH 302:3

3 The material body and mind are temporal, but the
real man is spiritual and eternal. The identity of the
real man is not lost, but found through this
6 explanation; for the conscious infinitude of
existence and of all identity is thereby discerned and re-
mains unchanged. It is impossible that man should lose
9 aught that is real, when God is all and eternally his. The
notion that mind is in matter, and that the so-called pleas-
ures and pains, the birth, sin, sickness, and death of
12 matter, are real, is a mortal belief; and this belief is all
that will ever be lost.

Identity
not lost

SH 259:6 (only), 17 2nd The

6 In divine Science, man is the true image of God.

The
18 true likeness cannot be lost in divine reflection.
Understanding this, Jesus said: “Be ye there-
fore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is
21 perfect.”

The divine
image not
lost

SH 317:16–20

The individuality of man is no less tangible because
it is spiritual and because his life is not at the mercy of
18 matter. The understanding of his spiritual individuality
makes man more real, more formidable in truth, and en-
ables him to conquer sin, disease, and death.

SH 475:5–7, 13

Question. — What is man?

6 *Answer.* — Man is not matter; he is not made up of

brain, blood, bones, and other material elements.

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; that which
has not a single quality underived from Deity; that which
21 possesses no life, intelligence, nor creative power of his
own, but reflects spiritually all that belongs to his Maker.

SH 265:10

This scientific sense of being, forsaking matter for
Spirit, by no means suggests man's absorption into Deity
12 and the loss of his identity, but confers upon man en-
larged individuality, a wider sphere of thought and action,
a more expansive love, a higher and more permanent
15 peace.

SH 477:20–22 Identity

... Identity is the reflection of Spirit, the re-
21 flection in multifarious forms of the living Principle,
Love.

SH 525:12–24

12 The following translation is from the Icelandic: —
And God said, Let us make man after our mind and
our likeness; and God shaped man after His mind; after
15 God's mind shaped He him; and He shaped them male and
female.

In the Gospel of John, it is declared that all things were
18 made through the Word of God, "and without Him [the
logos, or *word*] was not anything made that
was made." Everything good or worthy, God
21 made. Whatever is valueless or baneful, He did not
make, — hence its unreality. In the Science of Genesis
we read that He saw everything which He had made,
24 "and, behold, it was very good."

No baneful
creation

