

“The Great Heart of Divinity

given by Janet Horton, September 19, 2015 at Lynn House

Citations

Introductory Readings from the Bible and the writings of Mary Baker Eddy:

Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, (**Gen. 13:8**)

And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand: A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. (**Matthew 12:25, 35**)

Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. (**Matt 18:21, 22**)

Unto the church of God..._I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. Is Christ divided?... (**1Cor. 1:2, 4, 10, 13**)

Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. But now are they many members, yet but one body. That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another. Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. (**1Cor. 12:4-7, 20, 25, 27**)

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. (**Gal 5:22-25**)

If we pray to God as a corporeal person, this will prevent us from relinquishing the human doubts and fears which attend such a belief, and so we cannot grasp the wonders wrought by infinite, incorporeal Love, to whom all things are possible. (**S&H p.13:20-24**)

Through spiritual sense you can discern the heart of divinity, and thus begin to comprehend in Science the generic term *man*. (**S&H p. 258:31-1**)

One infinite God, good, unifies men and nations; constitutes the brotherhood of man; ends wars; fulfils the Scripture, "Love thy neighbor as thyself;" (S&H p. 340:23-25)

Immortals, or God's children in divine Science, are one harmonious family; but mortals, or the "children of men" in material sense, are discordant and oftentimes false brethren. (S&H p. 444:27)

The first demand of this Science is, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." This *me* is Spirit. Therefore the command means this: Thou shalt have no intelligence, no life, no substance, no truth, no love, but that which is spiritual. The second is like unto it, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." (S&H p. 467:3-8)

With one Father, even God, the whole family of man would be brethren; and with one Mind and that God, or good, the brotherhood of man would consist of Love and Truth, and have unity of Principle and spiritual power which constitute divine Science. (S&H p. 469:30-5)

The rich in spirit help the poor in one grand brotherhood, all having the same Principle, or Father; and blessed is that man who seeth his brother's need and supplieth it, seeking his own in another's good. (S&H p. 518:15-19)

We should remember that the world is wide; that there are a thousand million different human wills, opinions, ambitions, tastes, and loves; that each person has a different history, constitution, culture, character, from all the rest; that human life is the work, the play, the ceaseless action and reaction upon each other of these different atoms. Then, we should go forth into life with the smallest expectations, but with the largest patience; with a keen relish for and appreciation of everything beautiful, great, and good, but with a temper so genial that the friction of the world shall not wear upon our sensibilities; with an equanimity so settled that no passing breath nor accidental disturbance shall agitate or ruffle it; with a charity broad enough to cover the whole world's evil, and sweet enough to neutralize what is bitter in it, — determined not to be offended when no wrong is meant, nor even when it is, unless the offense be against God. Nothing short of our own errors should offend us. (Mis. p. 224:11-28)

Citations from the main talk:

There are sinners in all societies, and it is vain to look for perfection in churches or associations. The life of Christ is the perfect example; and to compare mortal lives with this model is to subject them to severe scrutiny. (NO p. 41:12 -16)

As stars in their courses never contend, / As blossoms their hues in harmony blend, / As bird voices mingle in joyful refrain, / So God's loving children in concord remain.
(Christian Science Hymnal # 236 v.3)

To accomplish this, you must give much time to self-examination and correction; you must control appetite, passion, pride, envy, evil-speaking, resentment, and each one of the innumerable errors that worketh or maketh a lie. Then you can give to the world the benefit of all this, and heal and teach with increased confidence. (Mis. p. 137:23)

Spiritual living and blessedness are the only evidences, by which we can recognize true existence and feel the unspeakable peace which comes from an all-absorbing spiritual love.

(S&H p. 264:24)

For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. **(Eph 3:14-19)**

If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. **(Phil 2:1, 2)**

This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

And he called the multitude, and said unto them, Hear, and understand: Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man. Then came his disciples, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying? **(Matt. 15:8-12)**

And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity.

And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.

And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day. The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day? And when he had said these things, all his adversaries were ashamed: and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him. **(Luke 13:11-17)**

And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. **(Luke 17:16)**

Mortals obtain the harmony of health, only as they forsake discord, acknowledge the supremacy of divine Mind, and abandon their material beliefs. **(S&H p. 400:9-11)**

Is anything real of which the physical senses are cognizant? Everything is as real as you make it, and no more so. What you see, hear, feel, is a mode of consciousness, and can have no other reality than the sense you entertain of it. **(UN p. 8:4-8)**

Material sense lifts its voice with the arrogance of reality... (S&H p. 252:17)

This largess of a grateful heart / That loves and blesses all. (**Christian Science Hymnal #3 v. 3**)

From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? (**James 4:1**)

Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:

And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. (**Eph. 4:31, 32**)

...by love serve one another. (**Gal. 5:13 by**)

Science inevitably lifts one's being higher in the scale of harmony and happiness. (S&H p. 60:2)

Selfishness tips the beam of human existence towards the side of error, not towards Truth. (S&H p. 205: 28-29)

Will — blind, stubborn, and head-long— cooperates with appetite and passion. From this cooperation arises its evil. (S&H p. 490:8-10)

...perfect love casteth out fear: (**1 John 4:18**)

Seek ye these till you make their treasures yours. (**My. 149:12-13**)

More than regal is the majesty of the meekness of the Christ-principle; and its might is the ever-flowing tides of truth that sweep the universe, create and govern it; and its radiant stores of knowledge are the mysteries of exhaustless being. (**My. 149:8-12**)

The central fact of the Bible is the superiority of spiritual over physical power. (S&H p. 131:11)

There is divine authority for believing in the superiority of spiritual power over material resistance. (S&H p. 134: 29)

There is too much animal courage in society and not sufficient moral courage. Christians must take up arms against error at home and abroad. (S&H p. 28:31-2)

Abbreviations of the works of Mary Baker Eddy:

S&H – *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*

My. – *First Church of Christ, Scientist and Miscellany*

UN – *Unity of Good*

NO – *No and Yes*

Mis. – *Miscellaneous Writings 1883-1896*