

WEDNESDAY EVENING READINGS

AUGUST 16, 2017

“COMMITMENT TO CHURCH”

THE BIBLE

PSALMS

25:5 Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.

86:9 All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name.

96:9 O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.

DEUTERONOMY

1:1 These be the words which Moses spake unto all Israel on this side Jordan in the wilderness,...

4:5 Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the Lord my God commanded me, ...

6 Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.

7 For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon him for?

8 And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?

9 Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life:

ISAIAH

2:2 And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

3 And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths:

4 And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

5 ... come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord.

MATTHEW

16:13 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

14 And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

24¶ Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

ACTS

2:1 ...when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

4:1 And as they spake unto the people, the priests, and the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees, came upon them,

2 Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

3 And they laid hands on them, and put them in hold unto the next day: for it was now eventide.

4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

1:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

43 ... and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

47 ... And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

II TIMOTHY

2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

22 ... follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

JOHN

5:39 ¶ Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life:

6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

4:23 ... the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

EPHESIANS

3:14 For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
15 Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,
16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;
17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,
18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;
19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.
5:25 Christ...loved the church, and gave himself for it;
26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,
27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

HABAKKUK

2:14 For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

SCIENCE & HEALTH WITH KEY TO THE SCRIPTURES BY MARY BAKER EDDY.

SH 583:12-19

Church. The structure of Truth and Love; whatever rests upon and proceeds from divine Principle.

The Church is that institution, which affords proof of its utility and is found elevating the race, rousing the dormant understanding from material beliefs to the apprehension of spiritual ideas and the demonstration of divine Science, thereby casting out devils, or error, and healing the sick.

SH 593:18 (only, to 2nd .)

Rock. Spiritual foundation; Truth.

SH 136:1-5

Jesus established his church and maintained his mission on a spiritual foundation of Christ-healing. He taught his followers that his religion had a divine Principle, which would cast out error and heal both the sick and the sinning.

SH 136:11-12

He appealed to his students: "Whom do men say that I, the Son of man, am?"

SH 137:16-18 *Simon, 21-24 (to ;), 29 And*

... Simon replied for his brethren, and his reply set forth a great fact: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God!"

This assertion elicited from Jesus the benediction, "Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven;"

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter; and upon this rock [the meaning of the Greek word petros, or stone] I will build my church; and the gates of hell [hades, the underworld, or the grave] shall not prevail against it." In other words, Jesus purposed founding his society, not on the personal Peter as a mortal, but on the God-power which lay behind Peter's confession of the true Messiah.

SH 134:9

The new faith in the Christ, Truth, so roused the hatred of the opponents of Christianity, that the followers of Christ were burned, crucified and otherwise persecuted; and so it came about that human rights were hallowed by the gallows and the cross.

SH 35:19-25 *Our church*

Our church is built on the divine Principle, Love. We can unite with this church only as we are new-born of Spirit, as we reach the Life which is Truth and the Truth which is Life by bringing forth the fruits of Love, — casting out error and healing the sick.

SH 547:23-25

The Scriptures are very sacred. Our aim must be to have them understood spiritually, for only by this understanding can truth be gained.

SH 84:28-30

All we correctly know of Spirit comes from God, divine Principle, and is learned through Christ and Christian Science.

SH 110:17-20

No human pen nor tongue taught me the Science contained in this book, SCIENCE AND HEALTH; and neither tongue nor pen can overthrow it.

SH 147:14-20

Although this volume contains the complete Science of Mind-healing, never believe that you can absorb the whole meaning of the Science by a simple perusal of this book. The book needs to be studied, and the demonstration of the rules of scientific healing will plant you firmly on the spiritual groundwork of Christian Science.

SH 452:23

Expect to heal simply by repeating the author's words, by right talking and wrong acting, and you will be disappointed. Such a practice does not demonstrate the Science by which divine Mind heals the sick.

SH 131:13-18, 22

Must Christian Science come through the Christian churches as some persons insist? This Science has come already, after the manner of God's appointing, but the churches seem not ready to receive it, according to the Scriptural saying, "He came unto his own, and his own received him not."

As aforetime, the spirit of the Christ, which taketh away the ceremonies and doctrines of men, is not accepted until the hearts of men are made ready for it.

SH 483:32

Christianity will never be based on a divine Principle and so found to be unerring, until its absolute Science is reached. When this is accomplished, neither pride, prejudice, bigotry, nor envy can wash away its foundation, for it is built upon the rock, Christ.

SH 274:23-25

Divine Science is absolute, and permits no half-way position in learning its Principle and rule--establishing it by demonstration.

SH 138:27-2

Our Master said to every follower: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature! . . . Heal the sick! . . . Love thy neighbor as thyself!" It was this theology of Jesus which healed the sick and the sinning. It is his theology in this book and the spiritual meaning of this theology, which heals the sick and causes the wicked to "forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts."

SH 274:23-25

Divine Science is absolute, and permits no half-way position in learning its Principle and rule--establishing it by demonstration.

SH 40:25

Our heavenly Father, divine Love, demands that all men should follow the example of our Master and his apostles and not merely worship his personality. It is sad that the phrase divine service has come so generally to mean public worship instead of daily deeds.

SH 455:20-23, 25

God selects for the highest service one who has grown into such a fitness for it as renders any abuse of the mission an impossibility.
No person can misuse this mental power, if he is taught of God to discern it.

SH 79:31-3

Giving does not impoverish us in the service of our Maker, neither does withholding enrich us. We have strength in proportion to our apprehension of the truth, and our strength is not lessened by giving utterance to truth.

SH 264:28

When we learn the way in Christian Science and recognize man's spiritual being, we shall behold and understand God's creation,--all the glories of earth and heaven and man.

PUBLICATIONS QUOTATION

“Reading And Listening”

By Kate Holland Patton

Christian Science Journal

January 1957

The loyal church member, who has taken the name of Christian Scientist, is ready to serve in whatever capacity he is placed through the operation of Truth, whether as Reader, Sunday School teacher or usher, and he serves in his appointed place with joy.

When all who have accepted Christian Science as their guide and goal express divine Love, our churches will be filled with sincere seekers for Truth.

Excerpted from Miscellaneous Writings

By Mary Baker Eddy

Pages 152-155

May meekness, mercy, and love dwell forever in the hearts of those who worship in this tabernacle: then will they receive the heritage that God has prepared for His people, — made ready for the pure in affection, the meek in spirit, the worshipper in truth, the follower of good.

Exercise more faith in God and His spiritual means and methods, than in man and his material ways and means, of establishing the Cause of Christian Science. If right yourself, God will confirm His inheritance. “Be not weary in well doing.” Truth is restful, and Love is triumphant.

The spreading branches of The Church of Christ, Scientist, are fast reaching out their broad shelter to the entire world. Your faith has not been without works, — and God’s love for His flock is manifest in His care. He will dig about this little church, prune its encumbering branches, water it with the dews of heaven, enrich its roots, and enlarge its borders with divine Love.

It is the purpose of divine Love to resurrect the understanding, and the kingdom of God, the reign of harmony already within us.

Abide in His word, and it shall abide in you; and the healing Christ will again be made manifest in the flesh — understood and glorified.

Honor thy Father and Mother, God. Continue in His love. Pray without ceasing.

Let your light reflect Light. Have no ambition, affection, nor aim apart from holiness. Forget not for a moment, that God is All-in-all — therefore, that in reality there is but one cause and effect.

The pride of circumstance or power is the prince of this world that has nothing in Christ. All power and happiness are spiritual, and proceed from goodness. Sacrifice self to bless one another, even as God has blessed you. Forget self in laboring for mankind; then will you woo the weary wanderer to your door, win the pilgrim and stranger to your church, and find access to the heart of humanity. While pressing meekly on, be faithful, be valiant in the Christian's warfare, and peace will crown your joy.

Lovingly yours,

Mary Baker Eddy