

WEDNESDAY NIGHT READINGS

“The Harvest Hour”

October 24, 2018

Hymns: 394, 97, 19

**The Bible
&
Science & Health with Key to the Scriptures
by Mary Baker Eddy**

MATTHEW (Amplified Bible)

13:24–30 ...“The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds [resembling wheat] among the wheat, and went away. So when the plants sprouted and formed grain, the weeds appeared also. The servants of the owner came to him and said, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Then how does it have weeds in it?’ He replied to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The servants asked him, ‘Then do you want us to go and pull them out?’ But he said, ‘No; because as you pull out the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. Let them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “First gather the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; but gather the wheat into my barn.”’

SH 117:15-16

Our Master taught spirituality by similitudes and parables.

SH 595:5

Tares. Mortality; error; sin; sickness; disease; death.

SH 72:13

Mortal belief (the material sense of life) and immortal Truth (the spiritual sense) are the tares and the wheat, which are not united by progress, but separated.

SH 207:18

Science separates the tares and wheat in time of harvest.

SH 535:1

The seed of Truth and the seed of error, of belief and of understanding, — yea, the seed of Spirit and the seed of matter, — are the wheat and tares which time will separate, the one to be burned, the other to be garnered into heavenly places.

SH 27:17

Jesus' parables explain Life as never mingling with sin and death. He laid the axe of Science at the root of material knowledge, that it might be ready to cut down the false doctrine of pantheism, — that God, or Life, is in or of matter.

MATTHEW (Amplified Bible)

13:36-43...His disciples came to Him saying, "Explain [clearly] to us the parable of the weeds in the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man, and the field is the world; and [as for] the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the weeds are the sons of the evil *one*; and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels. So just as the weeds are gathered up and burned in the fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend [those things by which people are led into sin], and all who practice evil [leading others into sin], and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping[over sorrow and pain] and grinding of teeth [over distress and anger]. Then THE RIGHTEOUS [those who seek the will of God] WILL SHINE FORTH [radiating the new life] LIKE THE SUN in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears [to hear], let him hear *and* heed My words.

SH 298:28-30

Angels are pure thoughts from God, winged with Truth and Love, no matter what their individualism may be.

SH 584:17-21

Devil. Evil; a lie; error; neither corporeality nor mind; the opposite of Truth; a belief in sin, sickness, and death; animal magnetism or hypnotism; the lust of the flesh, which saith: "I am life and intelligence in matter.

SH 5:29-30

An apostle says that the Son of God [Christ] came to "destroy the works of the devil."

SH: viii 4

To develop the full might of this Science, the discords of corporeal sense must yield to the harmony of spiritual sense, even as the science of music corrects false tones and gives sweet concord to sound.

SH 300:13

The temporal and unreal never touch the eternal and real. The mutable and imperfect never touch the immutable and perfect. The inharmonious and self-destructive never touch the harmonious and self-existent. These opposite qualities are the tares and wheat, which never really mingle, though (to mortal sight) they grow side by side until the harvest; then, Science separates the wheat from the tares, through the realization of God as ever present and of man as reflecting the divine likeness.

MATTHEW

9:36-38 when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

I CORINTHIANS

3:9 For we are labourers together with God:

SH 542:19

Let Truth uncover and destroy error in God's own way, and let human justice pattern the divine. Sin will receive its full penalty, both for what it is and for what it does. Justice marks the sinner, and teaches mortals not to remove the waymarks of God. To envy's own hell, justice consigns the lie which, to advance itself, breaks God's commandments.

SH 92:21-25

Uncover error, and it turns the lie upon you. Until the fact concerning error — namely, its nothingness — appears, the moral demand will not be met, and the ability to make nothing of error will be wanting.

SH 454:22

Wait patiently for divine Love to move upon the waters of mortal mind, and form the perfect concept. Patience must “have her perfect work.”

SH 97:5–7, 13

In reality, the more closely error simulates truth and so-called matter resembles its essence, mortal mind, the more impotent error becomes as a belief...The nearer a false belief approaches truth without passing the boundary where, having been destroyed by divine Love, it ceases to be even an illusion, the riper it becomes for destruction. The more material the belief, the more obvious its error, until divine Spirit, supreme in its domain, dominates all matter, and man is found in the likeness of Spirit, his original being.

MATTHEW

21:19 And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever. And presently the fig tree withered away.

JOHN

15:1- 8 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

GALATIANS

6:7 ...whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

SH 405:5-11

Christian Science commands man to master the propensities, — to hold hatred in abeyance with kindness, to conquer lust with chastity, revenge with charity, and to overcome deceit with honesty. Choke these errors in their early stages, if you would not cherish an army of conspirators against health, happiness, and success.

SH 269:5

Jesus' demonstrations sift the chaff from the wheat, and unfold the unity and the reality of good, the unreality, the nothingness, of evil.

SH 233:8–10, 16

In the midst of imperfection, perfection is seen and acknowledged only by degrees. The ages must slowly work up to perfection...Already the shadow of His right hand rests upon the hour. Ye who can discern the face of the sky, — the sign material, — how much more should ye discern the sign mental, and compass the destruction of sin and sickness by overcoming the thoughts which produce them, and by understanding the spiritual idea which corrects and destroys them. To reveal this truth was our Master's mission to all mankind, including the hearts which rejected him.

SH 428:8

To divest thought of false trusts and material evidences in order that the spiritual facts of being may appear, — this is the great attainment by means of which we shall sweep away the false and give place to the true. Thus we may establish in truth the temple, or body, “whose builder and maker is God.”

SH 268:6–9

Belief in a material basis, from which may be deduced all rationality, is slowly yielding to the idea of a metaphysical basis, looking away from matter to Mind as the cause of every effect.

SH 535:10

Divine Science deals its chief blow at the supposed material foundations of life and intelligence.

II CORINTHIANS

9:6, 8, 10 ... He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully...God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: ...Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;)

MARK (J.B. Phillips)

4:26-29 “The kingdom of God is like a man scattering seed on the ground and then going to bed each night and getting up every morning, while the seed sprouts and grows up, though he has no idea how it happens. The earth produces a crop without any help from anyone: first a blade, then the ear of corn, then the full-grown grain in the ear. And as soon as the crop is ready, he sends his reapers in without delay, for the harvest-time has come.”

JOHN

4:35 Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

JOEL

3:13 (to;) Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come,...the press is full, the vats overflow;

REVELATION

14:2,14,15 And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.

SH 466:26

The Science of Christianity comes with fan in hand to separate the chaff from the wheat. Science will declare God aright, and Christianity will demonstrate this declaration and its divine Principle, making mankind better physically, morally, and spiritually.

GALATIANS (J.B. Phillips)

6:8-10 A man's harvest in life will depend entirely on what he sows. If he sows for his own lower nature his harvest will be the decay and death of his own nature. But if he sows for the Spirit he will reap the harvest of everlasting life by that Spirit. Let us not grow tired of doing good, for, unless we throw in our hand, the ultimate harvest is assured. Let us then do good to all men as opportunity offers, especially to those who belong to the Christian household.

SH 92:32

Do you say the time has not yet come in which to recognize Soul as substantial and able to control the body? Remember Jesus, who nearly nineteen centuries ago demonstrated the power of Spirit and said, "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also," and who also said, "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth." "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation," said Paul.

SH 322:26-32

The sharp experiences of belief in the supposititious life of matter, as well as our disappointments and ceaseless woes, turn us like tired children to the arms of divine Love. Then we begin to learn Life in divine Science. Without this process of weaning, "Canst thou by searching find out God?" It is easier to desire Truth than to rid one's self of error.

SH 41:6

Like our Master, we must depart from material sense into the spiritual sense of being. The God-inspired walk calmly on though it be with bleeding footprints, and in the hereafter they will reap what they now sow.

SUPPLEMENTAL READING

“THE HARVEST HOUR”

By Jeanne Steely Laitner

The Christian Science Journal, November 1962

...tares are so similar to wheat while both are in the blade that the two are almost indistinguishable. However, when both are ripe and in the ear, they can easily be distinguished. Hence the great importance of the harvest hour, the hour when the good can easily be separated from the bad. Sincere students of Christian Science are eager to constantly separate spiritual sense from material sense and good, God-bestowed thoughts from false mortal suggestions and impulses. As Jesus pointed out in his parable, this dividing process can be done safely and effectively only at the time of harvest.

...Mrs. Eddy writes: "We glean spiritual harvests from our own material losses. In this consuming heat false images are effaced from the canvas of mortal mind; and thus does the material pigment beneath fade into invisibility" (Retrospection and Introspection, [p. 79](#)). Does not each individual come to a moment of complete loss of faith in some worldly trust, perhaps trust in matter for health or supply, or trust in persons for love, or trust in certain circumstances for happiness? At this point of bitter, sorrowful, or sometimes painful recognition of the powerlessness of the world to give anything, the faithful student of Christian Science gratefully sees this moment as the harvest hour, fraught with untold promise of healing and redemption. At such a moment the mental gaze must quickly wrench itself from the mesmerism of the material picture; it must look up to God, the only source of all good, and clearly see the wheat, the imperishable good which He is eternally giving to His idea, man. The tares of false traits of character or of faith in and fear of matter can then be clearly seen and quickly rooted out of thought, then burned—forever and completely destroyed... This important harvest hour is not necessarily a far-off, future event; now can be the harvest time...

Jesus pointed out that the individual has help in finding and destroying the tares, "the children of the wicked one" ([Matt. 13:38](#)). The reapers, or helpers, which aid at the time of the harvest are angels. Christian Science teaches that angels are thoughts from God..

...Our harvest will be fruitful if we are obedient to the instruction to divide carefully between the tares and the wheat, between error and Truth, in the harvest hour.