

WEDNESDAY EVENING READINGS
“PURPOSE”
January 17, 2018
Hymns: 139, 12, 573

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

ISAIAH (Living Bible)

50:4-5...Morning by morning he wakens me and opens my understanding to his will. The Lord God has spoken to me, and I have listened;

PSALMS

119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

PROVERBS

16:3 Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established.

EXODUS

3:1-4,7 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I...And the Lord said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry...I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt. And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, And he said, Certainly I will be with thee;

PSALMS (English Standard Version)

57:2 I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me.

JEREMIAH

1:4-9;17-19 Then the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Before I formed thee in the belly, I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. Then said I, Ah, Lord God! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. But the Lord said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the Lord. Then the Lord put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And...said ...I have put my words in thy mouth...gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee: be not dismayed at their faces...For...I have made thee this day a defenced city, And they shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail...for I am with thee,

ISAIAH

30:21 And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

SH 254:10-12

When we wait patiently on God and seek Truth righteously, He directs our path.

SH 254:12

Imperfect mortals grasp the ultimate of spiritual perfection slowly; but to begin aright and to continue the strife of demonstrating the great problem of being, is doing much.

SH 506:18

Spirit, God, gathers unformed thoughts into their proper channels, and unfolds these thoughts, even as He opens the petals of a holy purpose in order that the purpose may appear.

JOB (Good News Translation)

23:10-14 God knows every step I take... I follow faithfully the road he chooses, and never wander to either side. I always do what God commands; I follow his will, not my own desires. He never changes. No one can oppose him or stop him from doing what he wants to do. He will fulfill what he has planned for me;

JEREMIAH (New English Translation)

29:11-14 For I know what I have planned for you,' says the LORD. 'I have plans to prosper you, not to harm you. I have plans to give you a future filled with hope. When you call out to me and come to me in prayer, I will hear your prayers. When you seek me in prayer and worship, you will find me available to you. If you seek me with all your heart and soul, I will make myself available to you,' says the LORD. 'Then I will reverse your plight...

NUMBERS (New English Translation)

12:6 "Hear now my words: If there is a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known to him in a vision; I will speak with him in a dream.

SH 308:14

The Soul-inspired patriarchs heard the voice of Truth, and talked with God as consciously as man talks with man.

SH 89:20-21

Spirit, God, is heard when the senses are silent.

ISAIAH

55:8-11 ...my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth:

it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

SH 1:11

Desire is prayer; and no loss can occur from trusting God with our desires, that they may be moulded and exalted before they take form in words and in deeds.

SH 0:7-11

What things soever ye desire when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask Him. — Christ Jesus.

SH 107:6-3, 1

...I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ. — Paul... In the year 1866, I discovered the Christ Science or divine laws of Life, Truth, and Love, and named my discovery Christian Science. God had been graciously preparing me during many years for the reception of this final revelation of the absolute divine Principle of scientific mental healing.

SH 108:1-4

Whence came to me this heavenly conviction, — a conviction antagonistic to the testimony of the physical senses? According to St. Paul, it was “the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of His power.”

SH 162:9

The effect of this Science is to stir the human mind to a change of base, on which it may yield to the harmony of the divine Mind.

JOHN

5:30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

15:4-5 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.

SH 26:14

Divine Truth, Life, and Love gave Jesus authority over sin, sickness, and death. His mission was to reveal the Science of celestial being, to prove what God is and what He does for man.

ECCLESIASTES

3:11,14 He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end. I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it...

ROMANS (J.B. Phillips)

8:28-30 we know that to those who love God, who are called according to his plan, everything that happens fits into a pattern for good. God, in his foreknowledge, chose them to bear the

family likeness of his Son, that he might be the eldest of a family of many brothers. He chose them long ago; when the time came he called them, he made them righteous in his sight, and then lifted them to the splendour of life as his own sons.

ACTS

22:3-10 I am verily a man which am a Jew...and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God...And I persecuted...unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women. As also the high priest doth bear me witness, and all the estate of the elders: from whom also I received letters unto the brethren, and went to Damascus, to bring them which were there bound unto Jerusalem, for to be punished. And it came to pass, that, as I made my journey, and was come nigh unto Damascus about noon, suddenly there shone from heaven a great light round about me. And I fell unto the ground, and heard a voice saying unto me, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? And I answered, Who art thou, Lord? And he said unto me, I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou persecutest. And they that were with me saw indeed the light, and were afraid; but they heard not the voice of him that spake to me. And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said unto me, Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do.

SH 324:20

When the truth first appeared to him in Science, Paul was made blind, and his blindness was felt; but spiritual light soon enabled him to follow the example and teachings of Jesus, healing the sick and preaching Christianity throughout Asia Minor, Greece, and even in imperial Rome.

ACTS

9:10-18 there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias. And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord. And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name. But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake. And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

SH 581:4

Angels. God's thoughts passing to man; spiritual intuitions, pure and perfect; the inspiration of goodness, purity, and immortality, counteracting all evil, sensuality, and mortality.

SH 13:14

...God knows our need before we tell Him or our fellow-beings about it.

ACTS

18:9-11 Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city. And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

PSALMS (English Standard Version)

138:8 The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;

EPHESIANS (Good News)

1:11 All things are done according to God's plan and decision; and God chose us to be his own people in union with Christ because of his own purpose, based on what he had decided from the very beginning.

PHILIPPIANS

2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

SH 454:18

Love inspires, illumines, designates, and leads the way. Right motives give pinions to thought, and strength and freedom to speech and action. Love is priestess at the altar of Truth. 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 324:13

Be watchful, sober, and vigilant. The way is straight and narrow, which leads to the understanding that God is the only Life. It is a warfare with the flesh, in which we must conquer sin, sickness, and death, either here or hereafter, — certainly before we can reach the goal of Spirit, or life in God.

SH 340:6-12 (to 1st .)

This text in the book of Ecclesiastes conveys the Christian Science thought, especially when the word duty, which is not in the original, is omitted: "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." In other words: Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: love God and keep His commandments: for this is the whole of man in His image and likeness.

SH 326:16-21

The purpose and motive to live aright can be gained now. This point won, you have started as you should. You have begun at the numeration-table of Christian Science, and nothing but wrong intention can hinder your advancement. Working and praying with true motives, your Father will open the way.

SUPPLEMENTAL READING

“A Life of Purpose”

Curt Wahlberg interviewed by Suzanne Smedley
The Christian Science Journal, December 2012

... The practice of Christian Science is not about supporting more conversation about Science; it's about realizing God's presence...As we love, we get more of the sense that the light we need for our healing is a light that is intended to brighten and heal the entire world...we can attain the spiritual growth required of us to do the greater works Jesus expected of us. He showed us the way. And Mary Baker Eddy, through her writings, leads us in each step. What's more, the eternal Christ constantly encourages us, revealing the great joy and dominion that comes in the spiritual awakening to this higher purpose.

PROSE WORKS **by Mary Baker Eddy**

God is All-in-all...He has mercy upon us, and guides every event of our careers. (Un 3:20,28-1)

Each individual must fill his own niche in time and eternity. (Ret 70:18)