

## A FINE ADDRESS

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infinite God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God whom Jesus called his Father, the God whom St. John defined as Love. This infinite, all-inclusive, all-creating, omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient divine Love, is the incorporeal God revealed through Christian Science. Man as the image and likeness of God, the real man of the Scriptures, must be like his Father; not corporeal but incorporeal; not material but mental; spiritual consciousness; not mortal but immortal. The universe created and constantly sustained by God must be like Him, for like produces like; therefore the real universe is not finite but infinite; not destructible but indestructible; not material but spiritual.

### THE NATURE OF REALITY

Thus reality is essentially infinite, without limitations or dimensions, infinite in extent, in presence, in wisdom, and in power. It is unchanging, indestructible, eternal. It is harmonious, perfect, spiritual. Therefore the standard of infinity, indestructibility, and perfection is the test of reality. Whatever has not these qualities or attributes of infinity and perfection does not express Truth. Matter, mortal mind, and the discordant material consciousness being finite, mutable, destructible, are not true, not absolutely real. Perfect God, perfect man, and perfect spiritual being, this is the basis of all Christian Science teaching, analysis, and practice. This is the standard by which Christian Science measures and tests all human phenomena and experiences in order to determine their true value.

Truth, however, cannot be cognized by the physical senses, for because of their material limitations these senses cannot perceive infinity, the finite cannot cognize the infinite. Truth is perceived only through the understanding, which is not dependent upon the testimony of the physical senses. For example, even the truths of the multiplication table are discerned not through the sense of sight, but through the understanding. The physical figures which we see are not the mathematical truth; this truth is invisible to the physical senses, discernible only through mathematical understanding.

Similarly God, the real man and real universe, are discerned not through the physical sense, but only through spiritual senses or spiritual understanding, and this spiritual understanding, the perception and apprehension of divine Truth, Christian Science makes possible to all.

### DISCORD AN ERROR

Disease, sin, death, all discords, are therefore to be classed as errors of mortal consciousness, as mesmeric, illusory mental conditions. On this basis they can be corrected and healed by Truth, while they cannot be corrected so long as they are classed as either physical or mental realities. Even according to psychology and philosophy they are but objectified sense-impressions. Thus we can begin to separate the wheat from the tares, the actual from the seeming, the real from the unreal in the human consciousness.

Most of us have believed that God sends disease, disaster, and death to His children; but if this were true, we would have no moral right to use any healing means whatsoever, for by so doing we would be interfering with the divine plan and purpose. If God makes us sickly and dying, it is our business to be sick and die. Dominated by such a belief, it is of course impossible to understand Christian healing or to be healed spiritually.

Discordant conditions exist only in that human consciousness which is largely mortal, which is a belief of both good and evil. They are not the product of Truth or Principle, hence they are not divine creations. Realizing this in some degree, their assumed power is at once lessened, and we can begin to free ourselves from them by turning to divine sources in the realm of reality. Then we begin to see that God is not the author of sin, disease, and death, and that we do not have to experience them. The apprehension of this one point often results in healing.

### MENTAL CURE OF DISEASE

Fear is admitted to be a prolific cause of disease. The Bible says, "Perfect love casteth out fear." Fear is due to ignorance. Perfect Love is the infinite divine intelligence. When intelligence is brought to bear on ignorance, ignorance is destroyed, and thus does "perfect love" cast out fear, and of necessity its effects. It is readily seen how important it is to let Truth control our thought. When we indulge in thoughts of limitation, fear, sickness, mortality, then consciousness partakes of the nature of these thoughts, and the body likewise. When we engage in thoughts of

infinity, spirituality, health, life, our consciousness must partake of the nature of these thoughts, and the body likewise.

Since disease has a mental origin, it is manifest that it must have a mental cure. A man suffering from physical disease produced by hatred, for example, cannot be permanently healed by drugs or surgery. He needs to have the hatred, whether from within or from without, neutralized by its true antidote, divine Love. Then the evil cause is destroyed and its effects disappear. Christian Science explains this clearly and rationally, so that Christian Science Mind-healing can be demonstrated by any one in the degree of his understanding of it. This healing relies on a spiritual method which is both simple and logical.

In answer to the inevitable question, How does Christian Science heal? we need to remember that the truth and error about a given thing cannot exist in a given consciousness at the same time, since they are opposites. We cannot believe that two times two make both five and four. The healing of the error of sickness must be akin to the healing of any other error of belief. Mathematical truth applied to error in computation always removes that error and establishes right results. The truth about God and man annuls false human belief, and this removes the effects of such belief. Human discord and disease exist only as a false state of consciousness, a mistaken sense, a mesmeric dream condition which has no real existence, no relation to the divine mind and its perfect reflection. When the truth of being is known and applied, it destroys the false belief, and this improved condition is externalized in harmony.

### RIGHT MENTAL ACTION

As the body is an externalization of consciousness, if we change consciousness the condition of its externalization will also be changed. How is this to be done? In answer we would say that since Christian Science healing is wholly mental, it must be accomplished through the activity of the truth in human thought, and in this connection it is well to consider what thinking is, in order that we may think aright, may engage in right mental action. A wrong belief cannot be corrected with a wrong thought. Thinking is the exercise of intelligence or mind, therefore real thinking is the activity of Real Mind. Real Mind is the divine consciousness, the infinite intelligence, Truth. Real thinking is thus the activity of the divine Mind, or Truth. The activity of Truth in consciousness is the knowing of Truth; therefore, real thinking is right knowing. We can know only the truth, never error. We can never know that two times two make five, because they do not. We can only believe it. We can never know sin, disease, and death, or anything that is wrong, evil, or material; we can only believe it.

Being infinite, perfect, and divine, real Mind is good. Therefore evil is not mind, and evil thinking is not true mind action; and all that is evil and material, limited, discordant, and mortal in human thought, is not intelligence, not mind, but a counterfeit of it; that is, false belief. What is termed the mortal mind is not real Mind. That mind action which is based upon belief in matter and its discordant conditions, is not real thinking, because it is not right thinking, not right knowing. "Gray matter," so called, cannot know; it is Mind alone that knows.

How can Truth be brought to bear upon consciousness in order that the belief of disease and its cause may be destroyed? When we think rightly of any truth, this truth is present with us in consciousness, is active there, just as when we think rightly of the multiplication table the truth of mathematics is with us in thought or we could not think mathematically. Likewise when we think rightly of divine Truth, Life, Love, God, which Christian Science makes possible to all, Truth is present with us in consciousness. "God with us," St. Paul wrote to the Ephesians of the one God who is "through all," that is, omnipresent. Thus He is already present and has but to be known. And as by knowing Truth we reflect Truth and bring it into action in our consciousness, so by knowing God we reflect Him, and it is by this right knowing of God that divine Truth and Love are reflected in consciousness and brought to bear upon our human problems.

The spiritual knowing is real consciousness, the consciousness of the real man; it is communion with the infinite Father-Mother God. It is true Christian prayer. "Not my will, but thine, be done." Such prayer, "in his name," is answered in healing the sick, reforming the sinner, and in supplying all our needs. HEALING NOT THROUGH SUGGESTION.

The healing power which

Christ Jesus utilized in his wonderful healing work was not understood by the people who witnessed these works. Some who recognized the fact that this healing was brought about through mental means alone, refused to believe that the healing power was divine, and said that it was evil, acting through the human mind; namely, through hypnotism. They cried out, "This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils." So also today many admit that Christian Science heals mentally, but they insist that this healing is accomplished through hypnotism. They do not understand the nature and power of divine Mind. Since Christian Science healing involves a knowledge of spiritual truth, a recognition of material error, and the application of this truth thereto, this healing is not effected through mental suggestion, or the influence of one mind over another. It is not mental domination, nor the exercise of the human will, and it is essential to a right apprehension of Christian Science that this should be clearly understood.

For example: When a mathematician corrects a mathematical error, it is not his will which makes this correction, but the mathematical truth which he knows and applies. The power in inherent in the mathematical truth and not in the will of the mathematician. When an ill or sin is healed in Christian Science, it is not the will of the Christian Scientist which does the healing, but the spiritual truth which he knows and applies to the human error. The power is in the truth itself, not in the human will. Jesus said, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." This definitely distinguishes Christian Science from hypnotism, magnetism, or mental suggestion of any form. The hypnotizer endeavors to secure control of his patient's mind, to dominate it, and to superimpose upon it his own thought and purpose, be it good or evil. Hence the danger of this method. Knowing the nature of God and the real man to be spiritual and perfect, the Christian Scientist recognizes the fact that the diseased or sinful conditions are but false mesmeric states of consciousness, and he applies his understanding of divine Truth as the remedy. He knows the unreality of the appearance called a sick man, just as the mathematician knows that two times two do not make five, even though he sees it written out. He knows that they make four regardless of appearances. Jesus said, "Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment."

### ABSENT TREATMENT

The healing of patients who are at a distance from their practitioners has frequently been misunderstood and pronounced impossible, notwithstanding that Jesus healed the centurion's servant and the nobleman's son without being present with them. This misunderstanding arises from the mistaken belief that the healing is accomplished through transmission of thought, and that distance hinders this transmission. In Christian Science healing there is no thought transference, for mortal mind is not a factor in the healing. The divine Mind being omnipresent, the human knowing of the truth regarding a sick man at a distance brings Truth to bear on the case the same as if he were near by. In the realm of Spirit there is no space, no time, and no sick man. All is infinite Mind and its perfect, ever-present ideas.

It is important to see that Christian Science healing includes a denial of error as well as the affirmation of the truth, the reason for this being that the belief in matter, sin, and disease is so fixed in the human consciousness that a specific denial helps to weaken and destroy that belief. This denial can be made only from the basis of spiritual truth; it is but the reverse side of the declaration of truth, and it is the truth alone, not the denial of error, which heals. Indeed, the keynote of Christian Science healing is the knowing of the allness of Spirit and the nothingness of matter.

### SUMMARY

To epitomize: In Christian Science healing we must first know the nature and character of divine reality, then see that what is termed material existence is wholly mental, and that sin, disease, and death are not of God, but are manifestations of erroneous states of human consciousness, and therefore neither true nor authoritative. We thus perceive that we do not have to be sick, for God did not make us so. When spiritual knowing dominates consciousness, the error-banishing influence of divine Truth and Love establishes harmony.

As with the healing of sickness, so is it with the healing of sin, the overcoming of evil. We must see that it is not of God, divine Mind; that it is therefore unreal and powerless and no part of man. This cor-

rection of thought with spiritual truth destroys the error, the impulse to do wrong. Sin causes suffering so long as it is believed and indulged in; but when sin is mastered and the evil thought destroyed, man is set free from this bondage and begins to experience the promised liberty of the sons of God.

Christian Science is thus seen to be reformatory and regenerative. It uplifts consciousness, brings man nearer to God, and makes him better acquainted with his own true selfhood. It improves him morally and physically, which improvement continues as his spiritual development progresses. To the Ephesians, St. Paul writes: "This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: . . . that ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man [material consciousness], which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that ye put on the new man [spiritual consciousness], which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." Christian Science makes it possible for us all to begin to do this today.

Finally it must be understood that Christian Science healing is not a mere mental method, requiring simply the entertainment and repetition of certain thoughts. Being scientific, it calls for accurate, logical, metaphysical reasoning and analysis, a correct mental application of divine Principle. Above all, it demands a clear realization of the allness of God, Spirit, and the nothingness of His opposite, evil and matter. Divine Love alone makes this spiritual illumination possible, for Love is the real healer in Christian Science.

### MRS. EDDY'S DISCOVERY

It is important to recognize that Christian Science, the demonstrable knowledge of the Christ-teaching, is a discovery, not an invention. This notable discovery was made by Mrs. Eddy in 1866, and it was proclaimed to the world in her great work, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," which was first published in 1875. This book contains a complete statement of the teachings and practice of Christian Science. It interprets the Bible so that it can be understood, its redemptive truth be practically utilized. Very many have been healed of organic, structural, and functional diseases, as well as of sin, while reading this book. I know this to be true, for I have personally investigated many such cases.

This healing is explained by the fact that spiritual truth, touching a receptive consciousness, and perchance entertained there, brings about a change in thought by correcting erroneous concepts. It thereby establishes harmony on a spiritual basis, and this harmonious consciousness is externalized as a well body.

Mrs. Eddy was a woman of great moral courage and possessed a very unusual degree of religious feeling. From childhood she was deeply interested in religious and philosophical subjects. She was an earnest seeker for spiritual truth, and in her search examined all channels which promised to lead her into the light; but without avail, for the truth was not to be found in human theories and systems. Finally, when on a sick-bed, suffering from a supposedly fatal accident, she was suddenly made well as the truth of God's ever-present healing power dawned upon her. She realized that she had been healed through divine influence, and at once entered upon a careful study of Christ Jesus' words and works, that if possible she might apprehend the Science underlying this healing truth, with the view of giving it to a long-suffering world.

My acquaintance with Mrs. Eddy for many years, besides my association with her on many occasions, enables me to speak of her exalted Christian character. Tenacious adherence to her highest concept of spiritual truth, consecration to the work of establishing this truth, spiritual wisdom in leading and directing this great Christian movement, unfeigned love for God, for His Christ, and for all mankind, these were dominant traits of character in the great yet gentle woman who discovered and established Christian Science. The modern wise men should say of her as was said of old: "Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates."

One of Mrs. Eddy's greatest achievements was this: she proved the Bible to be true by demonstrating that its teachings are applicable today; and for this scientific illumination of the divine Word the whole world owes her a lasting debt of gratitude.

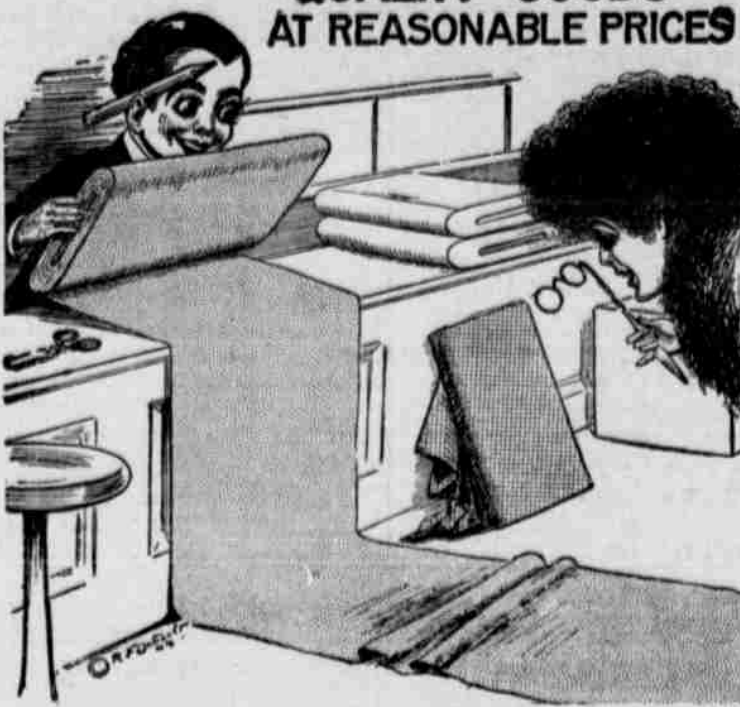
### CONCLUSION

Those who question Christian

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THE MEN'S TOGGERY

L. E. ROSE, Mgr.

Science healing should ask themselves whether they really believe in the healing work done by Christ Jesus and his disciples. If they do not thoroughly believe in the spiritual power exercised over material conditions, and its possible availability for all time, as declared in the Bible, then their opposition is not to Christian Science, but to the Christianity which Jesus taught and practiced. Christian Science stands ready to come to the rescue and to bring an elucidation of Jesus' teachings which will result in blessings such as they have never before believed possible. "Those who have not read the New Testament recently, will do well to do so. Let me ask them to read at least one of the gospels, also the book of the Acts of the Apostles, which record the healing done by Christ Jesus and his followers that day, and which are verified by the works of Christian Science today.

The fact that Christian Scientists do not yet do all the wonderful works that Jesus did, is a cause for regret, but not for discouragement or criticism. We are glad that Jesus' work proves Christian Science to be true, and that Mrs. Eddy rediscovered the Science of Christian healing and has given it to the world. This healing is possible in proportion to our spiritual understanding.

In Science and Health (pp. 42, 44, 45.) Mrs. Eddy writes: "The resurrection of the great demonstrator of God's power was the proof of his final triumph over body and matter, and gave full evidence of divine Science, evidence so important to mortals." "He proved Life to be deathless and Love to be the master of hate. He met and mastered on the basis of Christian Science,

the power of Mind over matter, all the claims of medicine, surgery, and hygiene." "Jesus' deed was for the enlightenment of men and for the salvation of the whole world from sin, sickness, and death."

Do medicine, surgery, physiology, chemistry, and physics aid us in understanding Jesus' great work for humanity? Do they bring us such enlightenment and salvation? Do they show us a better way? If not, where should we place our faith?

In closing, let me recommend that when temptation comes to believe the arguments of suffering or sin, it is well to stop a moment and think; well to know that they do not come from God, that He does not cause or support them, therefore they are not true, and we do not have to believe in them or be governed by them. When we recognize disease as mental and false, and realize that man is God's spiritual idea, governed by His love, we begin to experience harmony, something of the peace which passeth all understanding, and this will increase in proportion as our understanding increases. Christian Science makes this possible today.

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