

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

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Dr. Walter Hubbard, C. S. B., Member of the Board of Lecturers of The First Church of Christ, Scientist in Boston, Mass., delivered a lecture on Christian Science last Sunday afternoon in the Liberty Theater. The lecture was introduced by John E. Ross, who said:

"Friends, Christian Science has come to the world in response to humanity's cry for a practical, satisfying religion, and medicines today testify to its healing and saving ministry. The discoverer and founder of this religion was a cultured gentleman of New England, Mary Baker Eddy, and today the results of her remarkable wisdom and spiritual perception may be seen in hundreds of organized churches and societies throughout the world.

"In order that the public may be correctly informed concerning the religion and teaching of Christian Science and the life and works of its Leader, a Board of Lecturers has been instituted by the Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass., a member of this Board being with us this afternoon. My friends, it is with pleasure that I introduce to you Dr. Walter Hubbard, C. S. B., of Los Angeles, California, who will now address you."

The lecture follows:
Had some great material legacy been given to you and you had learned under what conditions you might appropriate it, I am sure that you would feel a great sense of happiness and expectancy. And you would be willing and eager to do all that is necessary in order that you might quickly receive that which you be loved would prove so great a blessing.

There is a gift which divine Love has given you. It is greater by far than all the treasure in the storehouse of the world. It gives to you what money cannot buy, for not only does it feed and clothe you, but it brings you bodily health, and peace and joy such as you have never known. This wonderful gift is the understanding and power which comes to you when you recognize your true relationship to God, and which when applied to human conditions brings health and harmony.

DIVINE LAW AVAILABLE

The explanation of God's law and its availability to all mankind was taught and demonstrated by Jesus the Christ, but for many centuries it has been maintained that the major portion of the reward for Christian living is to come at some future time, as if one has unlimited and immediately available funds in the bank but has been made to believe by his friends that the rules of the bank are such that he cannot use the money for many years to come. Christian Science furnishes the rule by which the power that Jesus used in accomplishing his wondrous works is made immediately available, and because its benedictive power can make over and bless every phase of our material existence it is the most important subject that can come to our consideration. The wisdom of this world has failed not only to heal from discord and sin but to heal from disease. And it will continue to fail in its treatment of disease until it is recognized that sickness is sick thought expressed on the body, and that sick thought is cast out through spiritual understanding. The wonder is that the fact that disease is mental has been hidden from the world for so long, and that human thought can continue to cling to material remedies in spite of their very apparent record of failure. That the patient must have faith in the physician in order to get results is quite generally admitted. Notwithstanding this admission, the human mind is so material in its thinking that it ignores the mental aspect of disease and continues its futile search in the material. In his daily practice the physician comes in contact with symptoms and conditions that cannot be accounted for materially. The moment one assumes that these are mental manifestations and looks for confirmation of this assumption he finds it on every hand.

During the time that I was studying medicine and before I was actually engaged in the practice, the statement was made to me on several occasions and by different persons that any effect which followed the use of medicine was not material but mental. The idea seemed quite impossible to me at the time, still when things occurred that were of such a nature that they could not be accounted for on any material basis I remembered what had been said and finally I began to see that some things at least were mental. This investigation went on and finally resulted in the conviction that all disease is mental and

that any result which has ever been obtained has come about as a mental manifestation. When before I saw nothing but material conditions I could now see the mental factor everywhere. In my own experience I have seen a person who suffered from a condition for which I prescribed at various times, fail to receive any relief from one sort of tablet while the administration of a tablet containing just half the quantity of the same drug but with a different color and taste was always followed by most marked results. It has been my experience also that those people who believed that it took strong medicine to cure them were much more apt to be quickly benefited if the medicine through its disgusting taste impressed them as being very strong.

On the other hand I remember one person who thought he was unusually susceptible to the supposed action of drugs. No matter how minute the quantity of drug which was given him his illness was immediately very greatly increased, yet he insisted that he must have medicine. Powders that had no more medicinal action than chalk would produce this aggravation as well as medicine, so it was evident that this too was mental.

MATERIAL METHODS FAIL

Anyone who goes back into the history of material medicine is impressed by the fact that for practically every diseased condition there has been a continual succession of drugs, one following the other; and it is always claimed for the last one, with the greatest enthusiasm and positiveness that it certainly does heal the disease, and in support of this contention there may be offered the records of many cases that have been cured. Human thought is not much given to retrospection along this line. If it were it would remember that all the drugs that have followed each other in the treatment of diseases, and have been successively discarded, have had the same glowing record when they were first used. The reason for this is that it is not the drug but the belief in it which accomplishes the healing. Those who discover and bring forth a remedy are strong in their belief that it will cure, because the remedy is the outcome of a definite conviction as to how the disease should be treated; so they obtain marked results, while those who prescribe the same drug later on have no such deep conviction, and because of their previous experience may be even mildly skeptical. This state of thought brings about failure.

Because the new remedy with its short-lived record of success always takes the place of the old with its final record of failure, these successive changes are announced in the name of progress. The extent of the failure is seen in the fact that every material thing, vegetable, mineral, and animal, which imagination conceived to have a medicinal action has been tried. The ignorance of the medical methods of a hundred years ago is laughed at by the men who seriously believe that extracts from calves and pigs can make them better men.

Now the history of every material method including surgery is the same as that of drugs. The results which come are according to the belief which is entertained about them. One has only to glance through the medical journals to see that physicians themselves are condemning many of the operations and methods which the world at large has been taught to believe would heal them. Almost every one can recall operations and methods which were quite the rage a few years ago but are seldom heard of today, and it is perfectly safe to predict that the surgical procedures which seem successful today will be discarded for others tomorrow.

The casual observer may be made to believe that these operations were reasonably successful and were only abandoned because other and better operative methods had been discovered. Investigation will show, however, that the operation was most successful during its early history, and that something detrimental—some disturbing after effect—appeared with greater and greater frequency until the method was abandoned for another so new that it had not had time to acquire a record of failure.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE LOGICAL

In what has been said there is no disposition to criticize the medical profession or to minimize whatever of good it may be accomplishing, but it is no kindness to them to refrain from stating the truth. The greatest blessing that can come to both the doctor and the world is to learn why it is that no material method is of permanent avail and that it is God who not only "forgiveth all thine iniquities"

but "who healeth all thy diseases." In my search for the best mental means with which to heal the mental conditions which produced disease, Christian Science came in for its share of investigation. It was the one method which I thought I did not want because it would not mix with any of my material thinking, but it was the only method I could accept because it was the only one which maintained the logic of its reasoning. When human thought is filled with fear and belief in disease, no human statement to the contrary will suffice, and the thought which heals must be so evidently the divine idea, that it comes to human consciousness as the very voice of God to destroy and dispel the error. Such a system is Christian Science and it only asks to be known by its fruits.

ITS DISCOVERER AND FOUNDER

It is essential in undertaking the study of Christian Science that one should know something of the one to whom it was revealed, and some of the factors which led to its discovery. The revelation came to Mrs. Eddy because the particular qualities of thought which she possessed made it inevitable. She was always of a deeply religious nature. In her secular studies the trend of her thought is shown in the fact that her favorite studies were natural philosophy, logic, and moral science, together with Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. There was in all that she did a persistence that is very striking. A study of her life shows that every material thing which might have brought some sense of satisfaction and peace crumbled to ashes within her grasp, yet she never faltered nor lost faith that God would show her the way out if she persisted with sufficient diligence. She investigated every material system of healing and finally decided that all causation must be mental, yet it required twenty years of effort before she really understood that all causation was Mind, God, and a number of years more before it had unfolded with sufficient clarity to be given to the world. So Christian Science came as a result of patient, unflinching effort to know God's law, and to the one who possessed the qualities of thought which made its revelation humanly possible.

Because the study of Christian Science has enabled us to know the power and love of God and to recognize and appreciate much more fully what the Master did for us in his demonstration of this power and love, we are grateful to Mrs. Eddy for having made it possible. There is no human gift that can compare to the gift of spiritual understanding, for it brings joy into every phase of living. Those who have not felt its beneficence cannot understand why Christian Scientists express so great appreciation of Mrs. Eddy because they cannot conceive of the greatness of the gift, while those who know something of the richness of it wonder that so often we forget to be grateful.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

It is the common experience of those who study Christian Science that there comes to them a much larger, clearer understanding of God than they had before. In her writings Mrs. Eddy quite properly and with Biblical precedent uses a number of terms for the Supreme Being each one of which expresses some particular quality of the divine Principle. It is interesting and helpful in studying what she has written to stop and consider just why a particular term for God is used in any given sentence. It will invariably be found that the word chosen not only explains her meaning better than any other, but that by its use one's understanding of Life, or Spirit, or of whatever synonym for God she been used, is increased, and one is conscious of spiritual growth.

In discussing the nature of God let us begin with the fact that God is Mind, because by recognizing this we are enabled to see more clearly the inseparable relationship which exists between God and man, and to see that because of this relationship man manifests the qualities of God, of Mind, and nothing else.

It is generally admitted that there is a Supreme Being and that he is omnipotent and omniscient. To say that God is omniscient, all-knowing, is stating that God is infinite Mind. For Mind alone knows, understands. When Daniel said, "Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his," and when Paul said, "To God only wise, be glory," they both admitted infinite Mind which alone possesses infinite wisdom and makes it manifest.

DIVINE MIND AND DIVINE IDEA

In order that we may better understand the operation, the activity, of infinite Mind, let us illustrate the divine Mind by using the ordinary conception of a human mind as an example. You say your friend has a fine

(Continued on sixth page.)



Wanted: A National Policeman

The farmer does not get enough money for the food he sells; but the consumer, who buys it, pays too much. It is high time that Uncle Sam constituted himself a policeman to protect both producer and consumer. If he keeps the in-between boys from raiding the Public-Food melon patch, the producer will no longer have to put up with so small a return and, what is just as important, the public will not have to pay exorbitant prices for food.

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