

The Coquille Valley Sentinel

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Christian Science Lecture Here

Sunday Draws Large Attendance

There was an attendance which filled the lodge room in I.O.O.F. hall and spread out into the hallway last Sunday afternoon to hear Peter B. Biggins, of Seattle, deliver a lecture entitled, "Christian Science: True Science Meeting Modern Needs."

Those in attendance were from Roseburg and all points in Coos county. The speaker was introduced by Mrs. Metta Rosslow, of Myrtle Point. Mr. Biggins' lecture follows:

A Lecture

on

Christian Science

Entitled

Christian Science:
True Science Meeting
Modern Needs

by

Peter B. Biggins, C. S. B.
of Seattle, Washington

Member of the Board of Lectureship of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts

Many of you have come to this lecture with the hope that you may find that Christian Science will aid you in the practical affairs of daily life. That is a reasonable hope. This is a practical age in which we are living. Many problems call for solution. It is right, then, that we should find the Principle which solves these problems.

Some of you already have become convinced that this Principle is God, because in your daily lives you have proved this to be so. Others hope to find that this is true. My friends, Christian Science brings to you the assurance that all the blessings which you rightfully seek can be enjoyed by understanding the divine Principle of your being, and by practicing the rules of this Principle in their Science. It affirms that human disorders can be dispelled by understanding and demonstrating the harmony of being. What could be more desirable than that? Most of us would think that the solution of our individual problem would mean for us a real foretaste of heaven here and now. This is indeed true. At this point these words of Mary Baker Eddy, written in "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" (p. 6), are timely and significant, "To reach heaven, the harmony of being, we must understand the divine Principle of being."

The Understanding of Divine Principle

A number who are here have given valuable years to study. With diligent application, you have prepared yourselves for your lifework. To this end you have studied what you understand to be the principle underlying this particular activity. The engineer, the accountant, and others, have studied the principles of mathematics; the musician has studied the principle of music—and so on. May I indicate to you that the time comes when you may go still further and gain a broader, more expansive view of the one all-inclusive Principle of all Science, namely the one Mind, whom we know as God? Will you, then, bear with me while I bring to your attention some simple, basic facts regarding this divine Principle of harmonious being, and its application to modern needs, as made clear in Christian Science?

For this purpose, let our thoughts go back to an earlier day, nearly two thousand years ago. There has just appeared on earth a man who understands this Principle of being. We know him as Jesus of Nazareth. On account of his Godlike nature he is worthy to be called Jesus the Christ. The Bible very briefly records his remarkable life and work. It tells us in simple words of his sinless origin. It relates a little about his boyhood; and what an example it is for every boy and girl, for every man and woman! We learn that he "increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man."

In the Gospel of Luke we read of a beautiful incident in the life of Jesus. His mother and Joseph were wont to go to Jerusalem every year to take part in the feast of the Passover. Luke describes more in detail one of those visits, when Jesus was twelve years old. On that occasion, after his mother and Joseph had gone homeward for a day, they found that Jesus was not with them. When they inquired among their kinsfolk and acquaintances, they failed to find him

with them; and they turned back to Jerusalem. After three days they found him in the temple there, among the doctors of the law, hearing them and asking them questions; and we are told that "all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers." Even at that early age, he had discerned the divine Principle of his being to such an extent that he had a keen insight into the problems which were puzzling the theologians and thinkers of that day. In reply to his mother's loving remonstrance, he said, "How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" This is the first record of his having spoken of God, his divine Principle, as his Father. He was serving Principle. We read further in relation to this incident, so human in its appeal, that he went home with his mother and Joseph, and behaved as a dutiful child. "He went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them."

Ever-Presence of God

One of the important lessons which we learn from the life and work of Jesus the Christ is the blessing of the realization that God is ever present. This consciousness of God's ever-presence does indeed meet our needs. We have heard this assurance given many times. Until we learned the lessons of Christian Science, however, many of us have not been able to make this practically available. In Christian Science we find that God is good; not merely that God expresses the quality of goodness, but that He Himself is infinite good. The practical value of this lies in the fact that, as we realize the nearness of God, we are enjoying the presence of good. Every problem, every difficulty, which we seem to have, implies a belief in the absence of some phase of good. Thus the realization of the presence of God, infinite good, brings the solution of our every problem. How comforting it is to know that everyone without exception may enjoy the sweet consciousness of God's presence! All may prove the truth of what the Psalmist proclaimed, when he sang, "In thy presence is fulness of joy."

It was the Master's clear sense of the ever-presence and omnipotence of good, God, and of man's true individuality as the likeness of God, that enabled him to heal the sick. In the Gospel of Matthew it is related that at one time a leper came to him, saying, "Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean." Jesus put forth his hand and touched him—used spiritual power that reached the patient's need—saying, "I will; be thou clean." And, "immediately his leprosy was cleansed." Christ Jesus utilized the love of God. He afforded us a perfect example. His great command, "that ye love one another," can be fulfilled to the extent that we understand the power and presence of divine Love.

Jesus and True Science

The truth which Jesus utilized is the ever-present remedy for every ill. Mrs. Eddy writes in Science and Health (p. 313): "Jesus of Nazareth was the most scientific man that ever trod the globe. He plunged beneath the material surface of things, and found the spiritual cause." The marginal heading of the paragraph in which these words occur, is, significantly enough, "Jesus the Scientist." We may well marvel at the wonderful things that are being done in the realm of natural science today; but these are far transcended by the wonders of the true Science which Jesus understood and used. Jesus knew far more than the most advanced natural scientist of this or any earlier day. The clear recognition of this fact will enable us to seek and find in the Master's life and teaching, the solution of the problems of living. It will make us humble enough to see in his lifework the facts which mean everything to human happiness, success, and well-being. Humanity needs above all else today the clear sense of God's dear love, the realization of the fact that God loves every one of us, and that this boundless love solves our every problem, meets our every need.

Christian Science sheds a light on the basis of Christ Jesus' work, and thus is of great value to us today in using the true Science which he taught and demonstrated. Turning to the Glossary of Science and Health (p. 594), we find this definition of "Spirit": "Divine substance; Mind; divine Principle; all that is good;

God; that only which is perfect, everlasting, omnipresent, omnipotent, infinite." Are you seeking that which is good? Do you know that it is your right to enjoy all that is good? Christian Science declares and proves that you will find the real good which you seek in Spirit, because Spirit is "all that is good." You will readily admit that the works wrought by Christ Jesus were good. The healing of the leper was obviously a good work. It was the outcome of the Master's understanding of Spirit, God, his divine Principle. Such works as this were possible because he knew how to apply spiritual law, the law of Spirit. He was indeed a true Scientist.

Mrs. Eddy's Discovery

A number of years before the 1849 gold rush to California, a party westward bound was traveling through Nevada. The members of this party were greatly in need of water, and at last they came to a spring which flowed freely. Here they quenched their thirst, and watered their horses. This spring had been flowing for centuries before they came to it, and it is still there; and those who live near by tell of this welcome find by those early travelers. Thousands of people today are reaching out for the enjoyment of a greater degree of harmony, health, and happiness. This harmony has always been here. The way to make use of it, however, needed to be discovered and definitely stated in practical form. Christ Jesus spoke of the truth he presented as a well of "living water." In this age Mrs. Eddy has discovered anew the practical means of drawing from this well. Many who have become weary and footsore, journeying

through the desert of mortal beliefs, have now come to this well of living water, and through the study of Christian Science are being refreshed and healed. They gratefully accord to Mrs. Eddy due credit for the part which she has played in presenting to humanity the Science of Christianity. Mrs. Eddy was far in advance of other thinkers; she saw far into the realm of Spirit. She discerned spiritual law and its immediate application to our present human needs. Referring to her discovery, she writes in Science and Health (p. 109), "I knew the Principle of all harmonious Mind-action to be God, and that cures were produced in primitive Christian healing by holy, uplifting faith; but I must know the Science of this healing, and I won my way to absolute conclusions through divine revelation, reason, and demonstration."

As an illustration of Mrs. Eddy's success in healing by spiritual means, the following incident may be related. About the year 1869, she was called to attend a patient of a distinguished physician, who pronounced the patient dying of pneumonia. When the doctor saw this sufferer restored to health by Mrs. Eddy through prayer, he asked earnestly if she had a work describing her system of healing. He urged her to write a book to explain this method to the world. As Mrs. Eddy's healing work expanded, the demand for her service grew to such an extent that it was impossible for her to meet it in person. Then she had to entrust this work to those whom she taught. This pressing demand led her to write the Christian Science textbook, Sci-

Gilmore Winners Pause After Drive



Above are pictured the winners of the annual Gilmore-Yosemite Run in their respective classes. The automobiles driven by these winning drivers were Chrysler-Royal, Studebaker Commander and President, Overland, Nash-Lafayette, Packard, Lincoln Zephyr, and Oldsmobile.

ence and Health. It further led in due time to the organizing of the Church of Christ, Scientist.

Mrs. Eddy gave freely to mankind. Her life was one of deep love for humanity. When she spoke in The Mother Church for the first time on May 28, 1895, there was in the audience a young man who later wrote in part to his mother, referring to Mrs. Eddy: "She must have spoken

for twenty minutes, and it meant volumes to me. It was all love—God's love, and Christ's great commandment, Love one another." He went on to say, in substance, that you feel as though she were "your best friend." It is not only those who have had the privilege of meeting Mrs. Eddy, or of hearing her speak, who have thought as this young man

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SIXTEEN
STOCK CARS

Average

21.9

MILES PER GALLON OF
RED LION
GASOLINE

IN THE
GILMORE
YOSEMITE RUN

CHRYSLER (No. 9.3)
CHRYSLER (No. 9.4)
BUICK SPECIAL
HUDSON 8
HUPMOBILE 6
LINCOLN ZEPHYR
NASH LAFAYETTE
NASH AMBASSADOR 4
NASH AMBASSADOR 8
OLDSMOBILE 40
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PACKARD 6
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