A LECTURE ON CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

BY William R. Rathvon, C. S. B.

ford schools, introduced the lecturer, Wm. R. Rathvon. A very large and attentive audience estimated at 1200 speaker, who spoke as follows:

Member of the Board of Lectureship of The First Church of Christ,

Scientist, of Boston, Mass. The intelligent study of any sci-

Christian Science, universal in its book and then proved and demon- showed as pure gold. strated in all the various avendes and activities of everyday life, wherever man mingles with man or his interests teach those of his fellows.

BESIDES THE BIBLE Christian Science has but one text book, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy. It is not a book to be quick ly read or hastily thumbed over as one would a shallow novel. Nor is prejudice if one would share its riches; but its truths may be proved and in turn imparted by child or sage who turns its leaves with an open mind. Only the open flower it is that catches the dew and yields in gracious profusion. its honey to the ber-

Saint and sinner meet on common ground, in the pages of this remarkable book and though its starts all alike at the bottom of the ladder it always lifts up and never drags. down. Time and again its coverhave been rudely torn open by entriendly hands in search of phrases. to wrench from their context and with which to smite men of stray, yet neither force nor deceit, the blundering of the bear or the cunning of the fox can avail to diveror suppress its tidings of comfort and Joy.

It has been asserted that Christian Scientists place their text book above the lible as the guide to righteonsness. No one can honestly the book carefully, for on page 497 great joy that have been waiting tian Scientist. No man can become a of Science and Health are printed man's readiness since the days when Christian Scientist by merely believed.

book have upon those who have preit supplant the Bible in their rever- new mark in the newspaper worldharmonizes many seeming incongruities in the Bible which have long perplexed layman and theologians; it discloses unexpected riches; it gives

little or no familiarity, with the Scriptures has made them Bible stutime jathelst, the scoffer and the blasphemer are finding the Gospel a treasure house of joy and consolation whose untried doors had been sagacity, and her courage and steadbarred against them until unlocked by the Key forged by the hands of a gentle woman who loved all mankind. No other book in modern times has made so many Bible read-

The text book of Christian Science was given to the world not to explait a theory, but to relate a dis- expressed-that her followers should the voice to change. covery; not to upuet religious, but to establish salvation; not to confound dress their thought to the things of ing; not to condemn the sinner, but them. She would have us study her to turn him away from his wicked-

ness, that he might live. It comes bringing liberty, not bondage! toleration, not bigotry: it tells little of hell, but much of God dents to follow her only as she foland love. From cover to cover it contains not one threat; not one word of defamation, detraction or villification of any man's medicine or any man's religion. Its pages teem with love for God and man.

heart, and not be a better man for contrary and widely divergent be- of the heart, causing the blood to in other words, it affirms that right such a jewel you may note such an unliy discouraged is not only an inthe reading; no sorrowing one need liefs about God and hence his intermiss its message of comfort; none pretations of life are conflicting and if the state of mind can affect the limits its both a delight and rebuke to those ready striped with the colors of untortured by pain or enfeebled by discordant. If he concedes to God. organs of the throat causing huskiness need close it in despair. The the primal cause of all being, illiminess, then it is plain that the state of Jesus the Christ, we find in him the to unlearn before we can "become as power and goodness of God himself. Christian Science method of banishsimple may gather from it wisdom; itable power Omnipotence and il- mind may be held accountable for ideal thinker whose thoughts and ac- little children." Our human sense This may startle some of you who are ing evil-darkness is to bring in the wise may gain from it simplicity. Hmitable knowledge Omniscience, other derangements of the organs tions conformed invariably to the of love, fine though it be, must be accustomed to let yourselves be rob-

gan. The message that rang in her love but is bound to fear.

Emerson says in his cassay on when Christianity existed in one jy turns to the Scriptures. child," and it can be likewise said ence should proceed by the orderly that there was a time when Christian its statements thus learned are to an. But she was faithful to her be proved in the class room, in the trust, and before giving her discovlaboratory, or in the field, as the ery to the world she tested it critically. She became a Christian Science usefulness and in its availability is world, and put her Science to the practitioner, the only one in all the likewise to be learned from its text touchstone of healing the sick. It

> Then followed the writing of her book, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," giving the substance of her discovery to the publis in concrete and understandable form

Men may differ in their understanding of inspiration and revelation and may baggle over their being present day possibilities. They may even deny to woman the spiritual it to be approached with bias or ther wrangling nor disputations nor perception acceded to man, but neldenials have ever brought to poor humanity the roses of health or the fragrance of gratitude. The book, Science and Health, has done both

One November day in 1998, Mrs. Eding of divine Principle, and persists in using that understanding in the home in Colorado to become a member of his everyday life. He must home in Colorado to become a member of his everyday life. He must will are made wholly subordinate salvation, for our health, for our salvation, for our health, for our salvation, for our health, for our constructed. However well shaped, and the omnipresence of Love can always and our well-being to underlicty designated "the happiest group of Christian Scientists on earth." I was privileged to share her daily counsels for more than two years, and from the time of my first half hour's heart-to-heart talk with her, jency for the Christian Scientist is down to the afternoon, when standhands shape her last written words, "God is my life," I have never wa- fellow men and in the sanctity of his vered in my conviction that she has junermost thoughts. been the chosen evangel of Truth. make this allegation who has read intrusted with those good tidings of thing as a purely theoretical Chris- man one is confronted by the ques-

vice which fills those churches twice each week with throngs of worship- helpful in thought and deed; only as The truths of Christian Science do pers who are drawn neither by we think health and talk health innot originate in the book Science music, eloquence, nor sensational stead of disease and disaster. We and Health. They find expression sermonizing; the building up of ef- are Christian Scientists only as we there but their origin is in God, ficient agencies and institutions for say to evil mental suggestion, "Peace, awakening-alike in both cases-They have always existed and will the dissemination and protection of be still!" Only as we are loving and forever exist. What effect, then, it a radically new system of ethics; and courageous and resolute and unmay be asked, does the study of this the launching of a great metropolitan daily in the interests of clean viously been libie students? Does journalism whose success has set a ence and admiration? Is the Book these things or any of them would tian Scientists because they rely of books less precious to them than give eminence to the life-work of before? The answer is, "No." On the most ambitious of men. To a "do anything" for the sick. When the other hand Science and Health modest woman, Mary Baker Eddy, the average man considers the needs

belongs the credit of them all. explains apparent contradictions; it compared with the fruits of her con- for the sick man unless he is made to changes we pass. Death does not it is not to be wondered, then, that and consistently working for its masnew significance to favorite pas. and more of peace on earth and good his peremptory opinions, the sick Love of life, not fear of death, is in consciousness is an important feat- never building up. sages, and brings neglected ones will to men, and to guide us to a man should be treated with some. Christian Science the great incentive ure of the mission of Christian Science the great incentive ure of clearer and more practical under thing that he can taste or smell to action and achievement. and condemnation, she brushed aside dents and Bible lovers. The one as cobwebs when she was once assured of the approval of God.

fastness, of her wit and humor, of her love for little children and her not of these things that she would have me speak.

It was her desire-almost daily disregard her personality and adbooks and not her personality. She would have us know her by what she Years ago, she instructed her sturare Leader she was an ideal follower of all that is truly good.

GOD AS PRINCIPLE

No man can read it with an open understanding of God. He holds to state of mind may quicken the action mental processes of the individual. unspoiled child, and when you find Science discloses that the man habit-

On Tuesday evening, March 18, It was written in solitude by a and in the next breath attributes to of secretion, of circulation and of laws of God-Spirit-touching light-| broadened, purified, unselfed and bed of your courage-discouraged S. Collins, superintendent of Med- God has been speaking aloud to dull- god of good and evil, of benevolence ing grief into joy will stop the flow dwelling on earth among men. eared mankind ever since time be- and cruelty, whom he may try to of tears, or in other words if a But his heavenward thoughts were

tions of orthodoxy, is repudiated in loids and powders? Christian Science. For its definition

In our contemplation of Delty, we are thus led to lift our thought from Christian Science. use of its text books. Its laws and Science existed in one devoted wom- effect to Cause; from the thing created to the creator; from idea to stand God to be the infinite Personality without corporeality, the Prinableness neither shadow of turning."

In contemplating God as infinite of mathematics. The mistakes we

Christian Science stands before the believed. The standard of profic-

Hence it is that there is no such! swerving in our warfare against sin, sickness and death.

BODY'S RESPONSE TO MIND

It is often charged against Chriswholly upon Mind that they do not

and drinking, the lesson they disclose wrote and not by how she looked. censure Christian Science for achievyet which has been a part of him laws. lowed Christ, and though she was a since the day when as a crying infant he on his mother's arm shed his first

lems of life is to be measured by his causing the tears to flow; or that the

with mental medicine. He gave along the way. himself no concern about physiunerring Principle of Being, or they directions about diet and rest, but on its own punishment. It has been and man. will be failures, precisely as failure at least one occasion said, "Sin no

HEREAFTER

In considering the immortality of more to be feared than is sleep. In the present state of our development of mankind; both interfere for the message is, "Be not afraid." time with man's activities; and the

ormation left unfinished here will ceptible to illness and misfortune looked upon it as a sinister visitor. heaviness." have to be done hereafter. The stir- than others. It has uncovered in Yet that is just what Christian of a sick person, his thought at once ring command, "Work out your own fear an agency of evil, an enemy of Science shows it to be. But these achievements, grand as turns to the medicine bottle and he salvation," follows us wherever we bealth, a destroyer of peace and a Discouragement wears the invisithey are, weighed little with her believes there is nothing being done may be and through whatever bar to man's progress heavenward, ble livery of evil and is constantly secrated endeavors to bring more swallow something. According to silence it nor modify its demands, the elimination of fear from human ter. It is always pulling down and have you consult the pages of its

incidents of Mrs. Eddy's wisdom and telligent citizen will readily admit a place of happiness after death per- it out."

ing what he styles the impossible, thoughts and deeds, to God's eternal "Perfect love casteth out fear."

a Christian Science lecture was de. woman whose spiritual hearing was Him the afflictions and disasters of speech. And if of these why not of ly upon matters and things material just in proportion as this is done it and to slide unresistingly into the billivered in the Natatorium. Prof. U. acute enough to catch the words that human experience, he is setting up a other organs of the body? If change only as tolerated concomitants of his is to be relied upon as the complete lous depths of the "blues" when

one and all responded to the curative wholeness and hence health attended | Love for God and man is the one devil was going out of business and

ing of God that has transformed our fairs of all who enter them.

LOVE VS. FEAR

these words, the first of a series .t | Jesus trod the dusty fields of Syria. | It is not a new message. | It is not "As adherents of Truth we take the inspired Word of the Bible as our sufficient guide to eternal life."

What important the inspired word of the Bible as our sufficient guide to eternal life. The establishment of a great red the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. The establishment of a great red the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. The establishment of a great red the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. We are the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. The call the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. The call the children of men ation it sifts out certain pernicious of counting them. both are incidental to the experience affrighted disciples, all use it. That lieve were guileless, if not commend- flowers of gratitude and if he will

fact that when fear is eliminated warming in the incubator of our fa-dispeller of discouragement. Or if will, we believe, show no substantial from the consciousness of the sick vor the eggs of serpents that we bechange in individuality or advance- man-no matter what the nature of lieved belonged to doves. Perhaps flowers covered with snow, he can ment. The gates of heaven do not his illness he has taken a long step the most common of disease-inviting find that warmth of soul which alswing open at the touch of death, toward recovery. It declares also habits of thought is discouragement, ways banishes discouragement, if he but are to be entered by right think- that people who are habitually free I daresay we have all been on inti- will but heed that part of a favorite ing and right living, here and here. from fear, worry, anxiety, apprehen- mate terms with it one time or an-The work of regeneration and ref- the children of fear, are far less sus- it cheerful company, we have not garment of praise for the spirit of Science.

applause of men, like their abuse ing is being done for him." and Latin mythology, the seven heav- how am I to get rid of fear and worry and dissipates purpose. ing to change the condition of a plains of the belligerent Norsemen, power and determination i can com-

Christian Science puts aside the mented man find a panacea that is If then it is conceded that the state and shows it to be a state or condi-Man's comprehension of the prob- of mind may disturb the secretions, tion of mind. It follows, therefore, tides of the sea. Perhaps the near- Science. that its attainment depends upon the est similitude to perfect love is an More than all of this Christian with the light of good and the dark-

antidote of fear.

change of thought will change the not those of the inert mystic, or the of so many of the afflictions of mor- truth-loving people who yield readily earn was not for her alone, but for The anthropomorphic idea of God flow of fluid to the eyes, why will cell-bound monk. They ripened talk, so love is to be known as their to discouragement because they have people, gave close attention to the all her fellow men, living and to live, as a man-like being of human at- not a change of thought change the quickly into action and touched his remedy. If we would have less of not yet discovered where it comes and she could no more smother it tributes and qualities enormously flow of fluids to the stomach? Is it fellow men with the ardor of regen- worry, anxiety, apprehension and the from and what is back of it. They into silence than the trees can knot magnified, a heritage of mythology, not more rational then to treat eration. His thoughts were about ills they invite we must be more lov- do not see that it is but the advance Lecture on Christian Science by their eager leaves when they have handed down to us through general dyspepsia with mind than with tab. God, hence they brought lasting good, ing; that is to say, the more of God, agent of evil itself. A familiar fable to man. They were of heavenly law, perfect Love, we bring into con- of folk-lore will perhaps illustrate And so it is with all other bodily and so brought order out of earthly sciousness and make manifest in our this point. "Character," "There was a time of God, Christian Science consistent- diseases and derangements, they have chaos. They were of holiness, daily lives, the less of fear can enter. It was once announced that the

influence of Mind, administered in his footsteps. No surer road to indispensible element of all true and would offer all his tools for sale to heaven can be found than the trail lasting success. The world of today whoever would pay his price, On the Jesus proved for all time and for he biazed for us in the wilderness of is slow to rise to the appreciation of night of the sale they were all atall Christendom that the origin of human beliefs, for though narrow it this great truth. The world of com-Principle. Thus we come to undersions is still constructing its various red, jealousy, sensuality, deceit and Most men have found they can get undertakings out of the raw materi- all the other implements of evil were ciple of all true being, the supreme cal symptoms, but he destroyed what all they want of heaven's antithesis, als of energy, determination, skill spread out, each marked with its good, the same yesterday, today and caused them. He cared little about hell, right here on earth, and there and enterprise, each of which is price. Apart from the rest lay a forever, "in whom there is no variableness neither shadow of turning but much about what he had been thinking. He said in so many words, ready had more than their share of channel, but all are lacking in the much worn and priced higher than it, and perhaps they have. But they one essential needed to make them any of them. Principle, we find our life problems man which defileth him." When he must be worked out according to this healed the sick he gave no parting room the hand of God. Sin brings one thing needful is love for God was. "That's discouragement" was

truly said that man is not punished Did you ever consider how our it priced so high?" "Because." refollows the work of the student in more lest a worse thing come unto for his sins, but by his sins. By sin great cities are made up of buildings, plied the devil, "it is more useful to algebra, who ignores the principles thee," thus indicating the mental is meant what Paul defines as transorigin of the disease. The sick were gression of the law, whether due to laying one brick on top of another pry open and get inside a man's conmake in life and their afflictive rehealed by him through spiritual unman's ignorance of God's law or to until their walls tower upward and science with that when I couldn't suits are due to our ignorance of derstanding, not by human will his willful disobedience of it. The the streets stretch out for miles? get near him with any of the others, Principle, or to our disregard of the Christian Science, similarly relying child who, through ignorance or dislaws expressing Principle, and in all wholly upon divine Principle, has no obedience, picks up a piece of hot this is possible only through the unicases are assignable to our own relationship with will power, mental iron suffers because of his ignorance versal use of that commonplace and is so much worn because I use it shortcomings and never to Principle science, hypnotism, meamerism, auto- or disobedience. His loving father homely material known as mortar? with nearly everybody, as very few itself. The deplorable mistakes in suggestion, thought transference, has had nothing to do with his sufman's history which he designates as spiritualism or any of the other cults fering, and "Our Father which art ter and crash to the ground if the me." sickness and suffering and failure or schools which rely wholly or to in heaving," loving every one of His countless millions of pieces which It It has fallen to my lot to have and disaster will diminish in fre-known its author intimately in the quency and virilence as he applies mind or human will upon another. Pain nor penalty. From Him com-

cognition, for a principle unexpress- the will of God. Success in Christian stand God's spiritual laws that we however carefully laid they may be. afford to allow discouragement to Science is only attained as fallible may obey them. Many of us for unless they are bound above and be- argue with him for one minute. human mentality is eliminated. This years sought this understanding in low with the cement of love for God world as a demonstrable religion, implies seif-denial, the denial of the the churches and out of them, seek- and man, they may in time tumble human sense of self, and the affir- ing peace of mind and health of into a tangled mass of mediocrity form allows discouragement no more mation of all good, and is a condi- body and finding neither until we like mortarless bricks. But when foothold in his consciousness than he not how much he believes, but how tion to which all must come sooner turned to Christian Science, where laid with the cement of love into the log at her side I saw her marvelous much of that belief he is using in his or later. "As I live, saith the Lord, we found them both and with them structure of our lives, they will prodisily life, in his dealings with his covery knee shall bow, and every gained a measure of the understand- text and shelter and beautify the af-

> DISCOURAGEMENT There is a short and cheering to human comprehension, gives freemessage that Christian Science has dom from whatever enslaves and There can always be found something valor, the gentle Savior quieting his moods and inclinations that we be- life there are blooming the sweet able, but were in reality neither wise but stoop and pull one and wear it Christian Science emphasizes the nor harmless. We find we have been he will find its fragrance a magic sion and the like, all of which are other, and while we have never found we are commanded to put on "the

complish anything worth while when Baker Eddy. You will not lay it The study and application of its standing of the Fatherhood of God or feel, something that senses The isles of the blest of the anteachings by those who have had and the brotherhood of man. The can perceive. Otherwise "Noth- clents, the Elysian fields of Greek enough to say do not be afraid," but paralyzes effort, stupefies thought take it up with sincerity.

He may tell you that attempt- ens of Hebrew cabalism, the battle and anxiety? I use all the will- There is a ridiculous side also to you tonight some elem-stary precept the condition of the man who is men- to test for yourselves, I would place man's body through mind alone 's the happy hunting grounds of the mand, yet I do not get rid of worry, tally sick abed with a bad case of before you this simple fact. The I could by the hour recite to you foolishness. And yet—this same in- American Indian all express belief in it comes in about as fast as I drive discouragement. He is only happy Christian Science method of getting when he is miserable; the worse he rid of things that are wrong is to inthat a man's body commonly and fre- trayed in a widely differing imagery. Attempting to get the mastery of feels the better he likes it; the introduce things that are right. This quently undergoes sudden and very All of them, Pagan and Jew, Greek fear and worry by will-power alone things that please him most are the is not fighting evil but destroying it. marked changes due entirely to men- and barbarian, Norseman and indian, is like trying to beat back the ocean things that do not please him at all. It has been proved in millions of indelight in the beautiful, of the in- tal causes. He will admit that salt Mohammedan and Hindu, unite in with a baseball bat, or trying to He is continually stumbling into the stances that a wrong thought which expressible charm of her manner and water will flow from his eyes if he is maintaining that heaven stands for chase clouds away with a broom. two extremes of self-justification and is the father of a wrong action will the eloquence of her voice, but it is subjected to great grief. That sud- futurity, that its portal is death, its You cannot get rid of them by fight- self-condemnation. Both are bad; invariably vanish into nothingness if den fear will produce cold perspira- threshold is mystery. And now comes ing them, but you can readily get out both are modeled after plans drawn you will but introduce a right tion. That anger will cause the face Christian Science proclaiming in the of their reach by rising higher. The in the devil's workshop; both are ob- thought in its place. God destroys to flush or pale, the heart to thump. words of Jesus that the kingdom of waves of fear and the mists of worry structive to progress. Self-condem- evil as surely and as quickly as light heaven is at hand-is here and now do not extend upwards and if you nation digs a hole; self-justification destroys darkness. Remember that Now grief, anger and the like are attainable. It declares that we do will but climb to the hillton of self- sets up a pole, and no man can go for you will find it helpful if you are obviously mental, but because their not gain heaven by dying, but by lessness where Love stands waiting very far in any right direction when ever disposed to try Christian Science materia medica, but to simplify healcurrence, as commonplace as cating gate to a far-off paradise, but that hands, you will no longer be buffet- of a hole or perched on the topeof in your thought good with light, and heaven is within our reach today ed by fear or befogged by worry. For a pole, Man is endowed with nobler evil with darkness you will have beis lost upon the man who hastens to and that we get little or much of it centuries St. John has been telling qualities than those of the beasts of fore you a flashlight glimpse of the as we conform our lives, our this to the world in these words, the field or the fowls of the air, and impotence of evil in the presence of he must come out of the hole of self- the good. Not an the darkness in In that perfect love may fear-tor- condemnation and down from the the universe can extinguish the light pole of self-justification on to the of one tiny lamp. Wherever it goes mythologic idea of heaven as a place, free as the air, as animating as the jevel ground of unselfed endeavor if it chases away durkness, which is al-

things go wrong. The Christian As fear, then is seen to be the cause world is full of God-fearing and

the reply. "Well, why do you have

The Christian Scientist in his unceasing warfare against evil in every does to malice, hatred, envy or deabout God and man, An effective plan to drive out dis-

Christian Science brings the Truth couragement is to bring into thought some measure of gratitude or praise.

It never fails. LIGHT AND DARKNESS.

I have thus far spoken more of the results of Christian Science than of text-book "Science and Health with

But that you may carry away with to be in the presence of light. So

The comparison is a good one, but

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