

A LECTURE ON CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Entitled Christian Science: Its Restorative Ministry, by Dr. John M. Tuttle, C. S. B.

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Christian Science has come to humanity in response to its cry: "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me..."

Personal Experience

As one of the many who have returned from going down into the pit, I testify gladly to the power of Christian Science in my own experience.

Now I do not speak incompetently, nor do I wish to speak impudently of materia medica.

Christian Science honors and respects that class of physicians whose lives are devoted to the alleviation of suffering, whose interests in mankind are not selfish nor political.

After practicing medicine for three years, I was forced to the conclusion that to ignore the spiritual man is to be unprepared to cope with the discordant manifestations we see in the physical body.

Today, from experience in the treatment of the sick covering active physical medical systems, I am able to testify to the superiority of Christian Science over all other methods.

treatment, and a lapse of only twenty-four hours, I returned to my work entirely restored.

The Universal Panacea

If each individual in this audience were asked to give a reason for his presence here, no doubt it would be possible to classify the replies under two great heads—religion and medicine.

It is significant that the earliest systems of religious philosophy made no separation between religion and medicine.

The only reason mankind has not turned to God, the great physician, in the time of physical distress, is because of the material bias of its education.

Jesus knew these laws, employed them, and laid upon all Christians the injunction to imitate his healing works.

The Discoverer and Founder

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God

Christian Science accepts the primary order of Scripture which states fundamentally: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."

logically at the Creator. That is very plain, and there have never been in the world's history any considerable number of people who would deny a supreme Cause, or God.

Therefore Christian Science is not confronted with the necessity to establish in thought the fact that God is. His mission is to reveal what God is, how we are to know Him, and how we are to utilize His power in solving life's problems.

In reviewing the history of religion it is surprising to note that however diverse the beliefs about Deity held by mankind, there is one strikingly common to them all.

Mankind's concepts of Deity have ranged from the crudest forms of matter, images of stone, wood, metals and from the more impressive manifestations of matter, the sun, moon and stars.

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Spiritual Science and Heaven

How do we know God and where do we find Him? Elijah in the mount before the Lord learned that God was not in the whirlwind, not in the earthquake, not in the fire—God was not in matter.

Spirit, He manifests Himself spiritually. "They that worship Him," said Jesus, "must worship Him in spirit and in truth."

Through spiritual sense only, man comprehends and loves Deity. And again, "(Science and Health, page 209): "Spiritual sense is a conscious, constant, capacity to understand God."

Christian Science has come to restore the right concept of heaven, and to reveal it to be spiritual consciousness, and there is not one in this audience but may yield his material sense to that divine influence and now and here enter the realm of harmony.

Man

The restoration in consciousness of God as Spirit, or Mind, at once lifts thought to a higher contemplation of God's creation—man.

Natural science declares man to be composed of chemical elements and to be confined to a physical body.

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Popular theology holds that man is both material and spiritual; that he has a material body and a spiritual soul.

Jesus furnished an illustration of the real man and of the unreal nature of physicality when, after proving his unreal character by his regarding and overcoming physical law, he separated himself from matter and disappeared.

It is often remarked how intimate Christian Scientists speak of God. We no longer regard Him fearfully, because we have learned that He is Divine Love.

Evil

From the foregoing it is evident that Christian Science does not hold God responsible for the creation of that which Paul defined as "enmity against God."

However, evil is accounted for logically in accordance with the law of supposed opposites. One of the synonyms of Deity, you will recall is Truth. God being infinite Truth, there is evidently nothing beyond manifestation to bring evil into the equation.

Evil may seem to have its day, but because it is perishable, its destruction is inevitable. Because it is a lie about something true, it must go out, and Truth must be its destroyer.

Salvation and Christ Jesus

In cleaning out the rubbish of untrue theories and building again the old waste places, Christian Science is a true constructive force.

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Where, in the scheme of salvation, does Christian Science place Christ Jesus? In the words of Peter, "There is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved."

By this it will be understood that Jesus was not God, but was, as he himself affirmed, the son of God.

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Prayer

The modus operandi by which Christian Science fulfills its restorative ministry is prayer. By prayer

illness is healed, sin is destroyed and harmony restored. By prayer ignorance is replaced with understanding. By prayer we draw near to God and enter into the heritage of his son, Prayer is that process by which false beliefs are destroyed and right concepts restored.

Christ Jesus, in teaching how to pray, said "Whatever things ye desire when ye pray, believe that ye receive them and ye shall have them."

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Christian Science vs. Suggestive Therapeutics

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Conclusion

How shall we epitomize the restorative ministry of Christian Science? (Continued on page 4)

other: is the power of God, divine Mind, and is wholly good. Christian Science has come to reassure mankind of all mental suggestions are no more really false, and can have their bestowment upon them in belief.

Christian Science teaches how to free oneself, and others, from the belief of any influence other than the power of the one Mind—God; from the laws of divine Principle; from the laws of divine Principle; from the laws of divine Principle; from the laws of divine Principle.

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