

people desire good and not evil, and in the main, all people are equally honest in their religious affiliations, for no one would knowingly deceive himself about so important a matter. The only reason, therefore, why people are grouped together in different religious organizations is because they honestly believe that through the organization to which they belong they will be most likely to gain the good which they so earnestly desire. Since, then, through Christian Science prayer, so many people have found health, contentment and peace, it is plain that sooner or later, every thinking person will desire to know how to pray as Christian Science teaches.

CREATION

Another subject about which there is great confusion of belief, is the subject of creation. There is perhaps no subject connected with religion, or mentioned in the Bible, about which there is greater misunderstanding than there is about creation. It is surprising how many people there are who do not even know that there are two accounts of the creation in the Bible. The first account is to be found in the first chapter of Genesis, and extends down to and includes the third verse of the second chapter. Beginning with the fourth verse of the second chapter, there follows another account that is wholly different from the first.

In the first account, we are told that God created the universe, and that everything made by Him was good, and lastly, that He created man, in His image, and after His own likeness, and that he was good; while in the second account, we have the allegory about God coming down to earth, and mixing up dust and calling it man. Then follows the story of Adam and Eve, and the Garden of Eden, and we are told that a deep sleep fell upon Adam, and that then sin appeared, and that brother murdered brother, and from that day to this that the man made of dust has been a sinner and has been at enmity with God.

Christian Science accepts the first account of the creation as the spiritual and real creation and upon this foundation and basis it builds. Religious teachers throughout the centuries have erroneously regarded the Adam-man as being the real man made in the image and likeness of God, and yet the Bible nowhere says so. The Bible nowhere says that the Adam-man was made in God's image or likeness. That statement was made concerning the real man described in an account of the real creation. And religious teachers have vainly striven to make the wisdom and the love of God fit the creation of a sinner.

Such a doctrine as that is impossible. It dishonors God, and degrades man. It makes God responsible for all of the sin and all of the misery from the beginning of time, and the best proof that it is not true is that it has never delivered those who believed it from evil.

How perfectly the name "mortal man" fits him. Have you ever thought of it? Mortal-mort-death, for that is what the word means. A death-man, having a death-body and a death-mind! Does any one believe that God ever created a death-man or gave him a death-mind or a death-body? And is it not plain that so long as people conceive of themselves as being mortals, or the mortal, or death-man, so long will they continue to remain in partnership with death. Christian Science makes plain that men and women can be emancipated from that enemy when they shall have learned the truth of their own being, and of their own true relationship to God.

Christian Science teaches that man is just what the Bible says he is; that he is spiritual; that God made him in His own image and after His own likeness; that He made him perfect, and that what God made perfect has never possessed the capacity to become imperfect.

Christian Science is the only system of teaching, either religious or secular, that even makes an attempt to explain the difference between man and the Adam-man, and Christian Science does explain it and make it perfectly plain by pointing out that the Adam-man—the dust-man—the mortal or death-man, is nothing more or less than the false mortal concept of man—the mis-concept of man. It is precisely as though one should put on a pair of green eyeglasses. He would then look out upon a green universe. He might scrub and scour some object all he pleased, but could never remove the green from it, because the green would not be in the object though appearing to be there, for it would be in the lens through which he looked at it. The only thing necessary for the man to do in order to translate the entire universe back into its normal aspect would be for him merely to take off the green lenses through which he was looking. In like manner, the only thing necessary for us to do in order to translate what seems to be a material universe and material man back into the spir-

itual is to take off the false, mortal eyeglasses.

Christian Science is making plain in many ways that so long as people continue to look through mortal eyeglasses, through lenses that are composed of superstition, false beliefs, human will, pride, self-righteousness and the like, they will continue to see man and the universe as material instead of spiritual; they will continue to see a deformed and diseased man and a distorted universe. But when they shall begin to lay aside the mortal eyeglasses and shall begin to look through the lenses of the spirit—lenses that are composed of truth, spiritual understanding, meekness, humility, love, faith and purity—they will then see a constantly improving man and universe. As this mental transformation progresses, disease, sin, sorrow, poverty and the limitations of old age will disappear and the spiritual real man will begin to appear. When this transformation shall have been completed we shall then see man and the universe as wholly spiritual as they now appear to God and as they have always appeared to God, for God has never seen His children nor His creation through mortal eyeglasses. He has always seen us as spiritual, and hence to Him we have always been perfect. In that day we shall know, as in fact we have now learned, that nothing that God made is material or ever needs to be healed, and that the only thing that needs to be healed is our own false concept of that which He made perfect.

If all this were only a theory people might be justified in refusing to accept it, but Christian Science practitioners are proving daily in all parts of the civilized world that by holding the perfect man in concept, by knowing that man is spiritual and perfect and is governed by an all-loving God, and by arguing steadfastly from the standpoint of the reality of good instead of from the standpoint of the supposed reality of evil, the sick are healed, and human conditions do improve.

Christian Science, therefore, is proving step by step that the declaration made by Jesus is true, and that in proportion as the knowledge of the truth fills human consciousness, driving out error and false beliefs, men and women come into the possession here and now of their God-given dominion.

MENTAL CAUSATION

I know how difficult a thing it is for people who are unacquainted with the teachings of Christian Science to understand what is meant by mental causation. Humanity has been accustomed through so many centuries to consider that all causation is vested in matter, that when we begin to discuss the subject of mental causation we are dealing with something that is unfamiliar to many. When I first turned to Christian Science, I did so for physical healing, and I was healed under circumstances that admitted of no doubt that I had been healed. I, therefore, became deeply convinced that Christian Science must be the truth, because it had wrought in me so great a change. When I was told, however, that there was no intelligence or sensation in the human body, I said that the thing was so manifestly absurd that no intelligent person could believe it for a moment, and in spite of the fact that I had been healed through Christian Science, I came very near turning my back upon it. Instead of doing so, however, I determined to make an honest effort to find out, if I could, what Christian Science meant by the statement that there is no intelligence or sensation in the mortal body.

I had not proceeded very far before I found that the statement was true, and then I found that it was necessarily true, and then I began to wonder why I myself had not thought of it long before, because it appeared so perfectly plain and obvious. It was pointed out to me that this body which people worship and fear, and which most people get down on their knees before every day and say to it, "Oh, body, what can I do for you today, to keep you from hurting me?" is composed of something over 70 per cent of water, and that the balance of it is chalk, lime, starch, potash and a few other things—that it is matter, just as truly as the ingredients of the dirt and wood are matter.

I then learned that there could be no more intelligence or sensation in matter when in the form of flesh, bones and nerves than when in the form of dirt or stone, which fact is proved whenever an opiate is given to a person and the human mind is put to sleep. The body may then be cut and gashed and the nerves lacerated, without the slightest indication of intelligence or sensation.

I thus learned that sensation and intelligence do not reside in the human body apart from the human mind.

Some day all mankind will recognize the immeasurable service that Christian Science has performed for the human race in making this fact plain. For if it be true, and it is true, that sensation and intelligence

do not reside in the human body, apart from the human mind, then it follows, absolutely, that the human body cannot do anything, feel anything, or have anything, except that which the human mind first decrees, and that by educating, instructing and controlling the human mind with truth, we shall thereby control the body with truth, and the body will then be healthy and harmonious.

Just as certainly as the human body has suffered from disease and discord, and has gone down in wreckage in all of the ages of the past, as the result of wrong mental government, Christian Science is proving that in the future the body will respond with health and harmony, when it shall be governed by "that mind which was also in Christ Jesus."

Regardless of what any one may think or say to the contrary, Christian Science has proved beyond all possibility of successful contradiction, that the human body is not self-acting. It is not a self-acting machine. Since it possesses neither intelligence nor sensation in nor of itself, it can act only in obedience to the mentality that governs it.

At this point Christian Science performs an invaluable service to mankind by explaining how each one may take possession of his body and govern it harmoniously. Christian Science here declares that no one is under any obligation whatever to allow the so-called mortal mind to dictate the terms and conditions upon which he may live, but upon the contrary, it is the right and privilege of every one to be governed by the law of Spirit instead of the so-called laws of matter, and that by telling the truth to mortal mind, and thereby destroying false belief, to preserve his body in health.

To illustrate how the body responds to the mentality that governs it, study the faces of two men. One is furrowed with deep lines. It expresses bitterness, and shows that the man hates every one, and believes that every one hates him. The other is radiant with good will, and shows by its every expression that the man loves every one, and thinks that every one loves him. What is it that makes the difference between the faces of the two men? Is it not their thought? And if thought can produce such radical changes in the shape, expression and contour of men's faces, is it not plain that thought will also produce like changes in the shape and action of every organ and part of the body? For there is no part of the body that is beyond the reach of human thought, and since no part of the body possesses intelligence or sensation in nor of itself, it follows that no organ or nerve can act except in obedience to the mentality that governs it.

Also observe what happens when a person becomes angry. Immediately the functions of every organ in the body are disarranged. The liver at once begins to secrete bile, and to diffuse it through the system, so that one of the first results of a fit of anger is that the breath becomes foul. The heart action is also disturbed, either being accelerated or retarded, and the face becomes pale or flushed. Any physician will say that many deaths have occurred from fits of anger, and yet anger is only a mental quality or state.

Now, let one ask himself that, since such results as these, which are experienced daily, can arise from a sudden wrong mental impulse, does it require much thought to see that like evil results will also occur from the habitual entertainment of a wrong mental quality? Is it not plain, that hatred, and all of its subdivisions and by-products, such as malice, spite, resentment and revenge, must necessarily produce evil and discordant conditions upon the human body? And, likewise, that every evil quality of the mortal mind, such as dishonesty, jealousy, greed, avarice, self-will, fear and the like, are so many conspirators against the peace and harmony of mankind, and that until these qualities are cast out, and are displaced by the qualities of that mind "which was also in Christ Jesus," men and women will continue to suffer sin, be unhappy, and die.

As another illustration of how the human mind governs the human body, let a mother tell her little girl that she will take cold if she gets her feet wet, and it will be so, and why? It is because the child believes what her mother says, and when she believes it, she embraces her body with her belief, and her body responds to the belief. Let the same mother, however, tell the same little girl that water has no more power to make her take cold when it gets on her feet than when it gets on her face, or when she drinks it, and the child may then get her feet wet every day, without the slightest bad results.

Again, one man believes that if he sleeps in a draught, he will take cold, and it will be so. Sitting right by his side is another man who believes that unless he sleeps in a draught, he will be sick, and it will be so, and there are two exactly opposite results following from the same draught, not because there is any power in the

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ematics. There is no mystery about it, and when one does his work correctly, according to its rule, healing and regeneration must follow.
In the Bible (John xx:17) we read that Jesus said to Mary, "Go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God and your God." Also in 1 John, iii:2, "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall like him; for we shall see him as he is." St. Paul also wrote (Romans 8:16, 17), "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ."
Christian Science demonstrates the truth of these inspired statements. It makes available as a present right and possibility man's inheritance as the son and heir of God by showing that the real man created by God is spiritual and not material; that his life, continuity, intelligence and harmony are in spirit and not in matter; that all of his qualities and attributes are derived from Spirit, and that every function of the real man is governed by the divine Mind. Man, therefore, expresses the divine nature, and hence he is the image of God, and as such is perfect and immortal. The material man is not the likeness of God, for matter cannot be the image of Spirit. He is the false concept of man, and the sin, disease and death involved in this false concept will disappear as false mortal beliefs are dissolved by truth. The material belief must give place to the spiritual fact in every case.
Out of the amplitude of her own spiritual understanding Mrs. Eddy has translated into human language the truth about God and man, and their relationship; has revealed a perfect divine Principle that governs mankind, and has proved that the truth taught by Jesus is scientific, and may be demonstrated today as of old to deliver the sinner, sorrowing and suffering from their oppressors, to set all mankind free from bondage to evil, and to establish the kingdom of God on earth.
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