

INTERESTING LECTURE ON CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Continued from page 2

—long accounts of wars, details of sin and vice, in some instances of the most revolting nature. Does any sensible human being believe that God wrote those things in a book, or that he directly or indirectly inspired them? The Bible taken as a whole and read intelligently shows how the power of good can overpower all evil in human lives and in human consciousness, and thus it provides for the inevitable destruction of sin, sickness, and death and the environment of righteousness, health, and life.

In the Christian Science textbook Mrs. Eddy shows that the Bible begins with the spiritual record of creation and afterwards gives a material account of creation. These accounts are distinct, and entirely unlike. The first or spiritual record is found in the first chapter of Genesis and in the first five verses of the second chapter. In this record no mortality is ascribed to man who is declared to be the image and likeness of God. Not until "there went up a mist from the earth," as described in the second chapter of Genesis, did any other conception of man occur. And then what happened? "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life."

To read the Bible intelligently one must recognize that different writers in ancient times wrote according to their ability or understanding, just as writers do now. Those who were spiritually endowed wrote accordingly, and correctly ascribed only good to God. Those who were materially minded ascribed evil and materiality to God. Thus occurred the story of Adam and Eve. It is not an explanation of the first record of creation but stands in opposition to it in every respect. It is an allegory. If taken otherwise this story that man was made from dust is the oldest hypothesis of evolution, for it is perfectly clear that the dust of the ground cannot think, and if Adam finally got to the place where he could think and talk—and it is written that he even talked with God—a tremendous evolution from the "dust of the ground" took place. Consequently, the evolutionists are hardly in a position to condemn those who say they believe in this Biblical account of creation, seeing that it is in accordance with their own theories and has the advantage of priority.

As a matter of fact, neither the hypothesis of evolution nor the allegory of Adam and Eve can be proved. Neither one, if proved, would benefit the human race. Those religionists who believe that man was formed of the dust of the earth cannot heal a single case of disease through any such belief, and those who believe in evolution as commonly taught are equally impotent in that respect. Whereas, those who in the light of Christian Science recognize that there can be but one Creator, one Cause, one infinity, and see as a consequence that man in this likeness cannot possibly be subject to sin, disease, or death, can through this understanding, as made clear in the teachings of Christian Science, heal incurable diseases and have done so in thousands of instances, and can save sinners from incorrigible sin and vice and have done so in thousands of instances, and can save, and have saved those who were dying and restored them to health and life.

I am not unmindful that great men and women have believed and still believe in evolution, just as some of the most sincere have believed in the Adamic story, though with less reason. I am not setting up one human opinion against another when I point out that both were and are mistaken. They failed to grasp the primal fact that infinity is Mind, Principle, Intelligence, and that otherwise there is no infinity.

Matter is non-intelligent. It cannot evolve intelligence, for there is nothing in or of matter out of which intelligence could be made or produced. All stories and theories as to the material origin of man fall to the ground in the face of the unanswerable fact that no stream can rise higher than its source. This fact is as true in religion as it is in science, as true in metaphysics as it is in physics, and it is as true in biology as in any of these. For this unanswerable reason, the theory that man, an intelligent being, is derived from anything lower than intelligence, is preposterous,—and there is no other word to characterize it adequately.

Besides this, the whole evolutionary theory is predicated upon the survival of the fittest, and as a matter of actual human experience, the fittest do not survive. Materially considered, the fittest are exactly like the unfit in this respect.

Turning away from such controversies, setting aside what the poet calls—

"Wretched interchange of wrong for wrong,
Midst a contentious world where none are strong,"

let us see what Christian Science has to say concerning man and creation. Christian Science declares that God is Mind, Spirit, Soul, Life, Truth, Love, Principle. These synonyms are most instructive also in regard to man, whom the spiritual record in the Bible designates as the image and likeness of God. Man must therefore be the exact image of Mind, Spirit, Soul, Life, Truth, Love, Principle. We need only to look within in order to determine just how far we express this true image.

The Bible reveals this immortal man. Though the forms of speech are more or less strange to occidental ears and the metaphor and hyperbole of expression sometimes threaten to cloud the meaning, still through all, there shines from time to time in ages long past to those whose thought was concerned with the permanent facts of being rather than with the ephemeral appearances of the passing day.

We say to you that this Truth is all on your side. We affirm, and you can prove, if you will, that it has power, that it is the one real power in the universe, and that it is available to you. We say to you that the natural thing is to be well and happy through

spiritual understanding, and the next natural thing is to recover your health and your happiness by the same power, in case you may have been deprived of either one or both. We are not ignoring the human need, neither are we taught to be pitiless or unkind,—on the contrary,—our Science is pure Christianity, and the omnipotence of divine Principle is available in that compassion which is the very image of the Christ.

Floating along with the tide of human opinions, accepting the beliefs and appearances that seem to constitute human existence, gauging your education and limiting your thought in such ways, you will not find deliverance.

We ask your interest for something better and nobler. We present the Science by which the real man, who is like the real and only God, is revealed to sick, sinning, human men and women,—the Science by which they can gain now some measure of this likeness in thought and conduct, and by which they cannot lose anything except sin and sickness and their fear of death, and ultimately death itself. We ask your consideration of the real man,—even your divine selfhood, brought to light in Christian Science, showing forth the infinity of good and expressing the boundless satisfaction of harmonious being.

"Now are we the sons of God," says St. John, and Mrs. Eddy, in terms unapproached by any other writer, defines the real man in these words, "In Science man is the offspring of Spirit. The beautiful, good, and pure constitute his ancestry" (Science and Health, p. 63). We present the Science whereby we can prove ourselves worthy of such ancestry.

Thus as human difficulties and dangers are properly classified and met in Science there comes the cheering message of the divine Christ, "Look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." You will exchange belief for truth. The question as to whether you are going to be fortunate or unfortunate, blest or condemned, happy or miserable, healthy or unhealthy, will begin to vanish from your life. The proverbial uncertainty of existence, coupled as it always is with fear, will no longer color your thinking or add a note of doubt to the ascending harmony of your awakened sense of true being. Omniscience, omnipresence, omnipotence, will be more than mere words, and even more than religious ideals. You will find that they awaken living ideas and bring you a better and more permanent sense of life.

Learning that the very nature of infinity is presence, omnipresence, and that consequently only ignorance of God, good, makes Him seem absent, you will place new value upon your growing understanding of Christian Science and be every day more thankful for the revelation and for the Revelator.

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Useless Investigations by Senate Cost Country Huge Sums; Need Probe

According to Senator Francis E. Warren, of Wyoming, the United States Senate during the past sixteen years has spent no less than \$1,383,500 in senate investigations. The yearly appropriations for the holding of these investigations have been gradually increasing. Senator Warren took his figures for the period of time from 1910 down to the present.

"We still have four or more investigations in process which up to the present have reached proportions from \$11,600 to \$124,999 plus," said Senator Warren. "These are for investigations authorized and begun before the opening of the present session of congress. What the total of these may reach is unknown at present, although it is presumed that they are near their close."

"But, even during the last month, in one case one man drew a salary of \$1,300 for that one month's service, the same as for the preceding month."

"Another man drew \$1,000 for the month's service on the voucher of another committee which had theretofore allowed much higher rates of compensation to certain employes. The particular point I want to make is that these large sums ought to go into a resolution, joint or concurrent, so that both houses might concur concerning the expenditures, rather than be handled as we have been handling them of late—allowing these resolutions almost to run wild." In other words; it might be well to investigate the investigations.

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BEE EXPERT TALKS AT GLENCOE CLUB

Mrs. Armstrong Allen, a teacher of bee keeping at the Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, Tenn., spoke before the Glencoe Library club at its meeting last week.

Every bee keeper, Mrs. Allen said, is a poet, for the bees themselves are so filled with poetry, they are so

made the talk very uplifting, with a dery, and so colorful when they come to the hives with the pollen packed in to the little baskets on their legs. As she took the club members through every stage of bee existence, beginning with spring life in the hive and going all through the summer period, Mrs. Allen illustrated the different phases with original poems, which

touch of the spiritual. She gave the musical hum of the bees in a white clover field, and then she told how the queen bee, in laying all her thousands of eggs, never makes a mistake. Drone eggs are put in drone cells, worker eggs are put in worker cells. To those who heard Mrs. Allen, bees became not merely insects, but a type of life.

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