

### SYNOPSIS OF LECTURE ON CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Given Here Last Sunday Afternoon by Miss Margaret Murney Glenn, C.S.B.

Each one looks out upon the universe, upon his environment, his experiences, and world events from the standpoint of that state or stage of consciousness which constitutes his individuality. Thus it is that events bear a different import to each one of us. He whose state of consciousness is loving, will see all things from the standpoint of love and the difficulties of human existence will tend to make him even more loving, whereas he who is selfish or limited will judge the same events from the standpoint of limitation and will find in them cause for becoming more selfish. As all history, religion, and philosophy are presented to us through the viewpoint of some person, it is essential that we take cognizance of the state of consciousness which that individual expresses in order to judge the accuracy and truthfulness of his presentation. Only that state of consciousness which knows Truth is able to see and express things as they are. Here Pilate's question presents itself: "What is truth?" To this question the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, Mary Baker Eddy, gives many cogent answers and among them are the following: "God is Truth;" "The question, What is Truth, is answered by demonstration,—by healing both disease and sin;" "Christ is the ideal Truth, that comes to heal sickness and sin through Christian Science, and attributes all power to God" (Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, pp. 312, Pref, viii, 473). If we accept these answers as true it follows that the

only state of consciousness fitted to enlighten us and lead us onward must know God and His manifestation, the Christ, and must be able to prove the power of Truth, of God and His Christ, in the destruction of the unhappy, sick, and sinful conditions of humanity.

#### Mary Baker Eddy

When Mrs. Eddy discovered Christian Science as the law of God which restores to us our God-bestowed freedom, health, and purity, she wrote, "I had learned that thought must be spiritualized, in order to apprehend Spirit. It must become honest, unselfish, and pure, in order to have the least understanding of God in divine Science. . . . Our reliance upon material things must be transferred to a perception of and dependence on spiritual things" (Retrospection and Introspection, p. 28).

All will admit that mesmerism requires no spiritualization of thought for it is the action of the human will, which is often manifested in selfishness, cruelty, revenge, hatred, and envy, the very opposite of spirituality. Christian Science does not designate as a healing power that which produces physical relief only, leaving the patient's mentality encumbered with the domination of human willpower. As this will is opposed to the divine will, which is God's law of good, it therefore contains all the elements and possibilities of disease, discord, and evil. Christian Science not only brings the physical relief, destroys the disease, but it spiritualizes and enlightens the consciousness of the patient, making him better morally, mentally, and spiritually. It was a spiritualized state of consciousness which enabled Mrs. Eddy to discover Christian Science,—a state of consciousness which she attained only after all earthly joy, comfort, supply, and harmony seemed to have been taken from her, and she had been forced to turn away from materiality to God, and to Him only, for her healing, happiness, and supply. It is good to know that He restored all these things to her through Christian Science, His law of Love.

#### Prayer

Christian Science enables us to know God and man, His image. Unlike other so-called sciences, of which it has been said that where they end faith begins, this Science lifts faith to understanding, to knowing; unites reason and revelation; weds religion to Science.

Jesus emphasized the fact that through knowing we would gain freedom and life eternal. He said: "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free," also, "This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." It is quite evident that Jesus expected us to know what he knew. The only thing which is knowable is Truth, that which is, or reality. Jesus said that he knew God, that he knew from whence he came and whither he was going, that he knew the will of God, that he knew he was in God, that he was the Son of God, and that he was one with God. Are not these all truths which we, too, should know? It was through knowing that Jesus healed, for did he not say at the tomb of Lazarus, "I knew that thou hearest me always"? This is the way the Christian Scientist prays, by knowing the ever-presence, all-

power, and omni-action of God, divine Love, eternal Life, immutable Truth. But his knowing does not stop there, for he knows himself also as he is known of God. And how does God know man? Why, as His beloved child, as the manifestation of His being, His power, His intelligence as the representative of Mind, not matter; as the expression of Soul, not as the victim of sin; as the reflection of harmonious Love, not as a suffering, sick mortal; as the unchanging idea of changeless Principle, not as touched by the mutations of time, disturbed

by the cruelties and buffetings of conflicting temperaments. Christian Science enables one actually to know these facts, this truth.

#### Perfection the Basis

Perfection is the starting-point and goal of Christian Science. Though the human mind has always claimed that perfection is impossible of attainment, yet this mind has never ceased to struggle towards and for perfection. This desire for perfect-

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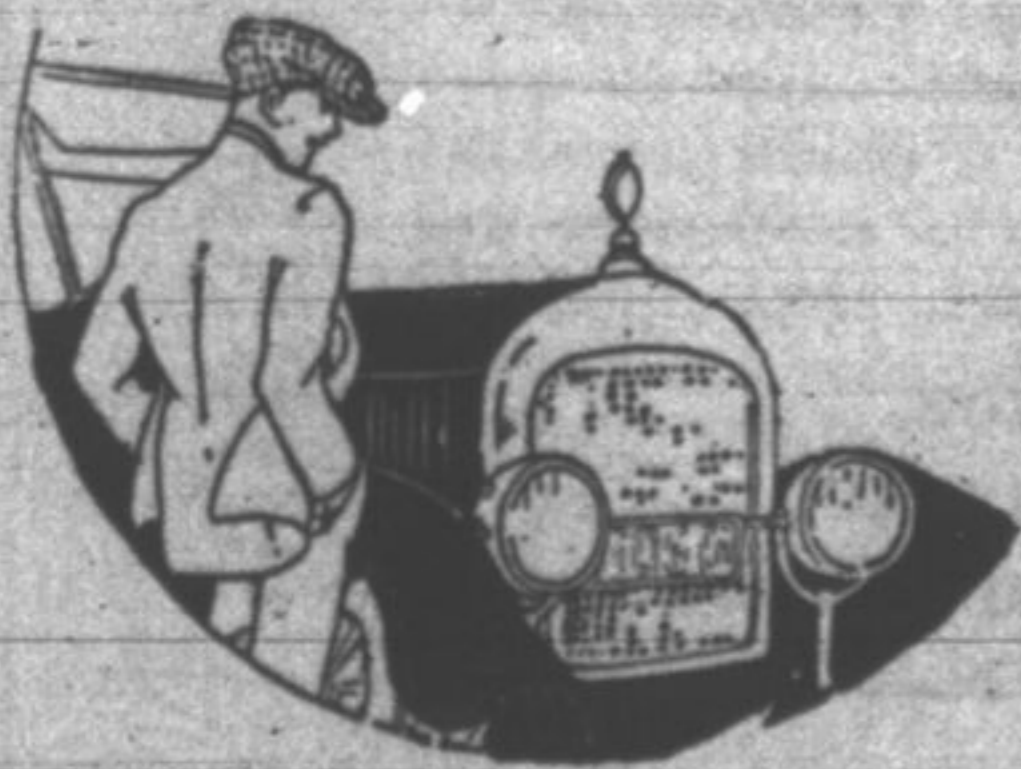
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