

whole concept of material man from birth onward is merely a belief resulting from mortals' acceptance of and reliance upon false or mistaken laws, phenomena rather, whose frequent recurrence has resulted in their being accepted as law.

Modern Day Illumination of Spirit
If there be one who objects to these experiences of days long past as unsatisfactory modern day evidence, I would then ask that one intend to glance at the experience of a man who sat not long ago at the bedside of a sufferer whom he had been called upon to help. As he endeavored to catch a vision of the soul, as had those ancient ones, the human agony of another, which it seemed unavoidable for him to witness, appeared very real. Yet this Christian Science practitioner (for such he was) knew through experience that the story told him by his physical senses was false. He knew that the truth about the sufferer must be found through another channel.

Gradually he closed his eyes to the struggle, his ears to the tumult, his consciousness to all else than good, God, and His perfect law. Next he recalled certain well-loved Bible incidents of healing. These quieted his own thought, restored his soul, as the Psalmist expresses it. One of these long-ago incidents became very real to him as he pondered over it. He almost seemed to be one of a group of fishermen tossing in a tiny boat on a stormy sea. Now, while in retrospect he was centuries away, his thought about the sufferer began to clear and enlarge. Again he pictured himself in that frail boat, and presently it seemed that one came walking towards him on the waves, quiet, calm, serene. Slowly the serene one passed, and where he trod, the troubled waters rested. Then there came an echo of words spoken long ago, "Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid." Long after the vision of the Man of Galilee had faded away, the confidence inspired in the consciousness of the practitioner by his recollection of this proof of the



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power of Spirit remained.
Thus the practitioner was able to say to his patient with joyous assurance: "You, my friend, whether you know it or not, are God's perfect child, made in His image and likeness. He loves you and cares for you with all the tenderness of a devoted father. He has not sent this evil upon you, for He knows nothing of it. He is Spirit, as the Bible assures us, and His pure eyes can behold only His pure and perfect creation. You have simply been in bondage to the tyrant of disease—the tyrant false belief. This tyrant has no God-bestowed power to enslave you. All belief that he has such power is destroyed and removed by divine Love, by divine Truth, that Truth which is now being declared to you. You are freed from his tyrannical control. Arise, and express your God-given freedom." By daybreak the sufferer rested; in another day was well, and reality had again replaced the false dream of life and intelligence in matter.

Do you find any similarity between the experience of Moses as he stood before the burning bush in Midian and that of the modern man, to whom there came the realization of a presence and power so real, so vital, so actual here and now, that it rescued one apparently drawing near to death? You cannot fail to do so. In each case there had come through divine revelation, inspiration, a vision of the fact that the spiritual law of unfolding good was in operation then and there; that it had never ceased in its activity; that this activity healed, restored, preserved, and uplifted. The great truth of being is the unending presence of this eternal ever operative Christ-principle, this law of infinite good, forever unfolding in human consciousness.

The Fruit of Spiritual Illumination
We are certain and our position today is that no boon has ever been offered to tempest-tossed mankind since Jesus walked the hills and valleys of Judea, and the waves of Galilee, that can remotely compare with the priceless gift of Christian Science, the reviving of this Christ-principle to the world; the modern revelation of the ever-presence of the Christ-light, with its resulting illumination of the consciousness of all mankind.

But now you ask, "If this be true, what is it that seemingly deters so many individuals from recognizing its presence and following the pathway illuminated by its glow?" Jesus once answered that query. He said that men love "darkness rather than light," and again, "Every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light." There is your answer, though admittedly it raises another question equally pertinent. I will anticipate your asking it by stating it myself. What manner of man is it who thus loves the darkness, hates the light, and resists the unfolding of good? Has this question ever been satisfactorily answered? Yes, Jesus answered it in the same conversation. He said, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."

Basing our position on Jesus' statement, all will perhaps agree that the question has now narrowed itself to a clear, sharp focus. Flesh is flesh, and Spirit is Spirit. Never can these two commingle. To be reborn from a fleshy material standpoint would be as useless as it is impossible. "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing." The rebirth we seek is the quickening touch of Spirit. All seem to have been born of the flesh; all must be reborn of Spirit. The flesh and its "things" must be abandoned, and herein lies the difficulty, this the reason for mankind's seemingly slow response to the divine call. Unhappily men answer that summons more frequently in their hours of distress and necessity, but whatever the occasion, the fact is the response is quickening, for many are turning to Christian Science today as did Nicodemus to Jesus, to find a way out of the flesh, and better still, they are not being disappointed.

The quick and practical result of such turning is illustrated by the following: One healed by Christian Science of a so-called incurable disease, writing of that experience said, "As the truth entered my consciousness my whole body, tense and rigid, relaxed, the expression of my face changed so completely my friends scarcely recognized me; a terrifying physical condition of long standing disappeared almost at once; joy replaced my constant terror and gloom, while happiness and hope filled, and still fill, every moment." Are not these words identical in their import with those of St. Paul, when he says: "The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." For, he continues, "If the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." The unborn babe is no more unconscious of the material condition surrounding him than is the grown man of his spiritual selfhood while he remains in the darkness of mortal or fleshy beliefs. To cling to these beliefs is to "live after the flesh" and to perish in matter; while to become "heirs of God," reborn children of Spirit whose birthright

is eternal Life, we need only follow the light of Spirit, the Christ-light discovered by Mary Baker Eddy and given by her to the world as Christian Science.

A simple recital of that discovery will rejoice your heart as it already has that of countless thousands. Like Moses, who for forty steadfast years sought a fuller knowledge of God before his day of revelation in the desert, so Mrs. Eddy had spent almost an equal number of years in a tireless search. Misunderstood, neglected by family and friends, she toiled on alone and bravely through those weary years. One day the light streamed in, but with such startling brilliance it left her almost bewildered. Then quickly her vision cleared. The revelation took on a definite and tangible form, and at once she began generously to pass it on to others.

The deep import to mankind of her discovery, its radiant message of joy, the rich promise it held forth of redemption from sin, sickness, disease, and death, led her to believe that the world would quickly accept it. But many years of tireless effort were demanded of her before she had an audience of notable size. Her struggles, her sorrows, her disappointments, repeated betrayal by trusted students, even persecution by those whom she had healed, constituted a poignant chapter in the history of this great character. Yet faithfully she persevered, and, surmounting every obstacle, finally won a glorious victory. At the beginning of the twentieth century, she found her discovery unquestionably and securely established in the hearts and the consciousness of men.

Only a brief forty years before in her experience the last enemy itself had seemed at hand. All material means had been exhausted. Submission to the so-called "will of God" appeared inevitable. And what was the "will of God"? "Death" of course, those about her had sadly answered. But wait a moment. Had not one said, centuries before, to another under like conditions, "Arise, take up thy bed and walk," and had not the one so addressed obeyed? Was not the "will of God" then the very opposite of death? And was not that good "will of God" the fact now and always? Why not? Perhaps if she were equally obedient to the divine command, she too would walk again. Glorious thought! Then instantly the light broke. The clouds of doubt and fear melted. Consciousness was illumined. Like the obedient one of Nazareth, she arose, and was well.

The inspiration of divine Love had brought the light. Courage to obey had flowed from spiritual illumination. The Bible narratives she loved had designated the way, and led by the law of unfolding good, she had gained the victory. How simple it all seems now in the

telling. Inspiration, Illumination, designation, and the leadership of Love.

Though empires rise and fall, though civilizations ebb and flow, one fact remains, the light—the inspiration and illumination—of Spirit alone is steadfast. It is the pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night. It ever leads the way. This is the emancipating vision. Without it the people perish. With its presence seen and recognized, they prosper. To follow the pathway of unfolding good as revealed in Christian Science for even one short hour is to have glimpsed this vision.
"Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?" demanded Paul of King Agrippa in his superb defense. And so I ask of you, Why should it be thought incredible that God's infinite goodness should, and even does, unfold and enlarge in the consciousness of His children? His law of Life must ever destroy disease and death; His law of all-intelligent Mind must ever replace falsity, superstition, and ignorance. His law of Love must ever dissolve discord, doubt, and fear, and His law of Truth must, and inevitably does, tear the mask from the brow of false mortal mind with its lies of failure, incompetence, and lack of confidence in good. God reigns. His law of good is established. The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Deerfield

Locals and Personals

A reunion of a group of married women, who spent their girlhood in Northbrook, was held last Thursday afternoon at the Forest Preserve. Those from Deerfield who attended were Mrs. Eugene Cooksey (Leona Bestor), Mrs. J. R. Notz (Ruth Glos), and Mrs. Albert Krause (Edna Nicholas).

Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Schneider of Chicago visited Mrs. J. A. Reichelt Jr. on Monday. The Schneiders lived for years in the house now owned by Fred Selig. Mr. Schneider was the former owner of the Mercer Lumber Company's local yards. Mr. Schneider is now connected with the Herald-Examiner.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Olendorf and Dr. and Mrs. V. W. Spriggs were the week-end guests of the Harry Baums at Long Beach, near Michigan City, Ind.

Miss Stella Spriggs who has been ill at the Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago, is recuperating at the home of her brother, Dr. V. W. Spriggs.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Wilson Olendorf of Libertyville, with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Olendorf and two sons, will spend the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Wilson in Strawberry Point, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred LaBahn spent Sunday with relatives in Evanston. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Muhleke entertained at bridge on Saturday evening in compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Glen Bowman of Harrington, Texas.
Mrs. G. H. Newcomb and daughter Virginia of Wallingford, Pa., are expected next week. They will visit at the Engstrom home. Mrs. Newcomb was a charter member of the Garden Club of Deerfield.

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