

Mr. and Mrs. Kimball were accepted in Mrs. Eddy's Primary Class of March 1888, and again studied with her in 1889. They were also in her last class of 1898. Following the 1888 class, Mr. Kimball retired from business to devote his full time to the practice of Christian Science. In 1894 he became The First Reader of First Church in Chicago. He was appointed to the Board of Lectureship when it was formed in 1898. His ability and judgment were so highly regarded by Mrs. Eddy that the Kimballs often traveled to confer with her and to receive instructions from her regarding teaching and lecturing. In 1899 during a lawsuit that threatened her copyrights of Science and Health and other writings, she transferred the copyrights to Mr. Kimball until that suit was over.

As a lecturer, Mr. Kimball traveled throughout the United States and abroad, delivering more than 1,800 lectures.

It is one such lecture given in 1908 we present here.

It can be found in "TEACHING AND ADDRESSES ON CHRISTIAN SCIENCE" by Edward Kimball.....collected, compiled, edited, topically analyzed and indexed by Rev. G.A. Kratzer, sold by THE BOOKMARK

HUMANITY'S NORMAL RIGHTS AND POWERS

Lecture at Second Church, Chicago, March 12, 1908

One man is troubled because he cannot have faith in God. He regards Christian Science as a mere vague, intangible, impalpable theory. There is nothing in sight, nothing he can comprehend, touch, taste, hear, or see. "When it comes to something you cannot rub on him or stick on him, he thinks nothing is being done. "We who are in trouble must learn our way out, and get out in consequence of what we know and can do or accomplish in our own behalf. Moreover, Christian Science comes to tell you that you can do this, that, you can both learn and gain dominion. And it also comes to tell you that you can gain nothing in the race by getting sick and dying.

The Universe as Effect Implies Cause

Now, take what we regard as material dependence—consider what the world calls materialism for a moment, and the point I urge upon you is this: If you will contemplate all that is called matter or the material universe, you will come to the conclusion that something has made it, that it exists at the standpoint of effect. Something has produced it; something has been the animating creator of it all. Now, what was it? "What is the creator of the universe?"

Even Materialism Presents But a Hypothetical, and Therefore a Mental Cause

Go to the materialist and he will tell you that that which lies back of the material universe, including men, is atomic substance, atomic dust. Then he will tell you that the existence of this atomic dust is altogether a matter of theory, that it cannot possibly be observed or cognized by any power that mankind has. Then, when he has told you this, he has given you the only possible basis for a materialistic philosophy; namely, an invisible, imponderable, theoretical, atomic substance which, in the ultimate, is unobservable.

Materialism, if True, Means Extinction of Life

Now, there is one thing which everyone in this room has to know. Not one person in this audience or upon this earth can ever reach that which he calls heaven until he learns, appropriates, and applies as law unto himself what I am going to say in the next few minutes. It is this: If the origin and source and foundation of human

life is atomic substance, or is in any way procured by atomic aggregation, then every man is doomed to utter annihilation and death. If the atomic theory of creation, or the matter theory of creation, is correct, every man and woman in this room is doomed to extinction.

Proof That Materialism Implies Extinction

Now, why? Because, as a matter of science, as a matter of sheer philosophy, as an irresistible postulate, this is true:— that no phenomenon can possibly rise superior to its noumenon; no effect can rise superior to its cause; and so, if you were caused primarily by atomic substance, you are doomed—you will return to it absolutely. This is what the Bible means when it speaks of "dust to dust." There is not a shred of possible hope for this race in materialism. Everyone is damned, not to eternal hell, but to speedy extinction, if it is true. Then the man who, today, works side by side with that philosophy is absolutely sure to sicken and to die; and if his philosophy were correct, he would be extinct. The very law of materialism, the very rule of materialism, demands the disintegration, the disorganization, the decay, the decrepitude and the decomposition of every one of its phenomena; and so mankind will go down under it unless it is rescued by something competent to do it.

Christian Science the Only Antidote for Materialism

Speaking in this behalf, I come to declare unto you that Christian Science alone, of all in the world, promises with assurance to overcome materialism. Not all the theory and all the philosophy and science of all times includes the slightest intimation that you may ever, in any other way, overcome it.

Evolution Fallacy Exposed

Moreover, here is another thing that you will have to learn. We have been fascinated more or less by the modern theory of evolution, which means that an inferior basis or initiative can evolve itself into a state of superiority; and that is utterly impossible. It is amazing that a man so studied, so profound, in what might be called learning, as was Mr. Darwin, did not know enough to know this; did not know enough to know that no fountain can rise higher than its source, no effect can be superior to its cause. It is impossible for nothing to evolve itself into something, for non-intelligence to evolve intelligence. Impossible! You might as well expect a barrel of lime to evolve itself into an angel with wings and sky-blue

eyes and a harp and such things, as to expect atomic dust to evolve itself into an intelligent man. Can you think of any more intangible basis for theory than that, one that is so confessedly theoretical, one that declares that there is no possible way whereby you can grasp that which is the basis of being?

Mind, God, Is the Basis of Being

"What is the basis of being, according to Christian Science? It is Mind—Mind that does not need to be evolved; Mind that does not need to be improved, does not need to improve its offspring; Mind which is self-existent, which changes not; Mind which is forever perfect, intact; Mind which is its own self-sufficiency, its own law, its own government.

"Choose Ye"

Now, at this point, in this belief in materialism that means sickness, that means pain and inferiority—at this point is where the parting comes, and the question comes to every man: Am I to be governed by the carnal mind which means death, or am I to be governed by the divine Mind which is in Christ; for "to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace?"

Both Power and Law Are Invisible

There are certain important things for every man to consider. One is law. Without law you would have no manifested existence. Law means the enforcement of power, and without power you would have no manifested existence. And I want to call your attention to the fact that both power and law are invisible. You cannot see either one. You may rely upon law and power, and yet none of you ever saw either one of them. None of you were ever able to see or feel or touch either power or law. You have seen power exhibited in action, in concrete form, but you never saw anything except the concrete manifestation of either power or law. Then do you not recognize that you are always depending upon something which is invisible, so far as the senses go?

Power Exhibited in Christian Science Treatment

Now, what is relied upon in Christian Science practice? It is law and power, law and power. And the law and power in Christian Science practice exhibits itself always in concrete form. I have known a person with an invisible and inaccessible

tumor to resort to all medical means known to the world; I have known everything that is called material skill and material power to be invoked; and known that person to go on day by day along a tragic course towards the end; and then, I have known that person to be delivered of that tumor in thirty-six hours, because of Christian Science treatment. Think you that it was done without power? Power! Do you not suppose that there was some power manifested in such an exhibition, the concrete exhibit of that power?

The Power Relied Upon to Run a Locomotive Is Just as Invisible as That Relied Upon by Christian Science

Do you demur because the power is invisible? Then you do not know that power is always invisible. Do you demur because the law, likewise, is invisible? Do you demur because the modus operandi is not in sight? Do you? Why, my friends, you would be in perpetual demurring if you did, because you have never seen an act which presented the visibility of the power which induced it. Never.

Christian Science Is Working Wonders

Now, the work of healing that is being done in and through Christian Science, through invisible law and power, exceeds that which is being accomplished by all other means. There is nothing known by way of impulsion, by way of initiative, that is accomplishing what Christian Science is doing today. Mountains are being moved, rocks are being rent; things are being done in Christian Science called wonderful and miraculous that have really no parallel except in the days of primitive Christianity. Moreover, let me say to you that the world at large knows very little about it.

The Real Significance of Law

Now, here is another important thing that everyone has to know. I will put it more agreeably, that every one may know, and that as soon as he does know it, he will find himself a happier man. It is this upon the subject of law—that all that means primary law, all that means divine law, all that means divine provision for you, all that is included in potentiality by way of law and privilege and provision for you, means for your life, means health for you; it means harmony; it means the overcoming of evil; it means the domination over all that would beset you and torment or molest or hinder you. There is no law against you.

Law Is All in Your Favor

Now, if you mourn, if you have been cast down because of disease, know this: There is positively no law against you. And, moreover, know this still further: You are entitled to enforce law in your own behalf; you are entitled to enforce the law of your own health, of your own prosperity. You may do it; you may learn to do it. It is within the divine provision concerning your very life, your daily needs. Be not afraid. You may be a law unto yourself, a law to your recovery from disease, a law to your business, a law of harmony to your welfare and your household and all the things of your life, because God gave man dominion and you are entitled to it. In this very hour you are entitled to be a law of recovery to your own self.

The Enforcement of Law Illustrated

In Wood's Museum, several years ago, were three little men, each weighing about forty-five or fifty pounds. A man weighing 150 pounds would climb on the shoulders of another man weighing 200 pounds, and one of the little men would clasp his arms about the legs of the man weighing 200 pounds and lift them both. How did he do it? And why? He did it simply because he was a law unto himself that is all. I saw him do it. He positively did it. He did it because of a human belief of law, controlled in that direction.

Another Illustration of Law-Enforcement

Again, there was a party of men. One agreed that he would wake up at four minutes after five the next morning, and he did it; the next morning that he would wake up at twenty-seven minutes after six, and he did it; the next morning at eighteen minutes after eight, and he did it. And this last was an hour beyond his ordinary waking hour.

Limitation Is Abnormal

You have heard of Blind Tom. He would listen to a piece of music and then go to a piano and play it. He was called phenomenal; but instead of his being abnormal, as compared with him we are abnormal. You have heard of phenomenal lightning calculators, even little boys, who could with spontaneity give you an instant answer to a long problem. They are more normal than we are. Every one ought to be able to do it. Why can't we? It is a mere matter of belief. I have myself lifted

one thousand pounds of cold iron, absolutely lifted a thousand pounds of iron. I never could do it until I became a law unto myself, to the accomplishment of it.

Spurious Mortal Law (Belief) Limits

These lightning calculators are able to do wonderful things because they are not bound by so-called laws of limitation and become a law unto themselves. In their ability to do these things spontaneously, they are really more normal than the rest of us, because men should spontaneously know everything that it is right for them to know, since man reflects infinite Intelligence.

The Law of Success

Now, these are a few of the instances, showing the capacity of what we call the human mind to be a law unto itself. Why is it that some business men never fail; or, if they fail, always come out on top? Because they become a law to the belief of their own success; because they put into the scale of being that which is efficacious.

How Employment Is Often Secured

Take, for example, a man who is out of work and wants a situation. What is situation? Why, it is, first of all, the conviction on the part of somebody that he needs a worker and wants to employ some one; next, it is his conclusion that he will do so; and lastly, it is his decision that he will employ you, if you please. Now that is the situation—all mental. The whole matter of situation exists at the standpoint of supply and demand, which, scientifically understood, are one and the same in the mind of the employer and employee. Now, suppose that you spend all your time being afraid that you will not get the situation. Have you the slightest concept of what you are doing? Do you know what you do to your situation when you spend your time being afraid you will not get it? You scare it off; positively, you are doing that which will mesmerize it away from you. Now, take the man who is buoyant, expectant, whose very attitude is law. What does he do? He does not spend any time being afraid. No; he knows he will get something, and that becomes a law of success both to the employer and employee.

The Divine Law of Possession

That is all simply in the realm of limited, finite mentality. Now, let me carry it up and consider this one thing in Christian Science: That the Creator of man created

with him and for him the law of his own continuity and sufficiency; the law of his dominion; the law of his control over circumstances and conditions; the law of his felicity and his heaven; and the law concerning all that means his life, all that means his health, his environment and all that this implies; did it all fundamentally, with the result that man is perfect, unhampered, unobstructed and unhindered; and all this is so available that this man is enabled to be a law unto himself. And the teaching of Christian Science is simply this: That every one of you may learn that you are entitled to unlimited power and control and welfare to yourself. There is not one here that may not be a law unto his own life; and if I had not learned that years ago, I would have died long before this.

When you understand law, you lose fear, become confident, and maintain health and success.

Of what consequence is it for you to know, or even believe or hope, that you may be a law of life and control and welfare unto yourself? Simply this; if you know that you have righteous control, you never again will be afraid of anything in the world; and when, for that reason, you lose all fear, you will lose all that means hell, because fear is pretty much all there is to hell or devil or disease or pain. There is too much of it; and the reason we are in hell, in belief, according to this sense of insistent mental aberration, is simply because we have been discouraged by the philosophy of doom and submission to sickness and to the supposed law of sin and death. Now then, of what service is Christ to the man thus involved? Why, Christ has abolished, does abolish, is the abolition of, the extinction of, the spurious, abominable thing called "the law of sin and death."

Preaching the Gospel Heals the Sick

Never more than two or three times in my lecture work have I attempted to speak about the law of heredity. I did it Tuesday night, and I have heard since then of three people at least who were then and there healed of hereditary diseases; and I was asked in particular to speak of it again.

Depressing Effect of Belief in Hereditary Contamination

There is nothing more mischievous today than that miserable sense which declares itself over and over, asserting that men inherit diseases and evil propensities, that these are irresistibly and naturally carried on from parent to child, and that hereditary taint, impairment and contamination can be transmitted from one

generation to another. Nothing is more discouraging to the patient than to be told, or to believe, or to hear, the supposition that he is sick because of hereditary contamination.

Human Heredity no Actual Law, but a Lie Posing as Law

Now, Christian Science comes to explode that outrage, to undo it, and to end all fear about it. There is positively no such law. All the so-called procurement of disease and taint by what is called hereditary disease is utterly false, gratuitous and illegitimate, and may be avoided and all of it overcome, every bit of it.

The Scientific Enforcement of the Law of God Abolishes the Effects of Seeming Hereditary Influences

The person who says he has hereditary rheumatism does not need to be treated for rheumatism at all. You might treat that person for rheumatism for a century, and you could not possibly heal him. I have known people to be healed in five or ten minutes, many of them of so-called hereditary diseases which they had had for ten to forty years, through Christian Science treatment; and the whole thing was done by the scientific abolition and extinction of the supposed law of heredity. It is not law at all, not in the realm of law, but in the realm of universal mortal belief and fear which operate as law, though spurious and false; and you who may have been cast down by the thought that you are under this law, you may take heart. Tonight,—indeed, in this very hour, at this moment, by this very Word, by reason of the law and power which are a law of extermination and elimination to every such thing,—you are now emancipated, you are now redeemed, you are now free. You are no longer under the distress of the supposed hereditary law of doom. Now, this is all that needs to be done to heal any one of a supposedly hereditary disease.

Christ Jesus Did Not Destroy, but Fulfilled Law

“What did Christ do?” What did he come to do? He came to do the will of God, to do according to the divine Mind. He came to show the law. What law? The law of Life, the law of health. He came to seek and to save that which was lost, and to do something for the lost. And he did it. And when he did it, he expelled and abolished nothing that had a right to exist, nothing that was originated of God, nothing that was inherent in nature or according to nature's laws, He overcame mistaken and illegitimate and spurious manifestations and a spurious sense of law.

All Diseases Healed by Cancellation of Spurious Conditions

It is a fact that consumption, blindness, the worst forms of Bright's disease, epilepsy, locomotor ataxia, leprosy, tuberculosis, and so on, all have been healed. What was done? Nothing more than the cancellation, by extermination, of a spurious condition; that was all. And that will go on being done until, in the course of time, this race will be redeemed from sickness.

Dispositions Transformed

Take a man who has a temper; it is always breaking out; he is disagreeable to everybody. He will tell you that he inherited it from his mother, perhaps. Some men claim that they inherit it from their mothers-in-law. We will suppose that he inherited it from his great-great-grandfather. What are you going to do about it? You cannot go and fight it out with his great-great-grandfather. He may put mustard plasters on himself and take mud baths, with no effect. The only thing that will transform that man in one minute, is to relieve him of that blight of hereditary law; and the same thing is true of the drunkard. Most drunkards are healed by, and because of, the abolition of that so-called law, which is not law, but lawlessness.

"Climbing Up Some Other Way" for Healing

Here is a distinct proposition in Christian Science: Christ, doing the will of God according to the divine purpose, in the fulfillment of law, healed the sick without a failure, healed the multitude of all manner of diseases, and he did it spontaneously. He healed the sick in the only right way; there is no other way of doing it. Take these propositions and they can be proved. God, divine Mind, is the healer of all diseases. That means that that which is God is equal to the healing of them all, and Jesus Christ demonstrated that. He did it in the only right way to do it. And every one on earth, pretty much, is trying to get well some other way, and they keep on trying and trying, and they keep on dying at the rate of fifty millions every year. One would almost think they would try the Christ way. Wouldn't you?

Dominion Is Yours for the Learning of It

Is this a race which is essentially and irrevocably doomed, irretrievably doomed, or not? Have you an inherent or continued right to exist, to exist in a state of health and self-containment and sufficiency? Are you under the stress of tragedy, disaster

and disease, or not? Is there hope, or not? Are you in the grasp of an unavoidable doom, or not? It is an important question. And the answer has always been that you are a child of fate, that you are a bubble on the sea of capricious existence, and that you are liable to be stricken and to die at any time. The answer of Christian Science is: No; you are not doomed. You may learn to live; you may learn to exercise dominion over all the earth. But you will never learn until you learn the right way, the Christ way.

The Right Way to Dominion

Now, what is the right way? The right way is that way which employs the supreme power of the universe, the power which is equal to the overcoming of every semblance of power, that is equal to every emergency, that can silence every opposition, and undo everything that even tries to pretend to be something. The supreme power of the universe affords the only right way. Where is it? It is where you are, any time and every time, and is always available to you. To what extent is it available to you? It is always all that is needed; and if you will stop being afraid, you will win.

Unlimited Ability and Possession Is Normal

What is it that will break down the only mischief-maker of humanity? What is the right way? It is the way that will abolish fear. Fear is the chief curse and torment of this race. The only thing that will break it is the Mind that is in Christ, Truth, the Mind that will be in you just as soon as you begin to learn the way. How much mental dominion have you? Precious little. How much ought you to have? Unlimited dominion. That is the difference between Blind Tom and me. He could do something that I could not, and he is more natural than I. The difference between the little men that we now seem to be and the man who is our real self is apparent because we have not yet risen to the supersensible perception of the vastness of the possibilities of our own one Mind.

Your Real Hereditary Endowment, Transmitted by Your Father, God

You do not need to regard Christian Science as complex at all, nor far off, nor unattainable. It simply means this: that the only Creator of the universe, long before the material sense of universe appeared, by law, by design and purpose, decreed and provided that you, as man in the divine likeness, were, and should be

entitled, first to life, then to health, then to activity, then to faculty, to joy, to heaven, and to dominion over everything. You are entitled to felicity, to control, and you, as a human, are not to gain this by miraculous and mysterious interposition, but because you by your very fundamental, spiritual nature have the right to exercise all by way of control.

The Power to Remove Mountains of Obstacles Is Normal

Now try it. Did you ever move a mountain? I have done things that were equivalent to moving mountains by being a law to the case, and Christian Scientist are doing these things every day. There are people in this room, possibly a hundred, that have moved mountains, that have done things that are absolutely as miraculous as that; and they have done them by that which is their normal birthright, the consciousness of divine Mind. I do not mean any power or merit of their human selves, but the demonstration of power, the manifestation of power, to which they have a normal, spiritual right.

Expectancy without Measures Is Rational

There is not one here who may not go from this building tonight having lost fear, and having assumed hope. There is no limit placed upon what you may reasonably expect. Limitation is a spurious, illegitimate belief that may be abolished. When it is abolished, you spontaneously recover from the so-called law of trouble. Everyone in this room is entitled to spontaneous recovery, not because of some tremendous upheaval or reconstructive process, but because it is God's law unto you as man, the consciousness of divine Mind.

Victory Is Your Normal Right

You are bound to win. Be not afraid. It makes no difference what the trouble is, keep at the winning. You are bound to win. It may not be speedy; you may not get rid of the ghost of trouble at once. I did not; the belief with me was that my inherited temperament interfered. Some people are healed quickly; some are not. I was of the latter class. If I had been healed quickly, I would probably have given up Science, or, at any rate, would not have gained in the measure that I have the understanding of Christian Science. I have known people to be discouraged even unto death. Be not afraid. When evil besets you, turn at once. Resist the fear. Do

not give up; do not yield. You are entitled to win, for all that means power and law are on your side.