

December 13th, 2004 — Subject: Is the Universe Including Man, Evolved by Atomic Force?

DEAR FRIENDS: Mary Baker Eddy gave her students 26 subjects for weekly Bible Lessons, to be covered twice yearly. Flowing through the year in her order of the subjects, we hereby present fresh views of each one by outstanding Christian Scientists. In this way, we hope to partake with you of new unfoldments of her infinite revelation.

Our selection this week is from an except of a Clarence Steves' Association Address as given in the Nov. '02 Individual Christian Scientist, titled HANDLING ELECTRICITY. For a brief biography on our featured authors, click [here](#).

HANDLING ELECTRICITY AND ANIMAL MAGNETISM

Clarence W. Steves, C.S.B.

WHAT is electricity? Steinmetz said, "The best definition I have seen is given by Mary Baker Eddy." "Electricity is the sharp surplus of materiality. (S&H 293:17) We must handle this sharp surplus of atoms called electricity. How do you handle electricity? The great need is to know how to handle mortal mind in its claim of sharp surplus. The only way it can be handled scientifically is from the standpoint of Science and Health: "The calm, strong currents of true spirituality, the manifestations of which are health, purity, and self-immolation, must deepen human experience, until the beliefs of material existence are seen to be a bald imposition, and sin, disease, and death give everlasting place to the scientific demonstration of divine Spirit and to God's spiritual, perfect man." (99:23)

Where Is Power?

Do you leave electricity daily in the sharp surplus of materiality, or have you looked deep into reality and found power, light, etc., not present because of an appliance or invention but present because of the absence of materiality and the presence of the calm, strong currents of true spirituality that all power is God-power.

S&H 99:20 "...even human invention must have its day, and we want that day to be succeeded by Christian Science, by divine reality." This is the day here and now of Christian Science. This is the land of Christian

Science where fetters fall and the rights of man are fully known and acknowledged.

Personality

Simply handling electricity in what is called home and leaving personality that can enjoy it is leaving that which mortal assassination can touch. To be absolutely free, we must realize no consolidation of surplus to be called personality. If what is called personality is made up of cells, then what is called physicality, body, is nothing but the surplus objectified. What is called the human concept of body has absolutely no presence as such, has no insides to get out of order, has no substance. It does not exist objectively. All that the eye beholds is reflected on the retina of what is called mortal mind. The negative appearing of mind holds within itself all that is called physical body or human body. The argument that one is personality living with other personalities brings into display all frictions, all that tends to set up an electrical surplus. The only way in which this negative appearing can be handled is by living Christ and seeing Christ in what appears to be another, and this prevents the surplus. This is receiving the Holy Ghost. It is this power of the Holy Ghost, the development of eternal Life, Truth, and Love, that is unleashed in every Christian Science treatment. This tremendous immeasurable force leaves nothing unlike the glory that is God, and the tremendous force comes into being. "Let there be light, and there was light." This is the first command recorded in the Bible. (Gen 1:3)

What chased the clouds of sense away? It was the light of ever-present Life illumining the universe. Felt ye the power of the Word? The power of the Word is so stupendous that it defies human comparisons or any comparative sense. This power of the Word identifying itself is the only begotten of the Father...full of grace and Truth. Man is the presence of the power manifesting itself. You cannot escape identification with that which dwelleth in the eternal Mind. What dwells in the eternal Mind? Eternality, all-knowing perfection, freedom, ability, joyous being. There is nothing that can escape identification with this truly spiritual power. As long as we respond to the belief that we are thinkers, we are setting up the antenna on which mortal mind does its broadcasting.

No Human Good

Suggestion that treatment can be nullified: The moment that we stop the mechanism of the human mind, that moment the Christ-mind

becomes apparent. Let us never forget that we are not in the world of sense, in a world that has a perverted sense of heaven and hell. What is called human world is enmity against God. There is no good in it. Whenever one sees good, life, love, kindness, it is present not because of some personality but because it is the ever-presence of the Love that is divine and cannot be wholly obscured by the personal sense. The great fact that Life is the ever-present fact of being makes it possible for the light bulb, etc., to appear. Inventions do not bring the fact into being, but the fact that the idea is present and in full manifestation permits the invention to appear.

God is light, and man is the light of the world. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven, (Matt 5:16) and praise the light itself.

Substance

Christian Scientists should heal every case instantly because we are not dealing with material substance. Disease is not a material condition, but an improper focusing of light, a deflection of being. This deflection suggests proper reflection, which corrects deflection. S&H 312:1 "How true it is that whatever is learned through material sense must be lost because such so-called knowledge is reversed by the spiritual facts of being in Science. That which material sense calls intangible is found to be substance. What to material sense seems substance, becomes nothingness, as the sense-dream vanishes and reality appears."

S&H 176:24 "One disease is no more real than another." There is nothing present to deflect. There is only divine reflection. Take a picture called cancer. Why is it not met? Because we are not seeing it as pure deflection, not a condition. It is never a condition, a thing, a place, a cell, an infected organ. If we permit suggestion to name itself, we come under the fear of the world concerning the particular term. It cannot be done! is the treatment. Treatment makes everything available instantly because all is God, divine Mind, being its own idea. Thus idea is the very being of perfection and continuity. Man is not a person with a mind to be influenced. Man is not a person with consciousness. Man is God's, Mind's, consciousness of Himself. (Un 18:25) "A knowledge of aught beside Myself is impossible." Man is divine idea, the very functioning presence of the Mind that is divine. The Mind that knows its own allness knows nothing to oppose and no opposition, knows nothing to dispose and thus no disposition, nothing to contend with and thus no contention.

No Contention

In this Christ treatment there is no past to dissipate and no future perfection to anticipate, only the now of eternity, the now of eternal noon. Christian Science treatment negates everything unlike itself. (S&H 243:27) "Truth, Life, and Love are a law of annihilation to everything unlike themselves, because they declare nothing except God." Light does not contend with darkness. To light there is no darkness. So every Christian Science treatment is the light of the world and knows nothing to eliminate, but being light permits nothing unlike itself to say I AM. There is no negation to say I AM. I AM THAT I AM is all that is going on.

Absoluteness constitutes the utility of Christian Science. Christian Science does not cause chemicalization. There is only one thing going on, God, the one I AM experiencing what Mind is.

S&H 514:6 "Mind, joyous in strength, dwells in the realm of Mind. Mind's infinite ideas run and disport themselves. In humility they climb the heights of holiness." True humility knows that idea can do nothing, is nothing, of itself. But idea is the power of the Almighty One manifesting His allness, the freedom of being.

Lay the Axe at the Root

What is called the patient cannot put up a negative attitude to neutralize or annihilate treatment. The patient is not a person that must be convinced. The patient is not a person with a mind that must agree to the truth that man is the glory of God. See that there is no patient over there; it is all animal magnetism denying the perfection of the one indivisible being. The axe is laid at the root and the science of Mind-healing is evidenced in what is called healing. Man is seen to be the very expression of the being that is God. Man is forever free, intact, perfect. The infinite unity of Mind and idea is all that is. There is no mind apart from God, no substance apart from God, no action apart from God, no condition apart from God. There is absolutely nothing apart from the one and only I AM. Do you not see that all is infinite Mind and its infinite manifestation? Man is never born, never dying, ever one with the Father.

See that animal magnetism cannot operate, whether through electricity or any other subtle suggestions. Man never has had a prodigal experience, never had a separate mind from the one and only Ego, not

having a body formed by lust, but being the body of Love, the very shrine of Love itself, immaculate, wholesome. See that there never has been a healing to take place, perfect God and perfect man, indivisibly One. See that there never has been a human concept of yourself or another, never a mind to have a finite, localized concept carrying out its delusions and illusions. The only man is the one that has ever been Love's experience. Rejoice, be glad, that one cannot permit himself to think in terms of himself, but think out from divinity. Clothe all in divinity. See that one has never been a prodigal.

Leave All

S&H 192:4 "We are Christian Scientists, only as we quit our reliance upon that which is false and grasp the true. We are not Christian Scientists until we leave all for Christ."

Do you insist on talking of yourself or others as approved or disapproved? The moment you discuss yourself as person you are immediately bringing into play the maliciousness of the carnal mind. Remembering is a form of gossip, nagging about some unkind thing or mishap. Gossip is the inability of the gossiper to maintain his own Christ. So where is the one you are gossiping about? Are you not defiling your own Christ being? (Neh 6:3) "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?" Why should I come down and gossip with you? Why should we come down and gossip with personal sense? Go in and shut the door, and thank God that man, the only man, is the Son of God. Treat yourself daily for too much talking, even metaphysical gossiping with what you call yourself. Learn stillness; Oneness includes all in stillness, quietness. This does not mean a mental vacuum; it means stopping the mechanism of the so-called human mind.

Divine Mind expresses itself in and as idea. Idea is wordless being. It appears that one needs words as long as thinking seems to be going on. But Mind knows, and man is the reflection of the knowing. Then does reflection think? Does Mind know words? Of course not. So, be still and know that the I is God.

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