

The Divine Order of Fruitage

“Led by a solitary star amid the darkness, the Magi of old foretold the Messiahship of Truth. Is the wise man of to-day believed, when he beholds the light which heralds Christ's eternal dawn and describes its effulgence?”

Science and Health, page 95

The following section will illustrate the divine order of the Christian Science textbook. The first paragraph in Preface takes the reader out of darkness and into “the first faint morning beams.”¹¹ Through careful and prayerful study of the textbook, one enters into the “full radiance of a risen day.”¹²

“Light shining in darkness”

This is the first testimony in the textbook and it is Mary Baker Eddy’s personal testimony. The marginal heading for this quotation is, “Light shining in darkness.”

“When apparently near the confines of mortal existence, standing already within the shadow of the death-valley, I learned these truths in divine Science: that all real being is in God, the divine Mind, and that Life, Truth, and Love are all-powerful and ever-present; that the opposite of Truth, — called error, sin, sickness, disease, death, — is the false testimony of false material sense, of mind in matter; that this false sense evolves, in belief, a subjective state of mortal mind which this same so-called mind names matter thereby shutting out the true sense of Spirit.”

Science and Health, page 108

Mrs. Eddy saw the light of Science that ushered her out of mortality into immortality. The light of divine Science, which comes to humanity as Christian Science, destroys the darkness of mortality. She stated, “Christian Science is dawning upon a material age. The great spiritual facts of being, like rays of light, shine in the darkness, though the darkness, comprehending them not, may deny their reality.”¹³ Thus, the light of Truth dispels the illusion of darkness.

Scientific Translation of Mortal Mind

Turning to the last three testimonies in Fruitage, let us examine their spiritual significance. The order of these three testimonies represents the “Scientific Translation of Mortal Mind” as found on page 115 of the 1910/1911 Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures.

First Degree: Depravity.

Unreality

PHYSICAL. Evil beliefs, passions and appetites, fear, depraved will, self-justification, pride, envy, deceit, hatred, revenge, sin, sickness, disease, death.

Science and Health, page 115

A PRICELESS BOON

I have long desired to express my gratitude for what Christian Science has done, through reading Science and Health, for me and my family. I was healed of **profanity, the tobacco habit, and a bad temper**, through the understanding that man is the image and likeness of God. I was also healed of **kidney disease and rheumatism**. What surprised me most, however, was this; I had had one **finger thrown out of place** some fifteen years before. It was crooked, but it became straight and useful. **A bone in my foot had also been broken**, leaving a bunch, which disappeared after I studied Christian Science and received class instruction. I am an entirely well man and for this I am very grateful. I am also glad that I have learned enough of Truth and Love to be able to heal others. I wish to express my thankful appreciation of our Leader, also of the Sentinel and the Journal. — N. R. F., Salina, Kans.

Science and Health, page 698

Second Degree: Evil beliefs disappearing.

Transitional qualities

MORAL. Humanity, honesty, affection, compassion, hope, faith, meekness, temperance.

Science and Health, page 115

HEALED OF CONSUMPTION AND ASTHMA

It is a pleasure to **acknowledge the great benefits which have come to me through Christian Science.** It is nearly ten years since I began the investigation of the subject by borrowing a copy of Science and Health. I had become a hopeless sufferer from asthma, — the disease being so aggravated at times as to make breathing almost impossible. I was also a victim of that dread disease, consumption. It was hereditary, nearly all my family on both sides having passed away with it. **I took up Christian Science very much as a drowning man catches at a straw.** However, **I was much interested as soon as I began to understand it, and having read the book nearly all my waking hours for a few weeks,** I became so much better and so convinced of its truth, that myself and wife destroyed all the medicines in the home, and have never since used any remedy except Christian Science. **I continued to study and to put into practice the teaching as best I knew,** and was restored to health in a few months.

Prior to my investigation of Christian Science I had been from boyhood an outspoken infidel, had read that class of literature extensively, and had no desire for anything of a religious nature, — the orthodox teaching never having appealed to me as a rational exposition of an all-wise God. **I now have no more doubt of the truth of the teaching of the great Way-shower, Jesus of Nazareth, than I doubt the correctness of the basic law of mathematics or music.** I have no doubt whatever that Christian Science saved me from the grave, and thus proved a most practicable and efficient help in time of greatest need. However great my physical suffering has been, **I can but feel glad that through it the door of consciousness was opened to let in the light of Truth. Thus I have progressed a little way in the knowledge of God, good, as revealed in Christian Science.** — C. B., Webb City, Mo.

Science and Health, page 699

Third Degree: Understanding.

Reality

SPIRITUAL. Wisdom, purity, spiritual understanding,
spiritual power, love, health, holiness.

Science and Health, page 116

A GRATEFUL TESTIMONY

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. "

This has been proven to me in every way. When Christian Science came to me, I was a wreck, physically, mentally, and financially; but since the reading of Science and Health turned my thought toward the light, I have found that, as far as I am willing to receive the word and live it, all comforts are supplied me. I am especially grateful for the spiritual help. I know that things which I did and thought last year I would not do or think this year, and am satisfied. Through the careful and prayerful study of Science and Health I have been lifted from sickness to health, from sorrow to peace, from lack to plenty, and, the most beautiful of all, from darkness to light. — Mrs. H. S. C., Seattle, Wash.

Science and Health, page 700

Principle and Practice
As it is found in the
1910/1911 Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures

“The **Principle** of divine metaphysics is God; the **practice** of divine metaphysics is the utilization of the power of Truth over error; its rules demonstrate its Science.”

Science and Health, page 111

The first paragraph of Preface presents the **Principle** of divine metaphysics. Fruitage demonstrates the utilization of this Principle by showing it in **practice**. Thus, the Science of Christianity is not only explained but fulfilled. This is illustrated by the last testimony in Fruitage, A Grateful Testimony. The following will prove this point.

Example One

Principle: “To those leaning on the sustaining infinite, today is big with blessings.”
Preface, page vii

Practice: “Through the careful and prayerful study of Science and Health I have been lifted from sickness to health, from sorrow to peace, from lack to plenty...”

A Grateful Testimony, page 700

Example Two

Principle: “The wakeful shepherd beholds the first faint morning beams, ere cometh the full radiance of a risen day.”
Preface, page vii

Practice: “...and, the most beautiful of all, from darkness to light.”

A Grateful Testimony, page 700

Never forget, if one is not a wakeful shepherd,
one will never be a prophet shepherd.