

{ CHRISTIAN SCIENCE: }

{ THE METAPHYSICS OF THE FUTURE }

By Ann Beals

I want to show you the connection between the latest discoveries by the natural scientists and Christian Science. I hope this will give you a new insight into what Christian Science is and how it relates to our modern times.

Christian Science is a scientific discovery as well as a divine revelation, and it is the key to the mysterious realm of supreme intelligence that the natural scientists are discovering. It is a very exciting time we live in because we are seeing the early dawn of a new age. It is coming about because the natural sciences are discovering an invisible realm beyond the five senses, one of supreme intelligence. It seems we are discovering the presence of God in the universe. My Friend, there has never been a time like this in the history of the world, and we are living in it. I can't begin to describe to you the infinite good waiting for us as we learn more about this hidden realm.

I want to begin by sharing with you a few remarks from the many books being written on this new development – books by those in the scientific community. The well-known physicist, Sir James Jeans, was among the first to comment on the mental nature of creation. He wrote: “The stream of knowledge is heading towards a non-mechanical reality; the universe begins to look more like a great thought than a great machine.”

More recently, Robert Clark wrote in his book, *The Universe Plan or Accident*, “Design -- or at least the appearance of design -- runs like a silver thread through every main branch of science. . . . It confronts us no matter what part of nature it is that we examine.” And in his book *God: The Evidence*, Patrick Glynn writes, of “. . . unexpected new layers of intricate order that bespeak an almost unimaginably vast master plan.”

It seems there are too many details and too vast a plan, all so perfect and so precise, for the universe to be one of chance and probability. It is becoming apparent that a supreme intelligence is creating and maintaining the whole of creation.

Now, recognizing the presence of this thinking cause and knowing what it's like are two different things. The natural scientists can't tell us what is in this invisible realm because it is beyond the five senses. There is nothing material about it to probe and analyze.

So to know what this realm is like, we now have to shift from physics to metaphysics. In a way, we are transcending material cause and effect and entering a realm that is purely mental. Whereas scientists have been studying God's creation, we are now beginning to verify the presence of the Creator, Himself.

Today as our image of the universe takes on new form and meaning, Christian Science has a large role to play in the changes taking place, because this Science provides the first real insight into the qualities, laws, structure, and content of this hidden realm beyond the senses. And so the twenty-first century opens a new chapter in the Christian Science movement. It seems inevitable that Christian Science will in time take on the role of a very advanced scientific discovery as well as a divine revelation.

I want to emphasize here that the supreme intelligence recognized by the scientists and the intelligence of the one infinite Mind defined in *Science and Health* by Mary Baker Eddy are one and the same thing. Christian Science begins where the natural sciences fade out. Considered in this light, Christian Science becomes a scientific discovery of the first magnitude.

It is a vision that enables us to enter this invisible, intangible realm. The natural scientists are viewing this realm from the outside looking in, so to speak, and so it is a mysterious unknown to them. But Christian Science begins in the heart of this supreme intelligence or divine Mind. It goes deep into it, and begins by defining the source, the very cause itself.

The scientific discovery of a supreme intelligence in the universe came through the brilliant work of many dedicated scientists. But the actual nature of this hidden realm came as a revelation to one person. While the scientists were studying the universe, Mary Baker Eddy was studying the Bible. She was trying to understand how Christ Jesus healed as he did. Then in 1866, in a time of great need, she prayed once again, and there was revealed to her the presence and nature of this hidden realm of divine Mind. It was one of those extremely rare moments when a great universal truth appeared to a mind prepared to understand it. With this revelation, she was healed. She later put her revelation in a book, and published the first edition of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* in 1875.

A century passed before the natural scientists began to recognize the presence of a thinking cause in the universe. And they have yet to learn that latent in this invisible realm is a *healing power beyond any we have ever known*. Mrs. Eddy did more than discover this realm. She clearly defined the nature of this supreme intelligence and showed it to be the foundation to Christ Jesus' healing works. Those who understand Christian Science can heal as the early Christians healed – through prayer alone.

Think how awesome this is – that the way is opening to actually know what Christ Jesus knew in healing as he did! To do such things he had to have something far more than blind faith or a mystical relationship to God. He had to have an advanced intelligence that he could teach to others. As we venture ever deeper into this realm of supreme intelligence, we will learn to use the scientific and spiritual laws that enabled Jesus to heal. To enter this hidden realm of intelligence by means of Mrs. Eddy's revelation is one of the greatest moments in history. It is the beginning of a new age – I think of it as the Spiritual Age.

I will never forget the first time I began to see this. It was many years ago when I was subscribing to the *Saturday Evening Post*. This magazine published a series of articles called "Adventures of the Mind." They were by well-known authorities in many different fields. As I read the ones on the sciences, I learned for the first time that the natural scientists had never found a final material cause for the universe. Instead they had passed through the visible universe and were discovering that there was no hard, solid, material substance in the whole of creation. I was amazed. I had assumed that some final material cause had been found. For the first time I began to think of Christian Science as something far more than a religion. It could be the key to the unseen realm that lies beyond the senses. I was fascinated with this idea, and as I followed scientific progress over the years, I realized that in time Christian Science would be recognized as the key to this hidden realm of Mind.

Then when I learned that the sciences were finding the presence of an intelligent cause in the universe, I was incredulous. For myself, I had always wondered how such mindless forces as gravity and electromagnetism could take a limited number of atomic elements and create all the miracles of nature – stars and planets,

ladybugs and lilies, dogs and cats, men and women. When I learned of this supreme intelligence coming to light in the natural sciences, my first thought was – can this actually be happening? Is God really proving His presence *through* the sciences? Who would have thought that the scientists, so convinced of material cause and effect, would come to the place where they were facing “something more” to creation than matter and its laws?

I believe that this discovery of an intelligent power behind the universe is the greatest scientific discovery ever made. I had read Mrs. Eddy’s many references to the universe and man as spiritual, and so I never really accepted the idea of a material cause as the origin of all things. But I never dreamed that the time would come when the presence of God would be proven *through* the sciences.

So now here we are, face to face with this an invisible, intangible cause that cannot be known through scientific methods, because it fills a non-material realm. There it is, the great unknown waiting for us to seek it out and understand it!

This invisible dimension is a great mystery at this time. I want to share with you a way to begin your own adventure into it. This will take some vision or imagination on your part, but you can begin by adding a *spiritual dimension* to the universe – an intelligent, creative, logical, powerful and ever-present thinking cause underlying all things. In other words, a supreme Mind – known as God.

This realm is far more than a supreme intelligence designing a material universe. The universe itself is spiritual. Even the natural sciences are beginning to acknowledge this. Ultimately we will see the universe complete with its spiritual cause – just as we see it now resting on a scientific foundation.

Hints of this are found in many books on the scientific progress taking place.

Edwin Turner in *The Light at the Edge of the Universe* writes, “We more or less don’t know how *anything* forms -- dust, stars, galaxies -- anything.”

In *The Universe Plan or Accident*, Mr. Clark tells us that it is “impossible, or at least extremely difficult, to avoid the conclusion that the plan of the universe was due to a Mind behind it -- a Mind separate from nature but able to act upon nature from without.” Mrs. Eddy was the first in modern times to see through the veil of matter into this heavenly realm and define the Mind that inhabits it. In *Science and Health*, she wrote, “The fading forms of matter, the mortal body and material earth, are the fleeting concepts of the human mind. They have their day before the permanent facts and their perfection in Spirit appear.” And in another brief passage, she tells us, “Infinite Mind is the creator, and creation is the infinite image or idea emanating from this Mind. If Mind is within and without all things, then all is Mind; and this definition is scientific.”

This was written over a century ago. Can you see how Christian Science takes us beyond the veil of matter into the very realm of Mind itself? This Science is the most advanced form of intelligence on earth today. It not only accurately defines the laws, qualities, and nature of God, it shows how the universe and our own individual being are one with this divine cause.

Christian Science does not begin on the outside with the physical forms and try to press beyond the surface into the unseen realm. It begins in the very heart of this hidden realm with God Himself, and relates this divine cause to the universe and man.

Remember, we are talking about the supreme intelligence that the natural sciences have brought to light. They are one and the same. When you study Christian Science, you are learning about the supreme intelligence underlying the whole of creation.

In a way, Mrs. Eddy opened the Spiritual Age with a revelation that reaches far into the future. For example, even her earliest writings included the statement, “There is no matter.” While she was still here, Einstein published his theory of relativity with his famous equation: $E=MC^2$, and matter disappeared from the universe. He proved mathematically that there is no solid matter as we think of it – only space and energy.

I have come to call such scientific discoveries “the unexpected.” If we look back over the past five hundred years or so, we see how often the human mind has had to adjust to the unexpected. When Copernicus showed that the earth moved around the sun, this “unexpected” discovery had lasting impact on the world, for man was no longer the center of the universe. When Newton’s equations proved that physical laws were the foundation to creation, scientific facts replaced the will of God. Darwin wrote *Origin of the Species*, showing that life on earth was far more than seven days in the making. And then came Einstein who proved there are no hard, billiard-ball atoms – all is space and energy. Again and again the natural sciences have discovered that things are not what they seem to be. Now they have brought us once again face to face with the unexpected.

The natural sciences are finding, from their decades of research, that the universe is not only the result of a supreme intelligence. But this supreme intelligence has carefully created a universe that provides a home for man. This has brought about what is known as the anthropic principle.

The way the anthropic principle came about is fascinating. It is the end result of the many scientific discoveries that took place during the last century. Beginning in the early 1900’s, the different sciences – such as astronomy, physics, biochemistry – were each focused on their own special fields. As technology became increasingly sophisticated, they were each going deeper and deeper into the structure of matter, and farther and farther into outer space. Their work was all based on the idea that the universe was the effect of a material cause. For many years, the various scientific fields were smashing atoms, probing the outer edges of space, observing the many parts of the cell, and making new discoveries. And then towards the end of the last century, they began to put their discoveries together into one overall picture. Once again they were faced with the unexpected. It turned out that the universe was a creation of such extreme accuracy, such complexity, such overall design, plan, order, law and creativity that it could not possibly be the result of mindless matter and godless forces. It could not have come about through chance and probability. There had to be a Mind so deep and vast that we cannot begin to imagine what it is like or how it works – or perhaps I should say how it thinks. One thing is certain. The scientists did not find a material cause for creation, because there is none.

But even more amazing is the perfection with which the entire universe is created. Out of an infinite number of possibilities, it has been carefully constructed to support life, to be a home for man. So the anthropic principle means basically that not only does the universe rest on a supreme intelligence, but this intelligence has specifically designed the whole of creation to care for man and all living things.

Mr. Glynn writes in *God: The Evidence*, “The anthropic principle marked an important turning point in the history of science: the first time a scientific discovery seemed to take us toward, rather than away from, the idea that there is a God. . . .” He adds, “. . . the universe is the product of intelligence and aim, that in the

absence of an intelligent organization of a thousand details vast and small, we would not exist. . . . Today the concrete data point strongly in the direction of God hypothesis. It is the simplest and most obvious solution to the anthropic puzzle.”

Until recently, we were led to believe that there is no thinking cause behind the universe – only material cause and effect. We now have to change our image of the universe and see it as having an unseen dimension, an intelligent cause. We can do this because generations before us have faced the unexpected, and they have made the adjustment. Discoveries don't affect the universe. They simply change the mental image we have of it. We do not invent these ideas – we discover them. When we have discovered the unexpected and changed our image of the universe, we simply exchanged mental darkness for enlightenment. The thing is – we did change!

Now we face an intelligent cause underlying all things. We are not inventing or imagining this supreme intelligence. It has always been here. But we are having, once again, to change our image of things. We are becoming more enlightened about God and His creation. We are not used to thinking of the world about us as having an intelligent cause, but then men were not used to thinking of the world as governed by scientific laws, yet today we do not even question science and technology. We live and think in them effortlessly. In the Spiritual Age, we will come to think as easily in divine intelligence as we now think in science and technology.

In doing this, we will not lose the good that the sciences have given us. We are simply adding an unseen dimension to the universe – a spiritual dimension that is beyond the five senses. Let me give you several examples that might help you relate to this idea.

Let's say someone sends you a letter written in French and you can't read French. To you it is nothing but paper and ink. You ask a friend to tell you what it says. He reads it and is amused or concerned or angry depending on what the letter says. To him the letter has taken on a thought dimension. You can't detect this dimension with the five senses, but to your friend, the paper and ink have mental substance, information, even an emotional impact. Even so, the spiritual dimension has substance, intelligence, love, life and truth. These intangible qualities are present even though we can't see them.

Let me give you another illustration. Let's go back a thousand years to medieval times. Everyone traveled by foot or on horseback. Homes were lit by fire and shared with farm animals. Sowing and reaping was by hand. Life was very hard then. Now, these dear people lived in the same universe we do. They were governed by the same scientific laws we are, but they were completely un-conscious of the scientific dimension. They knew nothing about scientific laws, and so they could not use them to have a better life. Today these very laws are the foundation of our modern world.

Now, here we are in the twenty-first century, in the dawn of the Spiritual Age. We live in this spiritual dimension, but we are un-conscious of its presence. To understand the nature and content of this realm will be a great challenge for this realm is filled with a Mind very different from our own, so different it took a vision or revelation to open it up for us.

Fortunately we have this revelation already waiting for us, because Christian Science is the key to this hidden realm. This Science lays the foundation to a new age because it is the first complete and accurate analysis of this spiritual dimension.

So we are now faced with the challenge of understanding a spiritual realm that is beyond the senses. We can best begin by realizing that the Mind filling this spiritual realm is not like our minds. This realm is far more than a supreme intelligence designing a material universe and a mortal man. There are spiritual depths to this Mind that are infinite and eternal. To try to pattern it after our present mind is futile. This thinking cause is not an extension of the human mind. It's the primal cause. There is nothing beyond it.

Neither is the spiritual realm a simple study in the character of God as we usually think of Him. This Mind is different. We learn about it through the study of divine metaphysics. We learn it like we learn mathematics or music. Actually, Christian Science is a study of the Science of God. As we learn more about God, we will change our image of everything. Thought is never so hardened that it cannot change. This new realm will no longer be a mystery as our study carries us through the outer rim of this realm into the hidden presence of the one Mind. In this way, Christian Science gives this dawning age form, substance, direction, focus, and meaning.

Many are already beginning to grasp the depth and scope of this realm through their study of Christian Science, and they are also finding healing.

Thousands upon thousands of people from all walks of life have testified to the healing effect this Science has had on their lives. It is the vast number of healings on record that provide the proof that something incredibly new and different has been introduced into world consciousness.

If such healings are already taking place, what will the happen when we come to practice spiritual healing in a universal way? Our collective prayers will transform world consciousness, spiritualizing it with the Word of God. Now, we have to *think and pray* our way into an understanding of this divine realm. Until the coming of Christian Science, there was little written that would give us a clue about how to do this.

Today an education in divine metaphysics begins with the books and transcripts listed on our website, Thebookmark.com, and in our catalog. The study of this material is essential. Through it you discover that God is not off in some distant time and place, but He is as close to you as your thoughts, but you are presently *un*-conscious of this. In reading these books, you begin to feel the presence of this divine Mind. Consistent study and prayer enables you to become conscious of God's presence, until you know that you and your Father are one.

Now, to summarize: We are beginning to recognize the presence of a supreme intelligence in the universe. We need a way to understand this hidden realm and Christian Science is the scientific discovery that correctly defines the nature of this unseen dimension. This unseen realm has latent in it a healing power that reinstates the lost art of healing practiced in Bible days. The healing presence and practicality of this divine intelligence has been proven by thousands over the last century and is available to everyone today through the prayerful study of Christian Science.

If you would like to discuss or comment on anything related to this article, please feel free to contact me at (800) 220-7767 M-F 9:00am to 2:00pm PST or email me directly at: annbeals@thebookmark.com