

# THE INDIVIDUAL CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST

"IN SCIENCE ALL BEING IS INDIVIDUAL"— Mary Baker Eddy

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"WHAT I SAY UNTO YOU, I SAY UNTO ALL — WATCH" JESUS

The individual Christian Scientist is the Christian Science sentinel.



*Mary Baker G. Eddy*

The frontispiece in *Science and Health* as Mrs. Eddy left it in 1910. This is from a 1909 edition. By 1910 she had deleted the initial G. from her signature.

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And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity,  
and the water of affliction, yet shall not thy teachers be  
removed into a corner any more, but thine eyes shall see  
thy teachers. — *Isaiah*

# THE INDIVIDUAL CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST

"IN SCIENCE ALL BEING IS INDIVIDUAL"— Mary Baker Eddy

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE: HUMANITY'S HELPER

By Prof. Hermann S. Hering, C.S.B.

TO any observant person it must be very evident that humanity, with all its misery, sin, sickness, disappointment, and failure, is in sore need of help,— and that this need is for something that will not merely promise a solution of life's problems, but that will actually lift humanity out of these abnormal conditions, set them free mentally and physically, and restore to them their God-given health, happiness, wisdom and strength.

If any one does not perceive this need let him note the faulty moral, mental, and physical conditions, the unprincipled motives and aims, the increasing agnosticism and infidelity, the disappointed hopes and ambitions of those about him, and the results accruing from their effort or lack of effort. He will find these conditions to obtain in a degree among all classes,— the educated, the uneducated; the worker, the idler; the physician, the patient; the clergyman, the parishioner; the religionist, the infidel,— all are more or less dis-

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ALL ARE MORE OR  
LESS DISSATISFIED  
AND UNHAPPY.

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satisfied and unhappy, even in their apparent success; all have inexplicable failures and uncertain hopes, and all bow down to the domination of matter, evil, disease, and death as inevitable.

Even Christians, to whom has come the strongest evidence of a universal saving power, to whom the most wonderful teachings and rules of life have been delivered, to whom the most blessed promises have been given, even they meet with failure in their efforts at well doing. And why? Largely because they believe in the naturalness and necessity of the world's sicknesses and disasters, submit to the present decrees

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THEY LIMIT CHRISTIAN  
PROMISES TO A FUTURE  
LIFE.

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of evil destiny, and thus limit the application of Christian teachings and promises to an uncertain future life; and also because they do not see the possibility of the present

application and fulfilment of these teachings, believing that they are only intended to encourage men to look for a future-world blessedness.

It will be my purpose to endeavor to show you how this need is met through Christian Science, and why it has not been met before; to make an appeal for the reasonableness and simplicity of Christian Science teachings, and also to correct some of the current misconceptions regarding them.

It is impossible, in the brief space of time at our command, to deal with so great a theme in its fulness, but enough can be said concerning some of the essential truths of Christian Science to encourage the hope that if there be those present who are in distress and have not found comfort and healing elsewhere, or who are looking for a higher and more satisfactory explanation of life than they have had, they may receive this cup of cold water in Christ's name and perchance feel that healing touch of God's truth which alone brings hope and health.

#### PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

At the outset it may be well to state that I speak from quite a wide experience in Christian Science work and from a very deep conviction of the truth of

its teachings. I gave Christian Science a most careful investigation before I accepted it, and I demonstrated it sufficiently to \_\_\_\_\_  
 become entirely convinced I INVESTIGATED.  
 of its truth. Yet I do not! I DEMONSTRATED.  
 ask or expect any one present to accept what I say \_\_\_\_\_  
 simply because I say it. I would like you to bear in mind that you may prove for yourselves the truth of every statement of Christian Science.

When I first heard of it, its doctrines seemed very wonderful to me; and for the reason that as a philosophy it presents a theory and analysis of the problem of mortal existence that not only is logical, consistent, and satisfying in every detail, but that can be at once applied to the solution of that problem; a philosophy which, founded exclusively upon divine Principle, makes God its very center and circumference. As a science it furnishes a complete, definite, and demonstrable statement of truth, free from speculative hypotheses and without any missing links in its system. It is based upon a fixed Principle and rules with no exceptions or variations. As \_\_\_\_\_  
 a religion it reveals an HEALING—A NECESSARY  
 interpretation of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation which is wholly consistent and demonstrable; it OUTCOME OF SPIRITUAL  
 explains satisfactorily the miracles, and expounds UNDERSTANDING  
 the teachings and methods of Jesus and the apostles in a way which makes them entirely practical today; it reinstates healing as an essential element of Christianity and a necessary outcome of spiritual understanding.

This remarkable presentation of a satisfying philosophy, a perfect science, and a demonstrable religion impressed me greatly, and \_\_\_\_\_  
 I questioned, Is it true? IS IT TRUE?  
 If true it is the most wonderful and most valuable \_\_\_\_\_  
 discovery ever made, for when fully apprehended it must settle every question that confronts mankind in

religious and social life, in business and in morals.

After three years of very careful investigation and demonstration, I came to the conclusion that it was indeed true and that at last there had come to the world a salvation which would bring "the glorious liberty of the children of God," the Comforter whom the Father was to send in Christ's name to lead us into all truth.

#### DEMONSTRATION NEEDED

The world's interpretation of the Scriptures has obviously been unsatisfactory, for it has given rise

BLIND FAITH IN A  
MYSTERIOUS GOD

to hundreds of religious sects, and there are in addition numbers of intelligent people who do not accept any of these interpretations as true or satisfactory, many of them having formulated religious beliefs of their own, while many more are agnostics or even infidels. Too often an appeal is made to blind faith in a mysterious God and a future world, and too little evidence is given of the present efficacy of the teachings of the Master.

What difficulty Moses had in leading the children of Israel away from their beliefs in material things to faith in the one invisible God! Had he not repeatedly given them evidence through signs and miracles

WITHOUT RESULTS  
FAITH IS DEAD.

of the existence of such a God, they could never have been led into the land of promise. Many of the prophets and apostles had demonstrations of the presence of a divine saving power, and the life of our blessed Master, Christ Jesus, was full of good works which he did to prove what he taught. The apostle James said, "Faith without works [results] is dead." In every department of life we look for results. Jesus said, "By their fruits ye shall know them."

Why is it that so many of the Scriptural teachings and promises are not believed to be applicable today? Why are the various interpretations so contradictory? Why cannot better results or works be obtained? Why should so much be left to blind faith? And why is there

such an increase of infidelity among Christian peoples? Would not misunderstanding or a lack of understanding account for all this?

The discovery of Christian Science revealed the fact that there is a Science underlying not only the entire Scriptures, but also the entire universe; that this Science is accurate, intelligible, demonstrable, and complete, and that it furnishes an interpretation of existence which is uniform, consistent, logical, and hence capable of proof. This Science is Christian because it is based upon the teachings and works of Christ Jesus and is a fulfilment of his mission. It is scientific because it has a fixed and unvarying Principle and rule. Christian Science is the outcome of orthodox Christianity, not its perversion. It includes healing,— the lost element of primitive Christianity,— and thus seeks the undivided garment and enjoins obedience to all the commandments.

#### CHRISTIAN SCIENCE A DISCOVERY

It should be clearly understood that Christian Science is a discovery and not an invention. Its truth, its power, its law, have always existed and are contained in the Holy Scriptures, but they have never before been fully perceived or set forth as a demonstrable Science, attesting the truth of the sayings of the great Teacher, Christ Jesus, delivered centuries ago and handed down to us in fragmentary form. Thus Christian Science proves the truth of the Bible and saves it from atheistic and destructive higher criticism. Jesus demonstrated his teachings by healing the sick, casting out evils, raising the dead, and performing what the world called miracles, and taught his disciples to do the same, yet the Scriptures contain no fixed rule or statement of the scientific process by which this power can be acquired and applied by students. Jesus practised the tender, God-inspired art of healing, which through the providence of God has been restored to the world today as a Science of

A DISCOVERY, NOT  
AN INVENTION

SCRIPTURES CONTAIN  
NO FIXED RULE.

healing with Principle and practice that cannot be lost.

The human mind, in philosophic reasoning and poetic vision, has seen dimly the insignificance, the nothingness of material and mortal things. But these oc-

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UNREALITY OF MATTER  
AND EVIL SEEN

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casional glimpses have been put to no practical use, have never been applied in the working out of the problem of the salvation of man.

These glimpses of truth have never revealed God alone as the great reality; only through the discovery of Christian Science has the unreality of matter and evil been seen as an imperative corollary of the teaching of the allness and goodness of God.

Philosophers and religionists have never been able to determine what evil and matter are, what to do with them, or how to account for them. The theory of the unreality of matter held by some of the old philosophers was erroneous because they did not know what real existence is, nor what is back of the material

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DENY EVIL OR GOD?

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manifestation, therefore a denial of matter seemed to them, as it does to many of us, a denial of all that is real, hence a denial of existence. The admission of the existence of an infinite, almighty God compels us, in the face of the awful manifestations of evil in the world, either to credit them to Him or to deny them any place in His universe. Which shall it be?

Never has so sharp and definite a line been drawn between truth and error, never has so accurate a differentiation been made between the real and the unreal as now. And what has brought this to pass? The discovery of what reality is, the true nature and character of God as Spirit, and of His creation as wholly spiritual, which discovery revealed the fact

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CAUSE OF DISCORD  
CAN BE ELIMINATED.

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that evil and matter are not real, are not manifestations of God, because they have nothing in common with Him. From this standpoint we obtain a satisfactory interpretation of the Bible



and of the universe, and perceive that the cause of the sick, sinning, and discordant conditions of humanity can eventually be eliminated.

This great discovery was made by Mrs. Mary Baker G. Eddy in 1866. It has proved to be the solution of every problem of life, and has culminated in the revelation of the Science of being, of which Christian Science is the human application.

This discovery has made it possible to get a correct view of things, to see them in their proper relation to each other and to give them their right values. For example: Prior to the sixteenth century it was believed that the earth was 

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stationary and that the 

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sun moved around it in 

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some mysterious way. Co- 

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pernicus discovered that 

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ASTRONOMICAL THEORY  
REVERSED

the sun was stationary, or nearly so, and that the earth moved,— rotating on its axis and also circling around the sun as a center. This astronomical discovery completely reversed the former theory; yet it did not alter the sun nor the earth nor bring about any change in the actual relation of things. It merely revealed the truth about the solar system, removed the previous false concept, showed the true relation between the earth and the sun, and made correct computations possible.

In a similar way Christian Science reverses the testimony of the material senses,— the conception that matter is supreme and Spirit subordinate; that matter is the surely real and Spirit the doubtful; that matter is the knowable and 

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Spirit the unknowable. It 

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takes the ground that 

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Spirit, Mind, is all and 

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is supreme; that Spirit is 

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MATERIAL THEORY  
REVERSED

the real and matter the counterfeit or unreal; that Spirit, God, the infinite intelligence, is the knowable, while matter, the non-intelligent, is unknowable. Jesus said, "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." Therefore God, Spirit, is not unknowable but knowable, which knowledge is essential

to our harmonious existence now and forever. But God cannot be known aright when approached through matter. God is Spirit and can be known only spiritually or mentally.

#### CORRECTING SENSE TESTIMONY

The doctrine of the unreality of matter and evil, so often misunderstood, does not imply, involve, or require the annihilation of existence or consciousness. To illustrate: Suppose you were to wake up some morning and find that all sickness and sin had been destroyed. What kind of a world would it be? All business and pursuits connected with sin and sickness would have vanished, but those associated with the legitimate and sinless needs of man would still continue, under the government of good; and truth, honesty, justice, and love would be manifested, unhampered by any discordant elements. Such a condition

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#### HEAVENLY CONDITION POSSIBLE

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would be a present possibility if all men had a true understanding of the teachings of Christian Science and were demonstrating them. This but faintly pictures the heavenly condition described by St. John in Revelation, where he says concerning the new heaven and new earth: "And I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away. ...He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son."

Mrs. Eddy writes in her book *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, "In Revelation 21:1 we read: 'And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.'

"The Revelator had not yet passed the transitional stage in human experience called death, but he already saw a new heaven and a new earth. Through what sense

came this vision to St. John? Not through the material visual organs for seeing; for optics are inadequate to take in so wonderful a scene. Were this new heaven and new earth terrestrial or celestial, material or spiritual? They could not be the former, for the human sense of space is unable to grasp such a view. The Revelator was on our plane of existence, while yet beholding what the eye cannot see,— that which is invisible to the uninspired thought. ...This shows unmistakably that what we term matter, and spirit, indicate states and

stages of consciousness....  
This is Scriptural authority for concluding that such a recognition of be-

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SPIRITUALITY

POSSIBLE NOW

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ing is, and has been, possible to men in this present state of existence; that we can become conscious, here and now, of a cessation of death, sorrow, and pain. This is indeed a foretaste of absolute Christian Science. Take heart, dear sufferer, for this reality of being will surely appear sometime and in some way. There will be no more pain, and all tears will be wiped away. When you read this, remember Jesus' words, 'The kingdom of God is within you.' This spiritual consciousness is therefore a present possibility."

Thus the denial of matter does not mean the destruction of human existence, but its transformation, reformation, and regeneration on a spiritual basis. Jesus said, "I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil."

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DENIAL OF MATTER

TRANSFORMING

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This doctrine gives us a true interpretation of all things, enables us to become aware of the truth of any situation and to forestall the deception of appearances. For instance: Suppose yourself looking through blue glass at a white horse. You would not believe it to be a blue horse, although it looks blue through the glass. You know that the blue glass gives an incorrect impression and therefore you are not deceived. Again, suppose you look into a curved mirror and see your much distorted reflection. Do you believe that it is the true reflection? No, you know better, you know that the mirror

distorts, and therefore you are not deceived. Suppose, however, that you had always looked through blue glass or into a mirror which distorts and had been educated to believe what you saw to be correct. You

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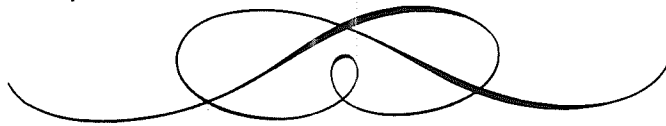
### SENSE TESTIMONY

### DISTORTING

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would be in a position analogous to that of all mortals who are believing in sense testimony. You would have a conception of the universe very different from the normal. Yet you might go through life like any other person, gaining an education, doing your part of the world's work, joining in all the activities of daily living, yet not knowing any vision but that which these misleading things gave you.

[The foregoing is Part I of a lecture delivered by Prof. Hermann S. Hering at The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass., Oct. 16, 1906; also at First Church of Christ, Scientist, Concord, N.H. Oct. 28, 1906. Part II will appear in a subsequent issue.]



## THE TIME FOR SCIENCE HAS COME

FOR many centuries it was believed that our earth was a flat, stationary center upon which the sun rose and set every day and around which the stars revolved. Even after the science of astronomy was revealed to Copernicus and published in his book *Concerning the Revolutions of the Celestial Spheres* in 1543, it was stoutly resisted by the worldly authorities of that time. But the thinkers who dared to think for themselves eventually brought the revolution to human consciousness that the science of astronomy demanded. This did not change the earth in any way but opened up a space age before undreamed of and caused Nicolaus Copernicus to be named the Father of Modern Astronomy.

In like manner it has been believed, ever since

the foundation of the world, that man was formed from matter, dwelt in and was subject to a material body. The Lamb of God, the 

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Christ, has been as omni- THE LAMB OF GOD present all these dark cen- IS OMNIPRESENT. turies as was the spheri- cal, revolving earth, but the prophets who glimpsed this spiritual idea were reviled and persecuted and martyred. "Ever since the foundation of the world...evil has tried to slay the Lamb" (S&H 568:1).

Jesus *knew* that "man is not material, he is spiritual," and proved it in his demonstrations. His works disclosed the fallaciousness of all material theories, but those works which 

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were regarded as examples EXAMPLES BECAME by early Christians soon CLASSIFIED AS became classified as mir- ACLES. acles and the command to go and do likewise was disregarded.

Jesus proved that man does not live in a material body. Saint Paul grasped this great fact of existence and said to the Athenians: "Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. God that made the world and all things therein...be not far from every one of us: For in him we live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:23,24,27,28).

But even Christendom did not grasp this great reality of being and continued to believe the myth that man was formed of, imprisoned in, and subject to a material body.

Jesus of Nazareth is the Father of the Science of Man on this planet. He presented the truth of being so unmistakably that his name has become synonymous with Christ. But he knew 

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that his message was not THE SPIRITUAL IDEA comprehended and told his NEEDED MOTHERING. disciples, "I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now." (John 16) The spiritual idea needed mothering on this earth to grow into maturity in human consciousness. So, many

years later, when John the beloved disciple "was in the Spirit on the Lord's day" (Rev 1:10) Jesus revealed to him the Motherhood of God which would complete the equation he had set forth.

Mary Baker was an exceptional child and a brilliant, spiritually-minded woman questioning the material theories of existence.

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THE SCIENCE OF MAN  
REVERSES GENERAL  
BELIEF.

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Even so she experienced many years of severe trials which weaned her from all things material and wedded her thought to God before the Science of Man was revealed to her spiritualized, receptive consciousness. She says of this extended period of suffering and anguish: "God had been graciously preparing me during many years for the reception of this final revelation" (S&H 107:3).

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ANOTHER REVOLUTION  
WAS INEVITABLE.

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Though she is commonly called the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, she is truly the Revelator of the *Science of Man* to this age. And the Science of Man reverses what is generally believed about man even as Copernicus' discovery reversed the false beliefs about the earth. Another revolution in human consciousness was inevitable. In the first edition of *Science and Health* Mrs. Eddy wrote: "The time for thinkers has come; and the time for revolutions, ecclesiastic and social, must come." (3:13)

No sooner had she uttered her voice than the resistance and persecution began. But the Mother of

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THE WOMAN HID THE  
LEAVEN OF TRUTH.

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the Science of Man on this planet protected her "child" — the truth about man which had been revealed to her, the divine idea of man which she had conceived and brought forth in healing and teaching. Even as Jesus prophesied in his parable, the Woman hid the leaven of Truth in three measures of meal (Science, Theology, and Medicine).

It has been 117 years since Mrs. Eddy proclaimed

the Science of Man in the first edition of Science and Health, and it *has* brought about a revolution in human thinking. But the basic premise is still re-  
jected. It is still gener-  
ally believed that man is  
a material creation and  
creator who lives, moves,  
and has his being in mat-  
ter— a material body and a material universe. Even  
we Christian Scientists spend far too much time try-  
ing to heal a material body when our textbook tells  
us "we shall be masters of the body, dictate its  
terms, and form and control it with Truth." (228:22)

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THE BASIC PREMISE  
IS STILL REJECTED.

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We should ask ourselves: Am I a Christian Scien-  
tist? Am I master of the body? Do I dictate its  
terms? Do I form it with Truth? Do I control it with  
Truth? If we are not doing this, then we are not  
practising Christian Science as Mrs. Eddy practised  
it and set it forth for us.

Perhaps we are dwelling in the state Martha Wilcox  
described when she went to Chestnut Hill to work for  
Mrs. Eddy. Mrs. Wilcox had been studying and prac-  
tising Christian Science for six years, and she said,  
"I thought of creation— that is all things— as  
separated into two groups, one group spiritual and  
the other group material, and that somehow I must  
get rid of the group I called material."

In one lesson her very  
first day Mrs. Eddy cor-  
rected this error and  
Martha learned that "There  
are not two groups of cre-  
ation— but just one." The spiritual reality of all  
things had to be seen right where the "unrighteous  
mammon" seemed to be.

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THERE ARE NOT TWO  
GROUPS OF CREATION.

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If we have been trying  
to get rid of matter, as  
had Martha, we must learn  
the lesson she learned  
that first day in Mrs.  
Eddy's employ. We must

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ARE WE TRYING TO  
HEAL OR IMPROVE  
MATTER?

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learn to *reverse* the error rather than trying to get  
rid of it, and to see the truth of being right

where the error claims to be.

In like manner if we have been trying to heal or improve matter we are not working scientifically. "The Science of being, in which all is divine Mind, or God and His idea, would be clearer in this age, but for the belief that matter is the medium of man"

The "belief that matter is the medium of man" (S&H 372) has no more foundation in fact than had the flat earth. But the belief was so tenacious, and the concept of Christian goodness so outweighed spirituality in the thought of students of that day, that Mrs. Eddy said after she spoke in the new Mother Church in May of 1895: "I discerned every mentality there, but saw no personality. I looked over the whole audience, and did not see one Christian Scientist." Would our Leader discern one Christian Scientist

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IS THERE ONE  
CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST  
AMONG US TODAY?

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tist among us today were she to give us such a mental examination? To lay the axe at the root of the forbidden tree, materiality, she had to instruct unscientific thought to say,

"There is no matter;" despite the possibility of students trying to get rid of something instead of correcting it.

The facts of the Science of man are "hidden" in the final edition of Science and Health which Mrs. Eddy left to reach all mankind for all time to come. But the consecrated Christian Scientist can gain much from her incisive statements in some of her early teaching and writing before the persecution of the dragon forced her to hide the Truth.

In her class-book which she copyrighted in 1870 (S&H 465:2) and which she handed to the students in manuscript form at that

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WHAT IS MATTER?

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time, her seventh question is: "What is matter? Ans. It is not substance...mat-

ter held as shadow is the idea of God, but matter held as substance is a belief and error."

Are we holding matter as substance and trying to improve it or acquire more of it? If so, metaphysi-



cally we have yet to abandon the flat earth theory.

If we are ready to replace blind faith with Science and to supplant Christian goodness (which at times devolves to criticism) with spirituality, we are ready to start seeing our

universe with spiritual sense. "To material sense, earth is matter; to spir-  
itual sense it is a com-  
pound idea." (S&H 585) To

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THE FLAT EARTH WAS  
TRANSFORMED TO A  
HEAVENLY SPHERE.

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material sense man is mat-  
ter; but all Christian Scientists say that "man is not material, he is spiritual."

When we abandon material sense for spiritual sense we begin to see the reality of being. We not only *say* that man is spiritual, we *know* it. The earth did not disappear when mankind accepted the astronomical truth, but it was transformed in consciousness from a flat earth to a heavenly sphere.

Neither does man or what we have miscalled matter disappear when seen aright, but is transformed from sickness to health, from discord to harmony, for "matter held as shadow is the idea of God;" "what the human mind terms matter and spirit indicates states and stages of consciousness" (S&H 573:10).

Spiritual sense causes  
us to let go of a personal  
sense of "I," and to re-  
place it with the truth  
about "I" in the Glossary.

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WHERE DO WE  
PLACE THE "I"?

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Mrs. Eddy is still asking us today the question she posed in the first edition of Science and Health in 1875: "where do we place the 'I'?" (65:25)

When we place the "I" scientifically and spirit-  
ually instead of personally and materially we shall be following the examples set for us by God's two anointed witnesses, Jesus of Nazareth and Mary Baker Eddy. And the works that they did shall we do also.

# H I S T O R Y

"Gather up the fragments that remain,  
that nothing be lost."

JESUS

## HER FAMILY IN BETHANY

JESUS' brothers and sisters were not unlike those of Mary Baker Eddy, for John tells us, "neither did his brethren believe in him" (John 7:5). But he had a family that did believe in him,— Lazarus and his two sisters in Bethany. It would appear that Mind revealed Jesus' Christ identity to Lazarus' sister Mary, but she was not the first to whom this was revealed.

After Jesus' healing and teaching had roused the countryside he asked his disciples: "Whom do men say

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IT WAS PETER  
WHO RESPONDED.

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that I the Son of man am?"  
He continued his question-  
ing with: "But whom say ye  
that I am?" (Matt 16:15)

It was Simon Peter to whom  
God revealed Jesus' Christ identity and who respond-  
ed: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."  
And this recognition of the Christ, this spiritual  
message from divine Love, was the foundation stone  
upon which Jesus' Christianity would develop on this  
planet, as is evident in his words to Peter: "Bless-

ed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. ...and upon this rock I will build my church ..." (Matt 16:17). Until that moment Jesus had been alone with his understanding of his Christ identity.

No one has ever known Christ Jesus as does Mary Baker Eddy. Her devotion to the Christ caused her to walk and talk with him and to follow closely in his footsteps until her own mission and identity were revealed to her. From that time the relationship became even closer.

Mrs. Eddy wrote to her student Ira Knapp, who was aiding in the search for a home for her, that though

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GOD PROVIDED A HOME  
ON A HILLSIDE.

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she had longed for a home by the seaside, God had provided it on a hillside. She searched long for the home God had prepared for her before she found Pleasant View. After finding it, she also wrote in her letter to Mr. Knapp: "My house here stands upon a very sightly hill, and the sides remind me of the Galilean slopes where my brother walked, and wept, and prayed."

Ira Oscar Knapp was probably the first person on this earth aside from Mrs. Eddy herself who truly *knew* that Mary Baker Eddy was to be equated with Jesus of Nazareth.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Knapp (Ira and Flavia) were very spiritually inclined which may account for the fact that they named their youngest child Bliss.

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A VOICE  
SPOKE TO HIM.

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Shortly after his introduction to Christian Science in 1884, Ira Knapp had a very interesting experience. As he was contemplating the mission of Christian Science in this world he exclaimed, "It brings a message of Love." To his astonishment a voice, nothing like a human voice, answered him and said: "Where shall I abide? Your house is occupied. Turn out your old tenants, and put on one measure of humility, and another measure, and yet another measure; and then I will abide with you, and Charity will abide with you."

Mr. Knapp pondered this message for a few days and then applied to Mrs. Eddy for instruction in Christian Science. This was followed by another unusual experience of which he wrote: "Early one morning I was again surprised, with what seemed a mighty rushing wind, which no man could stay. It made the earth

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BEFORE HIM WAS  
A GREAT ROCK,  
SQUARE AND UPRIGHT.

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as a desert, and left me bare and naked; but before me was a great rock, square and upright; and on its sides the word Truth appeared. On this rock I saw that I must build."

It is very possible that this vision contributed to the fact that Mrs. Eddy deeded her gift of land for the Mother Church to Ira Knapp. However, another message he received from divine Mind was of greater significance.

Mary Baker Eddy was alone with her understanding of her Christ identity. She had been working tirelessly at her mission on this earth for nearly twenty years when, in the spring of 1885, she preached a rousing sermon calling for a Peter: but no Peter responded to that call.

In the fall of that year her class at the Massachusetts Metaphysical College that convened on September 14 was the second class to include Ira and

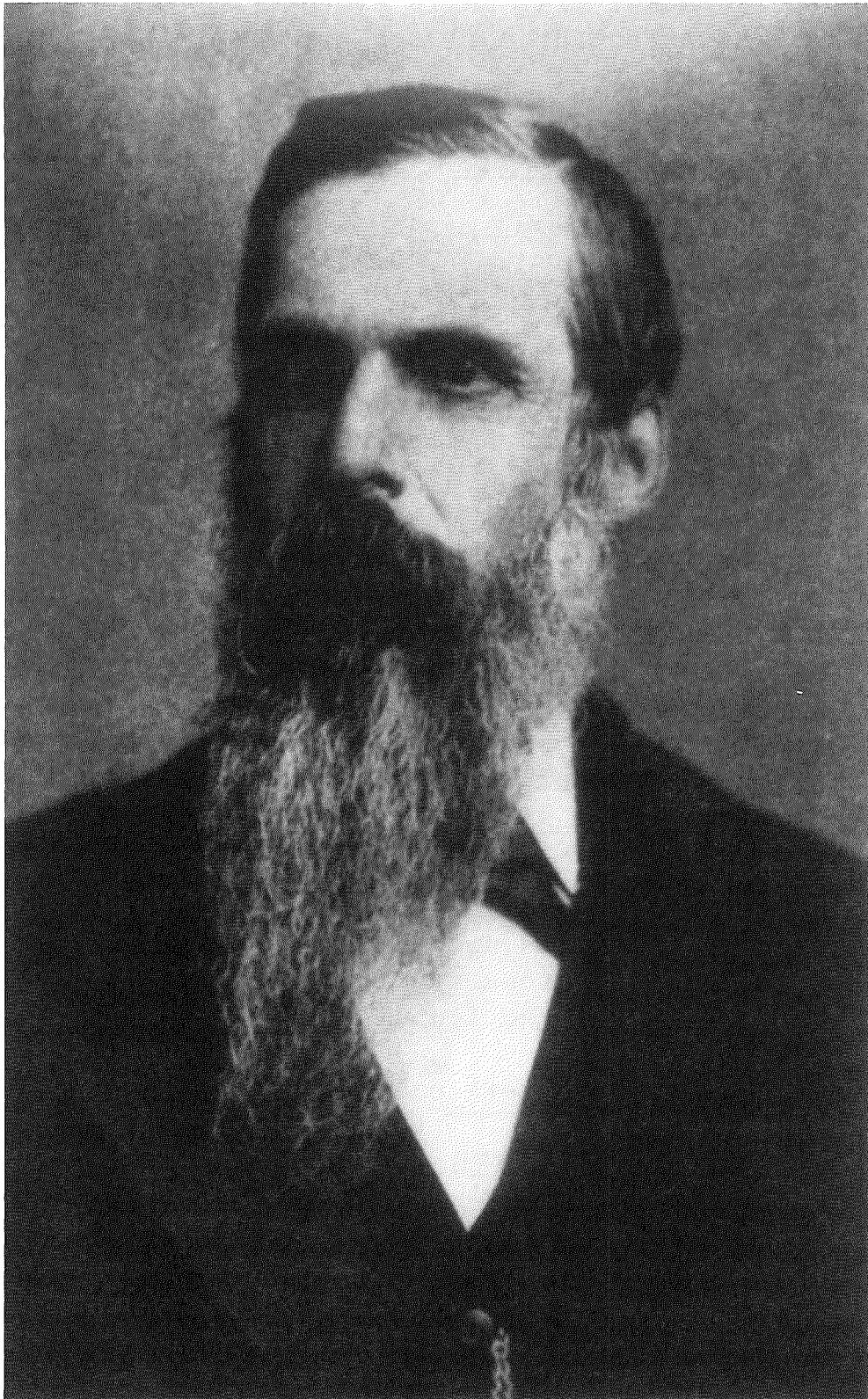
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GOD HAD REVEALED  
HER CHRIST IDENTITY  
TO IRA KNAPP.

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Flavia Knapp. Toward the end of the term the Teacher was explaining the 12th chapter of Revelation. She made no reference to herself, but Ira Knapp's receptive thought was illum-

ined and he exclaimed: "Thou art the Woman!" Mrs. Eddy looked at him searchingly. She read Mr. Knapp's thought and knew that God had revealed her identity to him. She spoke not a word, but she gave Ira Knapp a sweet smile. Flesh and blood had not revealed her identity to Mr. Knapp. If a revelation comes from God it is unshakable and is the rock to be built upon. Six months earlier Mrs. Eddy had preached a stirring sermon on the text, "Thou art Peter, and



**IRA OSCAR KNAPP**

At the time he first studied with Mrs. Eddy

upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." At last her Peter had appeared.

Flavia Knapp was just as dedicated as was her husband. At one time Mrs. Eddy said of her that she was

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MRS. EDDY SAID  
FLAVIA KNAPP WAS HER  
VERY BEST STUDENT.

---

her very best student. She She also chose Mrs. Knapp to be the teacher of Christian Science when she reopened her college in 1899, but untimely circumstances intervened.

Rev. Irving Tomlinson first studied Christian Science under the tutelage of Mrs. Knapp, and it was most likely he who wrote of her: "Mrs. Knapp's thought reached out to save the world. I can see her now— her frank, honest, sincere countenance, expressing the qualities of ever-ready helpfulness to one and all. Principle was her backbone. ...She was

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SHE WAS ALWAYS  
AT HER POST.

---

always at her post, always ready to work for God..."

Mrs. Eddy was in the Knapps' home a number of times and for a brief period before finding Pleasant View she lived directly across the street from them in Roslindale. Many, many times she called upon both Mr. and Mrs. Knapp to do mental work necessary for the step being taken at that moment for the founding of Christian Science in this world.

When new students were called to Boston to work for the Cause, it was often the Knapp family that provided them with temporary shelter. They provided more than temporary shelter for Mrs. Eddy's adopted son Dr. Foster Eddy.

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DR. FOSTER EDDY LIVED  
WITH THE KNAPPS  
FOR A YEAR.

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When the malicious animal magnetism directed against the Leader (which caused her at times to refer to her home as "Fort Besieged") became more than the doctor could bear, she asked the Knapps if they would include him in their family. So "Bennie"





FLAVIA STICKNEY KNAPP

At the time she first studied with Mrs. Eddy

as his mother fondly called him, lived with the Knapps for a year while he was still publisher of

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"THAT IS A PORTRAIT  
OF IRA O. KNAPP."

---

Mrs. Eddy's writings.

Mrs. Eddy was probably dictating her letter to the First Members to Clara Shannon in the fall of

1895. As she described the man of integrity, she said to Clara, "That is a portrait of Ira O. Knapp."

There are many recollections of the Leader's kind words about the Knapps, but perhaps the most descriptive of all are the words she penned to Mrs. Knapp: "You seem like the family in Bethany where our blessed Master found rest and sympathy."

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#### From An Early Journal

A friend of mine, who had personal friends among the scientific men who were experimenting along the line of the Roentgen ray [X-ray] discovery, was one day watching them at their work, when one of these men, seeing matter literally disappear to the sense, exclaimed, "Well! what *is* matter, anyway?" My friend replied, "There is no life, truth, substance, or intelligence in matter." (S&H 464), and the professor turning quickly to him said, "Where did you get that?"

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When Mrs. Eddy announced that, "All is infinite Mind and its infinite manifestation," she did something for the human race that it cannot ever escape, and which will do more to lift the human race out of fears and limitations than any statement ever made by anyone.

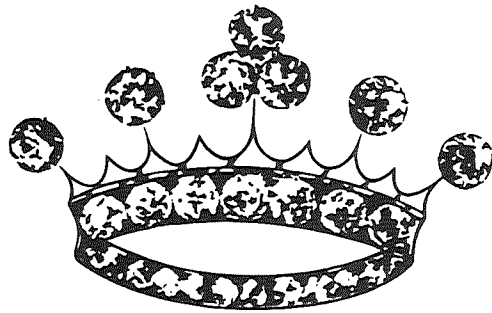
Mildred L. LeBlond

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What thou needest to know is that mortal mind has translated the body and its functions into matter, and immortal Mind gives back the original with its functions preserved and harmonious, but not as *not in matter*, but as *and of Mind*.

Mary Baker Eddy





# Sermons

Which Spiritually Interpret the Scriptures  
and  
Other Writings on Christian Science

A History of Pioneer Steps in Christian Science  
which Led to Building "on a Wholly Spiritual  
Foundation," in Obedience to the Message  
from Mary Baker Eddy, Discoverer and  
Founder of Christian Science, to Her  
"Dear Brethren in New York"  
Dated January 16, 1909

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I thought you should have this May 1991 article... This shows what has happened to that wonderful American Bible Society. This gives some of the patriots who were early officers. You know there are none on it now.

Until 1950 they pretty well used the 1611 King James Version, but that year they joined the National Council of Churches according to Mr. Ray's *God Wrote Only One Bible*, p. 88. Then they printed Good News for Modern Man or Today's English Version. Then they began to alternate the King James Version with their TEV on their Christmas and Easter seals. Now KJV is out entirely.

Note: "to comfort AIDS victims." KJV is too judgmental, so they will have God approving sodomy. Reminds me of *No and Yes* 7:10...

More and more pastors are being deceived into using new Bibles. One well-known radio Luthern pastor was put out of the church for his stand on the KJV. Imagine that in the Luthern Church.

Christian Scientists can turn this around, and foil the enemy.

Gilberta Holmes

Los Angeles, California

Enclosure:

NEW BIBLE TRANSLATION IS EASIER TO HEAR/ The American Bible Society, which in its 175 years of life has distributed more Bibles than the world's present population, came out this week with a new one. It's made for easy listening.

It sounds different in one way, yet familiar in another. The wording is fresh, but it has the familiar tone of ordinary conversation....

The new translation, done mainly by a four-member team in consultation with about 100 other Protestant and Roman Catholic scholars, was issued as the society marked its 175th anniversary. ...

Early officers included Elias Boudinot, former president of the Continental Congress, former President John Quincy Adams, John Jay, the nation's first chief justice, and Francis Scott Key, author of the

[continued on page 28]

# PROFESSIONAL CARDS

Each Christian Science practitioner advertising in our columns has signed his or her name to the following statement:

"I am one hundred per cent in agreement with Christian Science as discovered and founded by Mary Baker Eddy, as exemplified in her life and works, and as put forth in her book *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. I acknowledge Mary Baker Eddy as the God-anointed and God-appointed Revelator to this age. I also acknowledge it to be a 'special offense' to represent falsely by word or work our Leader and Pastor Emeritus (Church Manual, Article XI, Section 12). And I am in agreement with the demand of her Church that a member shall not practise or teach Christian Science contrary to the statement thereof in its textbook *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* (Article XII, Section 2). I further aver that I do not practise or teach Christian Science contrary to the statement thereof in Mrs. Eddy's last (1910) edition of *Science and Health*."

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If you are in agreement with the statement at the top of this page, and if you are a subscriber to this periodical practising Christian Science, *The Individual Christian Scientist* would be pleased to include your advertisement with our professional cards.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR [continued from page 26]

"Star Spangled Banner."

The present chief executive officer is the Rev. Bryant M. Kirkland, minister emeritus of Manhattan's Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church.

He cites the society's recent production of special Scripture portions to strengthen young people against peer pressure, to encourage recovery from alcohol and drug abuse, to comfort prisoners and AIDS victims. . . .

A main achievement, after six years of work, is completion of the new CEV translation of the New Testament, sometimes alternately titled "Bible for Today's Family."

*The Press Enterprise* 5/25/91

The letter from the dedicated student in rebuttal to the Lee Johnson letter to the Churches and Reading Rooms over the real issue of the *Destiny of the Mother Church*, will have a neutralizing effect. I was reminded of a letter Mrs. Eddy wrote to Augusta Stetson with the following instruction:

"If you had a patient that was being told constantly something bad about you, unless you or some one for you should place the truth in regard to you in the mind of that patient, you could not heal him." (*Letters of Mary Baker Eddy to Augusta E. Stetson, 1889-1909*, page 18, letter of 10/28/90)

Now that to me explains the truth the message brought to bear on the controversy over our Leader's place, not just for today, but for all time,— to silence these lies, and to heal the patient (the Christian Scientists), and I was very grateful.

Sally W. Rice  
Fairfax, Virginia

#### HOME

Home is not a place. It is a power. Going home is doing right.

Mary Baker Eddy to her household  
at Chestnut Hill