

Address delivered by James P.B. Hyndman, from Station WHAP, New York City, on Monday, May 31, 1926, at 9; 15 P.M. on AMERICANISM. Subject:

## AMERICAN METAPHYSICS

This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

(John 17:3)

Who is a liar, but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is anti-Christ, that denieth the Father and the Son.

(I John 2:22)

-----

Three Indian youths, who desired to win their first feather, requested their Chief to give them a test. The Chief said to them; "Scale that mountain." In a day or two, one of the young Indians returned, having a root in his hand, which he gave to the Chief, saying, "O Chief, see, I have brought you a root from the top of the mountain." "No," said the Chief, "you have not scaled the mountain; there are no roots up there." A little later, the second Indian youth returned, with a branch of a tree. Addressing the Chief, he said, "O, Chief, I have been to the mountain's top, and have brought you this branch of a tree which grew at its peak." "No," said the Chief again, sadly, "there are no trees at the mountain top. You have not been at its peak." A day or so later, the third Indian youth returned. He had nothing in his hand, but his face was beaming, and his eyes shone with the light of inspiration. "O Chief," he exclaimed, "what a wonderful vision of the sea!" "You have been to the top of the mountain," answered the chief. "You have caught its vision!"

Metaphysics deals with that which is beyond the realm of physics, or matter. A very remarkable editorial appeared in the *New York Sun*, of April 27, 1926, entitled, "Matter, A Riddle." In this editorial, the editor commented upon and analyzed the most recent findings of the physicists regarding the essential nature of matter. After devoting most of a column to the discussion of atoms and electrons, and speaking of the powers and properties of matter (so-called), this editor came to the conclusion, that we are still far away from the answer to the question, What is matter? Indeed, he continued; "Students are beginning to doubt that protons and electrons (the acknowledged basis of matter) have real substance. The editor concludes thus: "According to this view, nothing exists in the universe except electricity --- and perhaps ether."

The modern physicists are not the first to declare the unreality of matter. Sir William Ramsay, the foremost physicist of his generation --- the latter part of the nineteenth century and the opening years of the twentieth --- came to the conclusion, after having given his theory of the atom, molecule, electron

and ion to the world, that we have no grounds for believing that matter is real, and no proof to offer for its reality. Many other philosophers before Sir William's day, declared for the unreality of matter, as, for instance, Bishop Berkeley; yet they did not push their research beyond the negative, and so failed to point to a reality in place of that which they had demolished. They were iconoclasts, but not builders.

Because matter, in very fact, has no existence whatever, the conclusion is inevitable, that eventually the whole world will awake to the truth, and learn, that the universe is wholly mental, spiritual, the reflection of the infinite Mind, or God, and is without sin, disease and death, which belong wholly to the belief that matter exists and has life and intelligence. The first to declare for the absolute unreality of matter, and the allness of God, Spirit, was Christ Jesus, the Son of God. In his talk with the woman at the well, he said to her:

God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must  
worship *him* in spirit and in truth. (John 4:24.)

In that wonderful interview, which he accorded by night, to Nicodemus a ruler of the Jews, the great Teacher, Christ Jesus patiently developed his theme of the nothingness of matter, or flesh, and its so-called corporeal man and material universe, and the substance reality of Spirit and the spiritual man and universe. He said;

Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the  
sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and  
whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not, how  
shall ye believe, if I tell you *of* heavenly things?

And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that  
came down from heaven, *even* the Son of man which is  
in heaven.

(John 3:7 & 8, 12 & 13.)

The birth of the human Jesus, the son of Mary who was a virgin two thousand years ago, in Palestine, was but incidental to the first appearing of Christ, the Son of God, the representative of spiritual man, who came down from heaven, and hath ascended up to heaven, even the Son of man (that is, the veritable representative of the real, spiritual generic man in the image of God) which is in heaven (harmony). According to his own teaching, the fleshly, human Jesus was in no wise to be regarded as the representative of the real, spiritual man, the reflection of God. The mighty birth throes of spiritual manhood, in the likeness of his Father, God, Spirit, which struggle consumed thirty-three years of an earthly experience, unparalleled in the previous history of the world, were unseen by the world, and almost entirely unknown even to

Jesus' disciples, except to the beloved John, who through his natural intuitive pure spiritual perception, developed and nurtured by his Teacher, caught the vision of the Christ from the mountain peak of spiritual understanding. This was the first appearing of Christ, or spiritual man in the image and, likeness of God; and this mighty vision, heralded by the Star of Bethlehem, is identified for all time with the land of Palestine.

Two essential and vital points intimately related to the first appearing of Christ in Palestine two thousand years ago, are to be carefully noted, observed, studied, and understood. The first is the appearing, simultaneous with that of Christ, of a so-called "dragon," which event is recorded in St. John's Book of Revelation. This "dragon", whose character, activities, and final doom are minutely described by the beloved disciple, wars against Christ, and this fierce warfare is seemingly carried up into heaven, here symbolical of the mental realm. The number of this "dragon" is six hundred, three score and six, which, St. John continues, "is the number of a man." John exhorts him that readeth to understand.

The second essential and vital point is, the definite promise and assertion of the Christ, that he would come again! Christ Jesus comforted his disciples, as recorded in the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter of John's Gospel, with the particulars of his "going away," and of whither he went, and the "way," of his purpose in going, namely, to prepare a place for them, and of the manner of his second appearing. Christ Jesus was the Elder Brother in the spiritual family of God, for he was the Son of God. For his assertion that he was the Son of God, Jesus was crucified. To him, Spirit, God, was the only substance, the only Source of being, the only Creator of man (spiritual man), and the only universal Father. His mentality was spiritual; his spirit partook of the things of God, Life, Love and Truth, and could not assimilate the things of the flesh, which terminates in sin, sickness and death. His mental gaze was continually fixed on the supernal realities of the Kingdom of heaven and constantly turned away from the fleeting shadows of earth. Heaven was his home; eternity the span of his existence; God, his Father; and Spirit, the Source of his life.

What was matter to him? He said:

That which is born of the Spirit (substance) is spirit  
(substantial, living, eternal.) (John 3:6.)

Again he said:

The flesh (matter) profiteth nothing: The words that I speak  
unto thee, they are Spirit, and they are life. (John 4: 63.)

The character, thought and life of Christ Jesus were the very opposite of those of the world. He appeared in a seeming world of matter, flesh, given over wholly to the belief of life in matter, or flesh, and the indulgence of the carnal appetites, which are the inevitable result of this false belief that ends in

death. The appetites of flesh had no place in the economy of Jesus' nature. So pure was even his seeming flesh, that it was susceptible of a degree of transfiguration on the mount, which caused his very raiment to shine with the transcendent light of Spirit. He said of himself, "I am the light of the world." Matter is not light, flesh is not light, but darkness. Mind is the only source of light — the divine Mind, or God, Spirit; and man, spiritual man, is God's image and likeness, God's reflection. Matter, flesh, appeareth not in this spiritual reflection. The flesh of Jesus, which made him appear as a man, obscured, in degree, the real or spiritual man, or the Christ whom he represented; but so great was Christ Jesus' spiritual understanding, so firm his grasp upon Spirit, that he was able on numerous occasions, to burst through the veil of matter, flesh, by his spiritual understanding alone, and dissipate its unreal shadows of sin, disease and death.

His marvellous demonstration on the Mount of Transfiguration, enabled the disciples to pierce the thick veil of human flesh, or the belief of life in matter, and to perceive somewhat of the eternal man of God's creating, the substance individuality of Moses and Elias, and the shining spiritual form of Jesus, transfigured by Spirit, almost to the point of utter escape from the flesh, or matter. This final solution, or full escape from flesh, or matter, Jesus accomplished after the resurrection, at the ascension. At his second appearing, which is imminent, Christ will overcome and escape from the fleshly embodiment of woman; and thus will be revealed, in finality, the nothingness of flesh, or matter, in its entirety as so-called man and woman, or Adam and Eve, the counterfeit, man or mankind, with its counterfeit universe of flesh, blood and bones, and the substance reality of spiritual man, both male and female as one individual compound spiritual idea, the reflection image and likeness of a compound Principle, God, Spirit, Life, Truth and Love, called Father-Mother God.

Why is the metaphysics of Christ Jesus related to America? Because America is the place where the second appearing of Christ will occur. The entire history of America is wholly spiritual, in its deeper and more symbolical interpretation. The discovery of America, in the year 1000, by the young Norseman (Icelander), Leif Ericson, was in fulfilment of the spiritual command of Christ, which young Leif received through spiritual inspiration, to search and discover the "western land," the place which Christ should prepare for his people.

Under the compelling law of spiritual attraction, which Jesus stated in the remarkable words, "I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me," the Pilgrim Fathers were drawn to these shores, because they knew that here they would "find freedom to worship God," freedom from the tyranny of European and Asiatic priestcraft and the (ungodly) doctrine of "the divine right of kings." Thus, also, were George Washington and his co-patriots of 1776, led to establish, on the firm foundation of the marvellous principles and teaching of Christ Jesus, the unique spiritual Nation which they named The American Federal Republic, or the United States of America, which Lincoln,

under divine guidance, later preserved.

As there was the manifestation of a dragon, to oppose Christ at his first appearing, so the same dragon appeareth to-day, in America, at the second appearing of Christ. John tells us that, at the first battle of Armageddon, the dragon received a sore wound, from which he recovered; but at the second battle of Armageddon, when Christ should appear the second time, the dragon and his armies should be cast into the bottomless pit, "prepared for the devil and his angels."

The glorious fulfilment of the marvellous spiritual teaching of Christ Jesus, is revealed in Christian Science, discovered and founded by Mary Baker Eddy, the author of its textbook, *Science and Health, with Key to the Scriptures*, and as demonstrated to-day by Mrs. Eddy's faithful student, Augusta E. Stetson, C.S.D., both in Mrs. Stetson's writings, in her noble defense of Mrs. Eddy's teaching, in her continued occupancy of the post to which Mrs. Eddy assigned her, until the Leader of Christian Science, like Christ Jesus, shall prove her teaching, by coming forth victor over death and the tomb, and by her own marvellous Christly life, maintained in the face of a period of persecution unparalleled in the annals of Christian history.

Throughout all the writings of Mary Baker Eddy, and those by Augusta E. Stetson, C.S.D., Mrs. Eddy's student, the absolute unreality of matter, in the light of the absolute supremacy of Spirit, is iterated, reiterated, and proven on the basis of divine metaphysics. The foundation of this divine Science is given in the following words of Mary Baker Eddy;

Spirit is infinite, therefore *Spirit is all*. "There is no matter" is not only the axiom of true Christian Science, but it is the only basis upon which this Science, can be demonstrated.

(*Miscellany*, page 357:22-25.)

There is a seeming mortal, or flesh mind force in the world, which opposes itself to Christ and his teaching. This so-called mental force, which, in reality, has no power, when it is resisted by those who possess the Mind of Christ, since all power belongs to God, Spirit, acts upon the ignorance of the aggregate carnal mentality, or embodied fleshly mind, of the world, causing it to perpetuate itself in seemingly endless cycles of generations, to sin, suffer, and finally to die. This is the story of matter, but it is an untrue, unreal story, or, in the words of Christ Jesus, a lie, and the father of it — the lie. God, Spirit, created the universe, including man, in His, God's image and likeness, the image of eternal Life and Love; He did not re-create it in the likeness of matter, sin, and death.

The mental force or dragon, which, through evil mental manipulators, plays thus upon the ignorance and credulity of the world, or flesh man, is met and opposed by the Christ Mind, the Mind of Spirit, which is the reflection of God,

the Source of all harmony and blessedness, immortality and bliss.

I close, with a quotation from page 976 of *Reminiscences, Sermons and Correspondence*, by Augusta E. Stetson, C.S.D.:

“The radium of Spirit penetrates, dissolves, and disperses the substanceless shadows or images of the mortal concept — the counterfeit man and the counterfeit universe, and discloses the divine reality and spiritual verities of being,”

James P. B. Hyndman