

Mary Baker Eddy's PREFACE to her work SCIENCE AND HEALTH WITH KEY TO THE SCRIPTURES epitomizes the divine design which obtains throughout the Scriptures and the whole textbook.

After an introductory paragraph, which is in itself a spiritual overture, the text of the PREFACE enlarges her theme in a sevenfold manner.

Overture	"To lean" is to incline towards . . . to rely on for support.	The WORD concept
	"big with blessings" implies about to be bestowed.	}
	"wakeful" denotes one who has not been asleep.	
	". . . the human herald of Christ, Truth . . ."	
	"the way of salvation through Christ Jesus . . ."	The CHRIST- IANITY concept
	"the guiding star of being . . . this daystar of divine Science . . ."	The SCIENCE concept
Mind	This opening section is characterized by Mind. "The time for thinkers has come", indicates the demand for clear, rational thought on this vast subject.	The WORD concept
	"Truth . . . knocks at the portal of humanity."	The CHRIST concept
	"Contentment . . . conventionality . . . are crumbling away".	The CHRIST- IANITY concept
	The pioneer's task: discovery; system; demonstration; obedience to Principle; discords of corporeal sense yielding to the harmony of spiritual sense, even as in the science of music — all constituents of Science.	The SCIENCE concept

1 the treatment of disease as well as of sin, her system has
 been fully tested and has not been found wanting; but
 3 to reach the heights of Christian Science, man must live
 in obedience to its divine Principle. To develop the full
 might of this Science, the discords of corporeal sense
 6 must yield to the harmony of spiritual sense, even as the
 science of music corrects false tones and gives sweet con-
 cord to sound.

Spirit 9 Theology and physics teach that both Spirit and Word
 matter are real and good, whereas the fact is that
 Spirit is good and real, and matter is Spirit's oppo-
 12 site. The question, What is Truth, is answered by Christ
 demonstration, — by healing both disease and sin; and
 this demonstration shows that Christian healing con- Christianity
 15 fers the most health and makes the best men. On this
 basis Christian Science will have a fair fight. Sickness Science
 has been combated for centuries by doctors using ma-
 18 terial remedies; but the question arises, Is there less
 sickness because of these practitioners? A vigorous
 "No" is the response deducible from two connate
 21 facts, — the reputed longevity of the Antediluvians,
 and the rapid multiplication and increased violence of
 diseases since the flood.

Soul 24 In the author's work, RETROSPECTION AND INTROSPEC- Word
 TION, may be found a biographical sketch, narrating
 experiences which led her, in the year 1866, to the dis-
 27 covery of the system that she denominated Christian
 Science. As early as 1862 she began to write down and
 give to friends the results of her Scriptural study, for
 30 the Bible was her sole teacher; but these compositions
 were crude, — the first steps of a child in the newly dis-
 covered world of Spirit.

- Spirit** A leading characteristic of Spirit is the office of separating in order to classify aright — in other words to demonstrate ‘the firmament’ of the second day.
- “Theology and physics teach . . .” } observe the contrast: Spirit
 whereas the fact is that . . .” } operating as the Word. The WORD concept
- “The question, What is Truth . . .” The CHRIST concept
- demonstration and Christian healing The CHRIST-
 IANITY concept
- The Christian warfare and settling the question The SCIENCE concept
- Soul** A leading office of Soul is the power to identify.
- At this point the author identifies her discovery and denominates it CHRISTIAN SCIENCE. The Bible was her sole teacher. The WORD concept
- The author as “a child in the newly discovered world of Spirit”.

She also began to jot down her thoughts on the main subject, but these jottings were only infantile 1 Christ
 risings of Truth. A child drinks in the outward world 3
 through the eyes and rejoices in the draught. He is
 as sure of the world's existence as he is of his own; yet
 he cannot describe the world. He finds a few words, 6 Christianity
 and with these he stammeringly attempts to convey his
 feeling. Later, the tongue voices the more definite
 thought, though still imperfectly. 9 Science

Principle So was it with the author. As a certain poet says of
 himself, she "lisped in numbers, for the numbers Word
 came." Certain essays written at that early date are 12 Christ
 still in circulation among her first pupils; but they are
 feeble attempts to state the Principle and practice of Christianity
 Christian healing, and are not complete nor satisfac- 15
 tory expositions of Truth. To-day, though rejoicing
 in some progress, she still finds herself a willing dis-
 ciple at the heavenly gate, waiting for the Mind of 18
 Christ.

Her first pamphlet on Christian Science was copy- Science
 righted in 1870; but it did not appear in print until 21
 1876, as she had learned that this Science must be
 demonstrated by healing, before a work on the subject
 could be profitably studied. From 1867 until 1875, 24
 copies were, however, in friendly circulation.

Life Before writing this work, SCIENCE AND HEALTH, she Word
 made copious notes of Scriptural exposition, which 27
 have never been published. This was during the years
 1867 and 1868. These efforts show her comparative
 ignorance of the stupendous Life-problem up to that 30
 time, and the degrees by which she came at length
 to its solution; but she values them as a parent Christ

These early "jottings were only infantile lisplings of Truth".

The CHRIST
concept

The author "stammeringly attempts to convey" her feeling.

The CHRIST-
IANITY
concept

"Later, the tongue voices the more definite thought . . ." The discovery, having been named, is being developed specifically in reduction to law, order, and system within the meaning of SCIENCE.

The SCIENCE
concept

Principle

. . . she "lisped in numbers, for the numbers came". This line quoted from Alexander Pope, the author uses to indicate how the Word of Revelation took form and order in her thought.

The WORD
concept

The author "lisped", struggled to make articulate her message; "for the numbers came", a spontaneous outpouring of Truth.

The CHRIST
concept

" . . . the Principle and practice of Christian healing . . ."

The CHRIST-
IANITY
concept

" . . . she had learned that this Science must be demonstrated by healing, before a work on the subject could be profitably studied."

The SCIENCE
concept

Life

" . . . she made copious notes of Scriptural exposition", learning the way, to overcome "her comparative ignorance of the stupendous Life-problem up to that time . . ."

The WORD
concept

" . . . and the degrees by which she came at length to its solution . . ."

The CHRIST
concept

1 may treasure the memorials of a child's growth, and she would not have them changed. Christianity

3 The first edition of SCIENCE AND HEALTH was published in 1875. Various books on mental healing have since been issued, most of them incorrect in theory Science
 6 and filled with plagiarisms from SCIENCE AND HEALTH. They regard the human mind as a healing agent, whereas this mind is not a factor in the Principle of
 9 Christian Science. A few books, however, which are based on this book, are useful.

Truth. The author has not compromised conscience to suit Word
 12 the general drift of thought, but has bluntly and honestly given the text of Truth. She has made no effort to embellish, elaborate, or treat in full detail so in-
 15 finite a theme. By thousands of well-authenticated cases of healing, she and her students have proved the worth of her teachings. These cases for the most part
 18 have been abandoned as hopeless by regular medical attendants. Few invalids will turn to God till all physical supports have failed, because there is so little
 21 faith in His disposition and power to heal disease.

The divine Principle of healing is proved in the personal experience of any sincere seeker of Truth. Its
 24 purpose is good, and its practice is safer and more potent than that of any other sanitary method. Christ The un-
 27 biased Christian thought is soonest touched by Truth, and convinced of it. Only those quarrel with her method who do not understand her meaning, or discerning the truth, come not to the light lest their
 30 works be reproved. No intellectual proficiency is requisite in the learner, but sound morals are most desirable.

“... but she values them as a parent may treasure the memorials of a child's growth...” — relationship.

The CHRISTIANITY concept

The work had to be published and placed on permanent record for humanity's sake.

The SCIENCE concept

Truth “The author... has bluntly and honestly given the text of Truth.”

The WORD concept

“The divine Principle of healing is proved in the personal experience of any sincere seeker of Truth.”

The CHRIST concept

“The unbiased Christian thought is soonest touched by Truth, and convinced of it.”

Many imagine that the phenomena of physical heal- 1 Christianity
 ing in Christian Science present only a phase of the
 action of the human mind, which action in some unex- 3
 plained way results in the cure of disease. On the con-
 trary, Christian Science rationally explains that all
 other pathological methods are the fruits of human 6
 faith in matter, — faith in the workings, not of Spirit,
 but of the fleshly mind which must yield to Science.

The physical healing of Christian Science results 9 Science
 now, as in Jesus' time, from the operation of divine
 Principle, before which sin and disease lose their real-
 ity in human consciousness and disappear as naturally 12
 and as necessarily as darkness gives place to light and
 sin to reformation. Now, as then, these mighty works
 are not supernatural, but supremely natural. They are 15
 the sign of Immanuel, or "God with us," — a divine
 influence ever present in human consciousness and re-
 peating itself, coming now as was promised aforetime, 18

To preach deliverance to the captives [of sense],
 And recovering of sight to the blind,
 To set at liberty them that are bruised. 21

Love When God called the author to proclaim His Gospel 24 Word
 to this age, there came also the charge to plant and Christ
 water His vineyard. Christianity

The first school of Christian Science Mind-healing
 was started by the author with only one student in
 Lynn, Massachusetts, about the year 1867. In 1881, 27 Science
 she opened the Massachusetts Metaphysical College in
 Boston, under the seal of the Commonwealth, a law
 relative to colleges having been passed, which enabled 30
 her to get this institution chartered for medical pur-

“Many imagine that the phenomena of physical healing in Christian Science . . .”

The CHRIST-
IANITY
concept

“Christian Science rationally explains . . .”

The SCIENCE
concept

“The physical healing of Christian Science results now, as in Jesus’ time, from the operation of divine Principle . . .”

Love *Lifework and fulfillment.*

“When God called the author . . .”

“to proclaim His Gospel to this age . . .”

“there came also the charge to plant and water His vineyard.”

“The first school of Christian Science Mind-healing was started by the author . . . about the year 1867 . . .”

To end of PREFACE.

The WORD
concept
The CHRIST
concept
The CHRIST-
IANITY
concept
The SCIENCE
concept

1 poses. No charters were granted to Christian Scien-
tists for such institutions after 1883, and up to that
3 date, hers was the only College of this character which
had been established in the United States, where
Christian Science was first introduced.

6 During seven years over four thousand students
were taught by the author in this College. Meanwhile
she was pastor of the first established Church of
9 Christ, Scientist; President of the first Christian Sci-
entist Association, convening monthly; publisher of
her own works; and (for a portion of this time) sole
12 editor and publisher of the Christian Science Journal,
the first periodical issued by Christian Scientists. She
closed her College, October 29, 1889, in the height of
15 its prosperity with a deep-lying conviction that the
next two years of her life should be given to the prep-
aration of the revision of SCIENCE AND HEALTH, which
18 was published in 1891. She retained her charter, and
as its President, reopened the College in 1899 as auxil-
iary to her church. Until June 10, 1907, she had never
21 read this book throughout consecutively in order to elu-
cidate her idealism.

In the spirit of Christ's charity, — as one who “hopeth
24 all things, endureth all things,” and is joyful to bear
consolation to the sorrowing and healing to the sick, —
she commits these pages to honest seekers for Truth.

MARY BAKER EDDY

This lifework is epitomized in the purpose "to elucidate her idealism."

"Idealism: That system of reflective thinking which would interpret and explain the entire universe, things and minds and their relations as the realization of a system of ideas, or as the progressive evolution of an ideal." (Funk and Wagnalls)

Here it will be seen that in Mary Baker Eddy's preface she follows the same order and development of "the seven days" of the first Genesis Record and all that they represent and interpret through their manifold offices.