

THE ROAD OF PEACE

The human mind is prone to criticize, to find fault, to believe that people are sick, sinful, dead; prone to point out these evils in civil and ecclesiastical governments, in others, and sometimes in one's self.

Now, there is only one reason for doing this, and it is because the human mind believes that there is some other kind of government than the divine, or that the divine government manifests less intelligence, and is less fair in its government, than a mere human government.

Of course, it is a fact that God is the only power, presence and wisdom; hence, *He* governs all there is to govern, namely, *Himself*, the All-in-all, by means of *His* own power, and wisely by means of *His* own wisdom. Therefore, the criticisms, the fault-finding, the beliefs or viewpoints that man or the universe is sick, sinful, or dead are entirely wrong; and we are the victims supposedly of a standpoint that has no foundation, which is constantly presenting itself disguised as the true foundation, or the house (consciousness) built upon the rock (Christ).

Evil is constantly presenting to us for our consideration, the illusion of material sense, called war, sin, disease, death, materialism, hatred, viciousness, personal domination, personal desires (calling such desires prayer), personal environment; all — each and every one — of the suggestions tempting us to believe that something is true which is not true.

Whatever is presented to us through the avenues of personal sense, is always done as suggestion, and, being evil, is always trying to make us believe that something exists which does not exist; or that something is true which is not true; or that man or the universe is something that man or the universe is not, nor ever will be.

If we remain faithful and true, courageously standing by the Word of God and His promises to us, we will never fall by the side of *His way* through criticizing either the person or the thing, and thus become the victim of the suggestion that man is governed by evil instead of God, or good; and we will never believe that something is true which is not true.

The remedy, of course, is to recognize that which is God always, a perfect universe, a perfect world, a spiritual creation, and not a material universe, or a material, or mortal, man. To become conscious here and now of the *universal man*, or the universe of God's creating, governed, controlled, and sustained by *good*, is to bring into view that which is called a healing.

No one can be criticized for his or her acts (viewed from such a stand), unless one believes that God is not governing, or that there is a mortal who acts, for it is unbelievable that God or *His* Government should be criticized.

The thing to do, in the face of the temptation to believe that God is not governing and that evil is the governor, is to hold fast to the fact that God does

govern, and sooner or later this fact will be manifest as a fact — thus do the “blind see and the lame walk,” and the “ears hear that which they should hear.”

“He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his [our] father David.” (Luke)

Even should it be a patient coming for help — this is a temptation to believe that man is something that he is not; that he is material; that he is a mortal; that he is both good and evil; that he is sick, sinful or discordant; that he needs to be saved. Whether it be a drunken man in the street — this, also, is a temptation to come down from our pinnacle or watchtower. Whether it be a Church struggling with some false viewpoint which threatens to manifest itself as upheaval in the Church — this, too, is but the temptation, or the wiles of the devil, to believe that something is true which is not true, nor ever has been true for the infinitesimal part of a second. This last presentation of evil in the guise of good, or the exercise of the religious element, is the temptation to believe that man is not what he is, for *man* and *church* are synonymous names, both being “The structure of Truth and Love.” (*Science and Health*). In fact, it matters not what the suggestion may be, it is always the suggestion of evil to have us believe that we are the victims of human consciousness; to have us believe that man is something other than what he is; that existence is something other than what it is; that the Truth is other than what it is; or that the Governor, over all, is something other than what *He* is.

If the patient comes to Christian Science to be uplifted (above earthly sense), or to be “treated,” the endeavor is always to recognize the perfection of creation. If this is done, and the ever-presence of God recognized as what it is, the patient is healed. We would not for a moment tolerate a thought of there being something wrong, or something the matter, with that man coming for help, even if the patient himself told us, or someone else told us, that he was sinful or sick. But we would, through all the endeavor of evil to assume its various disguises to fool us, persistently, calmly, consistently hold to the true facts of being — that *man*, the Son of God, is now and forever what he is, the very essence of God’s being. Unless we recognize the true facts of being, no healing can ever be brought about.

When some inharmony seems to arise, a bit of gossip, perhaps, about this one or that one, and we get out our little “hammers” and commence to “pound,” to criticize, to tell what *we* heard, we demonstrate without a question of a doubt that we are believing in a sinful man, or the silly mode of matter, subject to sin, disease and death, and governed also by something else than God. In other words, we are doing exactly what we are commanded not to do; we are turning away from God, refusing to recognize *Him* as present, right at our elbow as it were, but recognizing evil as present and right at our elbow. This is plainly set forth in Deuteronomy 11:26, 27 and 19:3.

To take the road of *peace* (*God*), we should at once refuse to recognize evil as being something to know, something to gossip about, something to find fault with, and should recognize God, or good, as ever-present and the *only something* to know, or to use, or to talk about. In Isaiah 58 and 50, it is plainly set forth why the world seems to suffer, seems to be unhappy and in trouble; all because it refuses to turn to *Him* and only to *Him*, that great supreme divine Principle, the only Governor there is or ever can be.

In this way are we about our Father’s business, and, being about *His* business, the

true facts of our being are manifested as ever-present, right here for us to use; and thus does the truth of the Truth open our eyes to behold the things of Spirit, and not the things of the earth.

We may have fallen by the wayside, or the side of *His way*, and are believing that the world is governed, not by God, but by persons; and that these persons are not governed by God, but by evil, which, of course, are not true at all, even though direct material evidence was presented to the human consciousness of this false government, for “the Lord *is* in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.” (Habakkuk)