Subject: 23

GOD THE ONLY CAUSE AND CREATOR.

0030

-- Golden Text --

Psalm 102:25

25 Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands.

Responsive Reading

Isaiah 45:1-3,5,6,8,11,12,14,16,17,19,22

- 1 Thus saith the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut;
- 2 I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron:
- 3 And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the Lord, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.
- 5 I am the Lord, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not

known me:

- 6 That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the Lord, and there is none else.
- 8 Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together; I the Lord have created it.
- 11 Thus saith the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me.
- 12 I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded.
- 14 Thus saith the Lord, The labour of Egypt, and merchandise of Ethiopia and of the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over unto thee, and they shall be thine: they shall come after thee; in chains they shall come over, and they shall fall down unto thee, they shall make supplication unto thee, saying, Surely God is in thee; and there is none else, there is no God.
- 16 They shall be ashamed, and also confounded, all of them: they shall go to confusion together that are makers of idols.
 - 17 But Israel shall be saved in the

Lord with an everlasting salvation: ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end.

19 I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth: I said not unto the seed of Jacob, Seek ye me in vain: I the Lord speak righteousness, I declare things that are right.

22 Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.

Section 1

I Chronicles 16:8,9

8 Give thanks unto the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.

9 Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works.

Psalm 33:6,9

6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

9 For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.
Psalm 135:6

6 Whatsoever the Lord pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places.

Revelation 4:11

11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

oo4o Chapter 9: Creation - 262:30

(Mind the only cause)

Divine Mind is the only cause or Principle of existence. Cause does not exist in matter, in mortal mind, or in physical forms.

oloo Chapter 8: Footsteps of Truth - 207:20-23

(One primal cause)

There is but one primal cause. Therefore there can be no effect from any other cause, and there can be no reality in aught which does not proceed from this great and only cause.

o2oo Chapter 7: Physiology - 170:22

(Causation considered)

Spiritual causation is the one question to be considered, for more than all others spiritual causation relates to human progress. The age seems ready to approach this subject, to ponder somewhat the supremacy of Spirit, and at least to touch the hem of Truth's garment.

588:15 Chapter 17: Glossary (I, or EGO)

All the objects of God's creation reflect one Mind, and whatever reflects not this one Mind, is false and erroneous, even the belief that life, substance, and intelligence are both mental and material.

oo3o Chapter 10: Science of Being - 270:7(begin Only)

(Rejected theories) Only by understanding that therein shall die in like manner: but there is but one power, - not two powers, matter and Mind, - are scientific and logical conclusions my righteousness shall not be reached. Few deny the hypothesis that intelligence, apart from man and matter, governs the universe; ;and it is generally admitted that this intelligence is the eternal Mind or divine Principle, Love.

Section 2

Genesis 2:4,5

4 #These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens.

5 And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground.

Isaiah 40:26

26 Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

Isaiah 51:6

6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like

smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell my salvation shall be for ever, and abolished.

John 3:6

6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

I John 2:15,16

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world. the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

oo4o Chapter 9: Creation - 256:5

(No material creation)

All things are created spiritually. Mind, not matter, is the creator. Love, the divine Principle, is the Father and Mother of the universe, including man.

oo4o Chapter 9: Creation - 257:12

(Matter is not substance)

Mind creates His own likeness in ideas, and the substance of an idea is very far from being the supposed substance of non-intelligent matter. Hence the Father Mind is not the father of matter. The material senses and human

conceptions would translate spiritual ideas into material beliefs, and would say that an anthropomorphic God, instead of infinite Principle, - in other words, divine Love, - is the father of the rain, "who hath begotten the drops of dew," who bringeth "forth Mazzaroth in his season," and guideth "Arcturus with his sons."

oo4o Chapter 9: Creation - 255:6-18

(Inadequate theories of creation)

The mythical human theories of creation, anciently classified as the higher criticism, sprang from cultured scholars in Rome and in Greece, but they afforded no foundation for accurate views of creation by the divine Mind.

(Finite views of Deity)

Mortal man has made a covenant with his eyes to belittle Deity with human conceptions. In league with material sense, mortals take limited views of all things. That God is corporeal or material, no man should affirm.

The human form, or physical finiteness, cannot had received his sight. be made the basis of any true idea of the infinite Godhead. Eye hath not seen Spirit, nor hath ear heard His voice.

oo4o Chapter 9: Creation - 264:32-1

(Godward gravitation)

beings, and its government is divine Science.

Section 3

John 9:1-3,6,7,18,24,30-33

- 1 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.
- 2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born

blind?

- 3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.
- 6 When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,
- 7 And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.
- 18 But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that
- 24 Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, Give God the praise: we know that this man is a sinner.
- 30 The man answered and said unto The universe of Spirit is peopled with spiritual them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes.
 - 31 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth.
 - 32 Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind.
 - 33 If this man were not of God, he

could do nothing.

James 1:17

17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Exodus 20:3

3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

o3oo Chapter 6: Science, Theology, Medicine - 143:5

(Methods rejected)

It is plain that God does not employ drugs or hygiene, nor provide them for human use; else Jesus would have recommended and employed them in his healing. The sick are more deplorably lost than the sinning, if the sick cannot rely on God for help and the sinning can. The divine Mind never called matter medicine, and matter required a material and human belief before it could be considered as medicine.

o3oo Chapter 6: Science, Theology, Medicine - 157:16

(Drugging unchristian)

If drugs are part of God's creation, which (according to the narrative in Genesis) He pronounced good, then drugs cannot be poisonous. If He could create drugs intrinsically bad, then they should never be used. If He creates drugs at all and designs them for medical use, why did Jesus not employ them and recommend them for the treatment of disease?

Matter is not self-creative, for it is unintelligent.

2 Stand in the house, and propagate all ye of Judal these gates to the cities of Judal these gates to the cities of Judal these gates to disease?

drug seems to possess.

ooo4 Chapter 13: Teaching Christian Science - 463:27

(Unhesitating decision) There is a law of God applicable to healing, and it is a spiritual law instead of material. The sick are not healed by inanimate matter or drugs, as they believe that they are. Such seeming medical effect or action is that of socalled mortal mind.

o2oo Chapter 7: Physiology - 169:23-2

(Mind the only healer)

It is mortal mind, not matter, which brings to the sick whatever good they may seem to receive from materiality. But the sick are never really healed except by means of the divine power. Only the action of Truth, Life, and Love can give harmony.

(Modes of matter)

Whatever teaches man to have other laws and to acknowledge other powers than the divine Mind, is anti-Christian. The good that a poisonous drug seems to do is evil, for it robs man of reliance on God, omnipotent Mind, and according to belief, poisons the human system.

Section 4

Jeremiah 7:2,17-19,23

2 Stand in the gate of the Lord's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the Lord, all ye of Judah, that enter in at these gates to worship the Lord.

17 #Seest thou not what they do in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem?

18 The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger.

19 Do they provoke me to anger? saith the Lord: do they not provoke themselves to the confusion of their own faces?

23 But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be my people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you.

I Peter 4:17

17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

Psalm 99:5

5 Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at his footstool; for he is holy.

1000 Chapter 4: Christian Science versus Spiritualism - 93:15

(Logic and revelation)

Good does not create a mind susceptible of causing evil, for evil is the opposing error and not the truth of creation. Destructive electricity is the outward sense of things.

not the offspring of infinite good. Whatever contradicts the real nature of the divine Esse, though human faith may clothe it with angelic vestments, is without foundation.

ooo4 Chapter 13: Teaching Christian Science - 450:29-2

(False claims annihilated)

Knowing the claim of animal magnetism, that all evil combines in the belief of life, substance, and intelligence in matter, electricity, animal nature, and organic life, who will deny that these are the errors which Truth must and will annihilate?

o2oo Chapter 7: Physiology - 182:18

(No material law)

Mind's government of the body must supersede the so-called laws of matter. Obedience to material law prevents full obedience to spiritual law, - the law which overcomes material conditions and puts matter under the feet of Mind. Mortals entreat the divine Mind to heal the sick, and forthwith shut out the aid of Mind by using material means, thus working against themselves and their prayers and denying man's God-given ability to demonstrate Mind's sacred power. Pleas for drugs and laws of health come from some sad incident, or else from ignorance of Christian Science and its transcendent power.

o3oo Chapter 6: Science, Theology, Medicine - 129:21-24

(Ontology needed)

We must abandon pharmaceutics, and take up ontology, - "the science of real being." We must look deep into realism instead of accepting only the outward sense of things.

ooo4 Chapter 13: Teaching Christian Science -455:28

(Integrity assured)

This strong point in Christian Science is not to from the darkness. be overlooked, - that the same fountain cannot send forth both sweet waters and bitter. The higher your attainment in the Science of mental healing and teaching, the more impossible it will evening and the morning were the become for you intentionally to influence mankind adverse to its highest hope and achievement.

Section 5

John 12:46

46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

Luke 11:33-35

33 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light.

34 The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness.

35 Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness.

Genesis 1:3-5

3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light

5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the first day.

ooo2 Chapter 15: Genesis - 504:6-20

(Light preceding the sun)

All questions as to the divine creation being both spiritual and material are answered in this passage, for though solar beams are not yet included in the record of creation, still there is light. This light is not from the sun nor from volcanic flames, but it is the revelation of Truth and of spiritual ideas. This also shows that there is no place where God's light is not seen, since Truth, Life, and Love fill immensity and are ever-present. Was not this a revelation instead of a creation?

(Evenings and mornings)

The successive appearing of God's ideas is represented as taking place on so many evenings and mornings, - words which indicate, in the absence of solar time, spiritually clearer views of Him, views which are not implied by material darkness and dawn.

oo4o Chapter 9: Creation - 262:9

(Forgetfulness of self)

We cannot fathom the nature and quality of God's creation by diving into the shallows of mortal belief. We must reverse our feeble flutterings - our efforts to find life and truth in matter - and rise above the testimony of the

material senses, above the mortal to the immortal come before him: worship the Lord in idea of God. These clearer, higher views inspire the beauty of holiness. the Godlike man to reach the absolute centre and circumference of his being.

ooo2 Chapter 15: Genesis - 503:20,28

(Mind's idea faultless)

Immortal and divine Mind presents the idea of God: first, in light; second, in reflection; third, in spiritual and immortal forms of beauty and goodness. But this Mind creates no element nor symbol of discord and decay. God creates neithermighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: erring thought, mortal life, mutable truth, nor variable love.

God, Spirit, dwelling in infinite light and harmony from which emanates the true idea, is never reflected by aught but the good.

Section 6

I Chronicles 16:11,12,14,16,17,29,31

- 11 Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his face continually.
- 12 Remember his marvellous works that he hath done, his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;
- 14 He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth.
- 16 Even of the covenant which he made with Abraham, and of his oath unto Isaac;
- 17 And hath confirmed the same to Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant,
- 29 Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and

31 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice: and let men say among the nations, The Lord reigneth.

Revelation 19:6

6 And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

ooo2 Chapter 15: Genesis - 510:28

(Spiritual subdivision)

Science reveals only one Mind, and this one shining by its own light and governing the universe, including man, in perfect harmony. This Mind forms ideas, its own images, subdivides and radiates their borrowed light, intelligence, and so explains the Scripture phrase, "whose seed is in itself." Thus God's ideas "multiply and replenish the earth." The divine Mind supports the sublimity, magnitude, and infinitude of spiritual creation.

ooo2 Chapter 15: Genesis - 511:11

(Darkness scattered)

In divine Science, which is the seal of Deity and has the impress of heaven, God is revealed as infinite light. In the eternal Mind, no night is there.

ooo2 Chapter 15: Genesis - 513:6-10

(Spiritual spheres)

Advancing spiritual steps in the teeming universe of Mind lead on to spiritual spheres and exalted beings. To material sense, this divine

universe is dim and distant, gray in the sombre hues of twilight; but anon the veil is lifted, and the scene shifts into light.

ooo2 Chapter 15: Genesis - 521:5

(Spiritual narrative)

All that is made is the work of God, and all is good. We leave this brief, glorious history of spiritual creation (as stated in the first chapter of Genesis) in the hands of God, not of man, in the keeping of Spirit, not matter, - joyfully acknowledging now and forever God's supremacy, omnipotence, and omnipresence.

Subheadings in this lesson

- 23 1 Mind the only cause
- 23 1 One primal cause
- 23 1 Causation considered
- 23 1 Rejected theories
- 23 2 No material creation
- 23 2 Matter is not substance
- 23 2 Inadequate theories of creation
- 23 2 Finite views of Deity
- 23 2 Godward gravitation
- 23 3 Methods rejected
- 23 3 Drugging unchristian
- 23 3 Unhesitating decision
- 23 3 Mind the only healer
- 23 3 Modes of matter
- 23 4 Logic and revelation
- 23 4 False claims annihilated
- 23 4 No material law
- 23 4 Ontology needed
- 23 4 Integrity assured
- 23 5 Light preceding the sun
- 23 5 Evenings and mornings
- 23 5 Forgetfulness of self
- 23 5 Mind's idea faultless
- 23 6 Spiritual subdivision
- 23 6 Darkness scattered
- 23 6 Spiritual spheres
- 23 6 Spiritual narrative