
CHAPTER XIV — RECAPITULATION

PAGE 465

For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little. — ISAIAH.

- 1 THIS chapter is from the first edition of the author's
class-book, copyrighted in 1870. After much labor
3 and increased spiritual understanding, she revised that
treatise for this volume in 1875. Absolute Christian
Science pervades its statements, to elucidate scientific
6 metaphysics.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question. — What is God?

- 9 *Answer.* — God is incorporeal, divine, supreme, infinite
Mind, Spirit, Soul, Principle, Life, Truth, Love.

Question. — Are these terms synonymous?

- 12 *Answer.* — They are. They refer to one absolute God.
They are also intended to express the nature, essence, and
wholeness of Deity. The attributes of God are justice,
15 mercy, wisdom, goodness, and so on.

Question. — Is there more than one God or Principle?

- 18 *Answer.* — There is not. Principle and its idea is one,
and this one is God, omnipotent, omniscient, and omni-

PAGE 466

1 present Being, and His reflection is man and the universe.
2 *Omni* is adopted from the Latin adjective signifying *all*.
3 Hence God combines all-power or potency, all-science
4 or true knowledge, all-presence. The varied manifesta-
5 tions of Christian Science indicate Mind, never matter,
6 and have one Principle.

Real versus unreal

Question. — What are spirits and souls?

Answer. — To human belief, they are personalities
9 constituted of mind and matter, life and death, truth and
10 error, good and evil; but these contrasting
11 pairs of terms represent contraries, as Chris-
12 tian Science reveals, which neither dwell together nor
13 assimilate. Truth is immortal; error is mortal. Truth
14 is limitless; error is limited. Truth is intelligent; error
15 is non-intelligent. Moreover, Truth is real, and error is
16 unreal. This last statement contains the point you will
17 most reluctantly admit, although first and last it is the
18 most important to understand.

Mankind redeemed

The term *souls* or *spirits* is as improper as the term
gods. Soul or Spirit signifies Deity and nothing else.
21 There is no finite soul nor spirit. Soul or
22 Spirit means only one Mind, and cannot be
23 rendered in the plural. Heathen mythology and Jewish
24 theology have perpetuated the fallacy that intelligence,
25 soul, and life can be in matter; and idolatry and ritualism
26 are the outcome of all man-made beliefs. The Science
27 of Christianity comes with fan in hand to separate the
28 chaff from the wheat. Science will declare God aright,
29 and Christianity will demonstrate this declaration and
30 its divine Principle, making mankind better physically,
morally, and spiritually.

Two chief commands

- 1 *Question.* — What are the demands of the Science of Soul?
- 3 *Answer.* — The first demand of this Science is, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." This *me* is Spirit. Therefore the command means this: Thou shalt
- 6 have no intelligence, no life, no substance, no truth, no love, but that which is spiritual. The second is like unto it, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."
- 9 It should be thoroughly understood that all men have one Mind, one God and Father, one Life, Truth, and Love. Mankind will become perfect in proportion as this fact
- 12 becomes apparent, war will cease and the true brotherhood of man will be established. Having no other gods, turning to no other but the one perfect Mind to guide
- 15 him, man is the likeness of God, pure and eternal, having that Mind which was also in Christ.

Soul not confined in body

- Science reveals Spirit, Soul, as not in the body, and
- 18 God as not in man but as reflected by man. The greater cannot be in the lesser. The belief that the greater can be in the lesser is an error that
- 21 works ill. This is a leading point in the Science of Soul, that Principle is not in its idea. Spirit, Soul, is not confined in man, and is never in matter. We reason im-
- 24 perfectly from effect to cause, when we conclude that matter is the effect of Spirit; but *a priori* reasoning shows material existence to be enigmatical. Spirit gives
- 27 the true mental idea. We cannot interpret Spirit, Mind, through matter. Matter neither sees, hears, nor feels.

Sinlessness of Mind, Soul

Reasoning from cause to effect in the Science of Mind,

30 we begin with Mind, which must be understood through the idea which expresses it and cannot be learned from its opposite, matter. Thus we

PAGE 468

1 arrive at Truth, or intelligence, which evolves its own
unerring idea and never can be coordinate with human
3 illusions. If Soul sinned, it would be mortal, for sin is
mortality's self, because it kills itself. If Truth is im-
mortal, error must be mortal, because error is unlike
6 Truth. Because Soul is immortal, Soul cannot sin, for
sin is not the eternal verity of being.

Question. — What is the scientific statement of being?
9 *Answer.* — There is no life, truth, intelligence, nor sub-
stance in matter. All is infinite Mind and its infinite
manifestation, for God is All-in-all. Spirit is immortal
12 Truth; matter is mortal error. Spirit is the real and
eternal; matter is the unreal and temporal. Spirit is
God, and man is His image and likeness. Therefore
15 man is not material; he is spiritual.

Spiritual synonyms

Question. — What is substance?
Answer. — Substance is that which is eternal and inca-
18 pable of discord and decay. Truth, Life, and Love are
substance, as the Scriptures use this word in
Hebrews: "The substance of things hoped
21 for, the evidence of things not seen." Spirit, the synonym
of Mind, Soul, or God, is the only real substance. The
spiritual universe, including individual man, is a com-
24 pound idea, reflecting the divine substance of Spirit.

Eternity of Life

Question. — What is Life?

Answer. — Life is divine Principle, Mind, Soul, Spirit.

- 27 Life is without beginning and without end.
Eternity, not time, expresses the thought of
Life, and time is no part of eternity. One ceases in
30 proportion as the other is recognized. Time is finite;

PAGE 469

- 1 eternity is forever infinite. Life is neither in nor of mat-
ter. What is termed matter is unknown to Spirit, which
3 includes in itself all substance and is Life eternal. Mat-
ter is a human concept. Life is divine Mind. Life is not
limited. Death and finiteness are unknown to Life. If
6 Life ever had a beginning, it would also have an ending.

Question. — What is intelligence?

- Answer.* — Intelligence is omniscience, omnipresence,
9 and omnipotence. It is the primal and eternal quality
of infinite Mind, of the triune Principle, — Life, Truth,
and Love, — named God.

True sense of infinitude

- 12 *Question.* — What is Mind?
Answer. — Mind is God. The exterminator of error
is the great truth that God, good, is the *only* Mind, and
15 that the supposititious opposite of infinite Mind
— called *devil* or evil — is not Mind, is not
Truth, but error, without intelligence or reality. There
18 can be but one Mind, because there is but one God; and
if mortals claimed no other Mind and accepted no other,
sin would be unknown. We can have but one Mind, if
21 that one is infinite. We bury the sense of infinitude,
when we admit that, although God is infinite, evil has a

24 place in this infinity, for evil can have no place, where all
space is filled with God.

The sole governor

We lose the high signification of omnipotence, when
after admitting that God, or good, is omnipresent and
27 has all-power, we still believe there is another
power, named *evil*. This belief that there
is more than one mind is as pernicious to divine theology
30 as are ancient mythology and pagan idolatry. With

PAGE 470

1 one Father, even God, the whole family of man would
be brethren; and with one Mind and that God, or good,
3 the brotherhood of man would consist of Love and Truth,
and have unity of Principle and spiritual power which
constitute divine Science. The supposed existence of
6 more than one mind was the basic error of idolatry. This
error assumed the loss of spiritual power, the loss of the
spiritual presence of Life as infinite Truth without an
9 unlikeness, and the loss of Love as ever present and
universal.

The divine standard of perfection

Divine Science explains the abstract statement that
12 there is one Mind by the following self-evident propo-
sition: If God, or good, is real, then evil, the
unlikeness of God, is unreal. And evil can
15 only seem to be real by giving reality to the
unreal. The children of God have but one Mind. How
can good lapse into evil, when God, the Mind of man,
18 never sins? The standard of perfection was originally
God and man. Has God taken down His own standard,

and has man fallen?

Indestructible relationship

- 21 God is the creator of man, and, the divine Principle
of man remaining perfect, the divine idea or reflection,
24 man, remains perfect. Man is the expression
of God's being. If there ever was a moment
when man did not express the divine perfec-
27 tion, then there was a moment when man did not express
God, and consequently a time when Deity was unex-
pressed — that is, without entity. If man has lost per-
fection, then he has lost his perfect Principle, the divine
30 Mind. If man ever existed without this perfect Principle
or Mind, then man's existence was a myth.

The relations of God and man, divine Principle and

PAGE 471

- 1 idea, are indestructible in Science; and Science knows
no lapse from nor return to harmony, but holds the divine
3 order or spiritual law, in which God and all that He cre-
ates are perfect and eternal, to have remained unchanged
in its eternal history.

Celestial evidence

- 6 The unlikeness of Truth, — named *error*, — the op-
posite of Science, and the evidence before the five cor-
poreal senses, afford no indication of the grand
9 facts of being; even as these so-called senses
receive no intimation of the earth's motions or of the
science of astronomy, but yield assent to astronomical
12 propositions on the authority of natural science.

The facts of divine Science should be admitted, —
15 although the evidence as to these facts is not supported
by evil, by matter, or by material sense, — because the
evidence that God and man coexist is fully sustained by
18 spiritual sense. Man is, and forever has been, God's re-
flection. God is infinite, therefore ever present, and
there is no other power nor presence. Hence the spirit-
21 uality of the universe is the only fact of creation. "Let
God be true, but every [material] man a liar."

The test of experience

Question. — Are doctrines and creeds a benefit to man?

Answer. — The author subscribed to an orthodox
24 creed in early youth, and tried to adhere to it until she
caught the first gleam of that which inter-
prets God as above mortal sense. This
27 view rebuked human beliefs, and gave the spiritual im-
port, expressed through Science, of all that proceeds
from the divine Mind. Since then her highest creed has
30 been divine Science, which, reduced to human apprehen-
sion, she has named Christian Science. This Science

PAGE 472

1 teaches man that God is the only Life, and that this Life
is Truth and Love; that God is to be understood, adored,
3 and demonstrated; that divine Truth casts out supposi-
tional error and heals the sick.

God's law destroys evil

The way which leads to Christian Science is straight
6 and narrow. God has set His signet upon Science, mak-
ing it coordinate with all that is real and only
with that which is harmonious and eternal.
9 Sickness, sin, and death, being inharmonious, do not
originate in God nor belong to His government. His

12 law, rightly understood, destroys them. Jesus furnished
proofs of these statements.

Evanescent materiality

Question. — What is error?

15 *Answer.* — Error is a supposition that pleasure and
pain, that intelligence, substance, life, are existent in mat-
ter. Error is neither Mind nor one of Mind's
faculties. Error is the contradiction of Truth.

18 Error is a belief without understanding. Error is unreal
because untrue. It is that which seemeth to be and is not.
If error were true, its truth would be error, and we should
21 have a self-evident absurdity — namely, *erroneous truth*.
Thus we should continue to lose the standard of Truth.

Unrealities that seem real

Question. — Is there no sin?

24 *Answer.* — All reality is in God and His creation, har-
monious and eternal. That which He creates is good,
and He makes all that is made. Therefore
27 the only reality of sin, sickness, or death is
the awful fact that unrealities seem real to human, erring
belief, until God strips off their disguise. They are not
30 true, because they are not of God. We learn in Christian

PAGE 473

1 Science that all inharmony of mortal mind or body is illu-
sion, possessing neither reality nor identity though seeming
3 to be real and identical.

Christ the ideal Truth

The Science of Mind disposes of all evil. Truth, God,
is not the father of error. Sin, sickness, and death are

6 to be classified as effects of error. Christ
9 came to destroy the belief of sin. The God-
12 principle is omnipresent and omnipotent. God is every-
15 where, and nothing apart from Him is present or has
power. Christ is the ideal Truth, that comes to heal
sickness and sin through Christian Science, and attributes
all power to God. Jesus is the name of the man who,
more than all other men, has presented Christ, the true
idea of God, healing the sick and the sinning and destroy-
ing the power of death. Jesus is the human man, and
Christ is the divine idea; hence the duality of Jesus the
Christ.

Jesus not God

18 In an age of ecclesiastical despotism, Jesus introduced
the teaching and practice of Christianity, affording the
proof of Christianity's truth and love; but to
21 reach his example and to test its unerring Sci-
ence according to his rule, healing sickness, sin, and
death, a better understanding of God as divine Prin-
24 ciple, Love, rather than personality or the man Jesus, is
required.

Jesus not understood

27 Jesus established what he said by demonstration,
thus making his acts of higher importance than his
words. He proved what he taught. This
is the Science of Christianity. Jesus *proved*
30 the Principle, which heals the sick and casts out error,
to be divine. Few, however, except his students un-
derstood in the least his teachings and their glorious

PAGE 474

1 proofs, — namely, that Life, Truth, and Love (the Prin-
ciple of this unacknowledged Science) destroy all error,

3 evil, disease, and death.

Miracles rejected

The reception accorded to Truth in the early Christian era is repeated to-day. Whoever introduces the
6 Science of Christianity will be scoffed at and scourged with worse cords than those which cut the flesh. To the ignorant age in which it first
9 appears, Science seems to be a mistake, — hence the misinterpretation and consequent maltreatment which it receives. Christian marvels (and *marvel* is the simple meaning of the Greek word rendered *miracle* in the
12 New Testament) will be misunderstood and misused by many, until the glorious Principle of these marvels is
15 gained.

Divine fulfilment

If sin, sickness, and death are as real as Life, Truth, and Love, then they must all be from the same source;
18 God must be their author. Now Jesus came to destroy sin, sickness, and death yet the Scriptures aver, "I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil."
21 Is it possible, then, to believe that the evils which Jesus lived to destroy are real or the offspring of the divine will?

Truth destroys falsity

24 Despite the hallowing influence of Truth in the destruction of error, must error still be immortal? Truth spares all that is true. If evil is real, Truth
27 must make it so; but error, not Truth, is the author of the unreal, and the unreal vanishes, while all that is real is eternal. The apostle says that
30 the mission of Christ is to "destroy the works of the devil." Truth destroys falsity and error, for light and

darkness cannot dwell together. Light extinguishes the

PAGE 475

1 darkness, and the Scripture declares that there is "no
2 night there." To Truth there is no error, — all is Truth.
3 To infinite Spirit there is no matter, — all is Spirit, divine
Principle and its idea.

Fleshly factors unreal

Question. — What is man?

6 *Answer.* — Man is not matter; he is not made up of
brain, blood, bones, and other material elements. The
7 Scriptures inform us that man is made in
8 the image and likeness of God. Matter is
9 not that likeness. The likeness of Spirit cannot be so
unlike Spirit. Man is spiritual and perfect; and be-
12 cause he is spiritual and perfect, he must be so under-
stood in Christian Science. Man is idea, the image, of
Love; lie is not physique. He is the compound idea of
15 God, including all right ideas; the generic term for
all that reflects God's image and likeness; the conscious
identity of being as found in Science, in which man is
18 the reflection of God, or Mind, and therefore is eternal;
that which has no separate mind from God; that which
has not a single quality underived from Deity; that which
21 possesses no life, intelligence, nor creative power of his
own, but reflects spiritually all that belongs to his Maker.

24 And God said: "Let us make man in our image, after
our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish
of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle,
and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that
27 creepeth upon the earth."

Man unfallen

Man is incapable of sin, sickness, and death. The
real man cannot depart from holiness, nor
30 can God, by whom man is evolved, engender
the capacity or freedom to sin. A mortal sinner is not

PAGE 476

1 God's man. Mortals are the counterfeits of immortals.
They are the children of the wicked one, or the one evil,
3 which declares that man begins in dust or as a material
embryo. In divine Science, God and the real man are
inseparable as divine Principle and idea.

Mortals are not immortals

6 Error, urged to its final limits, is self-destroyed.
Error will cease to claim that soul is in body, that life
and intelligence are in matter, and that
9 this matter is man. God is the Principle of
man, and man is the idea of God. Hence man is not
mortal nor material. Mortals will disappear, and im-
12 mortals, or the children of God, will appear as the only
and eternal verities of man. Mortals are not fallen chil-
dren of God. They never had a perfect state of being,
15 which may subsequently be regained. They were, from
the beginning of mortal history, "conceived in sin and
brought forth in iniquity." Mortality is finally swallowed
18 up in immortality. Sin, sickness, and death must dis-
appear to give place to the facts which belong to immortal
man.

Imperishable identity

21 Learn this, O mortal, and earnestly seek the spiritual
status of man, which is outside of all material selfhood.
Remember that the Scriptures say of mortal

24 man: "As for man, his days are as grass: as
a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind
passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall
27 know it no more."

The kingdom within

When speaking of God's children, not the children of
men, Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is within you;"
30 that is, Truth and Love reign in the real
man, showing that man in God's image is
unfallen and eternal. Jesus beheld in Science the per-

PAGE 477

1 fect man, who appeared to him where sinning mortal
man appears to mortals. In this perfect man the Saviour
3 saw God's own likeness, and this correct view of man
healed the sick. Thus Jesus taught that the kingdom
of God is intact, universal, and that man is pure and holy.
6 Man is not a material habitation for Soul; he is himself
spiritual. Soul, being Spirit, is seen in nothing imperfect
nor material.

Material body never God's idea

9 Whatever is material is mortal. To the five corporeal
senses, man appears to be matter and mind united; but
Christian Science reveals man as the idea of
12 God, and declares the corporeal senses to be
mortal and erring illusions. Divine Science
shows it to be impossible that a material body, though
15 interwoven with matter's highest stratum, misnamed
mind, should be man, — the genuine and perfect man,
the immortal idea of being, indestructible and eternal.
18 Were it otherwise, man would be annihilated.

Reflection of Spirit

Question. — What are body and Soul?

21 *Answer.* — Identity is the reflection of Spirit, the re-
24 flection in multifarious forms of the living Principle,
Love. Soul is the substance, Life, and intelli-
gence of man, which is individualized, but not
in matter. Soul can never reflect anything inferior to
Spirit.

Man inseparable from Spirit

27 Man is the expression of Soul. The Indians caught
some glimpses of the underlying reality, when
they called a certain beautiful lake "the smile
of the Great Spirit." Separated from man,
30 who expresses Soul, Spirit would be a nonentity; man,
divorced from Spirit, would lose his entity. But there is,

PAGE 478

1 there can be, no such division, for man is coexistent with
God.

A vacant domicile

3 What evidence of Soul or of immortality have you
within mortality? Even according to the teachings of
6 natural science, man has never beheld Spirit
or Soul leaving a body or entering it. What
basis is there for the theory of indwelling spirit, except
9 the claim of mortal belief? What would be thought of
the declaration that a house was inhabited, and by a cer-
tain class of persons, when no such persons were ever seen
12 to go into the house or to come out of it, nor were they
even visible through the windows? Who can see a soul

in the body?

Harmonious functions

15 *Question.* — Does brain think, and do nerves feel, and
is there intelligence in matter?

18 *Answer.* — No, not if God is true and mortal man a
liar. The assertion that there can be pain or pleasure
in matter is erroneous. That body is most
21 harmonious in which the discharge of the nat-
ural functions is least noticeable. How can intelligence
24 dwell in matter when matter is non-intelligent and
brain-lobes cannot think? Matter cannot perform the
functions of Mind. Error says, "I am man;" but this
27 belief is mortal and far from actual. From beginning
to end, whatever is mortal is composed of material hu-
man beliefs and of nothing else. That only is real which
reflects God. St. Paul said, "But when it pleased God,
who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me
by His grace, . . . I conferred not with flesh and blood."

Immortal birthright

30 *Mortal man* is really a self-contradictory phrase, for
man is not mortal, "neither indeed can be;" man is im-

PAGE 479

1 mortal. If a child is the offspring of physical sense and
not of Soul, the child must have a material, not a spirit-
3 ual origin. With what truth, then, could the
Scriptural rejoicing be uttered by any mother,
"I have gotten a man from the Lord"? On the con-
6 trary, if aught comes from God, it cannot be mortal and
material; it must be immortal and spiritual.

Matter's supposed selfhood

Matter is neither self-existent nor a product of Spirit.

- 9 An image of mortal thought, reflected on the retina, is
all that the eye beholds. Matter cannot see,
feel, hear, taste, nor smell. It is not self-
12 cognizant, — cannot feel itself, see itself, nor
understand itself. Take away so-called mortal mind,
which constitutes matter's supposed selfhood, and matter
15 can take no cognizance of matter. Does that which we
call dead ever see, hear, feel, or use any of the physical
senses?

Chaos and darkness

- 18 "In the beginning God created the heaven and the
earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and
darkness was upon the face of the deep."
21 (Genesis i. 1, 2.) In the vast forever, in the
Science and truth of being, the only facts are Spirit
and its innumerable creations. Darkness and chaos
24 are the imaginary opposites of light, understanding,
and eternal harmony, and they are the elements of
nothingness.

Spiritual reflection

- 27 We admit that black is not a color, because it reflects
no light. So evil should be denied identity or power,
because it has none of the divine hues. Paul
30 says: "For the invisible things of Him, from
the creation of the world, are clearly seen, being under-
stood by the things that are made." (Romans i. 20.)

PAGE 480

- 1 When the substance of Spirit appears in Christian Sci-
ence, the nothingness of matter is recognized. Where

3 the spirit of God is, and there is no place where God is
not, evil becomes nothing, — the opposite of the some-
thing of Spirit. If there is no spiritual reflection, then
6 there remains only the darkness of vacuity and not a trace
of heavenly tints.

Harmony from Spirit

Nerves are an element of the belief that there is sensa-
9 tion in matter, whereas matter is devoid of sensation.
Consciousness, as well as action, is governed
by Mind, — is in God, the origin and gov-
12 ernor of all that Science reveals. Material sense has
its realm apart from Science in the unreal. Harmonious
action proceeds from Spirit, God. inharmony has no
15 Principle; its action is erroneous and presupposes man
to be in matter. Inharmony would make matter the
cause as well as the effect of intelligence, or Soul, thus
18 attempting to separate Mind from God.

Evil non-existent

Man is not God, and God is not man. Again, God,
or good, never made man capable of sin. It is the oppo-
21 site of good — that is, evil — which seems to
make men capable of wrong-doing. Hence,
evil is but an illusion, and it has no real basis. Evil is a
24 false belief. God is not its author. The supposititious
parent of evil is a lie.

Vapor and nothingness

The Bible declares: "All things were made by Him
27 [the divine Word]; and without Him was not anything,
made that was made." This is the eternal
verity of divine Science. If sin, sickness,
30 death were understood as nothingness, they would dis-
appear. As vapor melts before the sun, so evil would

vanish before the reality of good. One must hide the

PAGE 481

1 other. How important, then, to choose good as the
reality! Man is tributary to God, Spirit, and to nothing
3 else. God's being is infinity, freedom, harmony, and
boundless bliss. "Where the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is liberty." Like the archpriests of yore, man is
6 free "to enter into the holiest," — the realm of God.

The fruit forbidden

Material sense never helps mortals to understand
Spirit, God. Through spiritual sense only, man com-
9 prehends and loves Deity. The various con-
tradictions of the Science of Mind by the ma-
terial senses do not change the unseen Truth, which re-
12 mains forever intact. The forbidden fruit of knowledge,
against which wisdom warns man, is the testimony of
error, declaring existence to be at the mercy of death,
15 and good and evil to be capable of commingling. This
is the significance of the Scripture concerning this "tree
of the knowledge of good and evil," — this growth of
18 material belief, of which it is said: "In the day that thou
eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." Human hypotheses
first assume the reality of sickness, sin, and death, and
21 then assume the necessity of these evils because of their
admitted actuality. These human verdicts are the pro-
curers of all discord.

Sense and pure Soul

24 If Soul sins, it must be mortal. Sin has the elements
of self-destruction. It cannot sustain itself. If sin is
supported, God must uphold it, and this is
27 impossible, since Truth cannot support error.
Soul is the divine Principle of man and never sins, —

30 hence the immortality of Soul. In Science we learn that it is material sense, not Soul, which sins; and it will be found that it is the sense of sin which is lost, and not a sinful soul. When reading the Scriptures, the substitu-

PAGE 482

1 tion of the word *sense* for *soul* gives the exact meaning in a majority of cases.

Soul defined

3 Human thought has adulterated the meaning of the word *soul* through the hypothesis that soul is both an evil and a good intelligence, resident in matter.

6 The proper use of the word *soul* can always be gained by substituting the word *God*, where the deific meaning is required. In other cases, use the word *sense*,
9 and you will have the scientific signification. As used in Christian Science, Soul is properly the synonym of Spirit, or God; but out of Science, soul is identical with
12 sense, with material sensation.

Sonship of Jesus

Question. — Is it important to understand these explanations in order to heal the sick?

15 *Answer.* — It is, since Christ is "the way" and the truth casting out all error. Jesus called himself "the Son of man," but not the son of Joseph. As
18 woman is but a species of the genera, he was literally the Son of Man. Jesus was the highest human concept of the perfect man. He was inseparable from
21 Christ, the Messiah, — the divine idea of God outside the flesh. This enabled Jesus to demonstrate his control over matter. Angels announced to the Wisemen of
24 old this dual appearing, and angels whisper it, through

faith, to the hungry heart in every age.

Sickness erroneous

- Sickness is part of the error which Truth casts out.
- 27 Error will not expel error. Christian Science is the law of Truth, which heals the sick, on the basis of the one Mind or God. It can heal in no
- 30 other way, since the human, mortal mind so-called is not a healer, but causes the belief in disease.

PAGE 483

True healing transcendent

- 1 Then comes the question, how do drugs, hygiene, and animal magnetism heal? It may be affirmed that they
- 3 do not heal, but only relieve suffering temporarily, exchanging one disease for another.
- We classify disease as error, which nothing but Truth or
- 6 Mind can heal, and this Mind must be divine, not human. Mind transcends all other power, and will ultimately supersede all other means in healing. In order to heal by
- 9 Science, you must not be ignorant of the moral and spiritual demands of Science nor disobey them. Moral ignorance or sin affects your demonstration, and hinders its
- 12 approach to the standard in Christian Science.

Terms adopted by the author

- After the author's sacred discovery, she affixed the name "Science" to Christianity, the name "error" to
- 15 corporeal sense, and the name "substance" to Mind. Science has called the world to battle over this issue and its demonstration, which
- 18 heals the sick, destroys error, and reveals the universal harmony. To those natural Christian Scientists, the ancient worthies, and to Christ Jesus, God certainly revealed

21 the spirit of Christian Science, if not the absolute letter.

Science the way

Because the Science of Mind seems to bring into dis-
honor the ordinary scientific schools, which wrestle with
24 material observations alone, this Science has
met with opposition; but if any system honors
God, it ought to receive aid, not opposition, from all think-
27 ing persons. And Christian Science does honor God as
no other theory honors Him, and it does this in the way
of His appointing, by doing many wonderful works
30 through the divine name and nature. One must fulfil
one's mission without timidity or dissimulation, for to be
well done, the work must be done unselfishly. Christianity

PAGE 484

1 will never be based on a divine Principle and so found to
be unerring, until its absolute Science is reached. When
3 this is accomplished, neither pride, prejudice, bigotry,
nor envy can wash away its foundation, for it is built upon
the rock, Christ.

Mindless methods

6 *Question.* — Does Christian Science, or metaphysical
healing, include medication, material hygiene, mesmer-
ism, hypnotism, theosophy, or spiritualism?

9 *Answer.* — Not one of them is included in it. In di-
vine Science, the supposed laws of matter yield to the
law of Mind. What are termed natural
12 science and material laws are the objective
states of mortal mind. The physical universe expresses
the conscious and unconscious thoughts of mortals.
15 Physical force and mortal mind are one. Drugs and
hygiene oppose the supremacy of the divine Mind.
Drugs and inert matter are unconscious, mindless. Cer-

18 tain results, supposed to proceed from drugs, are really
caused by the faith in them which the false human con-
sciousness is educated to feel.

Animal magnetism error

21 Mesmerism is mortal, material illusion. Animal mag-
netism is the voluntary or involuntary action of error
in all its forms; it is the human antipode
24 of divine Science. Science must triumph
over material sense, and Truth over error, thus putting
an end to the hypotheses involved in all false theories
27 and practices.

Error only ephemeral

Question. — Is materiality the concomitant of spirit-
uality, and is material sense a necessary preliminary to
30 the understanding and expression of Spirit?

PAGE 485

1 *Answer.* — If error is necessary to define or to reveal
Truth, the answer is yes; but not otherwise. *Material*
3 *sense* is an absurd phrase, for matter has no
sensation. Science declares that Mind, not
matter, sees, hears, feels, speaks. Whatever contradicts
6 this statement is the false sense, which ever betrays
mortals into sickness, sin, and death. If the unimpor-
tant and evil appear, only soon to disappear because
9 of their uselessness or their iniquity, then these ephemer-
al views of error ought to be obliterated by Truth.
Why malign Christian Science for instructing mortals how
12 to make sin, disease, and death appear more and more

unreal?

Scientific translations

- 15 Emerge gently from matter into Spirit. Think not
to thwart the spiritual ultimate of all things, but come
naturally into Spirit through better health and
morals and as the result of spiritual growth.
- 18 Not death, but the understanding of Life, makes man im-
mortal. The belief that life can be in matter or soul in
body, and that man springs from dust or from an egg,
21 is the result of the mortal error which Christ, or Truth,
destroys by fulfilling the spiritual law of being, in which
man is perfect, even as the "Father which is in heaven
24 is perfect." If thought yields its dominion to other
powers, it cannot outline on the body its own beautiful
images, but it effaces them and delineates foreign agents,
27 called disease and sin.

Material beliefs

- The heathen gods of mythology controlled war and
agriculture as much as nerves control sensation or
30 muscles measure strength. To say that
strength is in matter, is like saying that the
power is in the lever. The notion of any life or intelli-

PAGE 486

- 1 gence in matter is without foundation in fact, and you
can have no faith in falsehood when you have learned
3 falsehood's true nature.

Sense *versus* Soul

Suppose one accident happens to the eye, another to
the ear, and so on, until every corporeal sense is quenched.

6 What is man's remedy? To die, that he may
regain these senses? Even then he must gain
9 spiritual understanding and spiritual sense in order to
possess immortal consciousness. Earth's preparatory
school must be improved to the utmost. In reality man
never dies. The belief that he dies will not establish his
12 scientific harmony. Death is not the result of Truth but
of error, and one error will not correct another.

Death an error

Jesus proved by the prints of the nails, that his body
15 was the same immediately after death as before. If death
restores sight, sound, and strength to man,
then death is not an enemy but a better friend
18 than Life. Alas for the blindness of belief, which makes
harmony conditional upon death and matter, and yet
supposes Mind unable to produce harmony! So long
21 as this error of belief remains, mortals will continue mor-
tal in belief and subject to chance and change.

Permanent sensibility

Sight, hearing, all the spiritual senses of man, are
24 eternal. They cannot be lost. Their reality and immor-
tality are in Spirit and understanding, not in
matter, — hence their permanence. If this
27 were not so, man would be speedily annihilated. If the
five corporeal senses were the medium through which
to understand God, then palsy, blindness, and deafness
30 would place man in a terrible situation, where he would
be like those "having no hope, and without God in the
world;" but as a matter of fact, these calamities often

PAGE 487

1 drive mortals to seek and to find a higher sense of happi-

ness and existence.

Exercise of Mind-faculties

- 3 Life is deathless. Life is the origin and ultimate of
man, never attainable through death, but gained by walk-
ing in the pathway of Truth both before and
6 after that which is called death. There is more
Christianity in seeing and hearing spiritually
than materially. There is more Science in the perpetual
9 exercise of the Mind-faculties than in their loss. Lost
they cannot be, while Mind remains. The apprehension
of this gave sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf cen-
12 turies ago, and it will repeat the wonder.

Understanding *versus* belief

Question. — You speak of belief. Who or what is it that believes?

- 15 *Answer.* — Spirit is all-knowing; this precludes the
need of believing. Matter cannot believe, and Mind
understands. The body cannot believe. The
18 believer and belief are one and are mortal.
Christian evidence is founded on Science or
demonstrable Truth, flowing from immortal Mind, and
21 there is in reality no such thing as *mortal* mind. Mere
belief is blindness without Principle from which to ex-
plain the reason of its hope. The belief that life is sen-
24 tient and intelligent matter is erroneous.

The Apostle James said, "Show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works."

- 27 The understanding that Life is God, Spirit, lengthens our days by strengthening our trust in the deathless reality of Life, its almightiness and immortality.

Confirmation by healing

30 This faith relies upon an understood Principle. This Principle makes whole the diseased, and brings out the

PAGE 488

1 enduring and harmonious phases of things. The result
of our teachings is their sufficient confirmation. When,
3 on the strength of these instructions, you are
able to banish a severe malady, the cure shows
that you understand this teaching, and therefore you re-
6 ceive the blessing of Truth.

Belief and firm trust

The Hebrew and Greek words often translated *belief*
differ somewhat in meaning from that conveyed by the
9 English verb *believe*; they have more the sig-
nificance of faith, understanding, trust, con-
stancy, firmness. Hence the Scriptures often appear in
12 our common version to approve and endorse belief, when
they mean to enforce the necessity of understanding.

All faculties from Mind

Question. — Do the five corporeal senses constitute
15 man?
Answer. — Christian Science sustains with immortal
proof the impossibility of any material sense, and defines
18 these so-called senses as *mortal beliefs*, the
testimony of which cannot be true either of
man or of his Maker. The corporeal senses can take no
21 cognizance of spiritual reality and immortality. Nerves
have no more sensation, apart from what belief be-
stows upon them, than the fibres of a plant. Mind alone
24 possesses all faculties, perception, and comprehension.
Therefore mental endowments are not at the mercy of
organization and decomposition, — otherwise the very
27 worms could unfashion man. If it were possible for the

real senses of man to be injured, Soul could reproduce
30 them in all their perfection; but they cannot be dis-
turbed nor destroyed, since they exist in immortal Mind,
not in matter.

PAGE 489

Possibilities of Life

1 The less mind there is manifested in matter the better.
When the unthinking lobster loses its claw, the claw grows
3 again. If the Science of Life were understood,
it would be found that the senses of Mind are
never lost and that matter has no sensation. Then the
6 human limb would be replaced as readily as the lobster's
claw, — not with an artificial limb, but with the genuine
one. Any hypothesis which supposes life to be in matter
9 is an educated belief. In infancy this belief is not equal
to guiding the hand to the mouth; and as consciousness
develops, this belief goes out, — yields to the reality of
12 everlasting Life.

Decalogue disregarded

Corporeal sense defrauds and lies; it breaks all the
commands of the Mosaic Decalogue to meet its own de-
15 mands. How then can this sense be the God-
given channel to man of divine blessings or
understanding? How can man, reflecting God, be de-
18 pendent on material means for knowing, hearing, seeing?
Who dares to say that the senses of man can be at one time
the medium for sinning against God, at another the me-
21 dium for obeying God? An affirmative reply would con-
tradict the Scripture, for the same fountain sendeth not
forth sweet waters and bitter.

Organic construction valueless

24 The corporeal senses are the only source of evil or

error. Christian Science shows them to be false, because matter has no sensation, and no organic construction can give it hearing and sight nor make it the medium of Mind. Outside the material sense of things, all is harmony. A wrong sense of God, man, and creation is *non-sense*, want of sense. Mortal belief would have the material senses sometimes good and sometimes bad. It assures mortals that there

PAGE 490

1 is real pleasure in sin; but the grand truths of Christian Science dispute this error.

Will-power an animal propensity

3 Will-power is but a product of belief, and this belief commits depredations on harmony. Human will is an animal propensity, not a faculty of Soul.
6 Hence it cannot govern man aright. Christian Science reveals Truth and Love as the motive-powers of man. Will — blind, stubborn, and head-
9 long — cooperates with appetite and passion. From this cooperation arises its evil. From this also comes its powerlessness, since all power belongs to God, good.

Theories helpless

12 The Science of Mind needs to be understood. Until it is understood, mortals are more or less deprived of Truth. Human theories are helpless to make
15 man harmonious or immortal, since he is so already, according to Christian Science. Our only need is to know this and reduce to practice the real man's di-
18 vine Principle, Love

True nature and origin

"Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings."

21 Human belief — or knowledge gained from the so-called
material senses — would, by fair logic, anni-
hilate man along with the dissolving elements
24 of clay. The scientifically Christian explanations of the
nature and origin of man destroy all material sense with
immortal testimony. This immortal testimony ushers
27 in the spiritual sense of being, which can be obtained
in no other way.

Sleep an illusion

30 Sleep and mesmerism explain the mythical nature of
material sense. Sleep shows material sense as either
oblivion, nothingness, or an illusion or dream.
Under the mesmeric illusion of belief, a man
will think that he is freezing when he is warm, and that he

PAGE 491

1 is swimming when he is on dry land. Needle-thrusts will
not hurt him. A delicious perfume will seem intolerable.
3 Animal magnetism thus uncovers material sense, and
shows it to be a belief without actual foundation or va-
lidity. Change the belief, and the sensation changes.
6 Destroy the belief, and the sensation disappears.

Man linked with Spirit

9 Material man is made up of involuntary and voluntary
error, of a negative right and a positive wrong, the latter
calling itself right. Man's spiritual individual-
ity is never wrong. It is the likeness of man's
Maker. Matter cannot connect mortals with the true
12 origin and facts of being, in which all must end. It is only
by acknowledging the supremacy of Spirit, which annuls

15 the claims of matter, that mortals can lay off mortality and
find the indissoluble spiritual link which establishes man
forever in the divine likeness, inseparable from his creator.

Material man as a dream

18 The belief that matter and mind are one, — that mat-
ter is awake at one time and asleep at another, some-
times presenting no appearance of mind, —
21 this belief culminates in another belief, that
man dies. Science reveals material man as never the real
being. The dream or belief goes on, whether our eyes are
closed or open. In sleep, memory and consciousness are
24 lost from the body, and they wander whither they will
apparently with their own separate embodiment. Per-
sonality is not the individuality of man. A wicked man
27 may have an attractive personality.

Spiritual existence the one fact

When we are awake, we dream of the pains and pleas-
ures of matter. Who will say, even though he
30 does not understand Christian Science, that
this dream — rather than the dreamer — may
not be mortal man? Who can rationally say otherwise,

PAGE 492

1 when the dream leaves mortal man intact in body and
thought, although the so-called dreamer is unconscious?
3 For right reasoning there should be but one fact before
the thought, namely, spiritual existence. In reality there
is no other existence, since Life cannot be united to its
6 unlikeness, mortality.

Mind one and all

Being is holiness, harmony, immortality. It is already

9 proved that a knowledge of this, even in small degree,
will uplift the physical and moral standard
of mortals, will increase longevity, will purify
and elevate character. Thus progress will finally destroy
12 all error, and bring immortality to light. We know that
a statement proved to be good must be correct. New
thoughts are constantly obtaining the floor. These two
15 contradictory theories — that matter is something, or
that all is Mind — will dispute the ground, until one is
acknowledged to be the victor. Discussing his cam-
18 paign, General Grant said: "I propose to fight it out on
this line, if it takes all summer." Science says: All is
Mind and Mind's idea. You must fight it out on this
21 line. Matter can afford you no aid.

Scientific ultimatum

The notion that mind and matter commingle in the
human illusion as to sin, sickness, and death must even-
24 tually submit to the Science of Mind, which
denies this notion. *God is Mind, and God is
infinite; hence all is Mind.* On this statement rests the
27 Science of being, and the Principle of this Science is di-
vine, demonstrating harmony and immortality.

Victory for Truth

The conservative theory, long believed, is that there
30 are two factors, matter and mind, uniting on some im-
possible basis. This theory would keep truth and error
always at war. Victory would perch on neither banner.

PAGE 493

1 On the other hand, Christian Science speedily shows
Truth to be triumphant. To corporeal sense, the sun
3 appears to rise and set, and the earth to stand
still; but astronomical science contradicts this,

6 and explains the solar system as working on a different plan. All the evidence of physical sense and all the knowledge obtained from physical sense must yield to Science, to the immortal truth of all things.

Mental preparation

9 *Question*, — Will you explain sickness and show how it is to be healed?

12 *Answer*. — The method of Christian Science Mind-healing is touched upon in a previous chapter entitled Christian Science Practice. A full answer to the above question involves teaching, which enables the
15 healer to demonstrate and prove for himself the Principle and rule of Christian Science or metaphysical healing.

Mind destroys all ills

18 Mind must be found superior to all the beliefs of the five corporeal senses, and able to destroy all ills. Sickness is a belief, which must be annihilated by the divine Mind. Disease is an experience of
21 so-called mortal mind. It is fear made manifest on the body. Christian Science takes away this physical sense of discord, just as it removes any other sense of moral or
24 mental inharmony. That man is material, and that matter suffers, — these propositions can only seem real and natural in illusion. Any sense of soul in matter is not the
27 reality of being.

If Jesus awakened Lazarus from the dream, illusion, of death, this proved that the Christ could improve on a false
30 sense. Who dares to doubt this consummate test of the power and willingness of divine Mind to hold man forever

PAGE 494

1 intact in his perfect state, and to govern man's entire action? Jesus said: "Destroy this temple [body], and

3 in three days I [Mind] will raise it up;" and he did this
for tired humanity's reassurance.

Inexhaustible divine Love

6 Is it not a species of infidelity to believe that so great
a work as the Messiah's was done for himself or for God,
who needed no help from Jesus' example to
preserve the eternal harmony? But mortals
9 did need this help, and Jesus pointed the way for them.
Divine Love always has met and always will meet every
human need. It is not well to imagine that Jesus demon-
12 strated the divine power to heal only for a select number
or for a limited period of time, since to all mankind and
in every hour, divine Love supplies all good.

Reason and Science

15 The miracle of grace is no miracle to Love. Jesus
demonstrated the inability of corporeality, as well as the
infinite ability of Spirit, thus helping erring
18 human sense to flee from its own convictions
and seek safety in divine Science. Reason, rightly di-
rected, serves to correct the errors of corporeal sense; but
21 sin, sickness, and death will seem real (even as the ex-
periences of the sleeping dream seem real) until the Sci-
ence of man's eternal harmony breaks their illusion with
24 the unbroken reality of scientific being.

27 Which of these two theories concerning man are you
ready to accept? One is the mortal testimony, changing,
dying, unreal. The other is the eternal and real evidence,
bearing Truth's signet, its lap piled high with immortal
fruits.

Followers of Jesus

30 Our Master cast out devils (evils) and healed the sick.

It should be said of his followers also, that they cast fear and all evil out of themselves and others and heal the sick.

PAGE 495

1 God will heal the sick through man, whenever man is
governed by God. Truth casts out error now
3 as surely as it did nineteen centuries ago. All
of Truth is not understood; hence its healing power is not
fully demonstrated.

Destruction of all evil

6 If sickness is true or the idea of Truth, you cannot
destroy sickness, and it would be absurd to try. Then
classify sickness and error as our Master did,
9 when he spoke of the sick, "whom Satan hath
bound," and find a sovereign antidote for error in the life-
giving power of Truth acting on human belief, a power
12 which opens the prison doors to such as are bound, and
sets the captive free physically and morally.

Steadfast and calm trust

15 When the illusion of sickness or sin tempts you, cling
steadfastly to God and His idea. Allow nothing but His
likeness to abide in your thought. Let neither
fear nor doubt overshadow your clear sense and
18 calm trust, that the recognition of life harmonious — as
Life eternally is — can destroy any painful sense of, or
belief in, that which Life is not. Let Christian Science,
21 instead of corporeal sense, support your understanding of
being, and this understanding will supplant error with
Truth, replace mortality with immortality, and silence dis-
24 cord with harmony.

Rudiments and growth

Question. — How can I progress most rapidly in the understanding of Christian Science?

- 27 *Answer.* — Study thoroughly the letter and imbibe
the spirit. Adhere to the divine Principle of Chris-
tian Science and follow the behests of God,
30 abiding steadfastly in wisdom, Truth, and
Love. In the Science of Mind, you will soon ascertain

PAGE 496

- 1 that error cannot destroy error. You will also learn
that in Science there is no transfer of evil suggestions
3 from one mortal to another, for there is but one Mind,
and this ever-present omnipotent Mind is reflected by
man and governs the entire universe. You will learn
6 that in Christian Science the first duty is to obey
God, to have one Mind, and to love another as
yourself.

Condition of progress

- 9 We all must learn that Life is God. Ask yourself:
Am I living the life that approaches the supreme good?
Am I demonstrating the healing power of
12 Truth and Love? If so then the way will
grow brighter "unto the perfect day." Your fruits
will prove what the understanding of God brings to man.
15 Hold perpetually this thought, — that it is the spiritual
idea, the Holy Ghost and Christ, which enables you to
demonstrate, with scientific certainty, the rule of healing,
18 based upon its divine Principle, Love, underlying, over-
lying, and encompassing all true being.

Triumph over death

"The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is

21 the law," — the law of mortal belief, at war with the
facts of immortal Life, even with the spiritual
law which says to the grave, "Where is thy
24 victory?" But "when this corruptible shall have put
on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on im-
mortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that
27 is written, Death is swallowed up in victory."

Question. — Have Christian Scientists any religious
creed?

30 *Answer.* — They have not, if by that term is meant
doctrinal beliefs. The following is a brief exposition of

PAGE 497

1 the important points, or religious tenets, of Christian
Science: —
3 1. As adherents of Truth, we take the inspired Word
of the Bible as our sufficient guide to eternal Life.
2. We acknowledge and adore one supreme and in-
6 finite God. We acknowledge His Son, one Christ; the
Holy Ghost or divine Comforter; and man in God's
image and likeness.
9 3. We acknowledge God's forgiveness of sin in the
destruction of sin and the spiritual understanding that
casts out evil as unreal. But the belief in sin is pun-
12 ished so long as the belief lasts.
4. We acknowledge Jesus' atonement as the evi-
dence of divine, efficacious Love, unfolding man's unity
15 with God through Christ Jesus the Way-shower; and
we acknowledge that man is saved through Christ,
through Truth, Life, and Love as demonstrated by the
18 Galilean Prophet in healing the sick and overcoming
sin and death.
5. We acknowledge that the crucifixion of Jesus and
21 his resurrection served to uplift faith to understand eter-
nal Life, even the allness of Soul, Spirit, and the noth-

ingness of matter.

- 24 6. And we solemnly promise to watch, and pray for
that Mind to be in us which was also in Christ Jesus; to
do unto others as we would have them do unto us; and
27 to be merciful, just, and pure.