

Feb 26, 2020 Readings: You are the innocent child of God!



The Bible

1. Deut. 4:35

35 Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the Lord he is God; there is none else beside him.

2. Prov. 28:20

20 A faithful man shall abound with blessings: but he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be innocent.

3. Ezek. 18:1-3

1 The word of the Lord came unto me again, saying,
2 What mean ye, that ye use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge?
3 As I live, saith the Lord God, ye shall not have occasion any more to use this proverb in Israel.

4. Acts 9:1-9, 17-22

1 And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest,
2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.
3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:
4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?
5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.
6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.
7 And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.
8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no

- man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.
- 9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.
- 17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.
- 18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.
- 19 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.
- 20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.
- 21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?
- 22 But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.

5. Col. 3:1-4, 8-13

- 1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
- 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.
- 3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.
- 4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.
- 8 But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.
- 9 Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;
- 10 And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:
- 11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.
- 12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;
- 13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

6. Gen. 1:26, 27, 31 (to 1st .)

- 26 ¶ 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 creepeth upon the earth.
- 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.
- 31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. ...



1. SH xi:9–14

9 The physical healing of Christian Science results
now, as in Jesus' time, from the operation of divine
Principle, before which sin and disease lose their real-
12 ity in human consciousness and disappear as naturally
and as necessarily as darkness gives place to light and
sin to reformation.

2. SH 567:31–5

Divine Science shows how the Lamb slays the wolf.
1 Innocence and Truth overcome guilt and error. Ever
since the foundation of the world, ever since error would
3 establish material belief, evil has tried to slay
the Lamb; but Science is able to destroy this
lie, called evil.

3. SH 590:9

9 **LAMB OF GOD.** The spiritual idea of Love; self-im-
molation; innocence and purity; sacrifice.

4. SH 564:4–7, 10–12

This malicious animal in-
stinct, of which the dragon is the type, incites mortals to
6 kill morally and physically even their fellow-mortals, and
worse still, to charge the innocent with the crime.

The author is convinced that the accusations against
Jesus of Nazareth and even his crucifixion were instigated
12 by the criminal instinct here described.

5. SH 594:12

12 **SHEEP.** Innocence; inoffensiveness; those who follow
their leader.

6. SH 326:23

Saul of Tarsus beheld the way — the Christ, or Truth
24 — only when his uncertain sense of right yielded to a
spiritual sense, which is always right. Then
the man was changed. Thought assumed a
27 nobler outlook, and his life became more spiritual. He
learned the wrong that he had done in persecuting Chris-
tians, whose religion he had not understood, and in hu-
mility he took the new name of Paul. He beheld for the

30 first time the true idea of Love, and learned a lesson in
divine Science.

7. SH 582:14

BRIDE. Purity and innocence, conceiving man in the
15 idea of God; a sense of Soul, which has spiritual bliss
and enjoys but cannot suffer.

8. SH 327:1

1 Reform comes by understanding that there is no abid-
ing pleasure in evil, and also by gaining an affection for
3 good according to Science, which reveals the immortal
fact that neither pleasure nor pain, appetite nor passion,
can exist in or of matter, while divine Mind can and does
6 destroy the false beliefs of pleasure, pain, or fear and all
the sinful appetites of the human mind.

9. SH 404:3-15

3 If a man is an inebriate, a slave to tobacco, or the special
servant of any one of the myriad forms of sin, meet and
destroy these errors with the truth of being, —
6 by exhibiting to the wrong-doer the suffering
which his submission to such habits brings, and by con-
vincing him that there is no real pleasure in false appe-
9 tites. A corrupt mind is manifested in a corrupt body.
Lust, malice, and all sorts of evil are diseased beliefs, and
you can destroy them only by destroying the wicked
12 motives which produce them. If the evil is over in the
repentant mortal mind, while its effects still remain on the
individual, you can remove this disorder as God's law is
15 fulfilled and reformation cancels the crime.

10. SH 450:1

1 There is a large class of thinkers whose bigotry and
conceit twist every fact to suit themselves. Their creed
3 teaches belief in a mysterious, supernatural
God, and in a natural, all-powerful devil. An-
other class, still more unfortunate, are so depraved that
6 they appear to be innocent. They utter a falsehood,
while looking you blandly in the face, and they never
fail to stab their benefactor in the back. A third class
9 of thinkers build with solid masonry. They are sincere,
generous, noble, and are therefore open to the approach
and recognition of Truth. To teach Christian Science
12 to such as these is no task. They do not incline long-
ingly to error, whine over the demands of Truth, nor

play the traitor for place and power.

11. SH 414:19

The Christian Scientist's argument rests on the Christianly scientific basis of being. The Scripture declares, "The Lord He is God [good]; there is none else beside Him." Even so, harmony is universal, and discord is unreal. Christian Science declares that Mind is substance, also that matter neither feels, suffers, nor enjoys. Hold these points strongly in view. Keep in mind the verity of being, — that man is the image and likeness of God, in whom all being is painless and permanent. Remember that man's perfection is real and unimpeachable, whereas imperfection is blameworthy, unreal, and is not brought about by divine Love.

12. SH 475:5–22, 28

Question. — What is man?

6 Answer. — Man is not matter; he is not made up of brain, blood, bones, and other material elements. The Scriptures inform us that man is made in
9 the image and likeness of God. Matter is not that likeness. The likeness of Spirit cannot be so unlike Spirit. Man is spiritual and perfect; and because he is spiritual and perfect, he must be so understood in Christian Science. Man is idea, the image, of Love; he 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.

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
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.

13. SH 326:16–21

The purpose and motive to live aright can be gained
now. This point won, you have started as you should.
18 You have begun at the numeration-table of Christian
Science, and nothing but wrong intention can hinder your
advancement. Working and praying with true motives,
21 your Father will open the way.



Hymns

1. Hymn. 406

O Love, our Mother, ever near,
To Thee we turn from doubt and fear!
In perfect peace our thoughts abide;
Our hearts now in this truth confide:
Man is the child of God.

O Light, in Thy light we can see
That man is ever one with Thee.
In love our lives Thou dost enfold,
And now our waiting hopes behold
That man is God's own child.

O joy that ever will remain,
Midst seeming sorrow, hate, and pain,
Our hearts to fill with this glad song
That soars above the mists of wrong:
Man is the loved of Love.

2. Hymn. 475:2

You are the child of Spirit, sinless, pure—
Yours is a perfect beauty, born of Soul—
Complete with health, vitality, and grace.
For is not God, your Father, perfect, whole?

3. Hymn. 382:1

What is thy birthright, man,
Child of the perfect One;
What is thy Father's plan
For His beloved son?

