

Dec. 30th: The Illumination of Spiritual Understanding!



Dec 29 2020

The Bible

1. Isa. 9:2

- 2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

2. Ps. 36:7–9

- 7 How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.
- 8 They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.
- 9 For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

3. II Cor. 4:6

- 6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

4. Matt. 2:1–11

- 1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,
- 2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.
- 3 When Herod the king had heard *these things*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.
- 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.
- 5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judæa: for thus it is written by the prophet,
- 6 And thou Bethlehem, *in* the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.
- 7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.
- 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found *him*, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.
- 9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.
- 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

11 ¶ And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

5. Matt. 4:16–20

16 The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

17 ¶ From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

18 ¶ And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

20 And they straightway left *their* nets, and followed him.

6. Acts 22:6–14

6 And it came to pass, that, as I made my journey, and was come nigh unto Damascus about noon, suddenly there shone from heaven a great light round about me.

7 And I fell unto the ground, and heard a voice saying unto me, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

8 And I answered, Who art thou, Lord? And he said unto me, I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou persecutest.

9 And they that were with me saw indeed the light, and were afraid; but they heard not the voice of him that spake to me.

10 And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said unto me, Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do.

11 And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them that were with me, I came into Damascus.

12 And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt *there*,

13 Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him.

14 And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth.

7. I John 1:5

5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

8. Rom. 13:12

12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

9. I Pet. 2:9

9 But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

 Science & Health w/ Key to the Scriptures by MBE

1. SH vii:10–21

The Wise-
men were led to behold and to follow this daystar of
12 divine Science, lighting the way to eternal harmony.
The time for thinkers has come. Truth, independent
of doctrines and time-honored systems, knocks at the
15 portal of humanity. Contentment with the past and
the cold conventionality of materialism are crumbling
away. Ignorance of God is no longer the stepping-
18 stone to faith. The only guarantee of obedience is a
right apprehension of Him whom to know aright is
Life eternal. Though empires fall, “the Lord shall
21 reign forever.”

2. SH 546:23

Christian Science is dawning upon a material age.
24 The great spiritual facts of being, like rays of light, shine
in the darkness, though the darkness, com-
prehending them not, may deny their reality.
27 The proof that the system stated in this book is Chris-
tianly scientific resides in the good this system accom-
plishes, for it cures on a divine demonstrable Principle
30 which all may understand.

Dawning of
spiritual facts

3. SH 269:3–16

3 From first to last the supposed coexistence of Mind
and matter and the mingling of good and evil have re-
sulted from the philosophy of the serpent. Jesus' demon-
6 strations sift the chaff from the wheat, and unfold the
unity and the reality of good, the unreality, the nothing-
ness, of evil.
9 Human philosophy has made God manlike. Christian
Science makes man Godlike. The first is error; the latter

is truth. Metaphysics is above physics, and
12 matter does not enter into metaphysical prem-
ises or conclusions. The categories of metaphysics rest
on one basis, the divine Mind. Metaphysics resolves
15 things into thoughts, and exchanges the objects of sense
for the ideas of Soul.

4. SH 121:4–16

Copernicus mapped out the stellar system, and before
he spake, astrography was chaotic, and the heavenly fields
6 were incorrectly explored.

The Chaldean Wisemen read in the stars the fate of
empires and the fortunes of men. Though no higher
9 revelation than the horoscope was to them dis-
played upon the empyrean, earth and heaven
were bright, and bird and blossom were glad in God's
12 perennial and happy sunshine, golden with Truth. So
we have goodness and beauty to gladden the heart; but
man, left to the hypotheses of material sense unexplained
15 by Science, is as the wandering comet or the desolate
star — “a weary searcher for a viewless home.”

5. SH 479:23–32

Darkness and chaos

24 are the imaginary opposites of light, understanding,
and eternal harmony, and they are the elements of
nothingness.

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.)

6. SH 474:31

Truth destroys falsity and error, for light and
darkness cannot dwell together. Light extinguishes the
1 darkness, and the Scripture declares that there is “no
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.

7. SH 268:1–11

IN the material world, thought has brought to light
with great rapidity many useful wonders. With
3 like activity have thought's swift pinions been rising
towards the realm of the real, to the spiritual
cause of those lower things which give im-
6 pulse to inquiry. Belief in a material basis, from
which may be deduced all rationality, is slowly yielding
to the idea of a metaphysical basis, looking away from
9 matter to Mind as the cause of every effect. Material-
istic hypotheses challenge metaphysics to meet in final
combat.

Materialistic
challenge

8. SH 418:26

Include moral as well as physical belief in your efforts
27 to destroy error. Cast out all manner of evil. “Preach
the gospel to every creature.” Speak the
truth to every form of error. Tumors, ulcers,
30 tubercles, inflammation, pain, deformed joints, are wak-
ing dream-shadows, dark images of mortal thought, which
flee before the light of Truth.

Morality
required

9. SH 584:1–8

1 **DAY.** The irradiance of Life; light, the spiritual idea
of Truth and Love.
3 “And the evening and the morning were the first day.”
(Genesis i. 5.) The objects of time and sense disappear
in the illumination of spiritual understanding, and Mind
6 measures time according to the good that is unfolded.
This unfolding is God's day, and “there shall be no night
there.”

10. SH 510:9, 27

9 Truth and Love enlighten the understanding, in whose
“light shall we see light;” and this illumination is re-
flected spiritually by all who walk in the light and turn
12 away from a false material sense.

27 Light is a symbol of Mind, of Life, Truth, and Love,
and not a vitalizing property of matter. Sci-

Spiritual
subdivision

ence 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.

11. SH 591:23

MORNING. Light; symbol of Truth; revelation and progress.

Hymns

1. Hymn. 434

A village humble, still,
A guiding star above,
A shepherd watching on a hill,
A mother-heart of love—
A child is born of grace,
Brings peace to all the earth,
While angels sing their joyous praise,
And glorify his birth.

The shepherds brought their faith,
The Wisemen offered gold
And costly frankincense and myrrh;
Each brought his gift of old.
What shall we give today?
A thing of worldly worth?
Or hearts attuned to angel songs—
The gift of our new birth?

2. Hymn. 408

Prayer with our waking thought ascends,
Great God of light, to Thee;
Darkness is banished in the glow
Of Thy reality.

Lo, to our widening vision dawns
The realm of Soul supreme,

Faith-lighted peaks of Spirit stand
Revealed in morning's beam.

Thus in Thy radiance vanishes
Death's drear and gloomy night;
Thus all creation hears anew
Truth's call, Let there be light.

3. Hymn. 7

Abide with me; fast breaks the morning light;
Our daystar rises, banishing all night;
Thou art our strength, O Truth that maketh free,
We would unfailingly abide in Thee.

I know no fear, with Thee at hand to bless,
Sin hath no power and life no wretchedness;
Health, hope and love in all around I see
For those who trustingly abide in Thee.

I know Thy presence every passing hour,
I know Thy peace, for Thou alone art power;
O Love divine, abiding constantly,
I need not plead, Thou dost abide with me.