



DECEMBER 7–13, 2020

## God the Preserver of Man

### GOLDEN TEXT

#### **II Samuel 22:2 *The, 3 the one***

. . . The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my savior;  
. . . the one who saves me from violence.

*The Golden Text is from the Holy Bible,  
New Living Translation.*

### RESPONSIVE READING

**Psalms 18:3, 4, 6, 16–18, 32, 35, 43 (to ;), 46;  
145:20 (to :)**

<sup>3</sup> I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

<sup>4</sup> **The sorrows of death compassed me, and the floods of ungodly men made me afraid.**

6 In my distress I called upon the Lord, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of his temple, and my cry came before him, even into his ears.

16 **He sent from above, he took me, he drew me out of many waters.**

17 He delivered me from my strong enemy, and from them which hated me: for they were too strong for me.

18 **They prevented me in the day of my calamity: but the Lord was my stay.**

32 It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect.

35 **Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy right hand hath holden me up, and thy gentleness hath made me great.**

43 Thou hast delivered me from the strivings of the people;

46 **The Lord liveth; and blessed be my rock; and let the God of my salvation be exalted.**

20 The Lord preserveth all them that love him:

## SECTION 1

### The Bible

#### 1 | **Jeremiah 31:3**

<sup>3</sup> The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.

#### 2 | **Psalms 121:5 (to :), 7, 8**

<sup>5</sup> The Lord is thy keeper:

<sup>7</sup> The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. <sup>8</sup> The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

#### 3 | **Psalms 34:3, 4**

<sup>3</sup> O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together. <sup>4</sup> I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.

#### 4 | **Psalms 18:28–30 *thou***

<sup>28</sup> thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness. <sup>29</sup> For by thee I have run through a troop; and by my God have I leaped over a wall. <sup>30</sup> As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the Lord is tried: he is a buckler to all those that trust in him.

**5 | Joshua 1:9 Be**

9 Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

## ***Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*** **by Mary Baker Eddy**

**1 | 530:5-6**

In divine Science, man is sustained by God, the divine Principle of being.

**2 | 6:17-18**

“God is Love.” More than this we cannot ask, higher we cannot look, farther we cannot go.

**3 | 304:9-14**

This is the doctrine of Christian Science: that divine Love cannot be deprived of its manifestation, or object; that joy cannot be turned into sorrow, for sorrow is not the master of joy; that good can never produce evil; that matter can never produce mind nor life result in death.

**4 | 410:14**

Every trial of our faith in God makes us stronger. The more difficult seems the material condition to be overcome by Spirit, the stronger should be our faith and the purer our love. The Apostle John says: “There is

Love casteth  
out fear

no fear in Love, but perfect Love casteth out fear. . . . He that feareth is not made perfect in Love.” Here is a definite and inspired proclamation of Christian Science.

### 5 | **471:17–19**

Man is, and forever has been, God's reflection. God is infinite, therefore ever present, and there is no other power nor presence.

### 6 | **336:25–26**

God, the divine Principle of man, and man in God's likeness are inseparable, harmonious, and eternal.

## SECTION 2

### The Bible

#### 6 | **Psalms 55:9 / have, 16**

<sup>9</sup> I have seen violence and strife in the city.

<sup>16</sup> As for me, I will call upon God; and the Lord shall save me.

#### 7 | **Psalms 91:2, 5, 9–11**

<sup>2</sup> I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

<sup>5</sup> Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

9 Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge,  
 even the most High, thy habitation; 10 There shall no evil be-  
 fall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.  
 11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in  
 all thy ways.

## 8 | **Isaiah 54:17**

17 No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and  
 every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt  
 condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and  
 their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.

## *Science and Health*

### 7 | **412:13-14**

The power of Christian Science and divine Love  
 is omnipotent.

Eloquent  
 silence

### 8 | **83:6-9**

Science only can explain the incredible good and evil ele-  
 ments now coming to the surface. Mortals must find refuge in  
 Truth in order to escape the error of these latter days.

### 9 | **94:14**

Tyranny, intolerance, and bloodshed, wherever found,  
 arise from the belief that the infinite is formed after the pattern  
 of mortal personality, passion, and impulse.

**10 | 490:3-4, 6 Christian**

Will-power is but a product of belief, and this belief commits depredations on harmony.

Christian Science reveals Truth and Love as the motive-powers of man. Will — blind, stubborn, and headlong — cooperates with appetite and passion. From this cooperation arises its evil. From this also comes its powerlessness, since all power belongs to God, good.

Will-power  
an animal  
propensity

**11 | 192:19**

In Science, you can have no power opposed to God, and the physical senses must give up their false testimony. Your influence for good depends upon the weight you throw into the right scale. The good you do and embody gives you the only power obtainable. Evil is not power. It is a mockery of strength, which ere long betrays its weakness and falls, never to rise.

The one  
real power

**12 | 571:15**

At all times and under all circumstances, overcome evil with good. Know thyself, and God will supply the wisdom and the occasion for a victory over evil. Clad in the panoply of Love, human hatred cannot reach you. The cement of a higher humanity will unite all interests in the one divinity.

The armor  
of divinity

## SECTION 3

### The Bible

#### 9 | **Psalms 118:6, 14, 27 (to :)**

<sup>6</sup> The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?

<sup>14</sup> The Lord is my strength and song, and is become my salvation.

<sup>27</sup> God is the Lord, which hath shewed us light:

#### 10 | **Matthew 9:35**

<sup>35</sup> And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

#### 11 | **Luke 4:16, 22, 24, 27–31 *many*, 33–35**

<sup>16</sup> And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.

<sup>22</sup> And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, Is not this Joseph's son?

<sup>24</sup> And he said, Verily I say unto you, No prophet is accepted in his own country.

<sup>27</sup> many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Naaman the Syrian. <sup>28</sup> And all they in the synagogue, when they heard

these things, were filled with wrath, <sup>29</sup> And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. <sup>30</sup> But he passing through the midst of them went his way, <sup>31</sup> And came down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and taught them on the sabbath days.

<sup>33</sup> And in the synagogue there was a man, which had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice, <sup>34</sup> Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art; the Holy One of God. <sup>35</sup> And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the devil had thrown him in the midst, he came out of him, and hurt him not.

## ***Science and Health***

### **13 | 316:7**

Christ, Truth, was demonstrated through Jesus to prove the power of Spirit over the flesh, — to show that Truth is made manifest by its effects upon the human mind and body, healing sickness and destroying sin.

### **14 | 151:21–24, 26**

The human mind has no power to kill or to cure, and it has no control over God's man. The divine Mind that made man maintains His own image and likeness.

All that really exists is the divine Mind and its idea, and in this Mind the entire being is found harmonious and eternal. The straight and narrow way is to see and acknowledge this fact, yield to this power, and follow the leadings of truth.

### 15 | 494:5-11, 15-19

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 did need this help, and Jesus pointed the way for them. Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need.

Inexhaustible  
divine Love

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 human sense to flee from its own convictions and seek safety in divine Science.

Reason  
and Science

### 16 | 495:14

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 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, instead of corporeal sense, support your understanding of being, and this understanding

Steadfast and  
calm trust

will supplant error with Truth, replace mortality with immortality, and silence discord with harmony.

## SECTION 4

### The Bible

#### 12 | **Psalms 146:9**

<sup>9</sup> The Lord preserveth the strangers; he relieveth the fatherless and widow: but the way of the wicked he turneth upside down.

#### 13 | **Joel 3:3 *they***

<sup>3</sup> they have cast lots for my people; and have given a boy for an harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink.

#### 14 | **Isaiah 49:25 *thus***

<sup>25</sup> thus saith the Lord, Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered: for I will contend with him that contendeth with thee, and I will save thy children.

#### 15 | **Ezekiel 34:27 *they, 28 and none***

<sup>27</sup> they shall be safe in their land, and shall know that I am the Lord, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them out of the hand of those that served themselves of them.

28 and none shall make them afraid.

## 16 | II Corinthians 3:17 *where*

17 where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

## *Science and Health*

### 17 | 224:29

The power of God brings deliverance to the captive. No power can withstand divine Love. Mental emancipation

What is this supposed power, which opposes itself to God? Whence cometh it? What is it that binds man with iron shackles to sin, sickness, and death? Whatever enslaves man is opposed to the divine government. Truth makes man free.

### 18 | 228:11–15, 25 (only)

The enslavement of man is not legitimate. It will cease when man enters into his heritage of freedom, his God-given dominion over the material senses. God-given dominion  
Mortals will some day assert their freedom in the name of Almighty God.

There is no power apart from God.

### 19 | 225:14–16, 21, 25

The history of our country, like all history, illustrates the might of Mind, and shows human power to be proportionate to its embodiment of right thinking.

Love is the liberator.

The despotic tendencies, inherent in mortal mind and always germinating in new forms of tyranny, must be rooted out through the action of the divine Mind.

Slavery  
abolished

## 20 | 398:32

The great fact remains that evil is not mind. Evil has no power, no intelligence, for God is good, and therefore good is infinite, is All.

## 21 | 227:14-16 (to 2<sup>nd</sup> .), 24-26

Discerning the rights of man, we cannot fail to foresee the doom of all oppression. Slavery is not the legitimate state of man. God made man free.

Citizens of the world, accept the “glorious liberty of the children of God,” and be free! This is your divine right.

Standard  
of liberty

## SECTION 5

### The Bible

#### 17 | Psalms 5:8, 11 *let*, 12

<sup>8</sup> Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness because of mine enemies; make thy way straight before my face.

<sup>11</sup> let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also

that love thy name be joyful in thee. <sup>12</sup> For thou, Lord, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield.

### 18 | **Acts 9:19 Then, 20, 23–25**

<sup>19</sup> Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus. <sup>20</sup> And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.

<sup>23</sup> And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him: <sup>24</sup> But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him. <sup>25</sup> Then the disciples took him by night, and let him down by the wall in a basket.

### 19 | **II Timothy 4:18 (to 1<sup>st</sup> .)**

<sup>18</sup> And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever.

## ***Science and Health***

### 22 | **387:27**

The history of Christianity furnishes sublime proofs of the supporting influence and protecting power bestowed on man by his heavenly Father, omnipotent Mind, who gives man faith and understanding whereby to de-

Christian  
history

fend himself, not only from temptation, but from bodily suffering.

### 23 | 29:7-10

Christian experience teaches faith in the right and disbelief in the wrong. It bids us work the more earnestly in times of persecution, because then our labor is more needed.

### 24 | 97:22, 29

It requires courage to utter truth; for the higher Truth lifts her voice, the louder will error scream, until its inarticulate sound is forever silenced in oblivion.

Christianity is again demonstrating the Life that is Truth, and the Truth that is Life, by the apostolic work of casting out error and healing the sick. Earth has no repayment for the persecutions which attend a new step in Christianity; but the spiritual recompense of the persecuted is assured in the elevation of existence above mortal discord and in the gift of divine Love.

Christianity  
still rejected

### 25 | 303:30-5

When the evidence before the material senses yielded to spiritual sense, the apostle declared that nothing could alienate him from God, from the sweet sense and presence of Life and Truth.

It is ignorance and false belief, based on a material sense of things, which hide spiritual beauty and goodness.

**26 | 91:5**

Let us rid ourselves of the belief that man is separated from God, and obey only the divine Principle, Life and Love. Here is the great point of departure for all true spiritual growth.

**27 | 450:19–22**

The Christian Scientist has enlisted to lessen evil, disease, and death; and he will overcome them by understanding their nothingness and the allness of God, or good.

## SECTION 6

### The Bible

**20 | Psalms 36:7**

<sup>7</sup> How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

**21 | Psalms 37:28 (to :), 29, 31**

<sup>28</sup> For the Lord loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved for ever:

<sup>29</sup> The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein for ever.

<sup>31</sup> The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide.

**22 | Isaiah 60:18**

<sup>18</sup> Violence shall no more be heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders; but thou shalt call thy walls Salvation, and thy gates Praise.

***Science and Health*****28 | 232:7**

Security for the claims of harmonious and eternal being is found only in divine Science.

**29 | 470:32**

The relations of God and man, divine Principle and idea, are indestructible in Science; and Science knows no lapse from nor return to harmony, but holds the divine order or spiritual law, in which God and all that He creates are perfect and eternal, to have remained unchanged in its eternal history.

**30 | 458:23-28**

The Christianly scientific man reflects the divine law, thus becoming a law unto himself. He does violence to no man. Neither is he a false accuser. The Christian Scientist wisely shapes his course, and is honest and consistent in following the leadings of divine Mind.

The panoply  
of wisdom

**31 | 467:9-13**

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 becomes apparent, war will cease and the true brotherhood of man will be established.

### 32 | **340:12**

Divine Love is infinite. Therefore all that really exists is in and of God, and manifests His love.

© 2020 The Christian Science Publishing Society. Unless otherwise noted, references above are from the Bible (King James Version) and the Christian Science textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, by Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science. The design of the Cross and Crown is a trademark owned by The Christian Science Board of Directors and is used by permission. *Christian Science Quarterly*™ is a trademark owned by The Christian Science Publishing Society.

The Golden Text is from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.