



SEPTEMBER 14 – 20, 2020

Matter

GOLDEN TEXT

Psalms 84:2

My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.

RESPONSIVE READING

Romans 7:12, 14 *we (to :), 22–25 (to :);*
I Corinthians 3:11, 18, 19 *(to 1st.); 2:1, 4, 5*

12 Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

14 . . . **we know that the law is spiritual:**

22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

23 **But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.**

24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 **I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God;**

11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

18 **Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise.**

19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God.

1 **And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.**

4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

5 **That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.**

SECTION 1

The Bible

1 | **II Corinthians 10:7 (to ?)**

7 Do ye look on things after the outward appearance?

2 | **Hebrews 11:3**

3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

3 | **I Corinthians 2:12, 13**

12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

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

1 | [300:28–31](#)

The universe reflects and expresses the divine substance or Mind; therefore God is seen only in the spiritual universe and spiritual man, as the sun is seen in the ray of light which goes out from it.

2 | [479:21–23](#)

In the vast forever, in the Science and truth of being, the only facts are Spirit and its innumerable creations.

3 | [277:24–27](#)

The realm of the real is Spirit. The unlikeness of Spirit is matter, and the opposite of the real is not divine, — it is a human concept. Matter is an error of statement.

Material
error

4 | [123:12](#)

Divine Science, rising above physical theories, excludes matter, resolves *things* into *thoughts*, and replaces the objects of material sense with spiritual ideas.

Seeming
and being

SECTION 2

The Bible

4 | [I Corinthians 1:20](#) *hath*

20 hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?

5 | [Isaiah 33:22](#)

22 For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; he will save us.

6 | [Exodus 3:11, 12](#) (to ;)

11 And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? 12 And he said, Certainly I will be with thee;

7 | [Exodus 4:1–5](#)

1 And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The Lord hath not appeared unto thee. 2 And the Lord said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod.

3 And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it. 4 And the Lord said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand: 5 That they may believe that the Lord God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.

Science and Health

5 | [114:29](#)

Science shows that what is termed *matter* is but the subjective state of what is termed by the author *mortal mind*.

6 | [321:8](#)

When, led by wisdom to cast down his rod, he saw it become a serpent, Moses fled before it; but wisdom bade him come back and handle the serpent, and then Moses' fear departed. In this incident was seen the actuality of Science. Matter was shown to be a belief only. The serpent, evil, under wisdom's bidding, was destroyed through understanding divine Science, and this proof was a staff upon which to lean. The illusion of Moses lost its power to alarm him, when he discovered that what he apparently saw was really but a phase of mortal belief.

Fear of the
serpent
overcome

7 | [269:13–14, 29](#)

The categories of metaphysics rest on one basis, the divine Mind.

The theories I combat are these: (1) that all is matter; (2) that matter originates in Mind, and is as real as Mind, possessing intelligence and life. The first theory, that matter is everything, is quite as reasonable as the second, that Mind and matter coexist and cooperate. One only of the following statements can be true: (1) that everything is matter; (2) that everything is Mind. Which one is it?

Rejected
theories

8 | [268:6–11](#)

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 matter to Mind as the cause of every effect. Materialistic hypotheses challenge metaphysics to meet in final combat.

SECTION 3

The Bible

8 | [Romans 8:2 the, 6](#)

2 the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

9 | [Matthew 14:14, 22–36](#)

14 And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.

22 And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away.

23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. 24 But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. 25 And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. 26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. 27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. 28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. 29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. 31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt? 32 And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased. 33 Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God. 34 And when they were gone over, they came into the land of Gennesaret. 35 And when the

men of that place had knowledge of him, they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto him all that were diseased; ³⁶ And besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.

Science and Health

9 | [273:1–3, 24](#)

Matter and its claims of sin, sickness, and death are contrary to God, and cannot emanate from Him. There is no *material* truth.

Jesus walked on the waves, fed the multitude, healed the sick, and raised the dead in direct opposition to material laws. His acts were the demonstration of Science, overcoming the false claims of material sense or law.

10 | [182:32](#)

The law of Christ, or Truth, makes all things possible to Spirit; but the so-called laws of matter would render Spirit of no avail, and demand obedience to materialistic codes, thus departing from the basis of one God, one lawmaker. To suppose that God constitutes laws of inharmony is a mistake; discords have no support from nature or divine law, however much is said to the contrary.

11 | [329:7](#)

Because you cannot walk on the water and raise the dead, you have no right to question the great might of divine Science in these directions. Be thankful that Jesus, who was the true demonstrator of Science, did these things, and left his example for us. In Science we can use only what we understand. We must prove our faith by demonstration.

Spiritual law
the only law

Imitation
of Jesus

12 | [429:8](#)

We look before our feet, and if we are wise, we look beyond a single step in the line of spiritual advancement.

SECTION 4

The Bible

10 | [I Peter 4:12, 13](#)

¹² Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: ¹³ But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

11 | [Romans 7:22](#)

²² For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

Science and Health

13 | [430:6–7, 13–24, 27–30](#)

Faith should enlarge its borders and strengthen its base by resting upon Spirit instead of matter.

I here present to my readers an allegory illustrative of the law of divine Mind and of the supposed laws of matter and hygiene, an allegory in which the plea of Christian Science heals the sick.

Suppose a mental case to be on trial, as cases are tried in court. A man is charged with having committed liver-complaint. The patient feels ill, ruminates, and the trial commences. Personal Sense is the plaintiff. Mortal Man is the defendant. False Belief is the attorney for Personal Sense. Mortal Minds, Materia Medica, Anatomy, Physiology, Hypnotism, Envy, Greed and Ingratitude, constitute the jury.

The evidence for the prosecution being called for, a witness testifies thus: —

A mental
court case

I represent Health-laws. I was present on certain nights when the prisoner, or patient, watched with a sick friend.

14 | [431:2–4, 8–10](#)

Notwithstanding my rules to the contrary, the prisoner watched with the sick every night in the week.

At last he committed liver-complaint, which I considered criminal, inasmuch as this offence is deemed punishable with death.

15 | [432:16](#)

The Judge asks if by doing good to his neighbor, it is possible for man to become diseased, transgress the laws, and merit punishment, and Governor Mortality replies in the affirmative.

16 | [433:15, 31–3](#)

The case is given to the jury. A brief consultation ensues, and the jury returns a verdict of “Guilty of liver-complaint in the first degree.”

Ah! but Christ, Truth, the spirit of Life and the friend of Mortal Man, can open wide those prison doors and set the captive free. Swift on the wings of divine Love, there comes a despatch: “Delay the execution; the prisoner is not guilty.”

SECTION 5

The Bible

12 | [Proverbs 2:6–8](#)

6 For the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. 7 He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly.

8 He keepeth the paths of judgment, and preserveth the way of his saints.

13 | [James 2:8](#)

8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:

Science and Health

17 | [434:8–11, 17–23, 30–2](#)

After much debate and Counsel for
defence opposition, permission is obtained for a trial in the Court of Spirit, where Christian Science is allowed to appear as counsel for the unfortunate prisoner.

The counsel's earnest, solemn eyes, kindling with hope and triumph, look upward. Then Christian Science turns suddenly to the supreme tribunal, and opens the argument for the defence: —

The prisoner at the bar has been unjustly sentenced. His trial was a tragedy, and is morally illegal.

Your Honor, the lower court has sentenced Mortal Man to die, but God made Man immortal and amenable to Spirit only. Denying justice to the body, that court commended man's immortal Spirit to heavenly mercy, — Spirit which is God Himself and Man's only lawgiver!

18 | [435:8, 14–23, 31](#)

Mortal Man, in obedience to higher law, helped his fellow-man, an act which should result in good to himself as well as to others.

If liver-complaint was committed by trampling on Laws of Health, this was a good deed, for the agent of those laws is an outlaw, a destroyer of Mortal Man's liberty and rights. Laws of Health should be sentenced to die.

Watching beside the couch of pain in the exercise of a love that “is the fulfilling of the law,” — doing “unto others as ye would that they should do unto you,” — this is no infringement of law, for no demand, human or divine, renders it just to punish a man for acting justly.

The only jurisdiction to which the prisoner can submit is that of Truth, Life, and Love. If they condemn him not, neither shall Judge Medicine condemn him; and I ask that the prisoner be restored to the liberty of which he has been unjustly deprived.

19 | [436:7–10 \(to 2nd .\)](#)

Your Supreme Court must find the prisoner on the night of the alleged offence to have been acting within the limits of the divine law, and in obedience thereto. Upon this statute hangs all the law and testimony.

20 | [492:14–17, 19](#)

These two contradictory theories — that matter is something, or that all is Mind — will dispute the ground, until one is acknowledged to be the victor.

Science says: All is Mind and Mind's idea. You must fight it out on this line. Matter can afford you no aid.

SECTION 6

The Bible

14 | [Psalms 119:41, 42, 44, 45](#)

41 Let thy mercies come also unto me, O Lord, even thy salvation, according to thy word. 42 So shall I have wherewith to answer him that reproacheth me: for I trust in thy word.

44 So shall I keep thy law continually for ever and ever. 45 And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts.

*Science and Health*21 | [437:32–7](#)

The attorney, Christian Science, then read from the supreme statute-book, the Bible, certain extracts on the Rights of Man, remarking that the Bible was better authority than Blackstone: —

Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion.

Behold, I give unto you power . . . over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.

22 | [440:33](#)

Here the counsel for the defence closed, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, with benign and imposing presence, comprehending and defining all law and evidence, explained from his statute-book, the Bible, that any so-called law, which undertakes to punish aught but sin, is null and void.

Charge of the
Chief Justice

23 | [441:8–10, 15–20, 30–8](#)

He concluded his charge thus: —

The plea of False Belief we deem unworthy of a hearing.

Our law refuses to recognize Man as sick or dying, but holds him to be forever in the image and likeness of his Maker. Reversing the testimony of Personal Sense and the decrees of the Court of Error in favor of Matter, Spirit decides in favor of Man and against Matter.

The plaintiff, Personal Sense, is recorded in our Book of books as a liar. Our great Teacher of mental jurisprudence speaks of him also as "a murderer from the beginning." We have no trials for sickness before the tribunal of divine Spirit. There, Man is adjudged innocent of transgressing physical laws, because there are no such laws. Our statute is spiritual, our Government is divine. "Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

The Jury of Spiritual Senses agreed at once upon a verdict, and there resounded throughout the vast audience-chamber of Spirit the cry, Not guilty. Then the prisoner rose up regenerated, strong, free.

Divine
verdict

24 | [442:11](#)

His form was erect and commanding, his countenance beaming with health and happiness. Divine Love had cast out fear. Mortal Man, no longer sick and in prison, walked forth, his feet "beautiful upon the mountains," as of one "that bringeth good tidings."

25 | [14:9](#)

To be “with the Lord” is to be in obedience to the law of God, to be absolutely governed by divine Love, — by Spirit, not by matter.

SECTION 7

The Bible

15 | [Isaiah 60:1](#)

1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

16 | [Galatians 5:1, 25](#)

1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Science and Health

26 | [390:32](#)

Rise in the conscious strength of the spirit of Truth to overthrow the plea of mortal mind, *alias* matter, arrayed against the supremacy of Spirit. Blot out the images of mortal thought and its beliefs in sickness and sin. Then, when thou art delivered to the judgment of Truth, Christ, the judge will say, “Thou art whole!”

27 | [264:20 \(only\)](#)

Spirit and its formations are the only realities of being.

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