



Christian Science Quarterly

Bible Lessons

JANUARY 29–FEBRUARY 4, 2024

Love

GOLDEN TEXT

Jeremiah 31:3, 16 Refrain (to 2nd ;)

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. . . . Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the Lord;

RESPONSIVE READING

Revelation 21:1–7; Psalms 30:5 *weeping*

Rev. 21:1 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

2 And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

6 And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Ps. 30:5 . . . weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

SECTION 1

The Bible

1 | **1 John 4:7 every, 8, 12, 16**

⁷ every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

⁸ He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

¹² No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹⁶ And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

2 | **Psalms 116:1–5, 8, 9**

¹ I love the Lord, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications. ² Because he hath inclined his ear unto me, therefore will I call upon him as long as I live. ³ The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me: I found trouble and sorrow. ⁴ Then called I upon the name of the Lord; O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul. ⁵ Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful.

⁸ For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling. ⁹ I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

3 | **Zephaniah 3:17**

¹⁷ The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

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

1 | **2:23 (only, to ?)**

God is Love. Can we ask Him to be more?

2 | **6:17–18 More**

More than this we cannot ask, higher we cannot look, farther we cannot go.

3 | **365:31**

The poor suffering heart needs its rightful nutriment, such as peace, patience in tribulation, and a priceless sense of the dear Father's loving-kindness.

4 | **514:18–19**

Tenderness accompanies all the might imparted by Spirit.

5 | **520:3–5 The (to !)**

The depth, breadth, height, might, majesty, and glory of infinite Love fill all space. That is enough!

SECTION 2

The Bible

4 | **Psalms 18:1, 6 (to :), 16**

¹ I will love thee, O Lord, my strength.

⁶ In my distress I called upon the Lord, and cried unto my God:

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

5 | **II Kings 20:1 (to 1st .), 2–4, 5 tell (to 2nd :)**

¹ In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death.

² Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the Lord, saying, ³ I beseech thee, O Lord, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore. ⁴ And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the Lord came to him, saying,

⁵ tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee:

Science and Health

6 | 494:10–11, 15 (only)

Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need.

The miracle of grace is no miracle to Love.

7 | 2:4

Are we benefited by praying? Yes, the desire which goes forth hungering after righteousness is blessed of our Father, and it does not return unto us void.

Right
motives

8 | 78:28

Spirit blesses man, but man cannot “tell whence it cometh.” By it the sick are healed, the sorrowing are comforted, and the sinning are reformed. These are the effects of one universal God, the invisible good dwelling in eternal Science.

9 | 201:17–18

The way to extract error from mortal mind is to pour in truth through flood-tides of Love.

10 | 322:26–29

The sharp experiences of belief in the suppositious life of matter, as well as our disappointments and ceaseless woes, turn us like tired children to the arms of divine Love.

Uses of
suffering

11 | 323:6

Through the wholesome chastisements of Love, we are helped onward in the march towards righteousness, peace, and purity, which are the landmarks of Science. Beholding the infinite tasks of truth, we pause, — wait on God. Then we push onward, until boundless thought walks enraptured, and conception unconfined is winged to reach the divine glory.

A bright
outlook

SECTION 3**The Bible****6 | II Samuel 3:2 (to :), 3 and the**

² And unto David were sons born in Hebron:
³ and the third, Absalom the son of Maacah the daughter of Talmai king of Geshur;

7 | II Samuel 14:1, 25 in

¹ Now Joab the son of Zeruiah perceived that the king's heart was toward Absalom.

²⁵ in all Israel there was none to be so much praised as Absalom for his beauty: from the sole of his foot even to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him.

8 | II Samuel 15:7, 9 (to 1st), 10, 12 And the

⁷ And it came to pass after forty years, that Absalom said unto the king, I pray thee, let me go and pay my vow, which I have vowed unto the Lord, in Hebron.

⁹ And the king said unto him, Go in peace.

¹⁰ But Absalom sent spies throughout all the tribes of Israel, saying, As soon as ye hear the sound of the trumpet, then ye shall say, Absalom reigneth in Hebron.

¹² And the conspiracy was strong; for the people increased continually with Absalom.

9 | II Samuel 18:5, 31–33 behold

⁵ And the king commanded Joab and Abishai and Ittai, saying, Deal gently for my sake with the young man, even with Absalom. And all the people heard when the king gave all the captains charge concerning Absalom.

³¹ behold, Cushie came; and Cushie said, Tidings, my lord the king: for the Lord hath avenged thee this day of all them that rose up against thee. ³² And the king said unto Cushie, Is the young man Absalom safe? And Cushie answered, The enemies of my lord the king, and all that rise against thee to do thee hurt, be as that young man is. ³³ And the king was much moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept: and as he went, thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son Absalom! would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!

10 | Jeremiah 31:16 Refrain (to :)

¹⁶ Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears:

11 | Isaiah 66:12 (to 1st), 13 (to ;)

¹² For thus saith the Lord,

¹³ As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you;

Science and Health**12 | 190:21–31**

The Hebrew bard, swayed by mortal thoughts, thus swept his lyre with saddening strains on human existence:

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 know it no more.

When hope rose higher in the human heart, he sang:

As for me, I will behold Thy face in righteousness:
I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with Thy likeness.
For with Thee is the fountain of life;
In Thy light shall we see light.

13 | 66:1–16, 30–31

Thou art right, immortal Shakespeare, great poet of humanity:

Sweet are the uses of adversity;
Which, like the toad, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in his head.

Trials teach mortals not to lean on a material staff, — a broken reed, which pierces the heart. We do not half remember this in the sunshine of joy and prosperity. Sorrow is salutary. Through great tribulation we enter the kingdom. Trials are proofs of God's care. Spiritual development germinates not from seed sown in the soil of material hopes, but when these decay, Love propagates anew the higher joys of Spirit, which have no taint of earth. Each successive stage of experience unfolds new views of divine goodness and love.

Salutary
sorrow

Sorrow has its reward. It never leaves us where it found us.

14 | 57:22

Human affection is not poured forth vainly, even though it meet no return. Love enriches the nature, enlarging, purifying, and elevating it. The wintry blasts of earth may uproot the flowers of affection, and scatter them to the winds; but this severance of fleshly ties serves to unite thought more closely to God, for Love supports the struggling heart until it ceases to sigh over the world and begins to unfold its wings for heaven.

Help and
discipline

SECTION 4

The Bible

12 | **Isaiah 25:8** *the (to 2nd ;)*

⁸ the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces;

13 | **John 11:1 a, 5, 17, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 39 (to 1st .), 41–44**

¹ a certain man was sick, named Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.

⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.

¹⁷ Then when Jesus came, he found that he had lain in the grave four days already.

³² Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. ³³ When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled,

³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him!

³⁸ Jesus therefore again groaning in himself cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it. ³⁹ Jesus said, Take ye away the stone.

⁴¹ Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. ⁴² And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand

by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.
⁴³ And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice,
 Lazarus, come forth. ⁴⁴ And he that was dead came forth,
 bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was
 bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him,
 and let him go.

Science and Health

15 | 25:31

The divinity of the Christ was made manifest in the humanity of Jesus.

16 | 52:19–23

The “man of sorrows” best understood the nothingness of material life and intelligence and the mighty actuality of all-inclusive God, good. These were the two cardinal points of Mind-healing, or Christian Science, which armed him with Love.

17 | 138:14–22

The supremacy of Spirit was the foundation on which Jesus built. His sublime summary points to the religion of Love.

Jesus established in the Christian era the precedent for all Christianity, theology, and healing.

New era
in Jesus

Christians are under as direct orders now, as they were then,

to be Christlike, to possess the Christ-spirit, to follow the Christ-example, and to heal the sick as well as the sinning.

18 | **323:24**

The true idea of God gives the true understanding of Life and Love, robs the grave of victory, takes away all sin and the delusion that there are other minds, and destroys mortality.

19 | **14:9–18**

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.

Become conscious for a single moment
that Life and intelligence are purely spiritual,
— neither in nor of matter, — and the body will then utter no complaints. If suffering from a belief in sickness, you will find yourself suddenly well. Sorrow is turned into joy when the body is controlled by spiritual Life, Truth, and Love.

Spiritualized
consciousness

20 | **224:31 (only)**

No power can withstand divine Love.

SECTION 5

The Bible

14 | **Luke 8:40 (to :)**

40 And it came to pass, that, when Jesus was returned, the people gladly received him:

15 | **Luke 22:1, 2 (to :), 54–62**

1 Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover. 2 And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him;

54 Then took they him, and led him, and brought him into the high priest's house. And Peter followed afar off. 55 And when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the hall, and were set down together, Peter sat down among them. 56 But a certain maid beheld him as he sat by the fire, and earnestly looked upon him, and said, This man was also with him.

57 And he denied him, saying, Woman, I know him not.

58 And after a little while another saw him, and said, Thou art also of them. And Peter said, Man, I am not. 59 And about the space of one hour after another confidently affirmed, saying, Of a truth this fellow also was with him: for he is

a Galilæan. 60 And Peter said, Man, I know not what thou sayest. And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew.

61 And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him,

Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. ⁶² And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.

16 | **II Corinthians 7:9 (to :), 10 (to :)**

⁹ Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance:

¹⁰ For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of:

17 | **II Peter 1:1**

¹ Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

18 | **II Peter 3:9**

⁹ The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Science and Health

21 | **53:22**

Like Peter, we should weep over the warning, instead of denying the truth or mocking the lifelong sacrifice which goodness makes for the destruction of evil.

22 | 5:3–6

Sorrow for wrong-doing is but one step towards reform and the very easiest step. The next and great step required by wisdom is the test of our sincerity, — namely, reformation.

Sorrow and
reformation

23 | 35:30 (only)

The design of Love is to reform the sinner.

24 | 1:1–4

The prayer that reforms the sinner and heals the sick is an absolute faith that all things are possible to God, — a spiritual understanding of Him, an unselfed love.

25 | 239:16

To ascertain our progress, we must learn where our affections are placed and whom we acknowledge and obey as God. If divine Love is becoming nearer, dearer, and more real to us, matter is then submitting to Spirit. The objects we pursue and the spirit we manifest reveal our standpoint, and show what we are winning.

Standpoint
revealed

SECTION 6

The Bible

19 | **Acts 13:43** *many*

⁴³ many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.

20 | **Acts 14:19, 20**

¹⁹ And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead.

²⁰ Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

21 | **Psalms 126:5**

⁵ They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

Science and Health

26 | **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.

27 | 454:9–10 (to 2nd), 17–19

Human hate has no legitimate mandate and no kingdom.
Love is enthroned.

Love for God and man is the true incentive in both healing and teaching. Love inspires, illumines, designates, and leads the way.

Love the
incentive

28 | 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 7**The Bible****22 | Isaiah 49:13**

¹³ Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the Lord hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted.

23 | John 16:20 *your, 22 and your*

²⁰ your sorrow shall be turned into joy.

22 and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.

Science and Health

29 | 12:31

In divine Science, where prayers are mental, *all* may avail themselves of God as “a very present help in trouble.” Love is impartial and universal in its adaptation and bestowals. It is the open fount which cries, “Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters.”

30 | xi:22

When God called the author to proclaim His Gospel to this age, there came also the charge to plant and water His vineyard.

31 | xii:23–26

In the spirit of Christ’s charity, — as one who “hopeth all things, endureth all things,” and is joyful to bear consolation to the sorrowing and healing to the sick, — she commits these pages to honest seekers for Truth.

32 | 266:18 *Universal*

Universal Love is the divine way in Christian Science.

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