



APRIL 29 – MAY 5, 2024

Everlasting Punishment

GOLDEN TEXT

Romans 8:38 / *am*, 39

. . . I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

RESPONSIVE READING

Isaiah 61:1; Revelation 21:4 (to :); 22:1–3 (to 1st :), 5 (to :), 6 *These*, 13, 17 *let*

Isa. 61:1 The spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim lib-

erty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

Rev. 21:4 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:

22:1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

2 In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

3 And there shall be no more curse:

5 And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light:

6 . . . These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

17 . . . let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

SECTION 1

The Bible

1 | **Jeremiah 31:3**

³ 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 | **Isaiah 45:22, 24 (to :)**

²² Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.

²⁴ Surely, shall one say, in the Lord have I righteousness and strength:

3 | **Job 37:23 he**

²³ he is excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: he will not afflict.

4 | **John 3:16, 17**

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

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

1 | 501:10

The incarnation of Truth, that amplification of wonder and glory which angels could only whisper and which God illustrated by light and harmony, is consonant with ever-present Love. So-called mystery and miracle, which subserve the end of natural good, are explained by that Love for whose rest the weary ones sigh when needing something more native to their immortal cravings than the history of perpetual evil.

2 | 22:27

Whosoever believeth that wrath is righteous or that divinity is appeased by human suffering, does not understand God.

3 | 2:23 (only, to .)

God is Love.

4 | 69:13

Spiritually to understand that there is but one creator, God, unfolds all creation, confirms the Scriptures, brings the sweet assurance of no parting, no pain, and of man deathless and perfect and eternal.

5 | 230:11–15

It would be contrary to our highest ideas of God to suppose Him capable of first arranging law and causation so as to bring about certain evil results, and

God never
inconsistent

then punishing the helpless victims of His volition for doing what they could not avoid doing.

6 | **322:26–30**

The sharp experiences of belief in the supposititious life of matter, as well as our disappointments and ceaseless woes, turn us like tired children to the arms of divine Love. Then we begin to learn Life in divine Science.

Uses of
suffering

SECTION 2

The Bible

5 | **Ezekiel 18:1–4 (to ;)**

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 Behold, all souls are mine;

6 | **Isaiah 55:13**

¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

7 | Isaiah 25:8 and

⁸ and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the Lord hath spoken it.

8 | Isaiah 43:1 thus, 21

¹ thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

²¹ This people have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise.

9 | Genesis 18:25 Shall

²⁵ Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

Science and Health**7 | 357:1–5**

In common justice, we must admit that God will not punish man for doing what He created man capable of doing, and knew from the outset that man would do. God is “of purer eyes than to behold evil.”

Two infinite
creators
absurd

8 | 502:29

There is but one creator and one creation. This creation consists of the unfolding of spiritual ideas and their identities, which are embraced in the infinite Mind and forever reflected.

These ideas range from the infinitesimal to infinity, and the highest ideas are the sons and daughters of God.

9 | **211:19**

It should no longer be said in Israel that “the fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge.” Sympathy with error should disappear. The transfer of the thoughts of one erring mind to another, Science renders impossible.

10 | **259:26**

Immortal ideas, pure, perfect, and enduring, are transmitted by the divine Mind through divine Science, which corrects error with truth and demands spiritual thoughts, divine concepts, to the end that they may produce harmonious results.

11 | **214:14**

When it is learned that the spiritual sense, and not the material, conveys the impressions of Mind to man, then being will be understood and found to be harmonious.

12 | **251:24**

This process of higher spiritual understanding improves mankind until error disappears, and nothing is left which deserves to perish or to be punished.

SECTION 3

The Bible

10 | **Psalms 109:26, 30, 31**

²⁶ Help me, O Lord my God: O save me according to thy mercy:

³⁰ I will greatly praise the Lord with my mouth; yea, I will praise him among the multitude. ³¹ For he shall stand at the right hand of the poor, to save him from those that condemn his soul.

11 | **II Kings 25:27–30**

²⁷ And it came to pass in the seven and thirtieth year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, that Evil-merodach king of Babylon in the year that he began to reign did lift up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah out of prison; ²⁸ And he spake kindly to him, and set his throne above the throne of the kings that were with him in Babylon; ²⁹ And changed his prison garments: and he did eat bread continually before him all the days of his life. ³⁰ And his allowance was a continual allowance given him of the king, a daily rate for every day, all the days of his life.

12 | **Micah 6:8 *what doth***

⁸ what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

13 | Isaiah 58:9 If, 10, 12

⁹ If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; ¹⁰ And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noon day:

¹² And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

Science and Health**13 | 522:30–1**

Does the creator condemn His own creation? Does the unerring Principle of divine law change or repent? It cannot be so.

14 | 516:12–13, 16–19 2nd The

Love, redolent with unselfishness, bathes all in beauty and light. Love imparts
beauty

The sunlight glints from the church-dome, glances into the prison-cell, glides into the sick-chamber, brightens the flower, beautifies the landscape, blesses the earth.

15 | 384:5–6

Let us reassure ourselves with the law of Love.

16 | 340:23

One infinite God, good, unifies men and nations; constitutes the brotherhood of man; ends wars; fulfils the Scripture, “Love thy neighbor as thyself;” annihilates pagan and Christian idolatry, — whatever is wrong in social, civil, criminal, political, and religious codes; equalizes the sexes; annuls the curse on man, and leaves nothing that can sin, suffer, be punished or destroyed.

17 | 264:24

Spiritual living and blessedness are the only evidences, by which we can recognize true existence and feel the unspeakable peace which comes from an all-absorbing spiritual love.

Spiritual
proofs of
existence

SECTION 4**The Bible****14 | Isaiah 35:8 (to 1st ;), 10**

⁸ And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness;

¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

15 | I Chronicles 4:10

¹⁰ And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested.

16 | Psalms 66:20

²⁰ Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.

17 | Psalms 38:9 (to ;)

⁹ Lord, all my desire is before thee;

Science and Health**18 | 1:11**

Desire is prayer; and no loss can occur from trusting God with our desires, that they may be moulded and exalted before they take form in words and in deeds.

19 | 11:22

We know that a desire for holiness is requisite in order to gain holiness; but if we desire holiness above all else, we shall sacrifice everything for it. We must be willing to do this, that we may walk securely in the only practical road to holiness. Prayer cannot change the unalterable Truth, nor can prayer alone give us an understanding of Truth;

Desire for
holiness

but prayer, coupled with a fervent habitual desire to know and do the will of God, will bring us into all Truth. Such a desire has little need of audible expression. It is best expressed in thought and in life.

20 | 15:9, 26–30

To enter into the heart of prayer, the door of the erring senses must be closed. Lips must be mute and materialism silent, that man may have audience with Spirit, the divine Principle, Love, which destroys all error.

Self-forgetfulness, purity, and affection are constant prayers. Practice not profession, understanding not belief, gain the ear and right hand of omnipotence and they assuredly call down infinite blessings.

Trustworthy
beneficence

SECTION 5

The Bible

18 | Luke 4:33–36

³³ And in the synagogue there was a man, which had a spirit of an unclean devil, and cried out with a loud voice, ³⁴ 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. ³⁵ 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. ³⁶ And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, What a word is this! for with authority and power he commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out.

19 | **Luke 9:1, 2**

¹ Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. ² And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.

20 | **Luke 10:1, 17–20**

¹ After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.

¹⁷ And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. ¹⁸ And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. ¹⁹ Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. ²⁰ Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

21 | **Luke 17:21 *behold***

²¹ behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

Science and Health

21 | 560:11–15

The great miracle, to human sense, is divine Love, and the grand necessity of existence is to gain the true idea of what constitutes the kingdom of heaven in man.

True estimate
of God's
messenger

22 | 38:24–26

Jesus mapped out the path for others. He unveiled the Christ, the spiritual idea of divine Love.

23 | xi:9–14

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 reality in human consciousness and disappear as naturally and as necessarily as darkness gives place to light and sin to reformation.

24 | 396:1, 22

One should never hold in mind the thought of disease, but should efface from thought all forms and types of disease, both for one's own sake and for that of the patient.

Effacing
images of
disease

At the right time explain to the sick the power which their beliefs exercise over their bodies. Give them divine and wholesome understanding, with which to combat their erroneous sense, and so efface the images of

Healthful
explanation

sickness from mortal mind. Keep distinctly in thought that man is the offspring of God, not of man; that man is spiritual, not material; that Soul is Spirit, outside of matter, never in it, never giving the body life and sensation. It breaks the dream of disease to understand that sickness is formed by the human mind, not by matter nor by the divine Mind.

25 | 288:10

When the final physical and moral effects of Christian Science are fully apprehended, the conflict between truth and error, understanding and belief, Science and material sense, foreshadowed by the prophets and inaugurated by Jesus, will cease, and spiritual harmony reign. The lightnings and thunderbolts of error may burst and flash till the cloud is cleared and the tumult dies away in the distance. Then the raindrops of divinity refresh the earth. As St. Paul says: “There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God” (of Spirit).

SECTION 6

The Bible

22 | Luke 8:40 (to :)

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

23 | Luke 18:9–14

⁹ And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:
¹⁰ Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. ¹² I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. ¹³ And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

24 | Matthew 5:8

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Science and Health**26 | 341:8**

Jesus said, “Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God” [Truth].

27 | 8:1–2, 14–24, 28–30

A wordy prayer may afford a quiet sense of self-justification, though it makes the sinner a hypocrite.

If we feel the aspiration, humility, gratitude, and love which our words express, — this God accepts; and it is wise not to try to deceive ourselves or others, for “there is nothing covered that shall not be revealed.” Professions and audible prayers are like charity in one respect, — they “cover the multitude of sins.” Praying for humility with whatever fervency of expression does not always mean a desire for it. If we turn away from the poor, we are not ready to receive the reward of Him who blesses the poor.

We should examine ourselves and learn what is the affection and purpose of the heart, for in this way only can we learn what we honestly are.

28 | 58:7

Unselfish ambition, noble life-motives, and purity, — these constituents of thought, mingling, constitute individually and collectively true happiness, strength, and permanence.

29 | 248:29

Let unselfishness, goodness, mercy, justice, health, holiness, love — the kingdom of heaven — reign within us, and sin, disease, and death will diminish until they finally disappear.

SECTION 7

The Bible

25 | **Revelation 12:10 Now**

¹⁰ Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night.

26 | **Revelation 21:4**

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.

Science and Health

30 | **573:29–31**

Take heart, dear sufferer, for this reality of being will surely appear sometime and in some way. There will be no more pain, and all tears will be wiped away.

31 | **568:26–30**

A louder song, sweeter than has ever before reached high heaven, now rises clearer and nearer to the great heart of Christ; for the accuser is not there, and Love sends forth her primal and everlasting strain.

*Pæan of
jubilee*

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