



SEPTEMBER 5–11, 2022

Substance

GOLDEN TEXT

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

RESPONSIVE READING

Hebrews 11:3, 8–11, 24–26, 32, 33; I John 5:4 *and*

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.

⁸ **By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.**

9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

11 Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthæ; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

4 . . . and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

SECTION 1

The Bible

1 | **Proverbs 8:1, 4, 21, 34, 35**

¹ Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice?

⁴ Unto you, O men, I call; and my voice is to the sons of man.

²¹ That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures.

³⁴ Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors. ³⁵ For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the Lord.

2 | **I Corinthians 2:9 as, 10**

⁹ as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. ¹⁰ But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

3 | **Galatians 5:5**

⁵ For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.

4 | **Job 33:4**

⁴ The spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life.

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

1 | 298:2–4

Life, Truth, and Love are the realities of divine Science. They dawn in faith and glow full-orbed in spiritual understanding.

2 | 468:17 *Substance*

Substance is that which is eternal and incapable of discord and decay. Truth, Life, and Love are substance, as the Scriptures use this word in Hebrews: “The substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” Spirit, the synonym of Mind, Soul, or God, is the only real substance. The spiritual universe, including individual man, is a compound idea, reflecting the divine substance of Spirit.

Spiritual
synonyms

3 | 469:1

Life is neither in nor of matter. What is termed matter is unknown to Spirit, which includes in itself all substance and is Life eternal. Matter is a human concept. Life is divine Mind. Life is not limited. Death and finiteness are unknown to Life. If Life ever had a beginning, it would also have an ending.

4 | 492:7–12

Being is holiness, harmony, immortality. It is already proved that a knowledge of this, even in small degree, will uplift the physical and moral standard of

Mind one
and all

mortals, will increase longevity, will purify and elevate character. Thus progress will finally destroy all error, and bring immortality to light.

SECTION 2

The Bible

5 | **II Timothy 2:22** *follow*

²² follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

6 | **Genesis 12:1, 2**

¹ Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: ² And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:

7 | **Genesis 13:1, 6, 7 (to :), 8, 9, 11, 14, 15, 17**

¹ And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south.

⁶ And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together. ⁷ And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle:

8 And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren. 9 Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.

11 Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

14 And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: 15 For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

17 Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

Science and Health

5 | 579:10–14

ABRAHAM. Fidelity; faith in the divine Life and in the eternal Principle of being.

This patriarch illustrated the purpose of Love to create trust in good, and showed the life-preserving power of spiritual understanding.

6 | 430:6–7

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

7 | 278:32

Which ought to be substance to us, — the erring, changing, and dying, the mutable and mortal, or the unerring, immutable, and immortal? A New Testament writer plainly describes faith, a quality of mind, as “the *substance* of things hoped for.”

8 | 335:12

Spirit is the only substance, the invisible and indivisible infinite God. Things spiritual and eternal are substantial. Things material and temporal are insubstantial.

9 | 298:13–15

Spiritual sense, contradicting the material senses, involves intuition, hope, faith, understanding, fruition, reality.

10 | 518:15–21

The rich in spirit help the poor in one grand brotherhood, all having the same Principle, or Assistance in brotherhood Father; and blessed is that man who seeth his brother's need and supplieth it, seeking his own in another's good. Love giveth to the least spiritual idea might, immortality, and goodness, which shine through all as the blossom shines through the bud.

SECTION 3

The Bible

8 | Proverbs 3:9

⁹ Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the first-fruits of all thine increase:

9 | Genesis 17:1, 2, 5–7, 15, 16

¹ And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. ² And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly.

⁵ Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee. ⁶ And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee. ⁷ And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.

¹⁵ And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be.

¹⁶ And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her.

10 | Galatians 3:6, 7

⁶ Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. ⁷ Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.

Science and Health**11 | 124:25–26 (to 1st .)**

Spirit is the life, substance, and continuity of all things.

12 | 301:6–13

To himself, mortal and material man seems to be substance, but his sense of substance involves error and therefore is material, temporal.

On the other hand, the immortal, spiritual man is really substantial, and reflects the eternal substance, or Spirit, which mortals hope for. He reflects the divine, which constitutes the only real and eternal entity.

13 | 333:19–26

Throughout all generations both before and after the Christian era, the Christ, as the spiritual idea, — the reflection of God, — has come with some measure of power and grace to all prepared to receive Christ, Truth. Abraham, Jacob, Moses, and the prophets caught glorious glimpses of the Messiah, or Christ, which baptized these seers in the divine nature, the essence of Love.

The divine
Principle
and idea

14 | 276:19

When we learn in Science how to be perfect even as our Father in heaven is perfect, thought is turned into new and healthy channels, — towards the contemplation of things immortal and away from materiality to the Principle of the universe, including harmonious man.

Perfection
requisite

15 | 66:11

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.

SECTION 4**The Bible****11 | Genesis 17:17, 19**

¹⁷ Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?

¹⁹ And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

12 | Genesis 21:1, 2

¹ And the Lord visited Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did unto Sarah as he had spoken. ² For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him.

Science and Health**16 | 275:14–17**

All substance, intelligence, wisdom, being, immortality, cause, and effect belong to God. These are His attributes, the eternal manifestations of the infinite divine Principle, Love.

17 | 267:3–5 (to 1st .)

The offspring of God start not from matter or ephemeral dust. They are in and of Spirit, divine Mind, and so forever continue.

The infinitude
of God

18 | 278:4–5, 16–19

Spirit is the only substance and consciousness recognized by divine Science.

Substance
versus
supposition

The admission that there can be material substance requires another admission, — namely, that Spirit is not infinite and that matter is self-creative, self-existent, and eternal.

19 | 286:21–22

God's thoughts are perfect and eternal, are substance and Life.

20 | 506:18

Spirit, God, gathers unformed thoughts into their proper channels, and unfolds these thoughts, even as He opens the petals of a holy purpose in order that the purpose may appear.

Unfolding
of thoughts

21 | 264:13–20, 24

As mortals gain more correct views of God and man, multitudinous objects of creation, which before were invisible, will become visible. When we realize that Life is Spirit, never in nor of matter, this understanding will expand into self-completeness, finding all in God, good, and needing no other consciousness.

Self-
completeness

Spirit and its formations are the only realities of being.

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 5

The Bible

13 | **Acts 3:13 (to ;)**

¹³ The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus;

14 | **I Timothy 1:14**

¹⁴ And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

15 | **Luke 13:11–17**

¹¹ And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. ¹² And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. ¹³ And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God. ¹⁴ And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which men ought to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day. ¹⁵ The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day? ¹⁷ And when he had said these

things, all his adversaries were ashamed: and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by him.

Science and Health

22 | 241:13–14, 19

The Bible teaches transformation of the body by the renewal of Spirit.

The substance of all devotion is the reflection and demonstration of divine Love, healing sickness and destroying sin. Our Master said, “If ye love me, keep my commandments.”

23 | 361:4–5

Christ, as the true spiritual idea, is the ideal of God now and forever, here and everywhere.

24 | 369:5

In proportion as matter loses to human sense all entity as man, in that proportion does man become its master. He enters into a diviner sense of the facts, and comprehends the theology of Jesus as demonstrated in healing the sick, raising the dead, and walking over the wave. All these deeds manifested Jesus' control over the belief that matter is substance, that it can be the arbiter of life or the constructor of any form of existence.

Man's
entity

25 | 425:23–26

Consciousness constructs a better body when faith in matter has been conquered. Correct material belief by spiritual understanding, and Spirit will form you anew.

26 | 414:23

Christian Science declares that Mind is substance, also that matter neither feels, suffers, nor enjoys. Hold these points strongly in view. Keep in mind the verity of being, — that man is the image and likeness of God, in whom all being is painless and permanent. Remember that man's perfection is real and unimpeachable, whereas imperfection is blameworthy, unreal, and is not brought about by divine Love.

27 | 393:12

Rise in the strength of Spirit to resist all that is unlike good. God has made man capable of this, and nothing can vitiate the ability and power divinely bestowed on man.

SECTION 6

The Bible

16 | Galatians 3:9

⁹ So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.

17 | Ephesians 2:8, 10

⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

18 | John 8:31, 32, 56, 58 Verily

³¹ Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

³² And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.

⁵⁸ Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

19 | Hebrews 12:1, 2 (to ;)

¹ Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, ² Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith;

Science and Health

28 | 333:26

The divine image, idea, or Christ was, is, and ever will be inseparable from the divine Principle, God. Jesus referred to this unity of his spiritual identity thus: “Before Abraham was, I am;” “I and my Father are one;” “My Father is greater than I.” The one Spirit includes all identities.

29 | 43:27

The divine must overcome the human at every point. The Science Jesus taught and lived must triumph over all material beliefs about life, substance, and intelligence, and the multitudinous errors growing from such beliefs.

30 | 241:23–24

One's aim, a point beyond faith, should be to find the footsteps of Truth, the way to health and holiness.

31 | 323:32–4

Willingness to become as a little child and to leave the old for the new, renders thought receptive of the advanced idea. Gladness to leave the false landmarks and joy to see them disappear, — this disposition helps to precipitate the ultimate harmony.

32 | 516:4

The substance, Life, intelligence, Truth, and Love, which constitute Deity, are reflected by His creation; and when we subordinate the false testimony of the corporeal senses to the facts of Science, we shall see this true likeness and reflection everywhere.

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