MAY 25–31, 2020

Ancient and Modern Necromancy, alias Mesmerism and Hypnotism, Denounced

GOLDEN TEXT

Nahum 1:9 (to :) 15 for

What do ye imagine against the Lord? he will make an utter end: . . . for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.

RESPONSIVE READING

Lamentations 3:22, 23, 26, 41, 46, 60, 61, 64; Psalms 7:1, 9, 10; 92:4

22 It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.
23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.
26 It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord.
41 Let us lift up our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens.
46 All our enemies have opened their mouths against us.
60 Thou hast seen all their vengeance and all their imaginations against me.

SECTION 1

The Bible

1 | Jeremiah 29:11 I know

11 I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

2 | II Chronicles 20:6 O Lord

6 O Lord God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?

3 | Psalms 62:11

11 God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God.
1 | **330:11–12, 20**

God is infinite, the only Life, substance, Spirit, or Soul, the only intelligence of the universe, including man.

Spirit is divine Principle, and divine Principle is Love, and Love is Mind, and Mind is not both good and bad, for God is Mind; therefore there is in reality one Mind only, because there is one God.

2 | **515:22**

All that God imparts moves in accord with Him, reflecting goodness and power.

---

**SECTION 2**

The Bible

4 | **Genesis 11:1, 4–9 (to ;)**

1 And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.

4 And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

5 And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded.

6 And the Lord said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.

7 Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.

8 So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city.

9 Therefore is the name of it called Babel;

5 | **Psalms 71:1, 3**

1 In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion.

3 Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou art my rock and my fortress.

6 | **Job 32:8 there**

8 there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.

7 | **I Corinthians 14:19 I had**

19 I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.

8 | **Zechariah 2:13**

13 Be silent, O all flesh, before the Lord: for he is raised up out of his holy habitation.

---

**Science and Health**

3 | **581:17–22**

BABEL. Self-destroying error; a kingdom divided against itself, which cannot stand; material knowledge.

The higher false knowledge builds on the basis of evidence obtained from the five corporeal senses, the more confusion ensues, and the more certain is the downfall of its structure.

4 | **103:18–23 (to 1st.)**

As named in Christian Science, animal magnetism or hypnotism is the specific term for error, or mortal mind. It is the false belief that mind is in matter, and is both evil and good; that evil is as real as good and more powerful. This belief has not one quality of Truth.
Mesmerism or animal magnetism was first brought into notice by Mesmer in Germany in 1775. According to the American Cyclopædia, he regarded this so-called force, which he said could be exerted by one living organism over another, as a means of alleviating disease.

In 1784, the French government ordered the medical faculty of Paris to investigate Mesmer’s theory and to report upon it. Under this order a commission was appointed, and Benjamin Franklin was one of the commissioners. This commission reported to the government as follows:

“In regard to the existence and utility of animal magnetism, we have come to the unanimous conclusions that there is no proof of the existence of the animal magnetic fluid; that the violent effects, which are observed in the public practice of magnetism, are due to manipulations, or to the excitement of the imagination and the impressions made upon the senses; and that there is one more fact to be recorded in the history of the errors of the human mind, and an important experiment upon the power of the imagination.”

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.

Spirit will ultimately claim its own, — all that really is, — and the voices of physical sense will be forever hushed.

Let us accept Science, relinquish all theories based on sense-testimony, give up imperfect models and illusive ideals; and so let us have one God, one Mind, and that one perfect, producing His own models of excellence.

The Bible

9 | Psalms 2:1
   1 Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?

10 | I John 4:1
   1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

11 | Proverbs 3:25, 26
   25 Be not afraid of sudden fear, neither of the desolation of the wicked, when it cometh. 26 For the Lord shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken.

12 | II Timothy 1:7
   7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

13 | I John 1:5
   5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

Science and Health

9 | 95:28–32
   Lulled by stupefying illusions, the world is asleep in the cradle of infancy, dreaming away the hours. Material sense does not unfold the facts of existence; but spiritual sense lifts human consciousness into eternal Truth.
Science dispels mystery and explains extraordinary phenomena; but Science never removes phenomena from the domain of reason into the realm of mysticism.

As frightened children look everywhere for the imaginary ghost, so sick humanity sees danger in every direction, and looks for relief in all ways except the right one. Darkness induces fear. The adult, in bondage to his beliefs, no more comprehends his real being than does the child; and the adult must be taken out of his darkness, before he can get rid of the illusive sufferings which throng the gloaming. The way in divine Science is the only way out of this condition.

Christian Science goes to the bottom of mental action, and reveals the theodicy which indicates the rightness of all divine action, as the emanation of divine Mind, and the consequent wrongness of the opposite so-called action, — evil, occultism, necromancy, mesmerism, animal magnetism, hypnotism.

Science must triumph over material sense, and Truth over error, thus putting an end to the hypotheses involved in all false theories and practices.
15 | **332:11–15**

The Christ is incorporeal, spiritual, — yea, the divine image and likeness, dispelling the illusions of the senses; the Way, the Truth, and the Life, healing the sick and casting out evils, destroying sin, disease, and death.

16 | **xi:1**

Many imagine that the phenomena of physical healing in Christian Science present only a phase of the action of the human mind, which action in some unexplained way results in the cure of disease. On the contrary, Christian Science rationally explains that all other pathological methods are the fruits of human faith in matter, — faith in the workings, not of Spirit, but of the fleshly mind which must yield to Science.

17 | **453:29–1**

A Christian Scientist’s medicine is Mind, the divine Truth that makes man free. A Christian Scientist never recommends material hygiene, never manipulates. He does not trespass on the rights of mind nor can he practise animal magnetism or hypnotism.

18 | **146:13–20**

Material medicine substitutes drugs for the power of God — even the might of Mind — to heal the body. Scholasticism clings for salvation to the person, instead of to the divine Principle, of the man Jesus; and his Science, the curative agent of God, is silenced. Why? Because truth divests material drugs of their imaginary power, and clothes Spirit with supremacy.

19 | **403:14–20**

You command the situation if you understand that mortal existence is a state of self-deception and not the truth of being. Mortal mind is constantly producing on mortal body the results of false opinions; and it will continue to do so, until mortal error is deprived of its imaginary powers by Truth, which sweeps away the gossamer web of mortal illusion.

20 | **230:1–8**

If sickness is real, it belongs to immortality; if true, it is a part of Truth. Would you attempt with drugs, or without, to destroy a quality or condition of Truth? But if sickness and sin are illusions, the awakening from this mortal dream, or illusion, will bring us into health, holiness, and immortality. This awakening is the forever coming of Christ, the advanced appearing of Truth, which casts out error and heals the sick.

**SECTION 5**

The Bible

18 | **Proverbs 12:20**

20 Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counsellors of peace is joy.

19 | **Zechariah 7:9, 10**

9 Thus speaketh the Lord of hosts, saying, Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother: 10 And oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger, nor the poor; and let none of you imagine evil against his brother in your heart.
**Science and Health**

21 | 405:5–11

Christian Science commands man to master the propensities, — to hold hatred in abeyance with kindness, to conquer lust with chastity, revenge with charity, and to overcome deceit with honesty. Choke these errors in their early stages, if you would not cherish an army of conspirators against health, happiness, and success.

22 | 130:26–32

If thought is startled at the strong claim of Science for the supremacy of God, or Truth, and doubts the supremacy of good, ought we not, contrariwise, to be astounded at the vigorous claims of evil and doubt them, and no longer think it natural to love sin and unnatural to forsake it, — no longer imagine evil to be ever-present and good absent?

23 | 339:28

To get rid of sin through Science, is to divest sin of any supposed mind or reality, and never to admit that sin can have intelligence or power, pain or pleasure. You conquer error by denying its verity. Our various theories will never lose their imaginary power for good or evil, until we lose our faith in them and make life its own proof of harmony and God.

24 | 201:9, 17

Passions, selfishness, false appetites, hatred, fear, all sensuality, yield to spirituality, and the superabundance of being is on the side of God, good.

The way to extract error from mortal mind is to pour in truth through flood-tides of Love. Christian perfection is won on no other basis.

**SECTION 6**

The Bible

20 | Psalms 62:3 (to ?)

3 How long will ye imagine mischief against a man?

21 | Psalms 89:50, 51

50 Remember, Lord, the reproach of thy servants; how I do bear in my bosom the reproach of all the mighty people; 51 Wherewith thine enemies have reproached, O Lord; wherewith they have reproached the footsteps of thine anointed.

22 | Psalms 35:11, 12, 17, 18

11 False witnesses did rise up; they laid to my charge things that I knew not. 12 They rewarded me evil for good to the spoiling of my soul. 17 Lord, how long wilt thou look on? rescue my soul from their destructions, my darling from the lions. 18 I will give thee thanks in the great congregation: I will praise thee among much people.

23 | Romans 8:35, 37–39

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. 38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 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.
24 | **Matthew 5:10**

10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

_Science and Health_

25 | **571:18–19**

Clad in the panoply of Love, human hatred cannot reach you.

26 | **451:26**

All mental malpractice arises from ignorance or malice aforethought. It is the injurious action of one mortal mind controlling another from wrong motives, and it is practised either with a mistaken or a wicked purpose.

27 | **494:10**

Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need. It is not well to imagine that Jesus demonstrated the divine power to heal only for a select number or for a limited period of time, since to all mankind and in every hour, divine Love supplies all good.

28 | **51:23**

He was inspired by God, by Truth and Love, in all that he said and did. The motives of his persecutors were pride, envy, cruelty, and vengeance, inflicted on the physical Jesus, but aimed at the divine Principle, Love, which rebuked their sensuality.

29 | **103:29–7**

In reality there is no mortal mind, and consequently no transference of mortal thought and will-power. Life and being are of God. In Christian Science, man can do no harm, for scientific thoughts are true thoughts, passing from God to man.

When Christian Science and animal magnetism are both comprehended, as they will be at no distant date, it will be seen why the author of this book has been so unjustly persecuted and belied by wolves in sheep’s clothing.

30 | **55:16–21**

My weary hope tries to realize that happy day, when man shall recognize the Science of Christ and love his neighbor as himself, — when he shall realize God’s omnipotence and the healing power of the divine Love in what it has done and is doing for mankind.

SECTION 7

_The Bible_

25 | **Nahum 1:7, 9**

7 The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.

9 What do ye imagine against the Lord? he will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time.
Neither animal magnetism nor hypnotism enters into the practice of Christian Science, in which truth cannot be reversed, but the reverse of error is true. An improved belief cannot retrograde. When Christ changes a belief of sin or of sickness into a better belief, then belief melts into spiritual understanding, and sin, disease, and death disappear.

© 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.