Substance

GOLDEN TEXT

Matthew 13:45 the, 46

. . . the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

The Golden Text is from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®.

RESPONSIVE READING

Matthew 6:20 lay, 21, 24, 26, 28, 29, 31–33

20 . . . lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

24 No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

28 And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin,

29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, “What shall we eat?” or “What shall we drink?” or “What shall we wear?”

32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

The Responsive Reading is from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®.

SECTION 1

The Bible

1 | Romans 11:33 (to 1st !), 36 (to 1st .)

33 O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!

36 For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever.

2 | Isaiah 55:1–3 (to ;), 8, 9

1 Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. 2 Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfies not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

3 Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live;

8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways
higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

3 | Proverbs 8:1, 4, 18–21

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.
18 Riches and honour are with me; yea, durable riches and righteousness. 19 My fruit is better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and my revenue than choice silver. 20 I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of judgment: 21 That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures.

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

1 | 257:24–27

Who hath found finite life or love sufficient to meet the demands of human want and woe, — to still the desires, to satisfy the aspirations?

2 | 468:16–24

Question. — What is substance?
Answer. — 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.

3 | 257:12–14

Mind creates His own likeness in ideas, and the substance of an idea is very far from being the supposed substance of non-intelligent matter.

4 | 269:14–20

Metaphysics resolves things into thoughts, and exchanges the objects of sense for the ideas of Soul. These ideas are perfectly real and tangible to spiritual consciousness, and they have this advantage over the objects and thoughts of material sense, — they are good and eternal.

5 | 265:3–5

Man understands spiritual existence in proportion as his treasures of Truth and Love are enlarged.

SECTION 2

The Bible

4 | Hebrews 11:1

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

5 | Habakkuk 3:17, 18

17 Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: 18 Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

6 | Jeremiah 32:2 the, 6–10, 13–15

2 the king of Babylon’s army besieged Jerusalem: and Jeremiah the prophet was shut up in the court of the prison, which was in the king of Judah’s house.
6 And Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came unto me, saying,
7 Behold, Hanameel the son of Shallum thine uncle shall come unto thee, saying, Buy thee my field that is in Anathoth: for the right of redemption is thine to buy it. 8 So Hanameel mine uncle’s son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of
the Lord, and said unto me, Buy my field, I pray thee, that is in Anathoth, which is in the country of Benjamin: for the right of inheritance is thine, and the redemption is thine; buy it for thyself. Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord. 9 And I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle’s son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver. 10 And I subscribed the evidence, and sealed it, and took witnesses, and weighed him the money in the balances.

13 And I charged Baruch before them, saying,
14 Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Take these evidences, this evidence of the purchase, both which is sealed, and this evidence which is open; and put them in an earthen vessel, that they may continue many days. 15 For thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel; Houses and fields and vineyards shall be possessed again in this land.

7 Romans 8:24, 25, 28

24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? 25 But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Science and Health

6 319:5–7

To calculate one’s life-prospects from a material basis, would infringe upon spiritual law and misguide human hope.

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.”

8 297:20–24

Faith is higher and more spiritual than belief. It is a chrysalis state of human thought, in which spiritual evidence, contradicting the testimony of material sense, begins to appear, and Truth, the ever-present, is becoming understood.

9 264:7

Mortals must look beyond fading, finite forms, if they would gain the true sense of things. Where shall the gaze rest but in the unsearchable realm of Mind? We must look where we would walk, and we must act as possessing all power from Him in whom we have our being.

10 471:13–19

The facts of divine Science should be admitted, — although the evidence as to these facts is not supported by evil, by matter, or by material sense, — because the evidence that God and man coexist is fully sustained by spiritual sense. Man is, and forever has been, God’s reflection. God is infinite, therefore ever present, and there is no other power nor presence.

11 298:4

As a cloud hides the sun it cannot extinguish, so false belief silences for a while the voice of immutable harmony, but false belief cannot destroy Science armed with faith, hope, and fruition.

SECTION 3

The Bible

8 Isaiah 41:10

10 Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.
9 | Jeremiah 30:11 (to 1st ;), 17 I will (to ;)
   11 For I am with thee, saith the Lord, to save thee:
   17 I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord;

10 | II Timothy 2:1 be
   1 be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

11 | Luke 8:43–48
   43 And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any, 44 Came behind him, and touched the border of his garment: and immediately her issue of blood stanched.
   45 And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me? 46 And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me. 47 And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately.
   48 And he said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.

Science and Health

12 | 107:10
   Through Christian Science, religion and medicine are inspired with a diviner nature and essence; fresh pinions are given to faith and understanding, and thoughts acquaint themselves intelligently with God.

13 | 232:16
   In our age Christianity is again demonstrating the power of divine Principle, as it did over nineteen hundred years ago, by healing the sick and triumphing over death. Jesus never taught that drugs, food, air, and exercise could make a man healthy, or that they could destroy human life; nor did he illustrate these errors by his practice. He referred man’s harmony to Mind, not to matter, and never tried to make of none effect the sentence of God, which sealed God’s condemnation of sin, sickness, and death.

14 | 414:23–26
   Christian Science declares that Mind is substance, also that matter neither feels, suffers, nor enjoys. Hold these points strongly in view.

15 | 460:5
   Our system of Mind-healing rests on the apprehension of the nature and essence of all being, — on the divine Mind and Love’s essential qualities. Its pharmacy is moral, and its medicine is intellectual and spiritual, though used for physical healing. Yet this most fundamental part of metaphysics is the one most difficult to understand and demonstrate, for to the material thought all is material, till such thought is rectified by Spirit.

16 | 14:12–18
   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.
SECTION 4

The Bible

12 | Acts 20:35 remember

35 remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

13 | Mark 6:7, 8

7 And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two; and gave them power over unclean spirits; 8 And commanded them that they should take nothing for their journey, save a staff only; no scrip, no bread, no money in their purse:

14 | Luke 9:6, 10, 11 (to :)

6 And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing everywhere.

10 And the apostles, when they were returned, told him all that they had done. And he took them, and went aside privately into a desert place belonging to the city called Bethsaida.

11 And the people, when they knew it, followed him:

15 | Luke 12:15, 22, 32–34

15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

22 And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on.

32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. 33 Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. 34 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

16 | Luke 22:35

35 And he said unto them, When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye any thing? And they said, Nothing.

17 | Hebrews 10:34 ye have

34 ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.

Science and Health

17 | 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.

18 | 593:6

Purse. Laying up treasures in matter; error.

19 | 241:5–6 (to 2nd.), 9–11

Sensual treasures are laid up “where moth and rust doth corrupt.” Mortality is their doom.

Falsehood, envy, hypocrisy, malice, hate, revenge, and so forth, steal away the treasures of Truth.

20 | 239:5, 20

Take away wealth, fame, and social organizations, which weigh not one jot in the balance of God, and we get clearer views of Principle. Break up cliques, level wealth with honesty, let worth be judged according to wisdom, and we get better views of humanity.

The objects we pursue and the spirit we manifest reveal our standpoint, and show what we are winning.
Christ, Truth, gives mortals temporary food and clothing until the material, transformed with the ideal, disappears, and man is clothed and fed spiritually. St. Paul says, "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling:" Jesus said, "Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom." This truth is Christian Science.

Christian Scientists must live under the constant pressure of the apostolic command to come out from the material world and be separate.

Man walks in the direction towards which he looks, and where his treasure is, there will his heart be also. If our hopes and affections are spiritual, they come from above, not from beneath, and they bear as of old the fruits of the Spirit.

The Bible

Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.

As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.

The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation;

The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear.

Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you:

The time for thinkers has come. Truth, independent of doctrines and time-honored systems, knocks at the portal of humanity. Contentment with the past and the cold conventionality of materialism are crumbling away.

Whatever furnishes the semblance of an idea governed by its Principle, furnishes food for thought. Observation, invention, study, and original thought are expansive and should promote the growth of mortal mind out of itself, out of all that is mortal.

Literary commercialism is lowering the intellectual standard to accommodate the purse and to meet a frivolous demand for amusement instead of for improvement. Incorrect views lower the standard of truth.
In Christian Science mere opinion is valueless. Proof is essential to a due estimate of this subject. Sneers at the application of the word *Science* to Christianity cannot prevent that from being scientific which is based on divine Principle, demonstrated according to a divine given rule, and subjected to proof.

Mankind will improve through Science and Christianity. The necessity for uplifting the race is father to the fact that Mind can do it; for Mind can impart purity instead of impurity, strength instead of weakness, and health instead of disease. Truth is an alterative in the entire system, and can make it “every whit whole.”

Truth never destroys God’s idea. Truth is spiritual, eternal substance, which cannot destroy the right reflection.

Whatever inspires with wisdom, Truth, or Love — be it song, sermon, or Science — blesses the human family with crumbs of comfort from Christ’s table, feeding the hungry and giving living waters to the thirsty.

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**SECTION 6**

**The Bible**

24 | Matthew 13:45, 46

45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: 46 Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

**Science and Health**

29 | 510:2–4

How much more should we seek to apprehend the spiritual ideas of God, than to dwell on the objects of sense!

30 | 275:14–15

All substance, intelligence, wisdom, being, immortality, cause, and effect belong to God.