

Wednesday Noon and Evening Meetings  
December 19, 2018  
"Gifts of Joy"

The Bible

Hymns: 25, 123, 310

My brethren, Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh, down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness neither, shadow of turning. Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed. James 1

God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us. Let the righteous be glad; let them rejoice before God: yea, let them exceedingly rejoice. Psalms 67 & 68

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright. For the word of the Lord is right: and all his works are done in truth. He loveth righteousness and judgement: the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord. Ps. 33

Then cometh he to a city of Samaria. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour. There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink.

Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? For the Jews have no dealing with the Samaritans.

Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

The woman saith unto him, Sir, thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence then hast thou that living water? Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle? Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw. I perceive that thou art a prophet. I know the Messiah cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things. Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.

The hour cometh, and now is when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. John 4

Paul, the servant of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus. Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. Phil 1

If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife for vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. Philippians 2

My brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved. Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things, are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think of these things.

Those things which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you. Philippians 3

For by grace are ye save through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Ephesians 2

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

From Puritan parents, the discoverer of Christian Science early received her religious education. In childhood, she often listened with joy to these words, falling from the lips of her saintly mother, "God is able to raise you up from sickness;" and she pondered the meaning of that Scripture she so often quotes: "And these signs shall follow them that believe; . . . they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Page 359

In the year 1866, I discovered the Christ Science or divine laws of Life, Truth, and Love, and named my discovery Christian Science. Page 107

Whence came to me this heavenly conviction,--a conviction antagonistic to the testimony of the physical senses? According to St. Paul, it was "the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of His power." It was the divine law of Life and Love, unfolding to me the demonstrable fact that matter possesses neither sensation nor life; that human experiences show the falsity of all material things; and that immortal cravings, "the price of learning love," establish the truism that the only sufferer is mortal mind, for the divine Mind cannot suffer. Page 108

I knew the Principle of all harmonious Mind-action to be God, and that cures were produced in primitive Christian healing by holy, uplifting faith; but I must know the Science of this healing, and I won my way to absolute conclusions through divine revelation, reason, and demonstration. The revelation of Truth in the understanding came to me gradually and apparently through divine power. When a new spiritual idea is borne to earth, the prophetic Scripture of Isaiah is renewedly fulfilled: "Unto us a child is born, . . . and his name shall be called Wonderful." Page 109

As human thought changes from one stage to another of conscious pain and painlessness, sorrow and joy,---from fear to hope and from faith to understanding,---the visible manifestation will at last be man governed by Soul, not by material sense. Page 125

Denial of the claims of matter is a great step towards the joys of Spirit, towards human freedom and the final triumph over the body. Page 242

Who that has felt the loss of human peace has not gained stronger desires for spiritual joy? The loss of earthly hopes and pleasures brightens the ascending path of many a heart. The pains of sense quickly inform us that the pleasures of sense are mortal and that joy is spiritual. Page 265

Science inevitably lifts one's being higher in the scale of harmony and happiness.

Soul has infinite resources with which to bless mankind, and happiness would be more readily attained and would be more secure in our keeping, if sought in Soul. Higher enjoyments alone can satisfy the cravings of immortal man. We cannot circumscribe happiness within the limits of personal sense. The senses confer no real enjoyment. Pages 60 & 61

Man is not a pendulum, swinging between evil and good, joy and sorrow, sickness and health, life and death. Life and its faculties are not measured by calendars. The perfect and immortal are the eternal likeness of their Maker.

Page 246

The sinless joy,---the perfect harmony and immortality of Life, possessing unlimited divine beauty and goodness without a single bodily pleasure or pain,---constitutes the only veritable, indestructible man, whose being is spiritual. Pg. 76

Unselfish ambition, noble life-motives, and purity,--these constituents of thought, mingling, constitute individually and collectively true happiness, strength, and permanence. Page 58

Tom Sims, First Reader