

Wednesday Meetings
March 27, 2019
"Joy and Gratitude"

THE BIBLE

HYMNS 58, 263, 392

Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands: Sing forth the honour of his name: make his praise glorious. Say unto God, all the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; Psalms 66

My heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. Psalms 16

Sing, be glad and rejoice with all the heart. The Lord hath cast out thine enemy: the Lord is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more. Fear thou not: The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing. Zephaniah 3

The publicans and sinners drew unto Jesus to hear him.

And he spake this parable unto them saying, what man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. Luke 15

I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance. Luke 15

Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house and seek diligently till she find it? And when she hath found it, she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, rejoice with me; for I have found the piece which I had lost. Luke 15

Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth. Luke 15

Jesus said, do ye enquire among yourselves of what I said, A little while and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me? I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you. And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. John 16

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

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. Page 76

The material senses' reversal of the Science of Soul was practically exposed nineteen hundred years ago by the demonstrations of Jesus; yet these so-called senses still make mortal mind tributary to mortal body, and ordain certain sections of matter, such as brain and nerves, as the seats of pain and pleasure, from which matter reports to this so-called mind its status of happiness or misery. Page 122

It is our ignorance of God, the divine Principle, which produces apparent discord, and the right understanding of Him restores harmony. Truth will at length compel us all to exchange the pleasures and pains of sense for the joys of Soul. Page 390

“Agree to disagree” with the approaching symptoms of chronic or acute disease, whether it is cancer, consumption, or smallpox. Meet the incipient stages of disease with as powerful mental opposition as a legislator would employ to defeat the passage of an inhuman law. Rise in the conscious strength of the spirit of Truth to overthrow the plea of mortal mind, *alias* matter, arrayed against the supremacy of Spirit. Blot out the images of mortal thought and its beliefs in sickness and sin. Then, when thou art delivered to the judgment of Truth, Christ, the judge will say, “Thou art whole!” Page 390

This is the doctrine of Christian Science: that divine Love cannot be deprived of its manifestation, or object; that joy cannot be turned into sorrow, for sorrow is not the master of joy; that good can never produce evil; that matter can never produce mind nor life result in death. Page 304

Harmony in man is as beautiful as in music, and discord is unnatural, unreal. Page 304

Divine Principle is the Life of Man. Page 304

Man’s happiness is not, therefore, at the disposal of physical sense. Page 304

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

While age is halting between two opinions or battling with false beliefs, youth makes easy and rapid strides towards Truth. Page 236

A little girl, who had occasionally listened to my explanations, badly wounded her finger. She seemed not to notice it. On being questioned about it she answered ingenuously, "There is no sensation in matter." Bounding off with laughing eyes, she presently added. "Mamma my finger is not a bit sore." Page 237

It might have been months or years before her parents would have laid aside their drugs, or reached the mental height their little daughter so naturally attained. Page 237

So physical sense, not discerning the true happiness of being, places it on a false basis. Science will correct the discord, and teach us life's sweeter harmonies. Page 60

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

Trials teach mortals not to lean on a material staff, -- a broken reed, which pierces, the heart. We do not half remember this in the sunshine of joy and prosperity. Sorrow is salutary. Through great tribulation we enter the kingdom. Trials are proofs of God's care. 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. Page 66

Tom Sims, First Reader