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## Wednesday Evening Selections

March 31, 2010

### **Subject: Easter Gladness**

The following selections from the Bible and from Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures will be read at 7:30 PM on March 31, 2010 as part of the Wednesday evening service of the Fourth Church of Christ, Scientist, Jacksonville, Florida in accordance with Article III, Section 3 of the Manual of the Mother Church, The First Church of Christ Scientist, in Boston, Massachusetts, by Mary Baker Eddy.

In addition to the selected readings, those in attendance are encouraged to share experiences, remarks, and testimonies of healing in Christian Science. As noted in Article VIII, Section 24 of the Manual of the Mother Church, "Testimony in regard to the healing of the sick is highly important. More than a mere rehearsal of blessings, it scales the pinnacle of praise and illustrates the demonstration of Christ, "who healeth all thy diseases" (Psalm 103:3). This testimony, however, shall not include a description of symptoms or of suffering, though the generic name of the disease may be indicated."

If for any reason you are unable to present your own testimony to the congregation during our Wednesday evening service, but would like to have it read aloud from the desk during the service, please feel free to forward your remarks in writing to: [n.mike.jackson@comcast.net](mailto:n.mike.jackson@comcast.net) or by mail to the Clerk of Fourth Church of Christ, Scientist, 8327 Beach Boulevard, Jacksonville, Florida 32216-3172. Requests for anonymity will always be lovingly honored and respected.

The members and guests of the Fourth Church of Christ, Scientist are grateful for your prayers. As further noted in Article VIII, Section 5 of the Manual of the Mother Church, "The prayers in Christian Science churches shall be offered for the congregations collectively and exclusively." Thus, our Sunday and Wednesday evening meetings are healing services in which all who gather and share in Spirit are blessed. Thank you for your prayerful support of this loving mission!

*"There is but one real attraction, that of Spirit. The pointing of the needle to the pole symbolizes this all-embracing power or the attraction of God, divine Mind. " (Mary Baker Eddy)*

**The Bible**

**Matthew 5:17**

17 ¶ Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

**Matthew 22:15-40**

15 ¶ Then went the Pharisees, and took counsel how they might entangle him in his talk.

16 And they sent out unto him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth, neither carest thou for any man: for thou regardest not the person of men.

17 Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not?

18 But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites?

19 Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny.

20 And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription?

21 They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.

22 When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left him, and went their way.

23 ¶ The same day came to him the Sadducees, which say that there is no resurrection, and asked him,

24 Saying, Master, Moses said, If a man die, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother.

25 Now there were with us seven brethren: and the first, when he had married a wife, deceased, and, having no issue, left his wife unto his brother:

26 Likewise the second also, and the third, unto the seventh.

27 And last of all the woman died also.

28 Therefore in the resurrection whose wife shall she be of the seven? for they all had her.

29 Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.

30 For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.

31 But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying,

32 I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.

33 And when the multitude heard this, they were astonished at his doctrine.

34 ¶ But when the Pharisees had heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, they were gathered together.

35 Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying,

36 Master, which is the great commandment in the law?

37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

38 This is the first and great commandment.

- 39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.  
40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

### **Matthew 27:24-26**

- 24 ¶ When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.  
25 Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children.  
26 ¶ Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

### **John 20:1-29**

- 1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.  
2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him.  
3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre.  
4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre.  
5 And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in.  
6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie,  
7 And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself.  
8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed.  
9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.  
10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.  
11 ¶ But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre,  
12 And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.  
13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.  
14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.  
15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.  
16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.  
17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.  
18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

19 ¶ Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.

21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.

22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

23 Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.

24 ¶ But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

26 ¶ And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.

27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

### **John 21:1-12**

1 After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias; and on this wise shewed he himself.

2 There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples.

3 Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a-fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.

4 But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.

5 Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No.

6 And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.

7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea.

8 And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes.

9 As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread.

10 Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught.

11 Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken.

12 Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord.

## Science and Health

### 19:29-20:23

30 Jesus urged the commandment, "Thou shalt have no  
other gods before me," which may be ren- Jesus'  
31 dered: Thou shalt have no belief of Life as sinless career  
mortal; thou shalt not know evil, for there is one Life, —  
1 even God, good. He rendered "unto Caesar the things  
which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are  
3 God's." He at last paid no homage to forms of doctrine  
or to theories of man, but acted and spake as he was moved,  
not by spirits but by Spirit.

6 To the ritualistic priest and hypocritical Pharisee  
Jesus said, "The publicans and the harlots go into the  
kingdom of God before you." Jesus' history made a  
9 new calendar, which we call the Christian era; but he  
established no ritualistic worship. He knew that men  
can be baptized, partake of the Eucharist, support the  
12 clergy, observe the Sabbath, make long prayers, and yet  
be sensual and sinful.

15 Jesus bore our infirmities; he knew the error of mortal  
belief, and "with his stripes [the rejection of error] we are  
healed." "Despised and rejected of men," Perfect  
16 returning blessing for cursing, he taught mor- example  
18 tals the opposite of themselves, even the nature of God;  
and when error felt the power of Truth, the scourge and  
the cross awaited the great Teacher. Yet he swerved not,  
21 well knowing that to obey the divine order and trust God,  
saves retracing and traversing anew the path from sin to  
holiness.

### 49:14-4

15 The meek demonstrator of good, the highest instruc-  
tor and friend of man, met his earthly fate alone with  
God. No human eye was there to pity, no Heaven's  
arm to save. Forsaken by all whom he had sentinel  
18 blessed, this faithful sentinel of God at the highest  
post of power, charged with the grandest trust of  
heaven, was ready to be transformed by the renewing  
21 of the infinite Spirit. He was to prove that the Christ  
is not subject to material conditions, but is above the  
reach of human wrath, and is able, through Truth,  
24 Life, and Love, to triumph over sin, sickness, death, and  
the grave.

The priests and rabbis, before whom he had meekly



Though demonstrating his control over sin and disease,  
the great Teacher by no means relieved others from giving  
24 the requisite proofs of their own piety. He worked for  
their guidance, that they might demonstrate this power as  
he did and understand its divine Principle. Implicit faith  
27 in the Teacher and all the emotional love we can bestow  
on him, will never alone make us imitators of him. We  
must go and do likewise, else we are not improving the  
30 great blessings which our Master worked and suffered to  
bestow upon us. The divinity of the Christ was made  
manifest in the humanity of Jesus.

1 While we adore Jesus, and the heart overflows with  
gratitude for what he did for mortals, — treading alone  
3 his loving pathway up to the throne of  
glory, in speechless agony exploring the way  
for us, — yet Jesus spares us not one individual expe-  
6 rience, if we follow his commands faithfully; and all  
have the cup of sorrowful effort to drink in proportion  
to their demonstration of his love, till all are redeemed  
9 through divine Love.

Individual  
experience

The Christ was the Spirit which Jesus implied in his  
own statements: "I am the way, the truth, and the life;"  
12 "I and my Father are one." This Christ,  
or divinity of the man Jesus, was his divine  
nature, the godliness which animated him. Divine Truth,  
15 Life, and Love gave Jesus authority over sin, sickness,  
and death. His mission was to reveal the Science of  
celestial being, to prove what God is and what He does  
18 for man.

Christ's  
demonstration

#### 444:10-12

Step by

step will those who trust Him find that "God is our refuge  
12 and strength, a very present help in trouble."

#### 495:16-24

Let neither

Steadfast and  
calm trust

fear nor doubt overshadow your clear sense and  
18 calm trust, that the recognition of life harmonious — as  
Life eternally is — can destroy any painful sense of, or  
belief in, that which Life is not. Let Christian Science,  
21 instead of corporeal sense, support your understanding of  
being, and this understanding will supplant error with  
Truth, replace mortality with immortality, and silence dis-  
24 cord with harmony.

## Hymns

### Hymn 359

William P. McKenzie

WILLINGHAM

Franz Abt

Trust the Eternal when the shadows gather,  
When joys of daylight seem so like a dream;  
God the unchanging pities like a father;  
Trust on and wait, the daystar yet shall gleam.

Trust the Eternal, for the clouds that vanish  
No more can move the mountains from their base  
Than sin's illusive wreaths of mist can banish  
Light from His throne or loving from His face.

Trust the Eternal, and repent in meekness  
Of that heart's pride which frowns and will not  
yield,  
Then to thy child-heart shall come strength in  
weakness,  
And thine immortal life shall be revealed.

## Hymn 381

William P. McKenzie

ST. CLEMENT

Clement C. Scholefield

What brightness dawned in resurrection  
And shone in Mary's wondering eyes!  
Her heart was thrilled with new affection,  
She saw her Lord in life arise.

She knew the Christ, undimmed by dying,  
Alive forevermore to save;  
Creative Mind, all good supplying,  
Had triumphed over cross and grave.

With hope and faith, like exiles yearning  
For homelands loved through patient years,  
The hearts of men are homeward turning  
To God Who giveth rest from fears.

Assured and safe in Love's protection,  
Great peace have they, and unsought joy;  
They rise from sin in resurrection,  
And works of love their hands employ.

## Hymn 413

EASTER

Arr. from Lyra Davidica, 1708

Let us sing of Easter gladness  
That rejoices every day,  
Sing of hope and faith uplifted;  
Love has rolled the stone away.  
Lo, the promise and fulfillment,  
Lo, the man whom God hath made,  
Seen in glory of an Easter  
Crowned with light that cannot fade.

When we touch Truth's healing garment  
And behold Life's purity,  
When we find in Love the refuge  
That is man's security,  
When we turn from earth to Spirit,  
And from self have won release,  
Then we see the risen Saviour;  
Then we know his promised peace.

Living meekly as the Master,  
Who of God was glorified,  
Looking ever to the radiance  
Of his wondrous Eastertide;  
Freed of fear, of pain, and sorrow,  
Giving God the honor due,  
Every day will be an Easter  
Filled with benedictions new.