



Mike Jackson, C.S.
132 Mill Cove Lane
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082
Phone: (904) 307-0845
Fax: (904) 273-1005
N.Mike.Jackson@Comcast.net

Wednesday Evening Selections

January 5, 2011

Subject: Living Water

The following selections from the Bible and from Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures will be read at 7:30 PM on January 5, 2011 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 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

Isaiah 12:1-6

- 1 And in that day thou shalt say, O Lord, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me.
- 2 Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.
- 3 Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.
- 4 And in that day shall ye say, Praise the Lord, call upon his name, declare his doings among the people, make mention that his name is exalted.
- 5 Sing unto the Lord; for he hath done excellent things: this is known in all the earth.
- 6 Cry out and shout, thou inhabitant of Zion: for great is the Holy One of Israel in the midst of thee.

John 4:3-53

- 3 He left Judaea, and departed again into Galilee.
- 4 And he must needs go through Samaria.
- 5 Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.
- 6 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.
- 7 There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink.
- 8 (For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.)
- 9 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 dealings with the Samaritans.
- 10 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.
- 11 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?
- 12 Art thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children, and his cattle?
- 13 Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again:
- 14 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.
- 15 The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.
- 16 Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither.
- 17 The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband:
- 18 For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly.
- 19 The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.
- 20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.

21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.

22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.

23 But 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.

24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

25 The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.

26 Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he.

27 ¶ And upon this came his disciples, and marvelled that he talked with the woman: yet no man said, What seekest thou? or, Why talkest thou with her?

28 The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men,

29 Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?

30 Then they went out of the city, and came unto him.

31 In the mean while his disciples prayed him, saying, Master, eat.

32 But he said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of.

33 Therefore said the disciples one to another, Hath any man brought him ought to eat?

34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

35 Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

36 And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.

37 And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth.

38 I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.

39 ¶ And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did.

40 So when the Samaritans were come unto him, they besought him that he would tarry with them: and he abode there two days.

41 And many more believed because of his own word;

42 And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.

43 ¶ Now after two days he departed thence, and went into Galilee.

44 For Jesus himself testified, that a prophet hath no honour in his own country.

45 Then when he was come into Galilee, the Galilaeans received him, having seen all the things that he did at Jerusalem at the feast: for they also went unto the feast.

46 So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum.

47 When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death.

48 Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.

49 The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die.

50 Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way.

51 And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son liveth.

52 Then inquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.

53 So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house.

Luke 19:1-10

- 1 And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho.
- 2 And, behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich.
- 3 And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature.
- 4 And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way.
- 5 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to-day I must abide at thy house.
- 6 And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully.
- 7 And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner.
- 8 And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold.
- 9 And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham.
- 10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

James 5:7-20

- 7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.
- 8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.
- 9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.
- 10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.
- 11 Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.
- 12 But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.
- 13 Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.
- 14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:
- 15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.
- 16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.
- 17 Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.
- 18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.
- 19 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him;
- 20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way, shall save a soul

to desire Truth than to rid one's self of error. Mortals
1 may seek the understanding of Christian Science, but they
will not be able to glean from Christian Science the facts
3 of being without striving for them. This strife consists
in the endeavor to forsake error of every kind and to possess
no other consciousness but good.

6 Through the wholesome chastisements of Love, we
are helped onward in the march towards righteousness,
peace, and purity, which are the landmarks
9 of Science. Beholding the infinite tasks of
truth, we pause, — wait on God. Then we push onward,
until boundless thought walks enraptured, and concep-
12 tion unconfined is winged to reach the divine glory.

A bright
outlook

In order to apprehend more, we must put into prac-
tice what we already know. We must recollect that
15 Truth is demonstrable when understood, and
that good is not understood until demonstrated.

Need and
supply

If "faithful over a few things," we shall be made rulers
18 over many; but the one unused talent decays and is lost.
When the sick or the sinning awake to realize their need
of what they have not, they will be receptive of divine
21 Science, which gravitates towards Soul and away from
material sense, removes thought from the body, and ele-
vates even mortal mind to the contemplation of some-
24 thing better than disease or sin. The true idea of God
gives the true understanding of Life and Love, robs the
grave of victory, takes away all sin and the delusion that
27 there are other minds, and destroys mortality.

The effects of Christian Science are not so much seen
as felt. It is the "still, small voice" of Truth
30 uttering itself. We are either turning away
from this utterance, or we are listening to it and going
up higher. Willingness to become as a little child and
1 to leave the old for the new, renders thought receptive of
the advanced idea. Gladness to leave the false landmarks
3 and joy to see them disappear, — this disposition helps
to precipitate the ultimate harmony. The purification
of sense and self is a proof of progress. "Blessed are the
6 pure in heart: for they shall see God."

Childlike
receptivity

Unless the harmony and immortality of man are be-
coming more apparent, we are not gaining the true idea
9 of God; and the body will reflect what gov-
erns it, whether it be Truth or error,
understanding or belief, Spirit or matter. Therefore
12 "acquaint now thyself with Him, and be at peace."
Be watchful, sober, and vigilant. The way is straight
and narrow, which leads to the understanding that God

Narrow
pathway

15 is the only Life. It is a warfare with the flesh, in which
we must conquer sin, sickness, and death, either here
or hereafter, — certainly before we can reach the goal
18 of Spirit, or life in God.

570:14 – 571:19

Millions of unprejudiced minds — simple seekers for
15 Truth, weary wanderers, athirst in the desert — are wait-
ing and watching for rest and drink. Give Receptive
them a cup of cold water in Christ's name, hearts
18 and never fear the consequences. What if the old dragon
should send forth a new flood to drown the Christ-idea?
He can neither drown your voice with its roar, nor again
21 sink the world into the deep waters of chaos and old night.
In this age the earth will help the woman; the spiritual
idea will be understood. Those ready for the blessing
24 you impart will give thanks. The waters will be paci-
fied, and Christ will command the wave.

When God heals the sick or the sinning, they should
27 know the great benefit which Mind has wrought. They
should also know the great delusion of mor- Hidden ways
tal mind, when it makes them sick or sinful. of iniquity
30 Many are willing to open the eyes of the people to the
power of good resident in divine Mind, but they are
1 not so willing to point out the evil in human thought,
and expose evil's hidden mental ways of accomplishing
3 iniquity.

Why this backwardness, since exposure is necessary
to ensure the avoidance of the evil? Because people like
6 you better when you tell them their virtues Christly
than when you tell them their vices. It re- warning
quires the spirit of our blessed Master to tell a man his
9 faults, and so risk human displeasure for the sake of doing
right and benefiting our race. Who is telling mankind
of the foe in ambush? Is the informer one who sees the
12 foe? If so, listen and be wise. Escape from evil, and
designate those as unfaithful stewards who have seen the
danger and yet have given no warning.

15 At all times and under all circumstances, overcome
evil with good. Know thyself, and God will supply
the wisdom and the occasion for a victory
18 over evil. Clad in the panoply of Love, The armor
human hatred cannot reach you. of divinity

Hymns

Hymn 330

Henry W. Baker*

DOMINUS REGIT ME

John B. Dykes

The King of Love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack, for I am His
And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul He leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love He sought me,
And on His shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever.

Hymn 454

Communion Hymn
Mary Baker Eddy

Désirée Goyette
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Saw ye my Saviour? Heard ye the glad sound?
Felt ye the power of the Word?
'Twas the Truth that made us free,
And was found by you and me
In the life and the love of our Lord.

Mourner, it calls you, — "Come to my bosom,
Love wipes your tears all away,
And will lift the shade of gloom,
And for you make radiant room
Midst the glories of one endless day."

Sinner, it calls you, — "Come to this fountain,
Cleanse the foul senses within;
'Tis the Spirit that makes pure,
That exalts thee, and will cure
All thy sorrow and sickness and sin."

Strongest deliverer, friend of the friendless,
Life of all being divine:
Thou the Christ, and not the creed;
Thou the Truth in thought and deed;
Thou the water, the bread, and the wine.

Hymn 450

Ruby Nilson

MORA PROCTOR

William J. Reynolds

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O house of God, built on a firm foundation,
Standing secure amid the storms of life,
Where all may come to learn of true
salvation
And find release from discord, pain,
and strife.

We hear the Word, in song and sermon
spoken,
In silent prayer, we turn to God today;
Our humble hearts receive the blessed token
Of Truth that guides us in the upward way.

O Father, feed us with Thy bread from
heaven,
The living water, may we drink of Thee,
And every lesson which Thy love hath given
Oh, may we learn it with humility.

We feel Thy peace, Thine arms of Love
enfolding,
We lift our hearts in praise and gratitude,
And from this hour, a glimpse of heaven
beholding,
Go forth at last, our joy and strength
renewed.