

"... Hereby know we the Spirit of truth and the Spirit of error"

3

The
DISCERNER



ROBERT C.
NELSON

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THE COVER PHOTO

It is a pleasure to introduce Robert C. Nelson whose picture appears on the front cover. Mr. Nelson is an esteemed member of the board of Religion Analysis Service Inc. From time to time he has rendered valuable service to us in designing promotional material and artistic elements for our posters, and occasionally he has designed the cover page of the Discerner. Mr. Nelson is a commercial artist in down-town Minneapolis. Since he was marvelously delivered from the Christian Science Cult some years ago, it is altogether fitting that he present an article in this issue of the Discerner given over to this deceptive "Ism." It should be stated further, Mr. Nelson has been an appreciated speaker before various groups dealing with the cult of Christian Science from which fortunately he was completely delivered. Read his article carefully as well as the excellent abridged presentation from Dr. Louis Talbot's recent pamphlet dealing with the deception of Christian Science. Pastor "Mac" discusses certain phases of the subject in his "Questions and Answers" featured on the back page.

—John E. Dahlin, Editor and Chairman of the Board

TEACHINGS OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Listen to this: "If you sprain the muscles or wound the flesh, your remedy is at hand. Mind decides whether or not the flesh shall be discolored, painful, swollen or inflamed" (S & H, p. 385, lines 18-21). "You say a boil is painful; but that is impossible, for matter without mind is not painful. The boil simply manifests, through inflammation and swelling, a belief in pain, and this belief is called a boil (S & H, p. 153, lines 15-19).

Still Mrs. Eddy insists: "Another's suffering cannot lessen our own liability" (S & H, p. 345, 74th Ed.). No wonder communion is never celebrated in Christian Science Churches. Mrs. Eddy called it: "A dead rite" (S & H, p. 34). But Christ said: "For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till He come" (I Cor. 11:26). However, Christian Science has no regard for the Lord's death.

THE COUNTERFEIT SYSTEM

by Robert C. Nelson

PART ONE — COUNTERFEIT OF THE SPIRIT

With most false religious systems a core or basis for the deception should be discovered, and and from there it is easy to uncover point by point the entire picture. There is a basic thought or goal behind the creation of each individual cult. The cult is the tool of this goal, but the means to this end varies with each individual organization. The core for the deception should be discovered first, but this is not always easy to do; in fact, it took a long period of speaking and studying on the subject before I found the point-of-center in Christian Science. It was only after a detailed study of the Scripture that the Holy Spirit revealed to me through the Word, that *this* was the core of Christian Science, namely THE COUNTERFEITING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. Now this point, though treated little in her writings, is actually admitted by Mary Baker Eddy, and is the paramount point behind her purpose. Despite the little direct reference to it, this is the sole hub around which the wheel of Christian Science revolves. The proof of this is found in studying the correct counterpart. To do this it will be necessary to study and review a few scripture passages concerning the various aspects of the personality of the Holy Spirit.

I. REVELATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Practically all false systems find it difficult to grasp the scripture

concerning the Holy Spirit, because this truth comes only by *revelation*—revelation given by the Holy Spirit through the Word as to Who and What He is.

II. THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

In "Science and Health," on page 588, line 7, there is this glossary of terms—"Holy Spirit, Divine Science" (or Christian Science). Also, on page 55, line 28, "This comforter (Holy Spirit) I understand to be Divine Science (or Christian Science). What Mrs. Eddy has done is to call the Holy Spirit an it, an influence, or a teaching. The Bible clearly teaches that the Holy Spirit is a definite PERSON, the same as Jesus Christ is a person and you and I are persons. The person of the Holy Spirit is proved throughout the Bible, and found mostly in the words of Jesus. In *John 14:17* Jesus said, "Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth HIM not, neither knoweth HIM; but ye know HIM: for HE dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Notice that in this one verse alone the word HE is used once and word HIM is used 3 times. Throughout the Bible, whenever reference is made to the Holy Spirit, He is always called by the third person, masculine pronoun.

III. TRINITY INCLUDES THE HOLY SPIRIT

Not only is the Holy Spirit a person, He is also a member of the God-head; God is a person, too.

In *John 14:16* Jesus said, "I will pray the Father, and HE shall give you another comforter, that HE may abide with you forever." Here again reference is made to the Holy Spirit as HE, a person, and also the Father, or God, as HE. We know Jesus was an actual living person, too. The structure then is this: three separate persons, one Essence—A Trinity. *Matt. 28:18* says, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Let us turn again to Mary Baker Eddy's book, "Science and Health." On page 256, line 9, she says, "The theory of three persons in one God, that is, a personal Trinity, or tri-unity, suggests polytheism—" and, according to Webster, polytheism is the belief in many gods. If the Bible was her "only authority" (*Science and Health*, p. 126, lines 29-31), where did she receive her teaching of the non-existence of a Trinity since the Bible conclusively proves that a Trinity does exist?

IV. WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Having established that the Holy Spirit is a person, the third person of the Trinity, let us see what the purpose or work of the Holy Spirit is. In *John 16:13* Jesus reveals to His disciples what the work of the Holy Spirit shall be when He is sent from the Father, "When He is come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority; but whatever He shall hear that shall He speak: and He will show you things to come." The work of the Holy Spirit is to *teach*, to *guide*, and to *declare*. Through the Spirit comes the revelation of what God wishes to teach and to reveal to

man. In *John 16:8*, we see further revelation of the work of the Holy Spirit, "When He is come He will reprove (or convict, teach, show, convince) the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment." These matters, it states, He teaches or shows to the world; but to the church He is a guide and a revealer of Christ.

V. GIFT AND GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Not only is the Holy Spirit a guide and a teacher to the church, He is also a "gift giver." We must not confuse the *gift* of the Spirit with the *gifts* of the Spirit; they are two separate items. One is singular and the other is plural. The *gifts* of the Spirit are what the Spirit gives as found in *I Cor. 12:7-10*, "The *gifts* of the Spirit are wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, tongues and interpretation of tongues." These are given by the Spirit, "dividing to every man severally as He will" (Verse 11). However, the *gift* of the Spirit is the infilling of the Holy Spirit HIMSELF the Spirit coming to dwell within the Saved. I should like to speak of the gift of the Spirit at this time, and include *gifts* in the next section on "*Fruit*." It is very interesting to note that while the Christian Science theory closely parallels the Holy Spirit, it denies the indwelling presence of the Spirit. The reason, of course, is that since Christian Science is a guide, or a teaching, or a theory, it cannot indwell a human body. An IT cannot indwell a HE or a HIM. On page 309, line 24, these words are found, "The science of being shows it to be impossible for an infinite Spirit or Soul to be in a finite body." Again on page 478,

line 6, "What basis is there for the theory of an indwelling spirit, except the claim of mortal belief?" If the theory of an indwelling Spirit is only a "mortal belief," then according to Mrs. Eddy, God cannot put the Holy Spirit within man, but in *Ezekiel 36:27* we have what God has said concerning this issue, "And I will put My Spirit WITHIN you . . ." This is also found in the New Testament in *I Cor. 6:9*, "Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, which is WITHIN you . . ." So we see that God, in His Word, states that the indwelling Spirit is real and not a "mortal belief."

VI. FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

This section is what I feel to be conclusive proof of Christian Science as the counterfeit of the Holy Spirit. You remember we said previously that Christian Science makes little direct reference to the Holy Spirit, but concludes that Christian Science is the Holy Spirit; you remember, too, we said this is the sole hub around which the wheel of Christian Science revolves. This section will prove this statement. The Bible teaches us that there are not only gifts of the spirit, such as wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, etc. but there is also the Fruit of the Spirit. This is found in *Gal. 5:22*. "But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance, against such there is no law." By Fruit is meant the product, or outcome, of walking in the Spirit and with the Spirit. Where the Holy Spirit is present with power, this atmosphere will also be present and evident in the lives of the believers. For Jesus said, "By their fruits ye shall know them" (*Matt. 7:20*). To

properly analyze the product or fruit one must know, and can easily tell from what tree or branch it is born.

In Christian Science the subjects most discussed and written about are these very things spoken of as the Fruit of the Spirit—Love, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, etc. The point is simply this, that the outcome or fruit of the counterfeit holy spirit is the counterfeit fruit of the Spirit. The false spirit produces false fruit which looks and functions like the real Fruit of the real Spirit. What *gifts* do the Christian Scientists covet most for themselves as personal gifts? Is it not faith, healings, knowledge, wisdom, etc.? Here again we see that not only does Christian Science produce the false *fruit* of the Spirit but also counterfeits of the *gifts* of the spirit. The false holy spirit produces false gifts of the spirit which look and function like the real gifts of the real Holy Spirit. This then is the basis for the conception and deception of Christian Science. *Ephesians 5:25-27* tells us that "Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water of the Word. That He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish" (*Eph. 5:27*). The Word over and over again tells us the church should be without reproach and living pure lives, and that the Fruit of the Spirit should be evident in their personal lives. It would *seem* that according to this truth the Christian Science church is living a truly sanctified walk, walking in the gifts of the Spirit

and the fruit of the Spirit, but what the Holy Spirit desires to do in the true church has been very successfully copied by Satan. Not only is Christian Science a counterfeit of the Holy Spirit producing the delicate working of the spirit, but it has also produced a falsely sanctified church. A false spirit has produced a false church with the false gifts and the false fruit of the spirit. While Christian Scientists believe they have the truth, they have only a counterfeit of what God can do and what He will do if we but turn to Him.

PART TWO — COUNTERFEIT OF THE WORD

In the previous pages we saw the person of the Holy Spirit, his workings and manifestations. We also saw how Satan has come as an angel of light and perfectly counterfeited the delicate workings of the Holy Spirit. We shall now go to the next step of investigation of the Holy Spirit, His relation with man, and the means whereby He reveals to the world the plan and purpose of God. Again we shall see Satan at work, this time perfectly counterfeiting the Word of God.

I. THE SPIRIT AND THE WORD

In the first chapter of the Gospel of Luke we have an amazing account of the angel appearing to Zacharias in the temple at the time of incense. Zacharias is promised a son and is told something of the character and work that his son is to do. The angel promises him that "He shall be filled with the *Holy Spirit* even from his mother's womb." Sometime later the child is born but shows no sign of usefulness promised by the angel until he is 30 years old. Up to this time

he was living a hermit's life in the wilderness. Then in the 3rd chapter of Luke, the 2nd verse we find "the *Word of God* came to John in the wilderness." It was this combination of the SPIRIT and the WORD in John the Baptist that produced the workings of God through him to prepare the way for the coming of the promised Savior, Jesus. In the life of Jesus Christ the same combination of the WORD and the SPIRIT was evident only in reverse order. The Bible teaches very clearly, as in the first chapter of the Gospel of John, that Christ was the WORD and had existed from the beginning as the WORD. At the proper time this "Word became flesh and dwelt among us." At the age of 30 Jesus, as we know, was baptized by the SPIRIT at the Jordan; and the same combination of the WORD and the SPIRIT is what produced the work of God for all mankind through the person of Christ, the Son of God.

II. REVELATION

When the Holy Spirit comes to reveal the will of the Father, He does not use vague impressions but definite commands and instructions. "When He is come, He will guide you into all truth" (*John 13: 16*). This "truth" is to be found in the Word of God, the Bible. But this Bible is very dull and uninteresting unless the Spirit reveals and enlightens it to you. If at this time, the Bible is hard to understand and grasp, perhaps you need to ask the Holy Spirit to enlighten and reveal the Word of God to your mind and understanding. The SPIRIT and the Word are to dwell and exist within you as it did in John the Baptist and in Jesus. We cannot ever know the SPIRIT without the WORD of God any more than

we can know the WORD of God without the SPIRIT. The Holy Spirit anoints, enlightens, and reveals the Word, so as to teach us what God wishes and desires us to know, to be, and to do.

As we have seen the Holy Spirit counterfeited in the embodiment of Christian Science, we shall see that this combination of the Word and the Spirit has also been counterfeited, for Christian Science also has a Word of God, "Science and Health," to make the deception complete. This book of theirs, then, has become the false counterfeit word. A counterfeit WORD anointed, enlightened, and revealed by the counterfeit SPIRIT; for the purpose of teaching what the god of this world, Satan, wishes and desires his people to know, to be, and to do.

III. THE COUNTERFEIT WORD

"Science and Health," the counterfeit word, has had a very intricate process of development. Its history is as dark as the Middle Ages and equally as obscure. Mrs. Eddy takes complete credit that this is her own work under the inspiration of God, and to this day the Christian Science church reveres Mrs. Eddy as the founder and discoverer of Divine Science. However, these people do not know or possess all the facts concerning the real origin of "Science and Health." There is ample evidence and proof that the real development of "Science and Health" is not as the Christian Scientists claim or as Mrs. Eddy claimed. There is abundant material available to substantially prove the true history of Christian Science, Spiritism, Mesmerism, Unitarianism, and Shakerism.

IV. HYPNOSIS

At the end of the 1700's in France, the practice of hypnosis was flourishing under such men as Maxwell, Fludd, and Van Helmont, but it was never developed to the stage that Mesmer propagated it. Mesmer practiced healing by hypnosis on such a grand scale that the accounts are almost unbelievable. It became vogue to be healed in this fashion. In 1836 Charles Poyen brought this practice to America and began teaching and healing. At this time, and before, Spiritism was the craze of the Eastern states, but both these directions were basically the same—that of Mesmerism and Spiritism.

V. MESMERISM AND SPIRITISM

Spiritism, of course, was nothing new, but had its beginning back with old testament witchcraft centuries before Christ. But the Mesmerism system of hypnosis is a sister, if not the illegitimate offspring of Spiritism. This is why the two flourished side by side in the early founding of the Eastern States. Spiritism swept the Eastern States on such a scale that it was a household item to practice communication with the spirit world. It was at this time Spiritism began flourishing under the leadership of Andrew Jaskson Davis, the Fox sisters, and Laroy Sunderland, while the disciples of Mesmerism were enjoying their success under Poyen. One of these notable students of Mesmerism was a man named P. P. Quimby.

VI. THE QUIMBY MANUSCRIPTS

While others achieved the same success of hypnotic healings, Quimby carried Mesmerism a few steps farther by adding scripture phrases

for color and piousness, but this was not done for the purpose of starting a new religion or church. He maintained a healing business and continued to do so, writing down a great many of his theories, and due to his attention to the bodily aspect of man, began to formulate certain opinions in relation to the body. It was through him that the non-existence of matter really became a revived teaching. As this teaching began to be applied to the scriptural phrases he added to his text, he had to make certain logical conclusions concerning man's bodily existence. If these applied to man then they also applied to Christ for he, too, was a man. So, perhaps without even knowing it, he had revived the ancient teaching of Gnosticism, that Christ was separate from Jesus, that he was not real or fleshly. This, then, is the combination of Quimby's teaching, which he first called "Science of Health." In 1863 he called it "Christian Science." This was three years before Mrs. Eddy claimed she called it "Christian Science." In later years Quimby discovered that healings were possible without the use of hypnosis and so began a new theory of Suggestive Healing. His practice lasted twenty years, and he claimed he had over 12,000 patients in one seven year period. Quimby kept all his teachings and theories in manuscript form, and contrary to some writers who say he never wrote anything, it has been proven that he wrote in six years some ten volumes of manuscripts in long hand. These writings were then made available to any of his patients who desired to become students of his so-called new system. His students were then allowed to copy his manuscripts

and they, in turn, promised to share with others their copies. In fact it is known that he made each student promise to teach this system to at least two other persons. So at this period it is easy to see that a great many of the Quimby manuscripts were in circulation.

VII. MARY BAKER GROVER PATTERSON EDDY

Quimby had three notable students who seemed to be his prize pupils. They were Warren Evans, Julius Dresser, and Mary Baker Grover. Of course they had their copies of the Quimby theories and went out into the world to teach and heal under the commination of Quimby. Dresser went to California and started a healing practice there, but lack of communication and transportation problems prevented him from knowing what Mrs. Grover was doing with the Quimby gospel.

After the death of Quimby, Mrs. Grover, now Mrs. Patterson, traveled from pillar to post leeching off her acquaintances of the former Quimby days and before. These unsuspecting people were supporting and lodging her while she taught them the glorious secrets of Quimbyism. When her hosts finally tired of this system of charity, she would be thrust out to wander until another point of lodging and teaching could be found. It was during this three year period that she edited, copied, and taught Quimby's theories claiming they were entirely his and not hers. However, in 1875 she had them printed in book form in similar language and signed her name as the author. Having dabbled in Spiritism, and now with Quimby's manuscript and her knowledge of Shakerism from early life, she

began to construct the first 15 editions which are known to have been very crude.

Sometime later Dresser returned from California to find that this new healing system was, by and large, using the same manuscript from which he was teaching. This event proved very embarrassing to Mrs. Patterson, now Mrs. Eddy, and caused a great deal of trouble to her new organization. Dresser began to publish his findings, and even Evans fired a few published pages at Mrs. Eddy's fortress of misrepresented claims. These students of Quimby began a feud which did the early years of Mrs. Eddy great harm. These printings are still available for inspection to further prove the false claims of Mrs. Eddy's divine inspiration of "Science and Health."

From 1886 to 1891 "Science and Health" underwent a long period of revisions. It was in its original length 456 pages; today it is 700 pages. In 1875 it had only eight chapters and today there are fourteen chapters. After this period of the first 15 editions, Mrs. Eddy began searching for some much needed literary advice. Somehow she turned to a very intelligent person who was a retired Unitarian clergyman. His name was James Henry Wiggins, a philosophic and scholarly theologian, of great influence and stature. He was approached by Mrs. Eddy through Calvin Fry, for a meeting to discuss some literary work on Mrs. Eddy's writings. He agreed to help and for many years was Mrs. Eddy's literary adviser. Nothing much was said or known about this union until after the death of Mr. Wiggins. Before his death he had prepared a statement which was released through his executor,

Mr. Livingstone Wright. Mr. Wiggins revealed that when the manuscript was first put into his hands, he thought it would require the usual minor grammatical corrections, but when he opened the manuscript he said of it, "Of all the dissertations a literary helper ever inspected, I do not believe one ever saw a treatise to surpass this. The misspelling, capitalization, and punctuation were dreadful, but these were not the things that fazed me. It was the thought and the general elemental arrangement of the work. There were passages that flatly and absolutely contradicted things that had preceded, and scattered all through were incorrect references to historical and philosophical matters. I was convinced that the only way in which I could undertake the requested revision would be to begin absolutely at the first page and re-write the whole thing." This he did, and so a new sound was heard in the already very confusing combination of theological cymbals. Mr. Wiggins was eventually behind the sciences of all the printed material that was left with Mrs. Eddy's name. He regarded Mrs. Eddy as "an uneducated woman, ludicrously unconscious of many of her worst mistakes;" and he had at heart, as he later explained, a genuine concern "to keep Mrs. Eddy from making herself absolutely ridiculous and to keep her from flatly contradicting herself." When these new editions of "Science and Health" began to be circulated, it was recorded that many of her followers were displeased because they felt the early editions "sounded more like Mrs. Eddy." In Mr. Wiggins' statement he also said he believed "Mrs. Eddy was an un-

educated person, ignorant of the writings of the philosophers and knew nothing of the ancient languages." This last statement is very interesting since Mrs. Eddy claimed she had studied Greek, Hebrew, and Latin. Mr. Wiggins also exposed that he wrote a sermon for her which was included in some early editions as a chapter in "Science and Health." This chapter was called "Wayside Hints", and parts of it are retained in the present editions on page 575. He also revised other works of hers such as: "Retrospection and Introspection", "Miscellaneous Writings", "Unity of Good", "Yes and No" and "Christ and Christmas." All of these writings are major parts of the present day system. Mr. Wiggins also served as editor of the Journal for many years under Mrs. Eddy's name. In his statement Mr. Wiggins said he believed that Christian Science was "an ignorant revival of one form of ancient gnosticism, that Jesus is to be distinguished from Christ, and that his earthly appearance was phantasmal, not real nor fleshly." In later years it was discovered that in the personal belongings of Mrs. Eddy were many books by such authors as Ruskin, Carlyle, and Blair. Certain portions of these books she had heavily underscored and used almost line for line and word for word. Some of her lectures were put into printed form and if you were to

compare these with the underscored portions it would be easy to determine the true genius of Mrs. Eddy was not her own but that of other writers and authors.

CONCLUSION

In spite of this strange and stormy history, the Christian Science Church still claims that Mrs. Eddy is the discoverer and founder, even as she maintained to the very end of her life. Very strange indeed is the development of truth, especially in the face of a statement made by Mrs. Eddy herself in the Christian Science Journal, June, 1887, declaring that before her visit to Quimby in 1862 she knew nothing about Science of Mind healing; also the statements by Mrs. Eddy found in "Science and Health" on page 126; line 29, "The Bible has been my only authority. I have had no other guide in the straight and narrow way of Truth"; and also on page 110, lines 13 and 17 she says, "The Bible was my only textbook. No human pen or tongue taught me the Science contained in this Book." So — the Christian Science system is a cleverly and diabolically devised structure following the exact pattern and purpose of God, and a thorough counterfeit to deceive men. The conclusion is this, that the false Spirit is producing a falsely sanctified church, using a false word. End.

(Continued from Page 15)

believe in true faith or righteousness. Surely Christian Science is one of those religions which shall be found in the Babylon of Revelation; is part of the scarlet woman now in process of formation; and

will be among the followers of the Antichrist when he is manifested.

God bless you, keep you from this heresy, and enable you to win other straying ones back to the Good Shepherd who gave His life for the sheep. End.

What's Wrong With Christian Science?

By Louis T. Talbot, D.D.

(Condensed by permission from the booklet by the same name, 50¢, published by Dunham Publishing Co., 1956, Findlay, Ohio)

In such a brief treatise as this, it is evident that I cannot go into the personal life of the founder, although from a spiritual and psychiatric standpoint her personality and manner of life had great bearing upon the religion she originated. For those who desire to read a fair, readable account of the life of Mrs. Eddy, I recommend *Mrs. Eddy*, by Edwin Franden Dakin, published by Charles Scribner's Sons. It is now out of print but may be secured in libraries and second-hand book stores. Needless to say, it is not "authorized" by the Christian Science Church. In fact every effort was made to suppress the book when it was first published, but all attempts met with failure, due to the commendable courage of the publishers.

The entire system is based upon the delusion that the physical universe does not exist and therefore *nothing* material is real. In other words, it is a religion of complete negation. All matters that pertain to this life and the life beyond are related to this denial of reality, which the Scriptures have defined very well as "oppositions of science falsely so called: which some professing have erred concerning the faith" (I Tim. 6:20,21).

Now I want you to examine with me Mrs. Eddy's statements. The major portion of the quotations will be from *Science and Health* which I will indicate as S & H. Since this book has undergone many revisions, I confine myself to three representative versions:

the 28th edition of 1887, the 74th of 1893, and the one of 1906 (copyright renewed in 1934), which is the edition in current use. Obviously there were no later revisions after Mrs. Eddy's death for there was no further light from heaven so far as Christian Scientists were concerned.

Christian Science and the Bible

One of the first tests I apply to any religious system is this: What does it do with the Word of God? Does it consider the Bible sufficient, or must some other publication of man or woman be laid alongside the Bible, or worse, given precedence over it?

Well, Mrs. Eddy makes two statements meant to mislead you at the outset. "I . . . plant myself unreservedly on the teachings of Jesus, of his apostles, and of his prophets" (S & H p. 269 lines 22-24); and "The Bible has been my only authority; I have had no other guide in the 'straight and narrow' way of Truth" (S & H p. 126, lines 29-31).

But immediately Mrs. Eddy brings in her own book . . . with the statement: "A Christian Scientist requires my work SCIENCE AND HEALTH for his text book, and so do all his students and patients. Why? *First* (italics are hers) because it is the voice of Truth to this age" (S & H, p. 456, lines 25-28).

It is clear from this *which book* rates first in Christian Science. I had always believed the Bible to

be the voice of truth to this age, and all ages. And as for a key to the Scriptures, God long ago gave the Key, the only Key, to His Word: "Howbeit," said Jesus, "when He, the Spirit of truth is come, He will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13). "Ye need not that any man teach you: but the same anointing teacheth you of all things" (I John 2:27). The Holy Spirit, who indited the Word of God, unlocks it to the seeking heart.

Like the founders of all false religions, Mrs. Eddy claimed inspiration. "I had no human aid. The revelation of Truth to the understanding came, as to all, through divine power. When 'unto us a child is born,' a new idea has birth, and 'his name is Wonderful.' This is the origin of Christian Science in this century" (S & H p. 201, 28th edition). "I should blush to write of *Science and Health with the Key to the Scriptures*, as I have, were it of human origin and were I, apart from God, its author" (p. 115, *Miscellany*).

Not only does Mrs. Eddy claim divine inspiration for her book, but she questions the reliability of the Bible: "Arrogant ignorance and pride have dimmed the glory and power of the Scriptures to which this Christian Science textbook is the key" (p. 92, *Miscellaneous Writings*).

She (Mrs. Eddy) affirmed that the Scriptures cannot be interpreted in a literal way . . . "The literal rendering of the Scriptures makes them nothing valuable, but often is the foundation of unbelief and hopelessness. The metaphysical rendering is health and peace and hope for all" (p. 169, *ibid*).

Do these statements sound much like the claims that we just quoted

to the effect that she "planted herself unreservedly on the teachings of Jesus" and that "the Bible was her only authority?" Here she casts doubt upon both the origin and content of the Scriptures proving not only the contradictory nature of her teachings, but its falsity.

Yes, Christian Science has substituted for the Word of God "the profane and vain babblings" of a woman, and when Mrs. Eddy says in her autobiography, "No one else can drain the cup which I have drunk to the dregs as the Discoverer and teacher of Christian Science" (p. 30, *Retrospection and Introspection*), we can only conclude that this cup was the very "cup of devils" referred to in First Corinthians since hers is the "doctrine of devils" in that it is a complete denial of the cardinal truths of the Word of God (I Cor. 10:21).

Christian Science and God

The God of Christian Science is not the God of the Bible. Mrs. Eddy tells us: "The Jewish tribal Jehovah was a man-projected God (that is one man thought up) liable to wrath, repentance, and human changeableness. The Christian Science God is universal, eternal, divine Love, which changeth not, and causeth no evil, disease nor death" (S & H, p. 140, line 23). In other words, she is plainly stating that the God of Christian Science is not the Jehovah of the Old Testament. Well, my friends, the Lord Jesus Christ came into the world to reveal that very Jehovah of the Old Testament, and if He is rejected, so is Jesus Christ, the Son.

Mrs. Eddy says, "The principle of divine metaphysics of God" (S

& H, p. 111, lines 11, 12). You know what a principle is — a basic law. If you understand the principle of mathematics, you can work mathematical problems. So Mrs. Eddy states that if you comprehend the principle of divine metaphysics, you can work out God. There is nothing living or personal in a principle.

In fact, she states that very thing: "God . . . impersonal being" (S & H, p. 605, 74th Ed.). But the Holy Spirit states in Hebrews 1:3 that the Son is the "express image of his (God's) person." The Bible everywhere represents Him as a Person in whose image we as persons — personalities — were created.

Mrs. Eddy goes even farther; "God is identical with nature" (S & H p. 13, 74th Ed.). Well, that is exactly what the Hindus believe. I repeat, *the God of Christian Science is not the God of the Bible*. In plain words, they have no God at all — just an imaginary thing.

Christian Science and Jesus Christ

After asking of a religion its estimate of the Word of God, and the God of the Word, I always ask: "What does this religion do with Jesus Christ, His atonement, His death, and His resurrection?"

Mrs. Eddy answers by saying, "The material blood of Jesus was no more efficacious to cleanse from sin, when it was shed on the 'accursed tree' than when it was flowing in his veins, as he went daily about his Father's business" (S & H, p. 25, lines 6-9; originally p. 330, 74th Ed.). Mrs. Eddy did not believe Christ's sacrifice sufficient. She wrote, "One sacrifice, however great, is insufficient to pay the debt of sin. The atone-

ment requires constant self-immolation on the sinner's part. That God's wrath should be vented upon His beloved Son is divinely unnatural. Such a theory is man-made" (S & H, p. 328, 74th Ed.).

God said Christ's death was enough: "But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God . . . For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified" (Heb. 10:12, 14). "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust that He might bring us to God" (I Pet. 3:18).

All cults divide Jesus and Christ. Mrs. Eddy follows suit: "Jesus and the Christ continued until the Master's ascension; and then the human, the corporeal concept, or Jesus, disappeared, while the invisible, the spiritual idea, or the Christ, continued to exist in the eternal order of Divine Science" (S & H, p. 229, 74 Ed.). "The invisible Christ was incorporeal (that is without body) whereas Jesus was a corporeal or bodily existence" (S & H, p. 229, 74th Ed.). "Jesus as material manhood was not Christ". (S & H, p. 84).

As Christian Science has no knowledge of the God of the Bible, it likewise has no knowledge of the Christ of the Bible.

Christian Science and Sin

Now, my friends, I want to set before you the shocking statements of Mrs. Eddy in regard to sin. Consistent with the basic delusion of Christian Science — that there is no reality to the universe or anything in it — Christian Science denies the reality of sin. Here it is: "Because soul is immortal, soul cannot sin" (S & H, p. 468,

lines 6, 7). The Bible replies: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezek. 18:4).

Mrs. Eddy says, "Man is incapable of sin, sickness and death" (S & H, p. 459, 74th Ed.). The Bible says, "The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9). "Wherefore as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Rom. 5:12).

Mrs. Eddy asks: "Is man lost spiritually? No. He can only be lost materially . . . Sin . . . cannot be spiritual." (S & H, p. 371 lines 7 and 8 and p. 34, 28th Ed.). But Matthew 15:19 states that sin can be spiritual. "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies."

Denying the reality of sin she says, "The Science of good calls evil *nothing* . . . matter and evil (including all inharmony, sin, disease and death) are unreal" (Miscellaneous Writings, p. 27). Then she tells you how you can get rid of sin. If it does not exist, why is there a remedy for getting rid of it? Here is the recipe: "To get rid of sin, through Science, is to divest sin of any supposed mind and reality" (S & H, p. 234, 74th Ed.).

Once in a while a real vital common-sense question reached her consciousness and she had to reply: "If there is no sin, why did Jesus come to save sinners? . . . Jesus came to seek and to save . . . them from *this false belief*" (Miscellaneous Writings, p. 63).

Only those whose consciences are "seared as with a hot iron" can accept a teaching of the nothingness of sin. Jesus said, "If ye believe not that I am he, ye

shall die in your sins" (John 8:24). He hung upon the cross in agony and blood to make it possible for our sins to be forgiven, washed away, and for us to be justified before God. Anyone who believes this awful delusion that there is no sin, and no accountability for sin to a holy God, will find out in the hour of death that it is indeed "a fearful thing to fall into the hands of a living God" without a Saviour.

Christian Science and Sickness

Christian Science "healings" are all based upon the denial of actual sickness or pain. In a word, you are healed because you were never sick in the first place; it was only an illusion of mortal mind. Modern psychiatry agrees that if the illness is only in the mind, the mind can certainly be used to affect the cure. But Mrs. Eddy goes beyond that and claims cures of actual physical maladies — even to the extent of replacing lost limbs — all by mind-healing.

Read it in her book *Unity of Good* (p. 7): "It is due both to Christian Science and myself . . . to enable me instantaneously to heal a cancer which had eaten its way to the jugular vein . . . In the same spiritual condition I have been able to replace dislocated joints and raise the dying to instantaneous health." Again she declared, "If the Science of Life were understood, it would be found that . . . matter has no sensation. Then the human limb would be replaced as readily as the lobsters' claw — not with an artificial limb, but with a genuine one" (S & H, p. 489, lines 3-8).

Denying the bacteria and germ theory of disease, on page 229 of *Miscellaneous Writings*, she states:

"People believe in infectious and contagious diseases . . . This mental state prepares one to have any disease . . ." Try to follow the absurdity of this reasoning: "Why do Christian Scientists treat disease as disease when there is no disease? This is done only as one gives the lie to the lie; because it is a lie, without one word of Truth in it. You must find error to be **nothing**: then, do you handle it in Science . . . just reduce this falsity to its proper denomination, and you have done with it." (ibid, p. 334).

If one can accept one who would write a statement like that as "the voice of Truth to this age," then he is indeed not only blinded by Satan, but he is no longer able to think rationally. Mrs. Eddy and her followers have taken advantage of human ills to turn thousands **from** Christ by a cruel promise of deliverance. I verily believe that a large percentage of these healings are fakes — but even the others that appear to be actual healings from actual diseases — are not to be wondered at in view of the warning of II Thess. 2:9, 10. The devil can work miracles, and in the last days these will increase. A healing based upon the denial of Jesus Christ is not a healing from God and one had better suffer pain even unto death than to turn to an emissary of Satan, a Christian Science healer.

Christian Science, Death, and Resurrection

Mrs. Eddy may delude her followers into believing they are not sick or sinful, but she had no success in the realm of death. This alone proves the whole system to be false. But the amazing thing is that Christian Scientists, even

while burying their dead, chant this refrain from *Science and Health*: "Death will be found . . . to be a mortal dream" (S & H, p. 347, 74th Ed.). God's Word does not call death a dream. Jesus Himself said: "I am he that liveth and was dead; and behold, I am alive for evermore" (Rev. 1:18). The Bible says, "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Heb. 9:27).

Christian Scientists die just like everyone else, and lie in their narrow graves. Even Mrs. Eddy. On December 3, 1910, the medical examiner made out her death certificate to read: "Natural causes — probably pneumonia."

What did Mrs. Eddy believe about the resurrection of the Son of God? She states, "The lonely precincts of the tomb gave Jesus a refuge from his foes, a place in which to solve the great problem of being . . . He met and mastered on the basis of Christian Science the power of Mind over matter, all the claims of medicine, surgery and hygiene" (S & H, p. 44, lines 5, 6, and 7).

Thus with subtlety she has denied both the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. But the Bible states, "He (God) hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men in that he hath raised him from the dead" (Acts 17:31).

I must by-pass other denials of Christian Science. She did not believe in a real, personal devil; she did not believe in an actual heaven or real hell; she did not believe the Holy Spirit is a Person (she said she understood Him to be Christian Science) and she did not

(Concluded on Page 10)

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Pertinent Questions and Answers

By "Pastor Mac" of *Spiritual Clinic*,
and Pastor of *Powderhorn Park Baptist Church*, Minneapolis

Question—Do you think that a person can be a real Christian and belong to a Christian Science church?

*Answer—*It is an absolute impossibility for a person to be both a real Christian Scientist and a true Christian at the same time! Christian Science denies the personality of God, the doctrine of the Trinity, and the diety of Christ. It also teaches that there is no evil, and therefore denies the need to salvation through the blood of Christ at the cross. Since sin is only imaginary, "the error of mortal mind," then man is not a sinner, and is not in need of Christ as Saviour and Lord. Now let me ask you one: "How can a person believe what Christian Science teaches, and at the same time really believe what the Bible teaches concerning the plan of salvation?"

Question—Is it true that marriages are never performed in a Christian Science church?

*Answer—*Yes, as far as I know no marriage has ever been solemnized in a Christian Science church. In any large library you should be able to get hold of a copy of the "Christian Science Sentinel" for June 16, 1906 and the "Christian Science Journal for July, 1906 and you will learn for yourself what Mrs. Eddy taught about marriage. What Christian Science teaches about marriage will really give you something to think about, and also help you to understand why "some" people are drawn into the fold of Christian Science!

Pastor "Mac"

THE FOLLOWING TRACTS, BOOKLETS, AND BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE FROM OUR OFFICE:

1. "THE UNVARNISHED FACTS ABOUT CHRISTIAN SCIENCE"
By W. E. Biederwolf, 40 page pamphlet 40c
2. "WHY I LEFT CHRISTIAN SCIENCE"
By Max Wertheimer, 60 pages 40c
3. "CHRISTIAN SCIENCE AND THE BIBLE COMPARED"
By Thomas J. McCrossan, 64 page booklet 50c
4. "WHAT'S WRONG WITH CHRISTIAN SCIENCE?"
By Dr. Louis T. Talbot, 50 pages 50c
5. "THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MYTH"
By Martin and Klann, second Revised Edition,
205 pages cloth \$2.50, paper \$1.50
This subject is dealt with in several General Exposés which
we handle.