

11_23.11.22

Topic: Many are called; have you chosen?

The service began with singing Hymn 39:

Simon Browne, Adapted, Christian Science Hymnal, No. 39 © 1932, renewed 1960 The Christian Science Board of Directors

The light of Truth to us display, / That we may know and choose Thy way; / Plant holy joy in every heart, / That we from Thee may ne'er depart.

Readings from The Holy Bible

1. Jer. 1:5 (to 2nd ,)

Before I formed thee in the belly, I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, ...

2. Deut. 7:6 (to thee)

For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee ...

3. I Kings 19:13 (to heard), 15 the (to 1st ,), 16 Elisha, 19, 20 (to :), 21

And it was so, when Elijah heard ... the LORD said unto him, ... Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room. ... So he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him. And he left the oxen, and ran after Elijah, and said, Let me, I pray thee, kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow thee. And he said unto him, Go back again: ...

And he returned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen, and slew them, and boiled their flesh with the instruments of the oxen, and gave unto the people, and they did eat. Then he arose, and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him.

4. Josh. 24:15 choose (to ;), 15 as

... choose you this day whom ye will serve; ... as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

5. John 6:35 (to said), 38 I

And Jesus said ... I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

6. Mark 10:17, 18 (to 1st), 19–22

And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? And Jesus said unto him, ... Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother. And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth. Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me. And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.

7. Matt. 22:1–14

And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise: And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them. But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy. Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage. So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests. And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.

8. Acts 10:30–35

And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, And said, Cornelius, thy prayer is heard, and thine alms are had in remembrance in the

sight of God. Send therefore to Joppa, and call hither Simon, whose surname is Peter; he is lodged in the house of one Simon a tanner by the sea side: who, when he cometh, shall speak unto thee. Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God. Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

9. Rom. 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Correlative passages from the Christian Science textbook *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy.

1. SH 444:2, 10

In some way, sooner or later, all must rise superior to materiality, and suffering is oft the divine agent in this elevation. "All things work together for good to them that love God," is the dictum of Scripture. ... Step by step will those who trust Him find that "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

2. SH 558:10

To mortal sense Science seems at first obscure, abstract, and dark; but a bright promise crowns its brow. When understood, it is Truth's prism and praise. When you look it fairly in the face, you can heal by its means, and it has for you a light above the sun, for God "is the light thereof." Its feet are pillars of fire, foundations of Truth and Love. It brings the baptism of the Holy Ghost, whose flames of Truth were prophetically described by John the Baptist as consuming error.

3. SH 97:22-7

It requires courage to utter truth; for the higher Truth lifts her voice, the louder will error scream, until its inarticulate sound is forever silenced in oblivion.

"He uttered His voice, the earth melted." This Scripture indicates that all matter will disappear before the supremacy of Spirit.

Christianity is again demonstrating the Life that is Truth, and the Truth that is Life, by the apostolic work of casting out error and healing the sick. Earth has no repayment for the persecutions which attend a new step in Christianity; but the

spiritual recompense of the persecuted is assured in the elevation of existence above mortal discord and in the gift of divine Love.

The prophet of to-day beholds in the mental horizon the signs of these times, the reappearance of the Christianity which heals the sick and destroys error, and no other sign shall be given.

4. SH 93:2–7

Remember Jesus, who nearly nineteen centuries ago demonstrated the power of Spirit and said, “He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also,” and who also said, “But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth.”

5. SH 39:18–7

“Now,” cried the apostle, “is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation,” — meaning, not that now men must prepare for a future-world salvation, or safety, but that now is the time in which to experience that salvation in spirit and in life. Now is the time for so-called material pains and material pleasures to pass away, for both are unreal, because impossible in Science. To break this earthly spell, mortals must get the true idea and divine Principle of all that really exists and governs the universe harmoniously. This thought is apprehended slowly, and the interval before its attainment is attended with doubts and defeats as well as triumphs.

Who will stop the practice of sin so long as he believes in the pleasures of sin? When mortals once admit that evil confers no pleasure, they turn from it. Remove error from thought, and it will not appear in effect. The advanced thinker and devout Christian, perceiving the scope and tendency of Christian healing and its Science, will support them. Another will say: “Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season I will call for thee.”

6. SH 27:22–29

Jesus sent forth seventy students at one time, but only eleven left a desirable historic record. Tradition credits him with two or three hundred other disciples who have left no name. “Many are called, but few are chosen.” They fell away from grace because they never truly understood their Master's instruction.

Why do those who profess to follow Christ reject the essential religion he came to establish?

7. SH 51:19–2 (to 1st .)

His consummate example was for the salvation of us all, but only through doing the works which he did and taught others to do. His purpose in healing was not alone to restore health, but to demonstrate his divine Principle. He was inspired by God, by Truth and Love, in all that he said and did. The motives of his persecutors were pride, envy, cruelty, and vengeance, inflicted on the physical Jesus, but aimed at the divine Principle, Love, which rebuked their sensuality.

Jesus was unselfish. His spirituality separated him from sensuousness, and caused the selfish materialist to hate him; but it was this spirituality which enabled Jesus to heal the sick, cast out evil, and raise the dead.

From early boyhood he was about his “Father's business.”

8. SH 9:25–26 (to ?), 32

Are you willing to leave all for Christ, for Truth, and so be counted among sinners? ... Consistent prayer is the desire to do right. Prayer means that we desire to walk and will walk in the light so far as we receive it, even though with bleeding footsteps, and that waiting patiently on the Lord, we will leave our real desires to be rewarded by Him.

9. SH 225:5–6

You may know when first Truth leads by the fewness and faithfulness of its followers.

10. SH 11:22–27

We know that a desire for holiness is requisite in order to gain holiness; but if we desire holiness above all else, we shall sacrifice everything for it. We must be willing to do this, that we may walk securely in the only practical road to holiness.

11. SH 481:1–2, 5

How important, then, to choose good as the reality! ... Like the archpriests of yore, man is free “to enter into the holiest,” — the realm of God.

The readings concluded with silent prayer followed by the recitation of the Lord's Prayer from Matthew Chapter 6.

The congregation then sang Hymn 318:

*Based On The Danish Of Nikolaj F. S. Grundtvig, Christian Science Hymnal, No. 318 ©
1932, renewed 1960 The Christian Science Board of Directors*

He who receiveth the Word as they, / Teachable, ready to choose my way, / He shall
have peace of sin forgiven, / He shall in this wise enter heaven; / Come unto me.

**The First Reader read announcements from the desk and then opened the
meeting to the floor giving those in attendance the opportunity to share
healings and inspiration gained from the study and practice of Christian
Science.**

The meeting closed with Hymn 579:

*Frances R. Havergal, Adapt., Alt., Christian Science Hymnal: Hymns 430-603, No. © 2017
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Take my every thought, to use / In the way that Thou shalt choose. / Take my love;
O Lord, I pour / At Thy feet its treasure store. / I am Thine, and I will be / Ever,
only, all for Thee.