

## Wednesday Readings and Hymns, First Church of Christ Scientist, Fairfax: 18 Aug 2010

### Subject: Unity

#### From The Bible

Ps. 133:1-3

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

John 17:1-3, 6, 8, 11

1 These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.

Rom. 12:1-10

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;

Eph. 4: 7, 13-16

But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

I Cor. 12: 13 (by to 1st , skip to and)

by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body,... and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

Eph. 4:1-4 walk

walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

## From Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures

SH 202:3

The scientific unity which exists between God and man must be wrought out in life-practice, and God's will must be universally done.

SH 216:11-14

The understanding that the Ego is Mind, and that there is but one Mind or intelligence, begins at once to destroy the errors of mortal sense and to supply the truth of immortal sense.

SH 249:31

Man is the reflection of Soul. He is the direct opposite of material sensation, and there is but one Ego. We run into error when we divide Soul into souls, multiply Mind into minds and suppose error to be mind, then mind to be in matter and matter to be a lawgiver, unintelligence to act like intelligence, and mortality to be the matrix of immortality.

SH 275:14

All substance, intelligence, wisdom, being, immortality, cause, and effect belong to God. These are His attributes, the eternal manifestations of the infinite divine Principle, Love. No wisdom is wise but His wisdom; no truth is true, no love is lovely, no life is Life but the divine; no good is, but the good God bestows.

SH 276:1-28

Having one God, one Mind, unfolds the power that heals the sick, and fulfils these sayings of Scripture, "I am the Lord that healeth thee," and "I have found a ransom." When the divine precepts are understood, they unfold the foundation of fellowship, in which one mind is not at war with another, but all have one Spirit, God, one intelligent source, in accordance with the Scriptural command: "Let this Mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. " Man and his Maker are correlated in divine Science, and real consciousness is cognizant only of the things of God. The realization that all inharmony is unreal brings objects and thoughts into human view in their true light, and presents them as beautiful and immortal. Harmony in man is as real and immortal as in music. Discord is unreal and mortal. If God is admitted to be the only Mind and Life, there ceases to be any opportunity for sin and death. When we learn in Science how to be perfect, even as our Father in heaven is perfect, thought is turned into new and healthy channels, towards the contemplation of things immortal and away from materiality to the Principle of the universe, including harmonious man. Material beliefs and spiritual understanding never mingle. The latter destroys the former. Discord is the *nothingness* named error. Harmony is the *somethingness* named Truth.

SH 324:7-12

Unless the harmony and immortality of man are becoming more apparent, we are not gaining the true idea of God and the body will reflect what governs it, whether it be Truth or error, understanding or belief, Spirit or matter. Therefore "acquaint now thyself with Him, and be at peace."

SH 325:10

In Colossians (iii. 4) Paul writes: "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear [be manifested], then shall ye also appear [be manifested] with him in glory." When spiritual being is understood in all its perfection, continuity, and might, then shall man be found in God's image. The absolute meaning of the apostolic words is this: Then shall man be found, in His likeness, perfect as the Father, indestructible in Life, "hid with Christ in God," — with Truth in divine Love, where human sense hath not seen man.

Opening Hymn 14:1-4

Arise, arise and shine,  
On thee hath dawned the day;  
God is thy sun, and Christ thy light,  
Be thou a steadfast ray.

Sing praise, O waking heart,  
For all thy God hath wrought;  
For Truth's clear light on thee hath shone,  
And purified thy thought.

No more shall sin and wrong  
Obscure the light divine,  
For God hath given thee His Son,  
And lo, all things are thine.

Arise, arise and shine,  
Uplift thee from the sod,  
And let thy living light show forth  
Man's unity with God.

2<sup>nd</sup> Hymn 11:1-2

Angels at the Saviour's birth  
Woke with music all the earth,  
Shepherds in the eastern sky  
Saw a pale star passing by,  
Guiding them at break of day  
Where the babe in meekness lay,  
Born the gracious news to tell,  
God with us, Immanuel.

Star of being, still thy light  
Shines before us in the night,  
By those radiant beams we find  
Christ, the Truth, for all mankind,  
Still the tidings angels bring  
With their joyful caroling,  
Telling that the dawn has come,  
God and man fore'er at one.

Closing Hymn 263:1-3

Only God can bring us gladness,  
Only God can give us peace;  
Joys are vain that end in sadness,  
Joy divine shall never cease.  
Mid the shade of want and sorrow  
Undisturbed, our hearts rejoice;  
Patient, wait the brighter morrow;  
Faithful, heed the Father's voice.

As the stars in order going,  
All-harmonious, He doth move;  
Heavenly calm and comfort showing,  
Comes the healing word of Love.  
Who the word of wisdom heareth  
Feels the Father Love within,  
Where as dawn the shadow cleareth,  
Love outshines the night of sin.

So we find the true atonement,  
Know in God the perfect Friend;  
For in Love is our at-one-ment,  
Where all hearts in Him may blend.  
Here from prisoning pain and sorrow  
Have we all a sure release,  
Only God can bring us gladness,  
Only God can give us peace.

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