

QUARTERLY UPDATE FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION

“It shall be the duty of the Committee on Publication to correct in a Christian manner impositions on the public in regard to Christian Science, injustices done Mrs. Eddy or members of this Church by the daily press, by periodicals or circulated literature of any sort.” Church Manual, Article XXXIII, Section 2

Message From the Committee on Publication Manager’s office

Mrs. Eddy states, “Jesus established what he said by demonstration, thus making his acts of higher importance than his words. He proved what he taught. This is the Science of Christianity” (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* 473:26–29).

Our Way-shower’s healing ministry conclusively confirms the Science of Christianity, the laws of God that can be tangibly, consistently seen in daily life. Thus Christianity is the knowledge and demonstration of these divine laws of God, good, in the human experience; the primitive Christianity that Jesus practiced and that Mary Baker Eddy explained in our textbook *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*.

This divine Science rebukes the carnal mind’s assertion that God is the great “unknowable,” a mercurial, enigmatic being that dabbles in our daily lives without consistency or explanation. We see the imposition repeated in public thought suggesting that there is no logic, principle or science to Christianity, and that believers must rely simply on a blind faith. Whether in conversations or publications, the term “Christian Science” is declared an oxymoron.

Mrs. Eddy writes that, “Christian Science is dawning upon a material age. The great spiritual facts of being, like rays of light, shine in the darkness, though the darkness, comprehending them not, may deny their reality” (SH 546:23–26).

She even poses the question “Is Christian Science contradictory?” twice in *Science and Health* so she can specifically address this claim (see SH 358, SH 546). In answer to her own query, Mrs. Eddy writes that, “Christian Science, understood, coincides with the Scriptures, and sustains logically and demonstratively every point it presents. Otherwise it would not be Science, and could not present its proofs” (SH 358:8–13).

As seen in the example below, the Committee on Publication for Eastern Nigeria recently had an opportunity to explain the natural union of the two terms “Christian” and “Science.” This corrective is just one of the many “proofs” of the operation of a dependable, divine Science at work in the human experience, casting out errors and leavening thought.

Fruitage

The Committee on Publication for the eastern portion of Nigeria had noticed from her interaction with neighbors that many people have little or no idea of what Christian Science is. When asked what church she attends, mention of Christian Science would almost always provoke the question, “What has ‘science’ to do with it? Is it a cult?” These experiences led her to pray to God for direction and for a clear understanding of “mine, and all.” She later noted the following:

The idea came to me that Christian Science is the light of the world and should not be hidden. Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. I knew some of these words are in the Bible, so I searched and found them in Mark 16:15. Mary Baker Eddy taught that Christian Science was provable through prayer and demonstration. When I picked up my paper and pen to write this article "The science of Christian Science," God's ideas gently emerged.

Her prayer led to practical expression, and what follows is an excerpt of an article she submitted, [The science of Christian Science](#), published in the newspaper, *Edge Express*:

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Christian Science helps explain these laws of God which, when put into practice, bring effective results. They can heal reliably when understood and rightly applied, as Christ Jesus proved throughout his ministry. He was governed by God, the infinite divine Mind or Spirit. And he declared, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6). He conquered material limitations and errors. The Bible clearly teaches that this prayer-based healing power is learnable and repeatable. In other words, it is scientific.

In its first chapter, the Bible states, “...God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good” (Genesis 1:31). This divine consciousness, or heaven, is our real home and natural way of thinking. God is in reality our life, our consciousness, and our all. On this biblical basis, Mary Baker Eddy founded the Christian Science church. Her discovery of this Science was especially prompted by her complete healing of the effects of a life-threatening accident after reading one of Jesus’ healings. She studied the Bible and prayed for answers. At a certain point, it became clear to her that spiritual healing was based on understandable and knowable divine laws of God, Spirit. She proved through her understanding that these laws could be applied by anyone to heal any form of human suffering. This spiritual healing is not miraculous, but purely the effect of understanding God’s all-power. God is the healer. We thus can begin to see all God’s creation as entirely spiritual and God-governed in order to challenge the common limiting assumptions we face every day. This is Science.

A number of readers responded favorably to the article, including the following:

Woah! What a wonderful article. I am deeply inspired by your definition of what Science actually means, the understanding or knowledge of God.

Inspiration and updates from your Committee on Publication

Your local Connecticut Committee on Publication is deeply grateful for all your prayerful support. Thank you! In this work, I've found it so helpful to begin every day with specific Christian Science treatment for Connecticut. In effect, I handle the false claims swirling around in public thought that concern our practice of Christian Science, and I replace these false perceptions about Christian Science practice with the Truth.

One of the impositions on public thought I have taken up is the belief that prayer isn't an effective response to human challenges, that it is nothing more than "wishful thinking." When this misperception about our healing practice comes to the attention of the Committee Office, it is addressed by turning thought to the scores of examples of healing prayer, documented weekly by our branch churches and societies at our Wednesday meetings. This ever-growing body of proof of the utility of prayer effectively neutralizes this false claim. Thank you for your contributions, your testimonies of healing, which are the cornerstone of every effort to uplift public thought and demonstrate the utility of this Science.

As you can see, this work is not confined to the Committee Office alone; it is a group effort by all of us. The Committee work embraces each branch church and society and is a buoying influence that blesses all of us and enlightens our communities. To that end, I am supporting each of you, knowing that we can all work together to demonstrably lay down false perceptions about our prayerful practice and embrace our greater communities at the same time. I invite all of you to join in this prayerful practice – let's all embrace our neighbors as ourselves, know that everyone is included in God's family and has equal access to the Comforter, and that our life-work is grounded in uplifting others by sharing the Christ-spirit in our daily walk and practice. "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:35

Enjoy the upcoming holidays!

Kristina Schwarz, CS

Committee on Publication for Connecticut