

Seventeenth Church of Christ, Scientist, Chicago

Wednesday Evening Meeting, December 17, 2014

Hymns:

342 - This is the Day the Lord hath made

158 - It came upon the midnight clear

417 - Joy to the World

The Bible

Zephaniah 3:17 The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

John 16:22 . . . your joy no man taketh from you.

Isaiah 65:18 . . . be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create: for, behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy.

Psalms 16:2 O my soul, Thou art my Lord: 7 I will bless the Lord, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons. 8 I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. 11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Job 1: There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil. 2 And there were born of him seven sons and three daughters. 3 His substance also was . . . so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.

6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them. 8 And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man,

9 Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, 10 Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. 11 But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.

14 And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, 18 . . . Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house: 19 And behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. 22 In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

7 So went Satan forth . . . and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.

Job 2:2 And Job spake, and said, 20 Wherefore is light given to him that is in misery, and life unto the bitter in soul;

Job 2:11 Now when Job's three friends heard of all this evil that was come upon him, they came everyone from his place; . . . for they had made an appointment together to come to mourn with him and to comfort him.

Job 4: Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered and said, 3 Behold, thou hast instructed many, 4 Thy words have upholden him that was falling, 5 But now it is come upon thee, and thou faintest; 7 Remember, . . . who ever perished, being innocent?

Job 9:1 Then Job answered and said, Job 10:15 I am full of confusion; Job 34:5 I am righteous: 6 my wound is incurable without transgression.

Job 8:1 Then answered Bildad the Shuhite, and said, 3 Doth God pervert judgment? 6 If thou wert pure and upright; surely now he would awake for thee.

Job 11:1 Then answered Zophar the Naamathite, and said, 4 . . . thou hast said, My doctrine is pure, 5 But oh that God would speak, 6 And that he would shew thee the secrets of wisdom, 7 Canst thou by searching find out God? Canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection?

Job 23:1 Then Job answered and said, 3 Oh that I knew where I might find him! Job 16:2 miserable comforters are ye all.

Job 32: 1 So these three men ceased to answer Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes. 3 Also against his three friends was his wrath kindled, because they had found no answer, and yet had condemned Job.

Job 32:4 Now Elihu had waited till Job had spoken. 5 When (he) saw that there was no answer in the mouth of these three men, 6 . . . Elihu . . . answered and said, I am young, . . . wherefore I was afraid, and durst not shew you mine opinion. 8 But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding. 14 God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not. 16 Then he openeth the ears of men, and sealeth their instruction, 17 That he may withdraw man from his purpose, and hide pride from man. 23 If there be a messenger with him, an interpreter, one among a thousand, to shew unto man his uprightness, 26 He shall pray unto God and he will be favourable unto him: and he shall see this face with joy: for he will render unto man his righteousness. Job 35:14 therefore trust thou in him.

Job 38:1 Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind and said, 3 Gird up now thy loins like a man: for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me. 4 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? 7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy? 36 Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts? Or who hath given understanding to the heart?

Job 40:10 Deck thyself now with majesty and excellency; and array thyself with glory and beauty. 11 Cast abroad the rage of thy wrath: 14 Then will I also confess unto thee that thine own right hand can save thee.

Job 42:1 Then job answered and said, 2 I know that thou canst' do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee. 3 . . . therefore have I uttered that I understood not; things too wonderful for me, 5 I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee.

10 And the Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: 12 So the Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning:

Isaiah 35:10 the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with songs and ever-lasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Isaiah 65:20 There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: 21 And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them.

Psalms 68:3 Let the righteous be glad; . . . yea, let them exceedingly rejoice. 5 A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, is God in his holy habitation. 6 God setteth the solitary in families.

Isaiah 53: 5 . . . thy Maker is thine husband; 2 Enlarge the place of thy tent, . . . spare not, 3 For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left:

Nehemiah 8:10 . . . Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the Lord is your strength.

I Timothy 6:11 O man of God, . . . follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. 6 . . . Godliness with contentment is great gain.

Psalms 37:3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; 4 Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Isaiah 55:12 Ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy

304:9 This is the doctrine of Christian Science: that divine Love cannot be deprived of its manifestation, or object; that joy cannot be turned into sorrow, for sorrow is not the master of joy;

232:4 The beliefs we commonly entertain about happiness and life afford no scatheless and permanent evidence of either.

548:12 Earth has little light or joy for mortals before Life is spiritually learned.

536:24 Mortal mind accepts the erroneous, material conception of life and joy, but the true idea is gained from the immortal side.

265:23 Who that has felt the loss of human peace has not gained stronger desires for spiritual joy? The aspiration after heavenly good comes even before we discover what belongs to wisdom and Love. The loss of earthly hopes and pleasures brightens the ascending path of many a heart.

66:6 Trials teach mortals not to lean on a material staff, a broken reed, which pierces the heart. We do not half remember this in the sunshine of joy and prosperity. 11 Spiritual development germinates not from the seed sown in the soil of material hopes, but when these decay, Love propagates anew the

higher joys of Spirit, which have no taint of earth. Each stage of experience unfolds new views of divine goodness and love.

548:12 Every agony of mortal error helps error to destroy error, and so aids the apprehension of immortal Truth. This is the new birth going on hourly, by which men may entertain angels, the true ideas of God, the spiritual sense of being.

298: 7 My angels are exalted thoughts, appearing at the door of some sepulcher, in which human belief has buried its fondest earthly hopes. With white fingers they point upward to a new and glorified trust, to higher ideals of life and its joys. 12 These upward-soaring beings never lead towards self, sin, or materiality, but guide to the divine Principle of all good, whether every real individuality, image, or likeness of God, gathers.

57:18 Happiness is spiritual, born of truth and love. It is unselfish; therefore it cannot exist alone, but requires all mankind to share it.

58:7 Unselfish ambition, noble life-motives, and purity, - these constituents of thought, mingling, constitute individually and collectively true happiness, strength, and permanence.

60:29 Soul has infinite resources with which to bless mankind, and happiness would be more readily attained and would be more secure in our keeping, if sought in Soul. Higher enjoyments alone can satisfy the cravings of immortal man. We cannot circumscribe happiness within the limits of personal sense.

17:17 Physical sensation, not Soul, produces material ecstasy and emotion. If spiritual sense always guided men, there would grow out of ecstatic moments a higher experience and a better life with more devout self-abnegation and purity.

60:2 Science inevitably lifts one's being higher in the scale of harmony and happiness.

305: A discontented, discordant mortal is no more a man than discord is music.

298:19 When the real is attained, which is announced by Science, joy is no longer a trembler, nor is hope a cheat.

266:17 Job said: "I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth Thee." Mortals will echo Job's thought, when the supposed pain and pleasure of matter cease to predominate. They will then drop their false estimate of life and happiness, of joy and sorrow, and attain the bliss of loving unselfishly, working patiently, and conquering all that is unlike God.

390:9 Truth will at length compel us all to exchange the pleasures and pains of sense for the joys of Soul.