

Seventeenth Church of Christ, Scientist, Chicago

Wednesday Evening Meeting, December 24, Christmas Eve 2014

Hymns:

222 O Little Town of Bethlehem

11 Angels at the Saviour's birth

432 Christmas Morn by Mary Baker Eddy

The Bible

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Isaiah 42:1 Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: 3 . . . he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. 4 He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth:

Daniel 3:1 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was three-score cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.

4 Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages, 5 That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, . . and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up: 6 And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

8 Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews. 9 They spake and said to the king . . . 12 . . . Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

19 Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, . . . and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated. 20 And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and cast them into the burning fiery furnace. 23 And these three men, . . . fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

24 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of

the fire? 25 Lo, I see four men loose, walking' in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.

Isaiah 52:10 The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. 13 Behold, my servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high.

Isaiah 52:7 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, . . .

Genesis 31:3 And the Lord said unto Jacob, Return unto the land of thy fathers' and to thy kindred: and I will be with thee.

32:9 And Jacob said, O God of my father Abraham, and God of my father Isaac, the Lord which saidst unto me, Return unto thy country, 11 Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother, . . . for I fear him, lest he will come and smite me, and the mother with the children.

22 And he rose up that night, and took his two wives, and his eleven sons, 23 . . . and sent them over the brook, 24 And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him, until the breaking of the day. 26 And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh.

And (Jacob) said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. 27 And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. 28 And he said, thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

29 And Jacob asked him', and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my 'name'? And he blessed him there. 30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

Genesis 33:1 And Jacob lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold 4 Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him: and they wept. 10 And Jacob said, I have seen thy' face, as though I had seen the face of God, and thou wast pleased with me.

John 1:16 . . . of his fullness have all we received, and grace for grace. 17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. 18 No man

hath seen God at any time; his only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. 32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. 33 . . . the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. 34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.

35 . . . and two of (John's) disciples; 37 . . . followed Jesus. 40 One of the two . . . was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. 41 And he first findeth . . . Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messias, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

John 5:1 After this there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 2 Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep market a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches. 3 In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, . . . waiting for the moving of the water. 4 For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water; whosoever then first . . . stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had. 5 And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years. 6 . . . Jesus . . . saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole?

7 The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.

8 Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk. 9 And immediately the man was made whole, . . . 16 And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus, . . . because he had done these things on the Sabbath day.

17 But Jesus answered them, 30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

33 Ye sent unto John, and he bare witness unto the truth. 36 But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me.

Luke 4: 14 And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: 15 And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all. 16 And he came to Nazareth,

where he had been brought up: 17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, 18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. 20 . . . And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. 21 And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.

John 12:34 The people answered him, We have heard out of the law that Christ abideth for ever: and how sayest thou, The Son of man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of man? 24 And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. 24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die it bringeth forth much fruit. 25 He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.

32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. 46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.

Acts 13:9 Then Saul, (who is also called Paul), filled with the Holy Ghost, . . .

Acts 21:40 . . . beckoned with the hand unto the people. And when there was made a great silence, he spake unto them in the Hebrew tongue, saying,

Acts 22:3 I am a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, . . . and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, 4 And I persecuted . . . unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women.

6 And it came to pass that, as I made my journey, and was come nigh unto Damascus about noon, suddenly there shone from heaven a great light round about me. 7 And I fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying unto me, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

9 And they that were with me saw indeed the light, . . . but they heard not the voice of him that spake to me. 10 And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said unto me. Arise. and go into Damascus: and there it shall be told thee of all

things which are appointed for thee to do. 11 And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them that were with me, I came into Damascus.

12 And one Ananias . . . 13 Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. 14 And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, . . and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth. 15 For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard.

Matt 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory . . . 34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

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

333:16 The advent of Jesus of Nazareth marked the first century of the Christian era, but the Christ is without beginning of years or end of days. Throughout all generations both before and after the Christian era, the Christ, as the spiritual idea, - the reflection of God, - has come with some measure of power and grace to all prepared to receive Christ Truth. Abraham, Jacob, Moses, and the prophets caught glorious glimpses of the Messiah, or Christ, which baptized these seers in the divine nature, the essence of Love.

28 Jesus referred to this unity of his spiritual identity thus: "Before Abraham was, I am;" "I and my Father are one;" "My Father is greater than I."

333:4 Jesus was a human name, which belonged to him in common with other Hebrew boys and men, for it is identical with the name Joshua, the renowned 'Hebrew leader'. On the other hand, Christ is not a name so much as the divine title of Jesus. Christ expresses God's spiritual, eternal nature. The name is synonymous with Messiah, and alludes to the spirituality which is taught, illustrated, and demonstrated in the life of which Christ Jesus was the embodiment.

332:9 Jesus was born of Mary. 23 He was appointed to speak God's word and to appear to mortals in such a form of humanity as they could understand as well as perceive.

332:9 Christ is the true idea voicing good, the divine message from God to men speaking to the human consciousness. The Christ is incorporeal, spiritual, - yea, the divine image and likeness, dispelling the illusions of the senses; . . .

334:12 This dual personality of the unseen and the seen, the spiritual and material, the eternal Christ and the corporeal Jesus manifest in flesh, continued until the Master's ascension, when the human, material concept, or Jesus, disappeared while the spiritual self, or Christ, continues to exist in the eternal order of divine Science, taking away the sins of the world, as the Christ has always done, even before the human Jesus was incarnate to mortal eyes.

473:26 Jesus established what he said by demonstration, thus making his acts of higher importance than his words'. 29 Jesus *proved* the Principle, which heals the sick and casts out error to be divine. Few, however, except his students understood in the least his teachings and their glorious proofs, - namely, that Life, Truth, and Love (the Principle of this unacknowledged Science) destroy all error, evil, disease, and death.

xi:14 Now as then, these mighty works are not supernatural, but supremely natural. They are the sign of Immanuel, or "God with us," - a divine influence ever present in human consciousness and repeating itself, coming now as was promised aforetime,

To preach deliverance to the captives [of sense],
And recovering of sight to the blind,
To set at liberty them that are bruised.

316:21 Christ illustrates that blending with God, his divine Principle, which gives man dominion over all the earth.

473:10 Christ is the ideal Truth that comes to heal sickness and sin through Christian Science and attributes all power to God.

334:24 The Revelator represents the Son of man as saying (Revelation 1. 17, 18): "I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead [not understood]; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, [Science has explained me]."

482:19 Jesus was the highest human concept of the perfect man. He was inseparable from Christ, the Messiah, - the divine idea of God outside the flesh.

23 Angels announced to the Wisemen of old this dual appearing, and angels whisper it, through faith, to the hungering heart in every age.

34:5 If Christ, Truth, has come to us in demonstration, no other commemoration is requisite, for demonstration is Immanuel, or *God with us*; and if a friend be with us, why need we memorials of that friend?