

Seventeenth Church of Christ, Scientist – Chicago
Wednesday, March 30, 2016
Subject: Do what? Who? Me? You Must Be Kidding!

Hymns: 221, 453, 52

This week's readings are entitled "Do what? Who me? You Must Be Kidding!" Have you ever been expected to accomplish a task that seemed way beyond your capabilities? Perhaps a work assignment or even a physical healing. How should we respond to this kind of challenge? How have others responded in similar circumstances? Is there a law of sufficiency that ensures we can do what is needed of us? We'll be exploring these questions in tonight's readings.

The Bible readings are from the New King James version.

Part I – Yes, you can.

I Cor 3:5

Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as *being* from ourselves, but our sufficiency *is* from God,

II Cor 9:8

And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may have an abundance for every good work.

Ex. 3: 1(to,), 2 (to.), 7, 8 (to second,), 10-12 (to ;)

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him. And the Lord said: 'I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good and large land, unto a land flowing with milk and honey, "Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh, that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." But Moses said unto God, "Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" So He said, I will certainly be with you.

Ex 4: 1-5, 10-12

Then Moses answered and said, "But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice; suppose they say, 'The Lord has not appeared to you.'" So the Lord said to him, "What *is* that in your hand?" He said, "A rod." And He said, "Cast it on the ground." So he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from it. Then the Lord said to Moses, "Reach out your hand and take *it* by the tail" (and he reached out his hand and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand), "that they may believe that the Lord God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you."

Then Moses said to the Lord, "O my Lord, I *am* not eloquent, but I *am* slow of speech and slow of tongue."

So the Lord said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? *Have* not I, the Lord? Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say."

Ex 5: 1 (to second ,)

Afterward Moses and Aaron went in and told Pharaoh, “Thus says the Lord God of Israel: ‘Let My people go,’”

S&H 321: 6

The Hebrew Lawgiver, slow of speech, despaired of making the people understand what should be revealed to him. When, led by wisdom to cast down his rod, he saw it become a serpent, Moses fled before it; but wisdom bade him come back and handle the serpent, and then Moses’ fear departed. In this incident was seen the actuality of Science. Matter was shown to be a belief only. The serpent, evil, under wisdom’s bidding, was destroyed through understanding divine Science, and this proof was a staff upon which to lean. The illusion of Moses lost its power to alarm him, when he discovered that what he apparently saw was really but a phase of mortal belief.

S&H 128: 4

The term Science, properly understood, refers only to the laws of God and to His government of the universe, inclusive of man. From this it follows that business men and cultured scholars have found that Christian Science enhances their endurance and mental powers, enlarges their perception of character, gives them acuteness and comprehensiveness and an ability to exceed their ordinary capacity. The human mind, imbued with this spiritual understanding, becomes more elastic, is capable of greater endurance, escapes somewhat from itself, and requires less repose. A knowledge of the Science of being develops the latent abilities and possibilities of man. It extends the atmosphere of thought, giving mortals access to broader and higher realms. It raises the thinker into his native air of insight and perspicacity.

S&H 336:9

Immortal man was and is God’s image or idea, even the infinite expression of infinite Mind, and immortal man is coexistent and coeternal with that Mind. He has been forever in the eternal Mind, God; but infinite Mind can never be in man, but is reflected by man. The spiritual man’s consciousness and individuality are reflections of God. They are the emanations of Him who is Life, Truth, and Love. Immortal man is not and never was material, but always spiritual and eternal.

Part II – I can of Myself do nothing

I Cor 3:5

Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as *being* from ourselves, but our sufficiency *is* from God,

II Cor 9:8

And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may have an abundance for every good work.

John 5: 1 -11 and, 17, 19

After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep *Gate* a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been *in that condition* a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me."

Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked.

And that day was the Sabbath. The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed."

But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working." Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.

John 5:30 to 1st. because

I can of Myself do nothing. because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

Jas. 1:17

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

S&H 227:26

The illusion of material sense, not divine law, has bound you, entangled your free limbs, crippled your capacities, enfeebled your body, and defaced the tablet of your being.

S&H 227:21- 228:2

Christian Science raises the standard of liberty and cries: "Follow me! Escape from the bondage of sickness, sin, and death!" Jesus marked out the way. Citizens of the world, accept the "glorious liberty of the children of God," and be free! This is your divine right. The illusion of material sense, not divine law, has bound you, entangled your free limbs, crippled your capacities, enfeebled your body, and defaced the tablet of your being.

If God had instituted material laws to govern man, disobedience to which would have made man ill, Jesus would not have disregarded those laws by healing in direct opposition to them and in defiance of all material conditions.

S&H 151:23-24, 26-28

The divine Mind that made man maintains His own image and likeness. All that really exists is the divine Mind and its idea, and in this Mind the entire being is found harmonious and eternal.

S&H 516:4

The substance, Life, intelligence, Truth, and Love, which constitute Deity, are reflected by His creation; and when we subordinate the false testimony of the corporeal senses to the facts of Science, we shall see this true likeness and reflection everywhere.

S&H 494:10

Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need. It is not well to imagine that Jesus demonstrated the divine power to heal only for a select number or for a limited period of time, since to all mankind and in every hour, divine Love supplies all good.

S&H vii:1 only

To those leaning on the sustaining infinite, to-day is big with blessings.

Part III – One more time

I Cor 3:5

Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as *being* from ourselves, but our sufficiency *is* from God,

II Cor 9:8, 15

And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may have an abundance for every good work. Thanks *be* to God for His indescribable gift!