Seventeenth Church of Christ, Scientist, Chicago, Illinois Wednesday, December 29, 2016 Subject: *God's Supremacy on Earth*

Hymns: #72, #10, #84

In the Christian Science Textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, Mary Baker Eddy provides her spiritual sense of the Lord's Prayer. For the line "Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven." she offers this spiritual interpretation, "Enable us to know, -- as in heaven so on earth, -- God is omnipotent supreme." How can we be enabled to know? How can we be thoroughly convinced, that God is omnipotent and supreme? What happens when we are absolutely certain of God's supremacy on earth? We'll be exploring these questions in tonight's readings.

The Bible readings are from the King James Version (KJV) and the New King James Version (NKJV) of the Bible.

Part One - Introduction

From the Bible

Matthew 6: 9–10 Our (KJV) Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

And from Science and Health,

S&H 16: 26-3, next page
Our Father which art in heaven, *Our Father-Mother God, all-harmonious,*Hallowed be Thy name. *Adorable One.*Thy kingdom come. *Thy kingdom is come; Thou art ever-present.*Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. *Enable us to know, — as in heaven, so on earth, — God is omnipotent, supreme.*

S&H 587:25

HEAVEN. Harmony; the reign of Spirit; government by divine Principle; spirituality; bliss; the atmosphere of Soul.

S&H 590:1

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. The reign of harmony in divine Science; the realm of unerring, eternal, and omnipotent Mind; the atmosphere of Spirit, where Soul is supreme.

Part Two - How can we know, be thoroughly convinced, that God is omnipotent and supreme on earth?

From the Bible,

Ps. 119:18,37 (NKJV) Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law. Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless things, And revive me in Your way.

Mark 9: 24 Lord (NKJV) Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!"

John 8:31, 32 If (NKJV) If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

And from Science and Health,

S&H 11:22-25

We know that a desire for holiness is requisite in order to gain holiness; but if we desire holiness above all else, we shall sacrifice everything for it.

S&H 11: 27-31

Prayer cannot change the unalterable Truth, nor can prayer alone give us an understanding of Truth; but prayer, coupled with a fervent habitual desire to know and do the will of God, will bring us into all Truth.

S&H 275:6-12

The starting-point of divine Science is that God, Spirit, is All-in-all, and that there is no other might nor Mind, – that God is Love, and therefore He is divine Principle.

To grasp the reality and order of being in its Science, you must begin by reckoning God as the divine Principle of all that really is.

S&H 331:16-25

Everything in God's universe expresses Him.

God is individual, incorporeal. He is divine Principle, Love, the universal cause, the only creator, and there is no other selfexistence. He is all-inclusive, and is reflected by all that is real and eternal and by nothing else. He fills all space, and it is impossible to conceive of such omnipresence and individuality except as infinite Spirit or Mind. Hence all is Spirit and spiritual.

S&H 393:12-18

Rise in the strength of Spirit to resist all that is unlike good. God has made man capable of this, and nothing can vitiate the ability and power divinely bestowed on man.

Be firm in your understanding that the divine Mind governs, and that in Science man reflects God's government.

S&H 11:27-31

Prayer cannot change the unalterable Truth, nor can prayer alone give us an understanding of Truth; but prayer, coupled with a fervent habitual desire to know and do the will of God, will bring us into all Truth.

S&H 323: 13-14

In order to apprehend more, we must put into practice what we already know.

S&H 491:12

It is only by acknowledging the supremacy of Spirit, which annuls the claims of matter, that mortals can lay off mortality and find the indissoluble spiritual link which establishes man forever in the divine likeness, inseparable from his creator.

S&H 10:14-15

Seeking is not sufficient. It is striving that enables us to enter.

Part III - What happens when we are absolutely certain of God's supremacy on earth?

From the Bible

Luke 4:14 (NKJV)

Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region.

Luke 8: 22-25 (NKJV)

Now it happened, on a certain day, that He got into a boat with His disciples. And He said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side of the lake." And they launched out. But as they sailed He fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling *with water*, and were in jeopardy. And they came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!"

Then He arose and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water. And they ceased, and there was a calm. But He said to them, "Where is your faith?"

And they were afraid, and marveled, saying to one another, "Who can this be? For He commands even the winds and water, and they obey Him!"

John 9:1-7 (NKJV)

Now as *Jesus* passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; *the* night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

From Science and Health

S&H 138:14-15

The supremacy of Spirit was the foundation on which Jesus built.

S&H 135:26

Jesus said: "I knew that Thou hearest me always;" and he raised Lazarus from the dead, stilled the tempest, healed the sick, walked on the water. There is divine authority for believing in the superiority of spiritual power over material resistance.

S&H 131:10

The central fact of the Bible is the superiority of spiritual over physical power.

S&H 201:3

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

S&H 90:24-25

The admission to one's self that man is God's own likeness sets man free to master the infinite idea.

S&H 216:11-18

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. This understanding makes the body harmonious; it makes the nerves, bones, brain, etc., servants, instead of masters. If man is governed by the law of divine Mind, his body is in submission to everlasting Life and Truth and Love.

S&H 368:14

When we come to have more faith in the truth of being than we have in error, more faith in Spirit than in matter, more faith in living than in dying, more faith in God than in man, then no material suppositions can prevent us from healing the sick and destroying error.

S&H 228: 25-29 (to second .)

There is no power apart from God. Omnipotence has all-power, and to acknowledge any other power is to dishonor God. The humble Nazarene overthrew the supposition that sin, sickness, and death have power. He proved them powerless.

S&H 470:32

The relations of God and man, divine Principle and idea, are indestructible in Science; and Science knows no lapse from nor return to harmony, but holds the divine order or spiritual law, in which God and all that He creates are perfect and eternal, to have remained unchanged in its eternal history.

S&H 171:12-13

Mind's control over the universe, including man, is no longer an open question, but is demonstrable Science.