

Seventeenth Church of Christ, Scientist – Chicago
 Wednesday, January 3, 2018
 Subject: The oneness of God and man

Hymns: 472, 81, 135

In describing the relationship between God and his idea, man, Mary Baker Eddy, in her book, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, states, “Principle and its idea is one.” This grammatically awkward, but metaphysically precise, clear, and accurate statement emphasizes the unity or oneness between God and man. These readings explore the nature and implications of this relationship.

The Bible (NKJV)

Gen. 1:1, 26-28 (to 1st .), 31 (to 1st .)

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them,

Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed *it was* very good.

Isa. 45:1 (to 1st .), 5 (to .), 6 I am, 12, 13 to:, 18, 19 third I

Thus says the Lord to His anointed,

I am the Lord, and *there is* no other;

There is no God besides Me.

I am the Lord, and *there is* no other;

I have made the earth,

And created man on it.

I—My hands—stretched out the heavens,

And all their host I have commanded.

I have raised him up in righteousness,

And I will direct all his ways;

For thus says the Lord,

Who created the heavens,

Who is God,

Who formed the earth and made it,

Who has established it,

Who did not create it in vain,

Who formed it to be inhabited:
 “I *am* the Lord, and *there is* no other.
 I, the Lord, speak righteousness,
 I declare things that are right.

Ps. 37: 23, 24, 37, 39, 40

The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the Lord,
 And He delights in his way.
 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down;
 For the Lord upholds *him with* His hand.
 Mark the blameless *man*, and observe the upright;
 For the future of *that* man *is* peace.
 But the salvation of the righteous *is* from the Lord;
He is their strength in the time of trouble.
 And the Lord shall help them and deliver them;
 He shall deliver them from the wicked,
 And save them,
 Because they trust in Him.

Ps. 90:1, 2, 14, 16, 17

Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.
 Before the mountains were brought forth,
 Or ever You had formed the earth and the world,
 Even from everlasting to everlasting, You *are* God.
 Oh, satisfy us early with Your mercy,
 That we may rejoice and be glad all our days!
 Let Your work appear to Your servants,
 And Your glory to their children.
 And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us,
 And establish the work of our hands for us;
 Yes, establish the work of our hands.

Ps. 1:1-3

Blessed *is* the man
 Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,
 Nor stands in the path of sinners,
 Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;
 But his delight *is* in the law of the Lord,
 And in His law he meditates day and night.
 He shall be like a tree

Planted by the rivers of water,
 That brings forth its fruit in its season,
 Whose leaf also shall not wither;
 And whatever he does shall prosper.

Luke 13:11-17

And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise *herself* up. But when Jesus saw her, He called *her* to *Him* and said to her, “Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity.” And He laid *His* hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.

But the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath; and he said to the crowd, “There are six days on which men ought to work; therefore come and be healed on them, and not on the Sabbath day.”

The Lord then answered him and said, “Hypocrite! Does not each one of you on the Sabbath loose his ox or donkey from the stall, and lead *it* away to water it? So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound—think of it—for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?” And when He said these things, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the multitude rejoiced for all the glorious things that were done by Him.

Isa. 25:1, 4, 8, 9

Lord, You *are* my God.
 I will exalt You,
 I will praise Your name,
 For You have done wonderful *things*;
 Your counsels of old *are* faithfulness *and* truth.
 For You have been a strength to the poor,
 A strength to the needy in his distress,
 A refuge from the storm,
 A shade from the heat;
 For the blast of the terrible ones *is* as a storm *against* the wall.
 He will swallow up death forever,
 And the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces;
 The rebuke of His people
 He will take away from all the earth;
 For the Lord has spoken.
 And it will be said in that day:
 “Behold, this *is* our God;

We have waited for Him, and He will save us.
 This *is* the Lord;
 We have waited for Him;
 We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.”

Matt 5:48

Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

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

SH 207:20

There is but one primal cause. Therefore there can be no effect from any other cause, and there can be no reality in aught which does not proceed from this great and only cause. Sin, sickness, disease, and death belong not to the Science of being. They are the errors, which presuppose the absence of Truth, Life, or Love.

SH 465:16-6

Question. — Is there more than one God or Principle?

Answer. — There is not. Principle and its idea is one, and this one is God, omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent Being, and His reflection is man and the universe. Omni is adopted from the Latin adjective signifying all. Hence God combines all-power or potency, all-science or true knowledge, all-presence. The varied manifestations of Christian Science indicate Mind, never matter, and have one Principle.

S&H 475:11-13

Man is spiritual and perfect; and because he is spiritual and perfect, he must be so understood in Christian Science.

SH 470:18-5

The standard of perfection was originally God and man. Has God taken down His own standard, and has man fallen?

God is the creator of man, and, the divine Principle of man remaining perfect, the divine idea or reflection, man, remains perfect. Man is the expression of God's being. If there ever was a moment when man did not express the divine perfection, then there was a moment when man did not express God, and consequently a time when Deity was unexpressed — that is, without entity. If man has lost perfection, then he has lost his perfect Principle, the divine Mind. If man ever existed without this perfect Principle or Mind, then man's existence was a myth.

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.

SH 304:3-15

It is ignorance and false belief, based on a material sense of things, which hide spiritual beauty and goodness. Understanding this, Paul said: “Neither death, nor life, . . . nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God.” 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; that good can never produce evil; that matter can never produce mind nor life result in death. The perfect man — governed by God, his perfect Principle — is sinless and eternal.

SH 302:14

Continuing our definition of man, let us remember that harmonious and immortal man has existed forever, and is always beyond and above the mortal illusion of any life, substance, and intelligence as existent in matter. This statement is based on fact, not fable. The Science of being reveals man as perfect, even as the Father is perfect, because the Soul, or Mind, of the spiritual man is God, the divine Principle of all being, and because this real man is governed by Soul instead of sense, by the law of Spirit, not by the so-called laws of matter.

SH 428:22-23

The great spiritual fact must be brought out that man is, not shall be, perfect and immortal.

SH 259:11

The Christlike understanding of scientific being and divine healing includes a perfect Principle and idea, — perfect God and perfect man, — as the basis of thought and demonstration.

SH 340:12

Divine Love is infinite. Therefore all that really exists is in and of God, and manifests His love.

SH 267:3

The offspring of God start not from matter or ephemeral dust. They are in and of Spirit, divine Mind, and so forever continue. God is one. The allness of Deity is His oneness. Generically man is one, and specifically man means all men.

SH 336:25-26, 28

XXIV. God, the divine Principle of man, and man in God's likeness are inseparable, harmonious, and eternal. God and man are not the same, but in the order of divine Science, God and man coexist and are eternal. God is the parent Mind, and man is God's spiritual offspring.

SH 477:26-2

Man is the expression of Soul. The Indians caught some glimpses of the underlying reality, when they called a certain beautiful lake "the smile of the Great Spirit." Separated from man, who expresses Soul, Spirit would be a nonentity; man, divorced from Spirit, would lose his entity. But there is, there can be, no such division, for man is coexistent with God.

SH 491:12-16

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.

SH 202:3-5

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

SH 210:11-16

Knowing that Soul and its attributes were forever manifested through man, the Master healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, feet to the lame, thus bringing to light the scientific action of the divine Mind on human minds and bodies and giving a better understanding of Soul and salvation.

SH 475:7

The Scriptures inform us that man is made in the image and likeness of God. Matter is not that likeness. The likeness of Spirit cannot be so unlike Spirit. Man is spiritual and perfect; and because he is spiritual and perfect, he must

be so understood in Christian Science. Man is idea, the image, of Love; he is not physique. He is the compound idea of God, including all right ideas; the generic term for all that reflects God's image and likeness; the conscious identity of being as found in Science, in which man is the reflection of God, or Mind, and therefore is eternal; that which has no separate mind from God; that which has not a single quality underived from Deity; that which possesses no life, intelligence, nor creative power of his own, but reflects spiritually all that belongs to his Maker.

SH 476:32-5

Jesus beheld in Science the perfect man, who appeared to him where sinning mortal man appears to mortals. In this perfect man the Saviour saw God's own likeness, and this correct view of man healed the sick. Thus Jesus taught that the kingdom of God is intact, universal, and that man is pure and holy.

SH 336:25-26

XXIV. God, the divine Principle of man, and man in God's likeness are inseparable, harmonious, and eternal.

SH 476:4-5

In divine Science, God and the real man are inseparable as divine Principle and idea.