



MARCH 10–16, 2025

# Substance

## GOLDEN TEXT

**Luke 12:32; 17:21** *the*

Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. . . . the kingdom of God is within you.

## RESPONSIVE READING

**I John 1:1–4; Hebrews 12:12** *lift, 13, 28*

**I John 1:1** That which was from the beginning, that which we have heard, that which we have seen with our eyes, that which we beheld, and our hands handled, concerning the Word of life

**2** (and the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare unto you the life, the eternal *life*, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us);

**3** that which we have seen and heard declare we unto you also, that ye also may have fellowship with us: yea, and our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ:

**4** and these things we write, that our joy may be made full.

**Heb. 12:12** . . . lift up the hands that hang down, and the palsied knees;

**13** and make straight paths for your feet, that that which is lame be not turned out of the way, but rather be healed.

**28** Wherefore, receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us have grace, whereby we may offer service well-pleasing to God with reverence and awe:

*The Responsive Reading is from the American Standard Version of the Bible.*

## SECTION 1

### The Bible

**1** | **Ecclesiastes 3:14** (to **2<sup>nd</sup>** :)

**14** I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it:

**2** | **I Corinthians 3:16**

**16** Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

**3** | **John 6:63** (to :)

**63** It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing:

**4 | Romans 12:2 be**

<sup>2</sup> be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

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

**1 | 468:17-18 Substance, 21-22**

Substance is that which is eternal and incapable of discord and decay.

Spirit, the synonym of Mind, Soul, or God, is the only real substance.

**2 | 269:9-10, 14-20**

Human philosophy has made God manlike. Christian Science makes man Godlike.

Metaphysics resolves things into thoughts, and exchanges the objects of sense for the ideas of Soul.

These ideas are perfectly real and tangible to spiritual consciousness, and they have this advantage over the objects and thoughts of material sense, — they are good and eternal.

**3 | 428:8**

To divest thought of false trusts and material evidences in order that the spiritual facts of being may appear, — this is the great attainment by means of which we shall sweep away the false and give

place to the true. Thus we may establish in truth the temple, or body, “whose builder and maker is God.”

**SECTION 2****The Bible****5 | Proverbs 8:1, 20-25, 30**

<sup>1</sup> Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice?

<sup>20</sup> I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of judgment:

<sup>21</sup> That I may cause those that love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasures. <sup>22</sup> The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. <sup>23</sup> I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was.

<sup>24</sup> When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. <sup>25</sup> Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth:

<sup>30</sup> Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him;

**6 | Isaiah 60:1**

<sup>1</sup> Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

## Science and Health

### 4 | [247:13-15, 19-21](#) *Being*

Immortality, exempt from age or decay, has a glory of its own, — the radiance of Soul.

Eternal  
beauty

Being possesses its qualities before they are perceived humanly.

### 5 | [335:13-14](#)

Things spiritual and eternal are substantial.

### 6 | [477:20-24](#) *Identity*

Identity is the reflection of Spirit, the reflection in multifarious forms of the living Principle, Love. Soul is the substance, Life, and intelligence of man, which is individualized, but not in matter.

Reflection  
of Spirit

### 7 | [264:28](#)

When we learn the way in Christian Science and recognize man's spiritual being, we shall behold and understand God's creation, — all the glories of earth and heaven and man.

### 8 | [258:13-15, 21](#)

God expresses in man the infinite idea forever developing itself, broadening and rising higher and higher from a boundless basis.

The human capacities are enlarged and perfected in proportion as humanity

gains the true conception of man and God.

### 9 | [266:27-29](#) (to 1<sup>st</sup>.)

Man is the idea of Spirit; he reflects the beatific presence, illumining the universe with light.

Beatific  
presence

### 10 | [516:21](#)

Man and woman as coexistent and eternal with God forever reflect, in glorified quality, the infinite Father-Mother God.

## SECTION 3

### The Bible

#### 7 | [Psalms 112:4](#) (to :), 7

<sup>4</sup> Unto the upright there ariseth light in the darkness:

<sup>7</sup> He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord.

#### 8 | [Daniel 3:1](#) (to :), 4-6, 8, 9, 12-19 (to :), 21, 24, 25, 27, 28

<sup>1</sup> Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was three-score cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits:

<sup>4</sup> Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages, <sup>5</sup> That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of

music, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up: <sup>6</sup> And whoso falleth not down and worshipping shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

<sup>8</sup> Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews. <sup>9</sup> They spake and said to the king Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live for ever.

<sup>12</sup> There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up. <sup>13</sup> Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. Then they brought these men before the king. <sup>14</sup> Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up? <sup>15</sup> Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of music, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands? <sup>16</sup> Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we

are not careful to answer thee in this matter. <sup>17</sup> If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. <sup>18</sup> But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up. <sup>19</sup> Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego:

<sup>21</sup> Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

<sup>24</sup> 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? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king. <sup>25</sup> He answered and said, 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.

<sup>27</sup> And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them. <sup>28</sup> Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, who hath sent his angel, and

delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God.

## *Science and Health*

11 | [135:20](#)

What cannot God do?

12 | [133:15](#)

Even in captivity among foreign nations, the divine Principle wrought wonders for the people of God in the fiery furnace and in kings' palaces.

13 | [333:19-23](#)

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.

The divine  
Principle  
and idea

14 | [387:27](#)

The history of Christianity furnishes sublime proofs of the supporting influence and protecting power bestowed on man by his heavenly Father, omnipotent Mind, who gives man faith and understanding whereby to defend himself, not only from temptation, but from bodily suffering.

Christian  
history

15 | [311:28](#)

Matter, sin, and mortality lose all supposed consciousness or claim to life or existence, as mortals lay off a false sense of life, substance, and intelligence. But the spiritual, eternal man is not touched by these phases of mortality.

16 | [316:20](#)

Christ presents the indestructible man, whom Spirit creates, constitutes, and governs. Christ illustrates that blending with God, his divine Principle, which gives man dominion over all the earth.

17 | [209:1-2](#)

Man, being immortal, has a perfect indestructible life.

18 | [267:1-2, 19-25](#)

Every object in material thought will be destroyed, but the spiritual idea, whose substance is in Mind, is eternal.

When examined in the light of divine Science, mortals present more than is detected upon the surface, since inverted thoughts and erroneous beliefs must be counterfeits of Truth. Thought is borrowed from a higher source than matter, and by reversal, errors serve as waymarks to the one Mind, in which all error disappears in celestial Truth.

Waymarks  
to eternal  
Truth

## SECTION 4

### The Bible

#### 9 | [1 John 4:14](#) *we*

<sup>14</sup> we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

#### 10 | [Matthew 9:35](#)

<sup>35</sup> And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

#### 11 | [Matthew 15:30, 31](#)

<sup>30</sup> And great multitudes came unto him, having with them those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them: <sup>31</sup> Insomuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel.

#### 12 | [Matthew 16:13-18](#)

<sup>13</sup> When Jesus came into the coasts of Cæsarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am? <sup>14</sup> And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets. <sup>15</sup> He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? <sup>16</sup> And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the

Christ, the Son of the living God. <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

### Science and Health

#### 19 | [136:1-2, 9-16](#)

Jesus established his church and maintained his mission on a spiritual foundation of Christ-healing.

The question then as now was, How did Jesus heal the sick? His answer to this question the world rejected. He appealed to his students: "Whom do men say that I, the Son of man, am?" That is: Who or what is it that is thus identified with casting out evils and healing the sick? They replied, "Some say that thou art John the Baptist; some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets."

#### 20 | [137:8-11, 16-9](#)

Yearning to be understood, the Master repeated, "But whom say ye that I am?" This renewed inquiry meant: Who or what is it that is able to do the work, so mysterious to the popular mind?

With his usual impetuosity, Simon replied for his brethren, and his reply set forth a great fact: "Thou

A divine response

art the Christ, the Son of the living God!" That is: The Messiah is what thou hast declared, — Christ, the spirit of God, of Truth, Life, and Love, which heals mentally. This assertion elicited from Jesus the benediction, "Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven;" that is, Love hath shown thee the way of Life!

Before this the impetuous disciple had been called only by his common names, Simon Bar-jona, or son of Jona; but now the Master gave him a spiritual name in these words: "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter; and upon this rock [the meaning of the Greek word *petros*, or *stone*] I will build my church; and the gates of hell [*hades*, the *under-world*, or the *grave*] shall not prevail against it." In other words, Jesus purposed founding his society, not on the personal Peter as a mortal, but on the God-power which lay behind Peter's confession of the true Messiah.

It was now evident to Peter that divine Life, Truth, and Love, and not a human personality, was the healer of the sick and a rock, a firm foundation in the realm of harmony.

21 | [43:28](#)

The Science Jesus taught and lived must triumph over all material beliefs about life, substance, and intelligence,

and the multitudinous errors growing from such beliefs.

22 | [269:21-25 \(to 2<sup>nd</sup> .\)](#)

The testimony of the material senses is neither absolute nor divine. I therefore plant myself unreservedly on the teachings of Jesus, of his apostles, of the prophets, and on the testimony of the Science of Mind. Other foundations there are none.

Biblical foundations

## SECTION 5

### The Bible

13 | [Luke 8:40](#)

40 And it came to pass, that, when Jesus was returned, the people gladly received him: for they were all waiting for him.

14 | [Luke 9:1, 2](#)

1 Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. 2 And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.

15 | [Luke 10:1, 17-20](#)

1 After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.

17 And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. 18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. 19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. 20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

16 | [Hebrews 10:34](#) *ye have*

34 ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance.

17 | [Matthew 3:2](#) *the*

2 the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

### ***Science and Health***

23 | [275:14-15](#)

All substance, intelligence, wisdom, being, immortality, cause, and effect belong to God.

24 | [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.

25 | [271:7-8](#)

Jesus instructed his disciples whereby to heal the sick through Mind instead of matter.

26 | [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.

27 | [162:9, 16](#)

The effect of this Science is to stir the human mind to a change of base, on which it may yield to the harmony of the divine Mind.

Working out the rules of Science in practice, the author has restored health in cases of both acute and chronic disease in their severest forms. Secretions have been changed, the structure has been renewed, shortened limbs have been elongated, ankylosed joints have been made supple, and carious bones have been restored to healthy conditions. I have restored what is called the lost substance of lungs, and healthy organizations have been established where disease was organic. Christian Science heals organic disease as surely as it heals what is called functional, for it requires only a fuller understanding of the divine Principle of

Christian Science to demonstrate the higher rule.

28 | [423:8](#)

The Christian Scientist, Scientific corrective understanding scientifically that all is Mind, commences with mental causation, the truth of being, to destroy the error. This corrective is an alterative, reaching to every part of the human system. According to Scripture, it searches “the joints and marrow,” and it restores the harmony of man.

## SECTION 6

### The Bible

18 | [Psalms 52:1](#) *the*

<sup>1</sup> the goodness of God endureth continually.

19 | [Luke 12:32](#)

<sup>32</sup> Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

### *Science and Health*

29 | [576:21–23](#)

This kingdom of God “is within you,” — is within reach of man’s consciousness here, and the spiritual idea reveals it.

30 | [124:25–26](#) (to 1<sup>st</sup>.)

Spirit is the life, substance, and continuity of all things.

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