



APRIL 6–12, 2026

Are Sin, Disease, and Death Real?

GOLDEN TEXT

Psalms 91:2, 3

I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalms 12:5, 6 (to :); Psalms 91:5, 6, 9, 10;

Philippians 4:1, 4, 6–8, 20 (to 1st), 23

Ps. 12:5 For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the Lord; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him.

6 The words of the Lord are pure words:

91:5 Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

6 Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

9 Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;

10 There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

Phil. 4:1 Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.

4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.

6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

20 Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever.

23 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

SECTION 1

The Bible

1 | [Matthew 14:14](#)

14 And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.

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

30 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: **31** 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.

3 | [Romans 8:31 If, 35, 37-39](#)

31 If God be for us, who can be against us?

35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. **38** For I am persuaded, that neither

death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, **39** Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

4 | [1 John 4:1, 6, 14](#)

1 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

6 We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

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

1 | [539:8-12](#)

What can be the standard of good, of Spirit, of Life, or of Truth, if they produce their opposites, such as evil, matter, error, and death? God could never impart an element of evil, and man possesses nothing which he has not derived from God.

2 | [356:17](#)

There is neither a present nor an eternal copartnership

Only one
standard

Copartnership
impossible

between error and Truth, between flesh and Spirit. God is as incapable of producing sin, sickness, and death as He is of experiencing these errors. How then is it possible for Him to create man subject to this triad of errors, — man who is made in the divine likeness?

3 | [474:16](#)

If sin, sickness, and death are as real as Life, Truth, and Love, then they must all be from the same source; God must be their author. Now Jesus came to destroy sin, sickness, and death; yet the Scriptures aver, "I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil." Is it possible, then, to believe that the evils which Jesus lived to destroy are real or the offspring of the divine will?

Divine
fulfilment

4 | [228:27-29 \(to 2nd .\)](#)

The humble Nazarene overthrew the supposition that sin, sickness, and death have power. He proved them powerless.

5 | [368:2](#)

The confidence inspired by Science lies in the fact that Truth is real and error is unreal. Error is a coward before Truth. Divine Science insists that time will prove all this. Both truth and error have come nearer than ever before to the apprehension of mortals, and truth will become still clearer as error is self-destroyed.

Real and
counterfeit

SECTION 2

The Bible

5 | [Proverbs 29:8, 13](#)

8 Scornful men bring a city into a snare: but wise men turn away wrath.

13 The poor and the deceitful man meet together: the Lord lighteneth both their eyes.

6 | [Acts 6:8, 15](#)

8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

15 And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

7 | [Acts 7:2 \(to ;\), 52 \(to ;\), 54, 58-60 \(to 1st .\)](#)

2 And he said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken;

52 Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One;

54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. 59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying,

Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. ⁶⁰ And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge.

8 | Acts 8:3

³ As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.

9 | II Corinthians 13:5 (to ;), 7 (to ;), 8

⁵ Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith;

⁷ Now I pray to God that ye do no evil;

⁸ For we can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth.

Science and Health

6 | 37:6

Mortals try in vain to slay Truth with the steel or the stake, but error falls only before the sword of Spirit. Martyrs are the human links which connect one stage with another in the history of religion. They are earth's luminaries, which serve to cleanse and rarefy the atmosphere of material sense and to permeate humanity with purer ideals. Consciousness of right-doing brings its own reward; but not amid the smoke of battle is merit seen and appreciated by lookers-on.

Martyrs
inevitable

7 | 290:20

They who are unrighteous shall be unrighteous still, until in divine Science Christ, Truth, removes all ignorance and sin.

8 | 453:18–20

You uncover sin, not in order to injure, but in order to bless the corporeal man; and a right motive has its reward.

9 | 186:19–20

The only power of evil is to destroy itself. It can never destroy one iota of good.

10 | 242:15 In

In patient obedience to a patient God, let us labor to dissolve with the universal solvent of Love the adamant of error, — self-will, self-justification, and self-love, — which wars against spirituality and is the law of sin and death.

11 | 571:15

At all times and under all circumstances, overcome evil with good. Know thyself, and God will supply the wisdom and the occasion for a victory over evil. Clad in the panoply of Love, human hatred cannot reach you. The cement of a higher humanity will unite all interests in the one divinity.

The armor
of divinity

SECTION 3

The Bible

10 | [Psalms 51:10, 14](#)

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.

11 | [Acts 21:40 Paul](#)

40 Paul stood on the stairs, and beckoned with the hand unto the people. And when there was made a great silence, he spake unto them in the Hebrew tongue, saying,

12 | [Acts 22:1, 3, 4, 6-16](#)

1 Men, brethren, and fathers, hear ye my defence which I make now unto you.

3 I am verily a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day. 4 And I persecuted this way 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 unto the ground, and heard a voice saying unto me, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? 8 And I answered, Who art thou, Lord? And he said unto me, I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou persecutest. 9 And they that were with me saw indeed the light, and were afraid; 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, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there, 13 Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him. 14 And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, 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. 16 And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

13 | [Romans 5:20 where](#)

20 where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

Science and Health

12 | [494:15](#) (only)

The miracle of grace is no miracle to Love.

13 | [324:19](#)

Paul was not at first a disciple of Jesus but a persecutor of Jesus' followers. When the truth first appeared to him in Science, Paul was made blind, and his blindness was felt; but spiritual light soon enabled him to follow the example and teachings of Jesus, healing the sick and preaching Christianity throughout Asia Minor, Greece, and even in imperial Rome.

Paul's
enlightenment

14 | [326:23](#)

Saul of Tarsus beheld the way — the Christ, or Truth — only when his uncertain sense of right yielded to a spiritual sense, which is always right. Then the man was changed. Thought assumed a nobler outlook, and his life became more spiritual. He learned the wrong that he had done in persecuting Christians, whose religion he had not understood, and in humility he took the new name of Paul. He beheld for the first time the true idea of Love, and learned a lesson in divine Science.

Conversion
of Saul

15 | [333:19-23](#)

Throughout all generations both before and after the Christian

The divine
Principle
and idea

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.

16 | [326:16](#)

The purpose and motive to live aright can be gained now. This point won, you have started as you should. You have begun at the numeration-table of Christian Science, and nothing but wrong intention can hinder your advancement. Working and praying with true motives, your Father will open the way. "Who did hinder you, that ye should not obey the truth?"

SECTION 4

The Bible

14 | [Jeremiah 32:17](#)

¹⁷ Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:

15 | [II Corinthians 12:1](#) / *will, 9, 10, 12*

¹ I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord.

⁹ And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in

persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

¹² Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.

16 | [Acts 28:3, 5, 8](#)

³ And when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks, and laid them on the fire, there came a viper out of the heat, and fastened on his hand.

⁵ And he shook off the beast into the fire, and felt no harm.

⁸ And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom Paul entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and healed him.

Science and Health

17 | [303:30](#)

When the evidence before the material senses yielded to spiritual sense, the apostle declared that nothing could alienate him from God, from the sweet sense and presence of Life and Truth.

18 | [380:19, 32](#)

Nothing but the power of Truth can prevent the fear of error, and prove man's dominion over error.

Every law of matter or the body, supposed to govern man, is rendered null and void by the law of

Ignorance
of our rights

Life, God. Ignorant of our God-given rights, we submit to unjust decrees, and the bias of education enforces this slavery. Be no more willing to suffer the illusion that you are sick or that some disease is developing in the system, than you are to yield to a sinful temptation on the ground that sin has its necessities.

19 | [410:29-30](#)

Christian scientific practice begins with Christ's keynote of harmony, "Be not afraid!"

20 | [390:20](#)

Suffer no claim of sin or of sickness to grow upon the thought. Dismiss it with an abiding conviction that it is illegitimate, because you know that God is no more the author of sickness than He is of sin. You have no law of His to support the necessity either of sin or sickness, but you have divine authority for denying that necessity and healing the sick.

21 | [410:14-17](#)

Every trial of our faith in God makes us stronger. The more difficult seems the material condition to be overcome by Spirit, the stronger should be our faith and the purer our love.

Love casteth
out fear

22 | [264:10](#)

We must look where we would walk, and we must act as possessing all power from Him in whom we have our being.

SECTION 5

The Bible

17 | [Proverbs 29:25](#)

²⁵ The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.

18 | [Psalms 118:17](#)

¹⁷ I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

19 | [Acts 13:43 many](#)

⁴³ many of the Jews and religious proselytes followed Paul and Barnabas: who, speaking to them, persuaded them to continue in the grace of God.

20 | [Acts 14:1 a great, 2, 19, 20 \(to :\)](#)

¹ a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed. ² But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles, and made their minds evil affected against the brethren.

¹⁹ And there came thither certain Jews from Antioch and Iconium, who persuaded the people, and, having stoned Paul, drew him out of the city, supposing he had been dead. ²⁰ Howbeit, as the disci-

ples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city:

21 | [Hebrews 12:1, 12, 13](#)

¹ Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,

¹² Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; ¹³ And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.

Science and Health

23 | [309:29-30](#)

Life is never for a moment extinct.

24 | [164:17-18](#)

If you or I should appear to die, we should not be dead.

25 | [290:1](#)

Life is the everlasting I AM, the Being who was and is and shall be, whom nothing can erase.

26 | [426:23-28](#)

The relinquishment of all Christian
standard faith in death and also of the fear of its sting would raise the standard of health and morals far beyond its present elevation, and would enable us to hold

the banner of Christianity aloft with unflinching faith in God, in Life eternal.

27 | [406:20–25](#) *We*

We can, and ultimately shall, so rise as to avail ourselves in every direction of the supremacy of Truth over error, Life over death, and good over evil, and this growth will go on until we arrive at the fulness of God's idea, and no more fear that we shall be sick and die.

Resist to
the end

28 | [90:24–27](#)

The admission to one's self that man is God's own likeness sets man free to master the infinite idea. This conviction shuts the door on death, and opens it wide towards immortality.

Scientific
finalities

SECTION 6

The Bible

22 | [Psalms 91:2, 3](#)

² I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. ³ Surely he shall deliver thee from

the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

23 | [Luke 10:19](#) *nothing*

¹⁹ nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Science and Health

29 | [563:1–4, 7](#) (only)

Human sense may well marvel at discord, while, to a diviner sense, harmony is the real and discord the unreal. We may well be astonished at sin, sickness, and death.

But why should we stand aghast at nothingness?

30 | [346:9–13](#)

The nothingness of nothing is plain; but we need to understand that error *is* nothing, and that its nothingness is not saved, but must be demonstrated in order to prove the somethingness — yea, the allness — of Truth.

Nothingness
of error

31 | [276:27](#)

Harmony is the *somethingness* named Truth.

© 2026 The Christian Science Publishing Society. Unless otherwise noted, references above are from the Bible (King James Version) and the Christian Science textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, by Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science. The design of the Cross and Crown is a trademark owned by The Christian Science Board of Directors and is used by permission. *Christian Science Quarterly*™ is a trademark owned by The Christian Science Publishing Society.