

A Christian Science Lecture Entitled

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE, THE SPIRITUAL MILLENNIUM, AND YOU

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INTRODUCTION

Lately, I've been thinking about what it means to look *to* the future. For instance, I'm a distant relative of the Wright Brothers, two men who invented and flew the first practical airplane. They refused to look to the future for their success. Rather, they acted in the present, thus blessing the future with their innovative thought. But, all too often we may find we're looking to the future, to something out there somewhere, to futurity, for our happiness, success, health.

A healing friend of mine had can show us why looking to the future for something good can be futile. As a young child she was stricken with polio during an epidemic. My friend's mother was a Christian Scientist and was praying earnestly for her daughter using the laws of God taught in this religion. This little girl had just started school and was loving it, so she was very sorry she couldn't attend anymore. However, each day her schoolteacher would stop by to talk with her. And each day, as the teacher walked away, the child would say with excitement, "I'll see you tomorrow. I'm coming to school tomorrow." One day her mother said to her, "Dear, each day you say you're going to school tomorrow. Do you think you have to wait until tomorrow for God to heal you? Well, *this* is your tomorrow. God is right here, right now." My friend accepted this simple spiritual truth - that God is right here, right now - and she shortly took her first

steps since she had become ill. She was soon back in school, completely healed (CSS, May 10, 1993).

Through her mother's short simple statement of the ever-presence of God, my friend saw that, in reality, good is always available because God is always available. She realized she didn't have to wait on God to do something good. She learned that God's goodness is already present.

Now, this is a lesson we can all learn from, by considering it today, rather than years down the road because it's reasonable to expect an ever-present, good, God, to be here for us, to do for us, to give to us. It's reasonable because, in actuality, He is here for us, doing for us, giving to us because we are His children whom He loves dearly.

In learning this lesson, that my friend so easily grasped there's a provocative question that can bless our journey down this path of individual salvation. It is this: Do *our* tomorrows ever come? Have you ever caught yourself thinking that your good is put off until tomorrow? Or to next week rather than this week? Or to next year rather than this year? Well, you're not alone. Many people are thinking this way; many are waiting for tomorrow - waiting for their ship to come in, so to speak, yet still waiting.

Perhaps it is because we still can learn more of the lesson of God's allness that is the foundation of mankind's hope for a future heaven - a place where all is well. Just what kind of place would this be for you - where all is well? Would it be a place where harmony reigns, or where stress is non-existent? Or, possibly, a world and home where fear is no longer? We each would define this "place where all is well" in our own way. Yet, logically, there would have to be one common denominator for us all. There would have to be God because God is good. And good cannot exist without God. So, if all is well, all must be good, hence the good must be God-provided.

However, looking around, it could appear that this spiritual haven or, Kingdom of Heaven, hasn't arrived yet. As year adds to

year and we approach the upcoming turning of the millennium the world seems to be going a bit askew. Feelings are intensifying, hopes are increasing. These intense feelings, stirring within consciousness, often evoke the struggle between right and wrong, justice and injustice, good and evil. Because of this, these battles, then, have to be fought and the victory won. Why? Because when wrong is replaced with right, good with evil, then is when we find that all *is*, in reality, already well. The challenge to you and me, then, would be to learn *how* to dissolve these problems so they may be replaced with all that is good - with honesty, health, ethics, spiritual-mindedness. Once this is done, and it's done by replacing material thinking with spiritual thinking, we find the true, spiritual, millennium, or Kingdom of Heaven, ever-present - right here, right now, where all *is* already well.

GOD IS ESSENCE

A deep, clear spiritual understanding of God helps us see that His goodness is always available. And what better place to learn more about God than in the Scriptures.

The Bible is the basis of Christianity's teachings because there the power of God is shown forth in the lives of great men and women. In this Great Book, God is defined, and man's spiritual origin is recorded. In this Holy Book we find the Biblically based seven prominent synonyms that *Science and Health* elucidates. These synonyms broaden our concept of God. They enhance our spiritual sense by defining Deity, another synonym, to our consciousness. And when Deity is defined to consciousness we know Him better, we love Him more, we worship Him aright.

The Bible records that "...God is love..." (I John 4:8); that "...God is a spirit..." (John 4:24); that "...this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God..." (John 17:3). Deuteronomy teaches that He is "...a God of truth..." (Deut.32:4). And Job said: "...He is in one mind..." (Job 23:13). The word beginning is translated in the Hebrew, Greek and Latin Vulgate Bibles as 'in Principle'. So, the first verse of the Bible which reads, "In the beginning,

God created...” could read: “In the beginning, Principle created...” And Psalms records a familiar saying, “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits” (103:2). May this not mean to have our spiritual sense (or soul) reflect God and thus glorify Him?

These seven prominent synonyms (Principle, Mind, Soul, Spirit, Life, Truth, and Love) are sometimes perplexing to those first studying Christian Science. Yet, it’s important to remember that these synonyms are completely interchangeable. Lexicographers have sustained Mrs. Eddy in their synonymy. For instance, when you look up Principle in the dictionary it’s often defined as Truth. Love is defined as God. Spirit is defined as Principle. They each support each other in their synonymy while shedding more light or a different hue on God’s character.

Yet, logically, because God is infinite, He must be defined by more than seven synonyms. Why? Because God cannot be limited. We all can broaden our sense of God through delving more deeply into all His names.

It should be noted, however, that the seven prominent synonyms are not seven semi-gods. Rather, because there’s only one God, His synonyms reveal different shades or hues of the *one* God. Each one defines His character, His essence, with a different light - but all enhancing His oneness, yet His diversity. Perhaps a clear way to define God would be to say that He is Essence. Essence simply means ‘that which is.’ God *is* ‘that which is’. Or, as God defined Himself to Moses: “I AM THAT I AM.”

AN EVERYDAY EXPERIENCE

Perhaps one of the most important assurances of the nowness of the Kingdom of Heaven comes from Christ Jesus when he taught his disciples that the kingdom is not a futurity. Jesus said “Neither shall they say, Lo here! Or lo there! For, behold, the kingdom of God is within you” (Luke 17:22).

We may ask, just what did Christ Jesus mean when he told us that the Kingdom of God is within? Could he

have meant that all that is harmonious and well isn’t found outside of us - outside of our consciousness, but within our consciousness? Perhaps he was teaching us that that “place where all is well” is found when consciousness is at-one with God.

If this is true, then, we can reason that the Kingdom of Heaven *is* within you! Right here in your own consciousness. It is the spiritual understanding of your oneness with God. This would mean, then, that the presence of the Kingdom of Heaven, isn’t some far off event that we have to wait and hope for. IT’S AN EVERYDAY STATE OF BEING. It’s an everyday fact.

As far back as the early 1900’s Mrs. Eddy was being asked about today’s upcoming millennium. In a chapter titled *Questions Answered* from her book *The First Church of Christ Scientist and Miscellany*, she is asked: “Must mankind wait for the ultimate of the millennium - until every man and woman comes into the knowledge of Christ and all are taught of God... for God to be represented by His idea or image and likeness” (My. 239:12). Her answer is thought provoking. She writes, “The millennium is a state and stage of mental advancement, going on since ever time was. Its impetus, accelerated by the advent of Christian Science, is marked, and will increase till all men shall know Him (divine Love) from the least to the greatest, and one God and the brotherhood of man shall be known and acknowledged throughout the earth.”

In this passage, Mrs. Eddy takes the concept of the millennium out of a time-space continuum and places it in thought. She practically redefines the millennium when she refers to it as “a state and stage of mental advancement...” Not just a sudden burst into salvation. But rather, an everyday experience that is accelerated by the natural growth of Christian Science in our lives.

So, we can reason that it is our mental advancement, our deeper learnings of God and man, that bring on the true millennium and ushers us into the Kingdom of Heaven within, where God reigns.

And we prove that our mental advancement or spiritual growth isn’t relegated to futurity, to some distant event. It is a present opportunity, right here, right now.

A healing another friend of mine had shows how gaining a clearer spiritual understanding of man and God’s relationship elucidates the spiritual millennium right where we are. She writes, “Recently, I was bottle-feeding a new born miniature colt. He was being supplemented with the mother’s milk and was being fed in the stall floor next to the mother. The mother had always been an extremely gentle horse, always wanting to have her face in whatever you were doing. That early morning as I was bottle-feeding the colt, the mother’s face was in my face wanting attention. She misread my intentions and laid back her ears and bit the side of my face with such force that I heard the muscles and nerves crunch. There was tremendous pain. I dropped the bottle stood up and started shaking uncontrollably. I ran from the barn holding my face feeling it swell to an enormous size. Trying to hold back the tears, I called a Christian Science practitioner. (A practitioner is someone who ministers to the spiritual needs of mankind by applying the laws of God, found in the Bible, as taught in Christian Science). I was overwhelmed with fear thinking my face might be permanently scarred. All I now remember is the practitioner’s calm voice declaring the truth about my perfect being as God’s beloved child. I remember her telling me that one of God’s creations could never harm another. I did not look in the mirror. Instead, I immediately prayed, confident that a healing would take place. Within minutes the pain and swelling stopped. I went to work within a couple of hours. No one, including my husband, noticed any problem. Only two days later did anyone notice a small light brown bruise that disappeared within a few more days. I am grateful for the healing, but more importantly, grateful to be able to see God’s law of perfect harmony in action.”

My friend proved that righteous prayer advances consciousness to a

deeper sense of our true selfhood. It takes us beyond the beliefs of mere physicality into the deep, calm waters of true spirituality. And when this mental advancement occurs we prove that the spiritual awareness that all is well, isn't relegated to futurity. It is an immediate, spontaneous result of our deepened spiritual sense. Naturally, this resulted in my friend finding her spiritual millennium, her peace and harmony, the Kingdom of Heaven within her, within consciousness filled with God's goodness. And, naturally, she was healed.

JOURNAL OF THOUGHT

The true, spiritual millennium has nothing to do with the passage of time because time in and of itself isn't empowered to do anything - either good or bad. For years now, natural scientists have told us that time is not toxic. That it has no power of its own to disrupt or advance our well-being. Indeed time is limiting.

Rather, the true, spiritual millennium has everything to do with one's spiritualization of thought because thought that is spiritualized is based on Spirit, God. This makes experience based upon Spirit rather than at the mercy of the everyday throes of mortality. It is our thought then, that sees God's kingdom ever-present. And this is how we begin to destroy whatever inharmony we may be experiencing - by first destroying it in our thought. So, we can reason, thought is the battleground where we rise in victory over all we're facing. This is because, as Christian Science teaches, our lives are the products of our thoughts.

For example, if we keep long-ago memories of death, sickness, lack of forgiveness in thought than we'll still suffer from these today - even though the actual events took place years ago. The reason is because they are a part of our present consciousness. So, the solution would be to keep thought filled with God's goodness. This wipes away the bad memories of yesterday and replaces them with the spiritual facts of your relationship with God.

A few months ago, a little girl I know curled up next to me with her journal she's been keeping for

school. She read a few entries to me of the good times she recorded. One was of a wedding she attended and another of a friend visiting. And when she was done sharing these entries she closed her journal and matter-of-factly said: "I don't have to lock it, because I didn't write anything bad."

She taught me a great deal that day. Often I've thought about myself and asked: "Could I say the same thing if I were keeping a journal?" That is a challenging question. But, then, I've often thought about something that's even more challenging - our mental journal that we all keep, our memory. Memory is our journal of thought that is written upon by our daily events, our conversations, our own mental dialogue. Now, here's the challenging question for all who are yearning to replace mortal dreams with spiritual facts: Could we say, too, that we didn't write anything bad upon our mental journal? Or would we have to admit that we're going through life looking in the rear-view mirror? Hereditary beliefs, family feuds, business losses are all entries on our journal of thought that constantly get looked over, repeated and remembered. What is on our journal of thought that needs to be erased?

The selling of disease in the papers, on TV, in daily conversation, and, yes, in the pulpit, hasn't yet given us the true record of our real selfhood, man, made in God's image and likeness. Rather, these things give us a full-time job in being undecieved about our spiritual and only heritage. Man's spiritual heritage is not based upon mortal relatives with idiosyncrasies, symptoms, and diseases because man, God's image, isn't really material. Rather, man, God's image, has a spiritual heritage as proven by healings recorded in the Bible. And this spiritual heritage is perfect because our Father-God is perfect.

Man naturally reflects all that God is. He is God's expression. He manifests true substance because man is God's offspring. And even though it appears that we're created materially and spiritually the fact remains that man, God's offspring,

is wholly spiritual. And this is true not just in the future, but right now because, as the Bible teaches, God has *already* created man in His image. He has already made man, you, well.

This fundamental fact is shown to us by the great Way-shower, Christ Jesus. In fact, in writing about Christ Jesus, Mrs. Eddy says: "His unseen individuality, so superior to that which was seen, was not subject to the temptations of the flesh, to laws material, to death, or the grave. Formed and governed by God, this individuality was safe in the substance of soul, the substance of Spirit, - yea, the substance of God, the one inclusive good" (Misc. 104:3).

Jesus' unseen individuality that Mrs. Eddy is talking about is his spiritual selfhood. His spiritual selfhood was his true perfection, his manifest health, his immunity from all evil. His spiritual selfhood was his God-given wholeness. This is why Jesus wasn't subject to matter and its concomitants because, in reality, he was safe in the presence of God - even when it appeared he was in grave danger. So, Jesus showed us that man is always in the presence of God - where all is well. And this immunity is for you and me as well. It is for all. For each of us is the very creation of God - provided with the same superiority over the temptations of the flesh that Jesus was, and always safe in the ever-presence of God. It is this perfection that must be written upon our mental journals.

You and I make a difference in everyday life simply by the way we think of God and hence of man. We make a difference because thought based upon God externalizes a life based upon God. This is why it is your thought of God that makes all the difference to you. It is my thought of God that makes all the difference to me. And since it is our thought that makes all the difference we can reason that the true, spiritual millennium, the promises of the Kingdom of Heaven and its reign, is not some far off state of being. It is an everyday state of being.

THE BATTLE

It is no secret to you that in everyday life we face decisions and confrontations. Health and wealth sometimes appear to be in submission to matter. And there is often a battle. But, may I propose to you that this battle isn't so much physical as it is mental?

Now, that may be a provocative statement to some of you. But, actually, many natural scientists and doctors are coming to that conclusion. They are seeing that one's thought very much influences one's body. Yet, Christian Science takes it a step further by stating that one's thought not only influences one's body, but actually determines one's state of health. Because of this, Christian Science teaches and demonstrates that disease, when battled through spiritual right thought, is destroyed within thought. And when it is destroyed within thought it is destroyed within body. Thus proving, that contrary to what many believe, disease is not physical, it is not a condition. It would have to be falsely mental.

The true challenge, then, is the challenge going on within consciousness. A challenge between good and evil, honesty and dishonesty, patience and impatience, forgiveness or resentment. It is these contraries that we are confronting. In short, it is the confrontation of being matter-born versus Spirit - God created. And as these confrontations are faced, within the precincts of our own consciousness, they are won because thought that yields to God ceases to yield to the supposititious opposite: matter. Thus we find the true millennium, the Kingdom of Heaven within consciousness and therefore within experience.

The Bible story of Jacob wrestling with 'a man' shows most clearly the power of true prayer to gain the true, spiritual millennium, where all is well.

The Bible records: "And Jacob was left alone and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

"And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the

hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.

"And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.

"And he said unto him. What is thy name? And he said, Jacob.

"And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

"And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there.

"And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved" (Gen.32:24-30).

Jacob's battle was not with another person. It was a mental struggle. It was a battle with his own false concept, his own fears, his own belief of life apart from God going on within his own consciousness. So, when he finally grasped the spiritual truth of his God-given perfection, needed to save him, it was natural for him to hang on. And he hung on tight! He didn't let go with just a little inspiration, a little more spiritual insight of his relationship with God. Rather, he demanded, as you and I would, that the spiritual truth change him. And it did. It changed his thought, his concept of himself from being materially based to being God based. In short, it transformed his thinking, which simultaneously transformed his nature, his character. It awakened him to the spiritual fact of the ever-presence of the true millennium right where he was. He found, as you and I can find, that he was *already* at home with God, in the Kingdom of Heaven. He learned that the spiritual millennium wasn't something out there somewhere dependent upon time and space. But, rather, right here, right now, within consciousness.

OUR MENTAL STANDPOINT

Have you ever noticed that when people know how something works they often recognize its usefulness? This is true for almost everything

we encounter, including our spiritual understanding of how prayer works. It is useful to understand spiritually just how thought based on God affects our lives because knowing the usefulness of something makes it even more useful to us.

The misconception of fear, disease, feelings of uselessness, lack or any other abnormality are always in thought, then they are manifested in our lives. These misconceptions, then, must be destroyed in consciousness so they can simultaneously be destroyed in the so-called outward and actual. They have to be reversed and dissolved so that our lives may reflect man's innate God-given health and harmony. But, how? How can we destroy a misconception? By replacing it with the correct conception. By spiritually seeing that whatever it is we're dealing with is simply falsely mental, not a condition of matter at all. It is a false view, entertained within consciousness – even though it would try to affirm that the problem is a physical condition.

In reality, the problem is never a physical condition at all – it is always an outside suggestion to consciousness. Understanding this helps us stand against this falsely mental belief and stand with the fact of being: man's God-given, perfect, substance. Doing this, destroys the falsely mental view. Then the spiritual facts of being are recognized as permanent, and health and harmony prevail. Our correct view of our substance determines our health and harmony. It is always our own mental standpoint that needs changing, as Jacob proved.

A friend of mine has a little girl who woke her up one night because she had had a nightmare. My friend assumed it was the general goblins and shadows that scared her little girl so she said, "Oh, honey, it's OK. There aren't any ghosts or goblins, the shadows aren't people, you're safe. Besides, Mommy and Daddy are right here. Go on back to bed." Then just as my friend's head hit the pillow again she heard the sweetest little voice saying to her, "But, Mommy, it's my thinking!" Oh, if we

all could just learn that it's our thinking!

But, sometimes, we're tempted to think that it is the other fellow that needs changing, or something out there somewhere that has to happen. But, the fact is: nothing takes place outside of the precincts of one's own consciousness.

When healing occurs in consciousness there is a mental advancement, a movement from material thinking to spiritual thinking. Then, this is naturally externalized in one's life. The healing occurs when thought yields to God. This is what true prayer does for us: it aligns thought with God which results in healing.

This is how it operates: it *allows* the divine Mind, God, to *act* upon human minds and bodies. It *destroys* discord. It *eliminates* error. It *replaces* mortality with immortality.

What we have to ask ourselves is: What is our mental standpoint?

If we believe that matter is the all-in-all of experience, that it governs our every thought and motion, that it is the basis of all we do, then matter is our basis of thought. We will then experience the effects of this belief. If we believe that disease has a course to take, levels of severity and danger, symptoms that characterize it, then we'll suffer from the belief that matter has intelligence and power.

But, if we spiritually discern that divine Mind, Spirit, God is the one All-in-all, who governs our every thought and action, and is the basis of all we do, then we find our experience governed by this divine Mind, God, which *acts* upon human thought and experience. If we spiritually understand that disease is simply a mis-seen, mental suggestion, having no course to take, no levels of severity and danger, and totally without symptoms to characterize it, then we'll reap the rewards our spiritual discernment provides. We'll find we can't suffer from something that is completely lacking in intelligence and power.

Mrs. Eddy illustrates what the action of the divine Mind upon human minds and bodies does when she writes in *Miscellaneous Writings*, "I was once called to visit a sick man to whom the regular physicians had

given three doses of Croton oil, and then had left him to die. Upon my arrival I found him barely alive, and in terrible agony. In one hour he was well, and the next day he attended to his business. I removed the stoppage, healed him of enteritis, and neutralized the bad effects of the poisonous oil.... Thus it is shown that the healing action of Mind upon the body has its only explanation in divine metaphysics.... When the mortal thought, or belief, was removed, the man was well" (70).

Mrs. Eddy's prayerful treatment did something. It had action. It removed, neutralized the false belief. It employed the healing action of divine Mind upon the body. It proved that the condition wasn't material at all, but wholly mental. Mrs. Eddy's prayer, or treatment, changed the thought of the patient and the result was the removal of the stoppage. Her treatment healed. This is what the Science of Mind-healing does. It destroys the false belief held in thought and replaces it with the right idea – the true nature and essence of God and man.

A NEW SCHOOL OF PRACTITIONERS

Because this method of healing is so different from other methods it has naturally created what Mrs. Eddy calls "a new school of practitioners" (Misc. 80). This new school of practitioners is composed of individuals who have seen, felt, and proven for themselves the power of understanding spiritually man's relationship with God, good. They are people like you and me who have yearned for a way to heal systematically through prayer. But, more, they are people who have *found* the way to heal systematically through prayer and have left off all other healing methods for this 'medical system of the new'.

In this new school of practitioners the old schools of materia medica, hygiene, pathology, therapeutics, are replaced with a higher, broader, spiritual understanding of spiritual facts. These schools are still utilized, but utilized in a Christianly scientific

manner with God and man's perfection as their basis. We find the medical system of the new not only practical and trustworthy, but pure, spiritual, mental.

Not long ago, I read an article where the writer wrote, "I'm in charge of my weather! Since I've learned about being on the universe's schedule I have not missed one speaking engagement because of the weather. When you're anxious and nervous there are lots of storms.... We are affecting what happens to us" (Kindred Spirit Issue 43 – Summer 1998).

Well, we are affecting what happens to us – not just through the human mind, though. We are affecting what happens to us by basing our mental standpoint upon God, good, and keeping it there. In fact, we could paraphrase the above writer by saying, "We are in charge of our own millennium!"

MARY BAKER EDDY: A LEADER OF THOUGHT

The effects of Mrs. Eddy's discovery touch some facet of everyone's life. In particular, she has been honored for advancing four different constituents of humanity's concerns: religion, medicine, journalism, and society.

Mark Twain tells us most succinctly *what* Mrs. Eddy did when he wrote: "She has organized and made available a healing principle that for two thousand years has never been employed except as the merest kind of guesswork. She is the benefactor of the age."

And Mrs. Eddy tells us most succinctly *who* she is when she writes of herself. "To-day, though rejoicing in some progress, she still finds herself a willing disciple at the heavenly gate, waiting for the Mind of Christ" (S&H, preface ix:16).

Indeed, Mrs. Eddy was a willing disciple at the heavenly gate – kneeling in humble prayer, waiting for the Mind of Christ – waiting to hear and do God's word.

Mrs. Eddy once wrote, "Earth's actors change earth's scenes; and the curtain of human life should be lifted on reality, on that which outweighs time; on duty done and life perfected,

wherein joy is real and fadeless” (1902, pg. 17:13).

Mrs. Eddy did change earth’s scenes for the better. In preparing this lecture I have asked myself, What would Mrs. Eddy want you to know about her? What do I know about her – someone whose writings I have searched and been healed by – yet, someone whom I’ve never met in person, someone whom I’ve only read about?

Well, I believe, as important as American history is that Mrs. Eddy may want you to know how she has changed earth’s scenes. How lifting the curtain of human life reveals a servant of God who has discovered for mankind the way of individual salvation. How what she founded outweighs time and is as immortal as God.

As the servant of God it was her duty to bring to mankind the spiritual understanding of Christ Jesus’ healing method. It was her duty to record this Divine Science completely. It was her position to show us our spiritual freedom from all inharmony.

I know this lady, this beloved servant of God. I know her just as many know Abraham Lincoln or Elizabeth Cady Stanton. I know her through her actions and her writings.

To know her writings is to know Mrs. Eddy. There we find the Word of God written through her pen. There is where her thought is seen, her life explained, her mission accomplished.

To Mrs. Eddy religion wasn’t something made of creeds and rituals. Rather it was the way one lived. It was a way of thinking, of acting, or doing. Her desire to be well and learn how to make others well, led her to search the Scriptures. She found that Christ Jesus teaches us to pattern our lives after his and this is what Mrs. Eddy did. Doing this, she found that the so-called miracles of Jesus’ day are not bygone proofs of God’s love and presence. She discovered, rather, the foundation of present day spiritual healing, as found in her religion: Christian Science.

For example, not long ago in my own experience, I was walking into the downstairs of my office building

when suddenly I found myself blocking a fall. Without any obvious reason my foot slipped and my papers went flying. I had sprained and broken my foot. However, I was able to get up, hobble to the elevator, and get to my office. Once there, I prayed for myself using the truths found in this book, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. After awhile I felt better and went about my usual work.

But, by noon my foot felt awful. I gathered my papers and went home. It was all I could do to walk and within a few hours the pain was tremendous and I was afraid. I called my husband and asked him to pray for me. He did. Within the hour the pain was gone. By the end of the afternoon I was able to walk outside. By the next day I could do my errands in the afternoon and by the third day I was walking freely. Each evening, though, I began to notice and see that a bone was not in its right place and if it got hit or touched it was very painful. I reminded myself to keep praying – not to give up just because I could walk well – but to heal the whole thing that was being presented to my consciousness. I knew that God’s work is complete. He doesn’t heal just a little bit or almost all of something. When God heals He heals! Within two weeks the bone had gone back into position and the healing was complete.

Mrs. Eddy was wise enough not to let her discovery remain in theory. She tested it and proved its practicality by healing others. She writes in *Science and Health*, “By thousands of well-authenticated cases of healing, she and her students have proved the worth of her teachings” (preface x).

TRUE MILLENNIUM

Not long ago, I was on an early morning flight on a small prop plane. I’ll never forget something I learned that morning. As I sat in the cold plane, all bundled up trying to keep warm, I noticed that right outside my window was the propeller. It was within arm’s reach. And I also noticed that it wasn’t

marked, that is, it didn’t have the usual stripe on it. As the pilot started the engines, the propeller began to turn, and the faster it turned the less I could see it until it finally disappeared completely. Now, I knew that the propeller was there. I knew it was within arm’s reach. Yet, I couldn’t see it! I also knew that the laws of physics would be able to explain to me why I couldn’t see what I knew was there – just as the laws of metaphysics, as taught in Christian Science, is able to make clear to me why matter isn’t really the all-in-all – even when it appears that it is.

This is what Mrs. Eddy has offered to the world: an explanation of why matter isn’t the all-in-all of existence and why God is. Because of this, you and I are in position today to gain a greater understanding of God and His creation which results naturally in a more peaceful, healthful life.

No matter what the phantasmagoria passing before our eyes, the true millennium is always present. It is our unbreakable, ever-present relationship with God. It is within each of us – presently and perfectly.

CONCLUSION

Well, we’ve spent almost an hour together today discussing the ever-here-ness of the Kingdom of Heaven and the fallacy of putting off until tomorrow what is already yours today. Recently, there was an article in *The Wall Street Journal* titled: “We’re All Living in Future Tense – And It’s Tense Indeed” (11-20-97). However, through the teachings of Christian Science we can learn that this moment holds all the good we’ll ever need. This is because this moment God is here.

As my little friend’s mother might say, ‘My friend, this *is* your tomorrow’. And as the great and eloquent St. Paul has said, “...Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ:... behold, now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation.... (Rev. 12:10 & II Cor. 6:2).