

Readings from the Wednesday Testimony Meeting

Subject: Forever Young

Hymns: 218, 320, 140

September 28, 2011

The Bible

Job 10: 20 to ?, 21, 22; Job 11: 13, 15 then –18 to comma, 18 2nd thou to ;

Are not my days few?

Before I go whence I shall not return, even to the land of darkness and the shadow of death;

A land of darkness, as darkness itself; and of the shadow of death, without any order, and where the light is as darkness.

If thou prepare thine heart, and stretch out thine hands toward him;

Then shalt thou lift up thy face without spot; yea, thou shalt be steadfast, and shalt not fear:

Because thou shalt forget thy misery, and remember it as waters that pass away:

And thine age shall be clearer than the noonday; thou shalt shine forth, thou shalt be as the morning.

And thou shalt be secure, . . . thou shalt take thy rest in safety.

Also thou shalt lie down, and none shall make thee afraid;

Ps. 103: 1, 3, 4 to ; 5

Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

Who redeemeth thy life from destruction;

Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Ps. 110: 3

Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth.

Ps. 39 mine to : 7, 10 to :

Mine age is as nothing before thee:

And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope is in thee.

Remove thy stroke away from me:

Ps. 40

Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me: O Lord, make haste to help me.

Ezek. 18: 31, 32

Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord God: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye.

Ps. 71; 1 – 3 to :, 5, 8, 9,

In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion.

Deliver me in thy righteousness, and cause me to escape: incline thine ear unto me, and save me.

Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort:

For thou art my hope, O Lord God: thou art my trust from my youth.

Let my mouth be filled with thy praise and with thy honour all the day.

Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth.

Isa. 66: 19 I to :, 20 to :

I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in my people:

There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days:

Isa. 46: 4 to :

And even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you:

Titus 2: 1 speak – 3

Speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:

That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.

The aged women likewise, that they be in behavior as becometh holiness,

Eph. 4: 14 we – 17, 22 put – 24

We henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ;

From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

Put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind:

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Rom. 6: 4 like

Like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Rev. 21: 5 to .

And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new.

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

519:14-16

Mortals can never know the infinite, until they throw off the old man and reach the spiritual image and likeness.

296: 1-9, 10

Either here or hereafter, suffering or Science must destroy all illusions regarding life and mind, and regenerate material sense and self. The old man with his deeds must be put off.

The death of a false material sense and of sin, not the death of organic matter, is what reveals man and Life, harmonious, real, and eternal.

248: 5

Men and women of riper years and larger lessons ought to ripen into health and immortality, instead of lapsing into darkness or gloom. Immortal Mind feeds the body with supernal freshness and fairness, supplying it with beautiful images of thought and destroying the woes of sense which each day brings to a nearer tomb.

249: 5-8

Let the "male and female" of God's creating appear. Let us feel the divine energy of Spirit, bringing us into newness of life and recognizing no mortal nor material power as able to destroy.

244: 7-14, 19-27, 29

If we were to derive all our conceptions of man from what is seen between the cradle and the grave, happiness and goodness would have no abiding-place in man, and the worms would rob him of the flesh; but Paul writes: "The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."

If man flickers out in death or springs from matter into being, there must be an instant when God is without Hi entire manifestation,--when there is no full reflection of the infinite Mind.

Man in Science is neither young nor old. He has neither birth nor death. He is not a beast, a vegetable, nor a migratory mind. He does not pass from matter to Mind, from the mortal to the immortal, from evil to good, or from good to evil. . . .Even Shakespeare's poetry pictures age as infancy, as helplessness and decadence, instead of assigning to man the everlasting grandeur and immortality of development, power, and prestige.

245: 1, 21, 27

The error of thinking that we are growing old, and the benefits of destroying that illusion, are illustrated in a sketch from the history of an English woman, published in the London medical magazine called The Lancet.

Disappointed in love in her early years, she became insane and lost all account of time. Believing that she was still living in the same hour which parted her from her lover, taking no note of years, she stood daily before the window watching for her lover's coming. In this mental state she remained young. Having no consciousness of time, she literally grew no older. Some American travellers saw her when she was seventy-four,

and supposed her to be a young woman. She had no care-lined face, no wrinkles nor gray hair, but youth sat gently on cheek and brow. Asked to guess her age, those unacquainted with her history conjectured that she must be under twenty. Years had not made her old, because she had taken no cognizance of passing time nor thought of herself as growing old. The bodily results of her belief that she was young manifested the influence of such a belief. She could not age while believing herself young, for the mental state governed the physical. Impossibilities never occur. One instance like the foregoing proves it possible to be young at seventy-four; and the primary of that illustration makes it plain that decrepitude is not according to law, nor is it a necessity of nature, but an illusion.

66: 14

Each successive stage of experience unfolds new views of divine goodness and love.

393: 10-13, 16-21

Take possession of your body, and govern its feeling and action. Rise in the strength of Spirit to resist all that is unlike good.

Be firm in your understanding that the divine mind governs, and that in Science man reflects God's government. Have no fear that matter can ache, swell, and be inflamed as the result of a law of any kind, when it is self-evident that matter can have no pain nor inflammation.

214: 28

Neither age nor accident can interfere with the senses of Soul, and there are no other real senses. It is evident that the body as matter has no sensation of its own, and there is no oblivion for Soul and its faculties. Spirit's senses are without pain, and they are forever at peace. Nothing can hide from them the harmony of all things, and the might and permanence of Truth.

418: 28

Speak the truth to every form of error. Tumors, ulcers, tubercles, inflammation, pain, deformed joints, are waking dream-shadows, dark images of mortal thought, which flee before the light of Truth.

419: 16

Meet every adverse circumstance as its master. Observe mind instead of body, lest aught unfit for development enter thought. Think less of material conditions and more of spiritual.

420: 2-4, 17

There is no metastasis, no stoppage of harmonious action, no paralysis. Truth not error, Love not hate, Spirit not matter, governs man.

The fact that Truth overcomes both disease and sin reassures depressed hope. It imparts a healthy stimulus to the body, and regulates the system. It increases or diminishes the action, as the case may require, better than any drug, alterative, or tonic.

228: 7, 20

Heredity is a prolific subject for mortal belief to pin theories upon; but if we learn that nothing is real but the right, we shall have no dangerous inheritances, and fleshly ills will disappear.

If we follow the command of our Master, "Take no thought for your life," we shall never depend on bodily conditions, structure, or economy, but we shall be masters of the body, dictate its terms, and form and control it with Truth.

373:22-2

Establish the scientific sense of health, and you relieve the oppressed organ. The inflammation, decomposition, or deposit will abate, and the disabled organ will resume its healthy functions.

When the blood rushes madly through the veins or languidly creeps along its frozen channels, we call these conditions disease. This is a misconception. Mortal mind is producing the propulsion or the languor, and we prove this to be so when by mental means the circulation is changed, and returns to that standard which mortal mind has decided upon as essential for health.

246: 4-5, 10-11, 12, 18-31

Life and its faculties are not measured by calendars.

The measurement of life by solar years robs youth and gives ugliness to age. . .

.Manhood is its eternal noon, undimmed by a declining sun. As the physical and material, the transient sense of beauty fades, the radiance of Spirit should dawn upon the enraptured sense with bright and imperishable glories.

Time-tables of birth and death are so many conspiracies against manhood and womanhood. Except for the error of measuring and limiting all that is good and beautiful, man would enjoy more than threescore years and ten and still maintain his vigor, freshness, and promise. Man, governed by immortal Mind, is always beautiful and grand. Each succeeding year unfolds wisdom, beauty, and holiness.

Life is eternal. We should find this out, and begin the demonstration thereof. Life and goodness are immortal. Let us then shape our views of existence into loveliness, freshness, and continuity, rather than into age and blight.

247: 3, 13

I have seen age regain two of the elements it had lost, sight and teeth. A woman of eighty-five, whom I knew, had a return of sight. Another woman at ninety had new teeth, incisors, cuspids, bicuspid, and on molar. One man at sixty had retained his full set of upper and lower teeth without a decaying cavity.

Immortality, exempt from age or decay, has a glory of its own,--the radiance of Soul. Immortal men and women are models of spiritual sense, dawn by perfect Mind and reflecting those higher conceptions of loveliness which transcend all material sense.

162:13-19

The indestructible faculties of Spirit exist without the conditions of matter and also without the false beliefs of a so-called material existence. 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.

390: 27-29

“Agree to disagree” with approaching symptoms of chronic or acute disease, whether it is cancer, consumption, or smallpox.

149: 12

If you fail to succeed in any case, it is because you have not demonstrated the life of Christ, Truth, more in your own life,--because you have not obeyed the rule and proed the Principle of divine Science.

261: 21-1, 7-8

Detach sense from the body, or matter, which is only a form of human belief, and you may learn the meaning of God, or good, and the nature of the immutable and immortal. Breaking away from the mutations of time and sense, you will neither lose the solid objects and ends of life nor your own identify. Fixing your gaze on the realities supernal, you will rise to the spiritual consciousness of being, even as the bird which has burst from the egg and preems its wings for a skyward flight.

We should forget our bodies in remembering good and the human race. Good demands of man every hour, in which to work out the problem of being.

By putting “off the old man with his deeds,” mortals “put on immortality.”