

reduced Him to impersonal Law. Even now their chief object is to take away from our conception of God the supreme characteristic that endears Him to the human heart.

But it is very difficult to know just what Christian Scientists mean when they speak of God as Principle. Indeed, I am persuaded, after much reading on this question, that they do not all mean the same thing. Nor do the same people mean the same thing all the time. Sometimes in speaking of this Principle they deny it all the elements of personality. At other times they speak of it as though it were a person. This is especially true of Mrs. Eddy, the supposed discoverer and founder of the cult.

To her God is "Principle" and God is "All." "Is there more than one Principle? There is not. Principle and its idea are one, and this one is God." In another place she likens her God-Principle to the principle of mathematics. Now if there is only one principle in the universe then the principle of mathematics, and the principle of music, and Mrs. Eddy's God must be one and the same thing. Then she affirms that "this Principle is Life, Truth and Love." If that is so, then the life of God is no more to us than the life of mathematics, the truth of God than the truth of mathematics, the love of God than the love of mathematics. Will any intelligent person attempt to make a rational or religious application of the words life, spirit, mind, love, to the principle of mathematics? Yet that is what Mrs. Eddy has done