

According to Mrs. Eddy, sin does not really exist. It is a delusion of mortal mind. She says, "Evil has no reality. It is neither person, place, nor thing; but is simply a belief, an illusion of material sense. Evil is nothing. As manifested by mankind it stands for a lie, nothing claiming to be something. 'It is difficult for the sinner to accept divine Science because Science exposes his nothingness.'" Is such teaching in harmony with God's word, and with human experience?

1. **The Bible.**—The central theme of the Scriptures is salvation (deliverance) through Jesus Christ. This deliverance is not simply from an approaching doom, but from a present malady. It is the sin of this world that Jesus came to destroy. There can be no salvation where there is no sin. There is not a book in the Bible that does not mention the fact of sin. The constant appeal of the Scriptures is an appeal against sin as an existing evil. The law was given to condemn sin. Endless sacrifices were made to atone for sin. The tears of the Psalmist are his confession of, and repentance for, sin. The fierce invectives of the prophets are God's denunciations of sin. The coming of Jesus into the world was God's effort to save men from sin. The preaching of the Apostles was a message of salvation from sin. The Bible has no meaning apart from the fact of sin.

But that is not all. Sin, according to the Scriptures, is universal. The malady has infected the race. "There is none good, no not