

Christian Science prayer. This prayer recognizes the falsity of evil human sense, and includes the deep, earnest, conscientious desire to know God and do His will; it rests upon the absolute conviction of the power of perfect principle and the forever operation of the immutable divine law, the law of spirit, not of matter; it involves absolute dependence upon Him for all that is good and right, recognition of His supremacy, the acknowledgement of Him in all our ways, and the exercise of perfect trust in Him, together with a clear understanding of the character and the mission of Christ Jesus and obedience to his teachings. This is what St. James calls "the prayer of faith" which shall save the sick and which Mrs. Eddy explains in her masterly elucidation of prayer in Chapter One of "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures."

In this book she writes:

"Only through radical reliance on truth can scientific healing power be realized." (Page 167).

A mixed thought, or one in which the real and unreal, the spiritual and the material, the divine and the human, are not accurately differentiated, does not reflect spiritual truth clearly, for truth is spirit, and spirit is reflected only by knowing truth.

Indeed, Christian Science teaches that the recognition of the evil thought or mental cause which is back of disease or disturbance, is an essential factor in successful and instantaneous healing. Disease may possibly be due sometimes to purely material causes, so-called, either chemical or mechanical, but more frequently disease is due to the indulgence of sin or evil thought, or to belief of malicious arguments. In such a case, when the evil is detected and cast out, the sufferer is healed of the effects of the indulgence in wrong thoughts or acts, and is protected from hypnotic influence.

Thus we see why Christian Science is truly the science of right living. It involves the knowing of divine truth and the principle of correct living, it recognizess the deceptive character of evil which is the cause of wrong living, and through the operation of divine law, it makes the healing of this evil tendency possible. It not only heals sin, but it uplifts thought to higher ideals by revealing the true nature of God and the real man, thus inspiring a stronger sense of right, of honesty, of justice, of purity, of spirituality. It enriches human nature, develops and enlarges its latent capacities for good, ennobles character, establishes moral and physical health, inculcates a true love for God and man, and bestows the blessing resulting from Christian living.

"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." (Phil. 4:8)