

Subject: Dispersing the Clouds of War

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Hymns: 236, 200, 157

The Bible

(James Moffatt)

Genesis 4:1-9 Eve

1 ...Eve...bore Cain....

2 Next she bore his brother Abel. Abel was a shepherd, while Cain was a farmer.

3 In course of time, Cain brought some produce of the ground as a present to the Eternal,

4 while Abel brought some of the firstborn from his flock, that is, some fat slices from them.

5 The Eternal favoured Abel and his present; he did not favour Cain and his.

6 So Cain was furious and downcast. "Why are you furious?" said the Eternal to Cain, "why are you downcast?"

7 "If your heart is honest, you would surely look bright? If you are sullen, sin is lying in wait for you, eager to be at you—yet you ought to master it."

8 But Cain quarrelled with his brother Abel, and, when they were out in the open country, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

9 Then the Eternal asked Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "How do I know?" said Cain; "am I a shepherd to my brother?"

Exodus 20:3, 13

3 You shall have no gods but me.

13 You shall not murder.

I Kings 22:1

1 For three years there was no fighting between Syria and Israel.

Psalms 18:48-49

48 O thou my rescuer from my foes, who settest me high above my enemies, who rescuest me from violence,

49 I thank thee ... O Eternal, I will sing thy praise.

Micah 4:1-4

1 In after days it shall be that the Eternal's hill shall rise, towering over every hill, and higher than the heights.

2 Nations shall stream to it, and many a people shall exclaim, "Come, let us go to the Eternal's hill, to the house of Jacob's God, that he may instruct us in his ways, to walk upon his paths." For instruction comes from Sion, and from Jerusalem the Eternal's word.

3 He will decide disputes of many races, and arbitrate between strong foreign powers, till swords are between into ploughshares, spears into pruning-hooks, no nations draws the sword against another, no longer shall men learn to fight,

4 but live each underneath his vine and underneath his fig-tree, in terror of no one: for so the lips of the Lord of hosts decree.

Matthew 5:21-25 (to jailer), 38-39, 43-45 (to heaven), 48

21 You have heard how the men of old were told 'Murder not:' whoever murders shall come up for sentence,

22 whoever maligns his brother shall come before the Sanhedrin, whoever curses his brother shall go to the fire of Gehenna.'

23 So if you remember, even when offering your gift at the altar, that your brother has any grievance against you,

24 leave your gift at the vary altar and go away; first be reconciled to your brother, then come back and offer your gift.

25 Be quick and make terms with your opponent, so long as you and he are on the way to court, in case he hands you over to the judge, and the judge to the jailer,

38 You have heard the saying, *An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.*

39 But I tell you, you are not to resist an injury: whoever strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other to him as well;

43 You have heard the saying, 'You must love your neighbor and you're your enemy.'

44 But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

45 that you may be the sons of your Father in heaven:

48 You must be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.

(The Message)

Matt.5:9

9 You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family.

Science and Health

462:25-30

The anatomy of Christian Science teaches when and how to probe the self-inflicted wounds of selfishness, malice, envy, and hate. It teaches the control of mad ambition. It unfolds the hallowed influences of unselfishness, philanthropy, spiritual love.

188:4-10

The belief of sin, which has grown terrible in strength and influence, is an unconscious error in the beginning, — an embryonic thought without motive; but afterwards it governs the so-called man. Passion, depraved appetites, dishonesty, envy, hatred, revenge ripen into action, only to pass from shame and woe to their final punishment.

28:32-6

There is too much animal courage in society and not sufficient moral courage. Christians must take up arms against error at home and abroad. They must grapple with sin in themselves and in others, and continue this warfare until they have finished their course. If they keep the faith, they will have the crown of rejoicing.

289:9

To suppose that sin, lust, hatred, envy, hypocrisy, revenge, have life abiding in them, is a terrible mistake. Life and Life's idea, Truth and Truth's idea, never make men sick, sinful, or mortal.

407:6

Man's enslavement to the most relentless masters — passion, selfishness, envy, hatred, and revenge — is conquered only by a mighty struggle. Every hour of delay makes the struggle more severe. If man is not victorious over the passions, they crush out happiness, health, and manhood. Here Christian Science is the sovereign panacea, giving strength to the weakness of mortal mind, — strength from the immortal and omnipotent Mind, — and lifting humanity above itself into purer desires, even into spiritual power and good-will to man.

490:3

Will-power is but a product of belief, and this belief commits depredations on harmony. Human will is an animal propensity, not a faculty of Soul. Hence it cannot govern man aright. Christian Science reveals Truth and Love as the motive-powers of man. Will — blind, stubborn, and headlong — cooperates with appetite and passion. From this cooperation arises its evil. From this also comes its powerlessness, since all power belongs to God, good.

324:13

Be watchful, sober, and vigilant. The way is straight and narrow, which leads to the understanding that God is the only Life. It is a warfare with the flesh, in which we must conquer sin, sickness, and death, either here or hereafter, — certainly before we can reach the goal of Spirit, or life in God.

568:24-14

For victory over a single sin, we give thanks and magnify the Lord of Hosts. What shall we say of the mighty conquest over all sin? A louder song, sweeter than has ever before reached high heaven, now rises clearer and nearer to the great heart of Christ; for the accuser is not there, and Love sends forth her primal and everlasting strain. Self-abnegation, by which we lay down all for Truth, or Christ, in our warfare against error, is a rule in Christian Science. This rule clearly interprets God as divine Principle, — as Life, represented by the Father; as Truth, represented by the Son; as Love, represented by the Mother. Every mortal at some period, here or hereafter, must grapple with and overcome the mortal belief in a power opposed to God.

The Scripture, "Thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many," is literally fulfilled, when we are conscious of the supremacy of Truth, by which the nothingness of error is seen; and we know that the nothingness of error is in proportion to its wickedness. He that touches the hem of Christ's robe and masters his mortal beliefs, animality, and hate, rejoices in the proof of healing, — in a sweet and certain sense that God is Love.

467:3-13

Answer. — The first demand of this Science is, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." This *me* is Spirit. Therefore the command means this: Thou shalt have no intelligence, no life, no substance, no truth, no love, but that which is spiritual. The second is like unto it, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." It should be thoroughly understood that all men have one Mind, one God and Father, one Life, Truth, and Love. Mankind will become perfect in proportion as this fact becomes apparent, war will cease and the true brotherhood of man will be established.