



The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE JOURNAL

DEEP THINK

HEALING WITH CERTAINTY

JANET HEINEMAN CLEMENTS

From the August 2007 issue of *The Christian Science Journal*

ONE BRIGHT MORNING many years ago, I awoke to learn from my dad of a quick healing that my mom had experienced, the evening before. One moment she had been in extreme pain with an internal disorder and the next moment she was suddenly well and free. After profusely thanking the practitioner who had prayed for my mom, my dad asked the practitioner how she had prayed. She said she had prayed with a statement by Mary Baker Eddy from *Science and Health*, "Hold perpetually this thought,—that it is the spiritual idea, the Holy Ghost and Christ, which enables you to demonstrate, with scientific certainty, the rule of healing, based upon its divine Principle, Love, underlying, overlying, and encompassing all true being" (p. 496).

As a young girl at the time, I asked myself just what the practitioner saw in those words that resulted in an instantaneous healing. *How wonderful*, I thought, *to be able to heal with such certainty!* Since then, I've continued to ponder that sentence, getting fresh insight into how and why we can heal with scientific certainty. To understand it better, let's take a closer look at Mrs. Eddy's statement. First, she tells us to hold thought to "the spiritual idea." What is "the spiritual idea"? I think the explanation is twofold—the Holy Ghost and the Christ.

The Christ is that divine consciousness that shows us the truth of our spiritual nature, perfection, and substance. It's like a continually unfolding blueprint of our spiritual nature and identity. The Christ inwardly speaks to us of our oneness with God. The Christ is the holiness that animates our spiritual being and is really the source of our prayerful thought. Mrs. Eddy

stated, "The Christlike understanding of scientific being and divine healing includes a perfect Principle and idea,—perfect God and perfect man,—as the basis of thought and demonstration" (*Science and Health* p. 259).

Why is this Christly understanding important in healing? Because like sunshine dissolving the mist, the Christ enlightens thought with the reality of our true and perfect selfhood as the image and likeness of God. And this consciousness dissolves fear and misconceptions that suggest otherwise.

Through all his healings, Jesus fully demonstrated the Christ by bringing to light the harmony of God's good creation. Jesus' example, given many centuries ago and still available to us today, illumines the full power of Christ to healers in every age. In defining evil—the opposite of God's creation—Jesus said that evil is a lie and that no truth can be found in it (see John 8:44). Whether confronted with a diseased hand, destructive weather conditions, or lack of food, Jesus understood that evil in any form is a lie about the supremacy of good. And this Christly understanding destroyed those adverse conditions, bringing immediate healing in each situation. Shedding further insight on this point, Mrs. Eddy stated, "Our Master, in his definition of Satan as a liar from the beginning, attested the absolute powerlessness—yea, nothingness—of evil: since a lie, being without foundation in fact, is merely a falsity; spiritually, literally, it *is nothing*" (*Miscellaneous Writings* 1883-1896, p. 108).

How important then as healers to fully realize that the Christ acts upon the lie of discord in human consciousness and destroys this falsity with the knowledge of our present perfection and oneness with God. This Christ-power heals. In *Miscellaneous Writings*, Mrs. Eddy instructed healers, "Destroy the thought of sin, sickness, death, and you destroy their existence" (p. 105). That's what the Christ-consciousness does. As healers, we acknowledge that the individual we are praying for has the consciousness of Christ, which is free from all error and that the patient is aware only of his or her God-given perfection. The Bible assures us, "We have the mind of Christ" (1 Cor. 2:16).

And what about the Holy Ghost? Mary Baker Eddy understood the Holy Ghost, or the Comforter—which Jesus promised would come to humanity—to be divine Science. She said, "The term Science, properly understood, refers only to the laws of God and to His government

of the universe, inclusive of man" (*Science and Health*, p. 128). And in her book *Science and Health*, Mrs. Eddy explained the laws of God as she discovered them.

How are we related to these laws of God? Our true identity is the expression of God's law in action now and always. The Bible asks each of us, "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" (1 Cor. 6:19). This law of God permeates and governs every aspect of being, revealing harmony. The supremacy of God's law leaves no room or claim of any other law to operate—no medical law or law of matter. Nothing can operate outside of God's law of harmony. Mrs. Eddy's volume of healings, as well as those of Christian Scientists since her time, confirms the power of divine Science and leaves a legacy of revealed Truth on which each of us can rely and demonstrate with assurance today.

The power of the Holy Ghost and Christ have been fully, finally revealed. Holding to this fact lifts thought to our conscious oneness with the healing light of reality. Healing is then scientifically certain because we are not waiting for the Christ to act or for God's law to be put into operation. The Christ is here now, as Jesus revealed, showing us the ongoing reality of man as God's image and likeness. The Christ brings us directly to an understanding of who we are. We don't need to gain more understanding to be healed, because the Christlike understanding is always expressed in us. We are right now at the point of understanding our perfect selfhood.

Likewise, the Holy Ghost, the final revelation of God's power, is here now. God's law is in operation, causing health, harmony, and brotherly love to exist universally—now and always. There can never be an absence of God's law of health and harmony. We don't need to do something to jump-start God's law into operation. It is always acting, and therefore no other law can override this supreme law. Because the power of the Holy Ghost and Christ are revealed, no time is required to become perfect, no new knowledge is needed to be healed, no circumstance has to take place, no matter has to be made better.

Our healing work rests safely in the knowledge that God's two witnesses of His power—the Christ and the Holy Ghost—are revealed. This is where the power and certainty of healing abides.

The revelation of the supremacy of God's power through His two witnesses springs from everlasting Love, which is the basis of the rule of healing ". . . underlying, overlying, and encompassing all true being" (*Science and Health*, p. 496). The depth of divine Love leaves no room for a hurt so deeply rooted or prolonged or hidden that Love can't dissolve it. And the breadth of divine Love's circle is so all-inclusive that no circumstance can leave anyone out of its healing embrace. The height of divine Love means healing is never too hard or ever beyond the reach of God's healing grace. The might of Love leaves no room for any harmful power. The majesty of divine Love is from the "infinitesimal to infinity" (*Science and Health*, p. 503), so all is harmoniously governed. The glory of divine Love is the eternal presence of Love individually expressed.

This complete power of divine Love, evidenced by the Holy Ghost and Christ, sustains each of us and governs every aspect of our being with the harmony of divine law. I believe this was the substance of what the practitioner who healed my mother must have glimpsed that night. The power of God's Christ made my mother conscious of her perfection as a child of God, and the power of the Holy Ghost was recognized as governing every aspect of her being in perfect harmony.

What joy we have as healers to glimpse this universal revelation—to know that individually and collectively everyone in the universe has the consciousness of the Christ and is the expression of God's law of harmony now and always. And to know with certainty that Love is embracing all in eternal harmony. Understanding these facts, we can heal with scientific certainty.

We don't need to do something to jump-start God's law into operation. It is always acting, and therefore no other law can override this supreme law.

Janet Clements, a Christian Science practitioner and teacher, lives in Evanston, Illinois.

© 2022 The Christian Science Publishing Society.
Models in images used for illustrative purposes only.