



Lean on Love

By Janet Clements

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Just as a mother bird extends a sheltering wing over her brood, the tender, mighty embrace of divine Love encompasses its precious creation. God's unfailing love for Her children is beautifully chronicled throughout the Bible, where that love weaves, through more than 4,000 years of history, a golden thread uniting broken families, healing all manner of illness, restoring life, supplying human needs, and neutralizing whatever would harm. Scripture shows us that there is not a single situation that the power of divine Love cannot solve or heal.

Our ability to demonstrate Love's healing power in this age is rooted in the very first chapter of Genesis, where we read, "And God said, Let there be light: and there was light" (verse 3). Mary Baker Eddy, the discoverer of Christian Science, explains in her textbook that this light is "the light of ever-present Love" that "illuminates the universe" (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p. 503).

Think what that means! The whole of creation, from the infinitesimal to the infinite, is illumined with the radiance of divine Love. Love is the only creator and fills all space. Every idea of God is designed to manifest Love, and is lovable, loved, loving, and lovely. Therefore, when one is faced with a condition or circumstance that is inconsistent with divine Love, such as illness or discord, it can be seen as having no authority. Love sanctions only the evidence of itself as the one, all-loving creator, and as infinite good. The moment of healing is the very moment we recognize this.

At one point I found that I had great difficulty walking and standing upright. It felt as though my back was out of alignment. This had gone on for a number of days, and one day I was paralyzed in pain. Everything hurt and I felt completely helpless. I quietly paused for divine guidance and heard the tenderest thought: "Lean wholly and completely on divine Love." What a refreshing and liberating message! Immediately, I felt Love's presence envelop and uplift me, and it was as though I could fall

backward and expect loving arms to catch me and hold me up. Instantly, all the pain vanished, and I was able to move freely. Within a short time I could run and walk and even climb mountains, with total freedom!

What happened? Simply stated, isn't healing always the result of the joyous acceptance that Love gives us only what is good because God loves every one of us eternally, unconditionally, completely?

That which would forward the lie that there is another creator, a power opposed to Love that can cause discord, is termed *animal magnetism* in Christian Science. This false power acts as a magnetic suggestion, attempting to draw thought away from God and the true, spiritual account of creation in the Bible (in Genesis 1 and 2:1–3) into accepting the false, material account (in Genesis 2) and all the ills that result from it. It fails because the Christ, the spirit of God—of Life, Truth, and Love—that empowered Jesus, is within individual human consciousness, telling us of God's everlasting love for His creation. The Christ reveals the consciousness of Love as ours by reflection, and that, as Love's image, we are flawless, strong, immortal. Love is the architect and framer of our being, whose structure is always in perfect alignment, and so we move freely in the rhythm of loveliness, without pain. For all we can ever feel is what divine Love is feeling about us.

Mary Baker Eddy wrote: "The depth, breadth, height, might, majesty, and glory of infinite Love fill all space. That is enough!" (*Science and Health*, p. 520). The depth of infinite Love penetrates the innermost recesses of thought, dissolving fear, discouragement, pain, and grief, with a tender sense of Love's ever-presence. Regardless of how deep and wide the trouble threatens to be, there is no condition or state of thought infinite Love cannot reach.

The breadth of infinite Love tenderly relieves stress and strain to reveal the poise and calm of peace. The height of infinite Love surmounts the belief of incurability, insufficiency, and contamination. It leaves no room for the escalation of disease or discord, because they have no existence, no reality, in Love.

The might of infinite Love ameliorates malice, dissolves sin, and lifts all burdens. The majesty of infinite Love dethrones self-consciousness, pride, sensitiveness, irritation, fault-finding, and shame. Love's majesty gives its ideas, the sons and daughters of God, dignity and magnificence. And the glory of infinite Love reveals to us our radiant health and the grandeur of our spiritual selfhood.

When we experience, and understand, even a little of the power of divine Love, we can't help but want the world to share in it. Jesus said to his followers, "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give" ([Matthew 10:8](#)). How do we do this? Through divine Love. To heal is to know what Love knows, and to actively live that unselfed love empowers us to heal. When asked the best way to heal instantaneously, Mary Baker Eddy replied: "It is to love! Just live love—be it—love, love, love. Do not know anything but Love. Be all love. There is nothing else. It will heal everything; it will raise the dead" (*We Knew Mary Baker Eddy*, Expanded Edition, Volume I, p. 296).

There are no limits on Love, or our expression of it, for we are its infinite, effortless reflection. Each of us, in truth, knows nothing but Love. Just as divine Love sees all true being as perfect, reflecting the light of this ever-present Love, we see only its loving creation, in which all is forever well.

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