

## Testimony of Healing *Christian Science Journal* July 1984

What would I do without Christian Science? Each time I have asked myself that question, I have recalled with much gratitude many of the healings and blessings I have had as a result of studying this Science. And I count as one of my greatest blessings, having been able to attend a Christian Science Sunday School until the age of twenty.

As a child, I was free from most so-called childhood diseases, except for measles and chickenpox. In both cases, however, the illnesses were healed quickly with the help of a Christian Science practitioner.

My college experience provided many opportunities to put into practice what I had been taught in Sunday School. One time I had a very severe cold—I could barely hear, speak, or breathe. I had much college work to do, so I called a practitioner for help through prayer. Also, instead of staying in bed, I went about my normal activities, which included going to the music building to practice the harp. (Since I did not own a harp, the only extensive practice I had was the time in the practice room, which was reserved for me only once a week. So if I didn't go, it would be another week before I could practice again. Thus I felt impelled to go.) It took a major effort to walk to the building.

After I got there, as I began to play a particular piece, the notes I was playing didn't sound right. I carefully checked what I was playing and found it to be correct. Apparently my ears were so stopped up that I was not hearing the music clearly!

Suddenly I saw a parallel. I realized that what I was playing was indeed correct, though I seemed to be hearing something to the contrary. Likewise, my true selfhood as the image and likeness of God included perfect health, although the material senses were testifying to the contrary, misinterpreting the fact. The fact was that, as God's offspring, I was always "in tune," so to speak—in full accord—with Him, always expressing harmony, not discord.

With this realization that I was indeed God's perfect child no matter what the material evidence suggested, my ears drained. I then could hear clearly and finished playing the piece. In fact, as I held to this truth, all symptoms of the cold disappeared. By evening, I was completely well.

After college, I went to graduate school. There, students in my classes and in the dorm began to ask me questions about Christian Science and even to ask for help with problems. One girl, who hadn't been to a church in twelve years, asked if she could attend Christian Science services with me. Another girl wanted to attend a Christian Science lecture. And others asked for copies of *Science and Health* by Mrs. Eddy. I have since attributed this interest in Science to the fact that just prior to going to graduate school, I had taken class instruction in Christian Science. The enlightenment I received from this experience apparently was evident to others. Christ Jesus told his followers (Matt. 5:16), "Let

your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Later, after I had married and was expecting our first child, the statement "I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver you" (Isa. 46:4) became very meaningful to me. This and other statements shared by the practitioner who was praying for me then were most comforting. During this time I worked to establish in consciousness that man's spiritual origin is in divine Mind, God.

Fears of pain and prolonged childbirth were cleared away. I saw that the curse or belief of suffering was a lie about the real man, since in the first chapter of Genesis it says (verses 27 and 28): "God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them." Also, the Bible tells us (Prov. 10:22): "The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it."

We arranged for me to have the child at home and, in compliance with state law, there was a doctor in attendance. When the child arrived, the birth was painless, harmonious, and quick. I am very grateful for the Christian Science nurse who was also present. Her inspiration added much to the tranquility of the event. I also had our second child at home, and this birth was just as harmonious as the first.

When our first child was about six months old, she woke one morning covered with hives. Upon seeing this, I left my daughter for a few minutes to pray. As I did, I saw so clearly her spotless purity and innocence as a spiritual idea that, when I returned, she was completely healed.

For many years I had a tiny growth on one leg. As time passed, the growth got larger, and then other growths appeared until the situation became alarming. I had had help from various practitioners at different points and gained much inspiration and some relief. But the growths remained. So, I prayed earnestly for guidance to completely heal the difficulty. In looking in the listing of practitioners at the back of *the Journal*, I felt led to call someone I had never met or even heard of. Later, during our conversation, this practitioner shared one statement with me which was most helpful (*Science and Health*, p. 4): "What we most need is the prayer of fervent desire for growth in grace, expressed in patience, meekness, love, and good deeds." I saw that the only real growth I needed—or could experience—was growth in grace. After that I sincerely endeavored to grow in this way by expressing more "patience, meekness, love, and good deeds" in everything I did. Several weeks later, the healing came; one day the growths appeared smaller, and shortly thereafter they disappeared entirely.

Another time about two years ago, my teeth became extremely painful. Although the pain was great, I felt I wanted to work out the problem through prayer. And pray I did, almost constantly for two days. There were periods of relief, but each time the pain would return—and in a more intense form. Then I prayed along the lines that I was "rooted and grounded in love" (Eph. 3:17), that every aspect of my being was established and founded in divine Love, God. Therefore there could be no pain. Studying the passage "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" (I Cor. 3:16) was

most enlightening. I pondered this verse, using Mrs. Eddy's definition of the word Spirit in the Glossary of *Science and Health* (see p. 594). As I studied, I glimpsed the present reality of my true selfhood as the likeness of God—perfect, whole, sound, having only the substance of good. And I recognized that true substance—good— could not decay, be swollen, painful, or diseased. In the moment I realized this, the pain suddenly stopped, and it has never returned.

There have been many other blessings for which I am very thankful. I am also grateful to God for Christ Jesus, for Mary Baker Eddy, and for all those who have lived and demonstrated the truth, letting their lights shine so that others may see and follow in God's way, and be blessed.