

Genesis

Part 2:

**The false, so called, record
of creation**

Science and Health

520:16-543:16

How would you compare the Garden of Gethsemane with the Garden of Eden?

The false concept of man will always fail to resist temptation, while Jesus, having yielded to the Christ consciousness, passed all tests.

Garden of Eden

The name Eden, according to Cruden, means *pleasure, delight*. In this text Eden stands for the mortal, material body. S&H 526:29-527:1

GETHSEMANE. Patient woe; the human yielding to the divine; love meeting no response, but still remaining love. S&H 586:23-25

**Some religions teach that evil (error) is here to teach us about free will.
Does that theory come from the “tree of knowledge of good and evil,”
And how does Mary Baker Eddy explain that?**

WILL. The motive-power of error; mortal belief; animal power. The might and wisdom of God.

"For this is the will of God." (I Thessalonians iv. 3.)

Will, as a quality of so-called mortal mind, is a wrongdoer; hence it should not be confounded with the term as applied to Mind or to one of God's qualities.

S&H 597:21-26

No person can accept another's belief, except it be with the consent of his own belief. If the error which knocks at the door of your own thought originated in another's mind, you are a free moral agent to reject or to accept this error; hence, you are the arbiter of your own fate, and sin is the author of sin. In the words of our Master, you are “a liar, and the father of it [the lie].” Mis. 83:12-19

Mis. 113:4-20

Mis. 119:1-120:19

Why would minerals and and vegetables be erroneous thought? S&H 543:21

This paragraph is in the first part of the third section of the chapter and is explaining that matter is not a creator. It is mortal mind that tries to organizes itself from ignorance, instead of understanding, that is the seeming originator of matter. In Christian Science, we learn that Mind is the only creator.

Minerals

**and vegetables are found, according to divine Science, to be the creations of erroneous thought, not of matter.
S&H 543:21-23**

**To mortal mind, the universe is liquid, solid, and ari-
form. S&H 511:23-24**

The crea-

**tions of matter arise from a mist or false claim, or from
mystification, and not from the firmament, or under-
standing, which God erects between the true and false.
S&H 523:8-10**

**Why is the second record of creation in the Bible?
Where did it come from, some Babylonian myth, perhaps?**

It was part of the Jehovistic document and was kept to show the sharp contrast between true creation (revelation of God and man) and false creation (mortal man). The Old Testament writers pulled sagas and legends from the surrounding area and uplifted the symbols.

Why did Eve eat from the tree when she was told not to do it?

Not being familiar with God, she was tricked by the lie that was presented by the physical senses.

Iniquity overcome

Resisting evil, you overcome it and prove its nothingness. Not human platitudes, but divine beatitudes, reflect the spiritual light and might which heal the sick. The exercise of will brings on a hypnotic state, detrimental to health and integrity of thought. This must therefore be watched and guarded against. Covering iniquity will prevent prosperity and the ultimate triumph of any cause. Ignorance of the error to be eradicated oftentimes subjects you to its abuse.

S&H 446:24-31

In our last meeting we discussed:

the importance of Genesis and Revelation.

“...we see, in both the first and last book of the Bible, – in Genesis and in the Apocalypse, – that sin is to be Christianly and Scientifically reduced to its native nothingness.” Science and Health 572:3-6

what Genesis and Revelation represent.

Genesis deals with the creative sense or generation of God – Fatherhood of God – Life

Revelation deals with the nurturing sense the ability to bring something to its fulfillment – Motherhood of God – Love

Development of the Old Testament

1. 850 BC – Yahweh, Jehovah or Lord God – Jehovistic document – Southern Kingdom

2. 750 BC – Elohim – Elohist document – Northern Kingdom

721 BC – Assyria sacked the Northern Kingdom

3. ? BC – JE Document formed

4. 621 BC – Deuteronomistic document discovered in the Temple. Written during the reign of King Manasseh who drove the prophets into hiding.

597 BC – Ezekiel took the two great documents with him into captivity in Babylon.

**5. 550 BC – Yahweh and Elohim used in higher way – Priestly Document
Prophets combined the two documents, and created a new beginning by adding the 7 days of creation story to the beginning.**

6. 400 BC – The prophets combined the writings of history and law with the Priestly Document to form the Hexateuch. Ezra gave it to the people.

7. 250 BC – Old testament as we know it, had been gathered around the Hexateuch and was translated into the Greek – The Septuagint

Development of Biblical names for God

- 1. Jehovah, Yahweh, the Lord our God – used in the Jehovistic document
Israelites ancestral God or tribal Deity
El Shaddai – God Almighty – all sufficient one**
- 2. Elohim – used in the Elohistic and Priestly documents
created all spiritually, the one and only true God**
- 3. I Am that I am – God reveals himself to Moses as unchanging identity**
- 4. Lord Saboath – the Lord of hosts – or General of the Armies
In first and second Samuel**
- 5. Spirit, Life, Truth and Love – Jesus called God Father**
- 6. 7 Synonyms for God – Mrs. Eddy gives us a fulfilled, complete picture of God**
- 7. Oneness – we go beyond the need for Symbols**

Three parts of the chapter of Genesis

Part 1 The true record of creation S&H 501-520:15

**Love embracing its own perfect creation
All things were made by Him;**

Part 2 The false record of creation S&H 520:16-543:16

**Truth excluding the suppositional creation of error
and without Him was not anything made that was made.**

Part 3 Material theories of evolution S&H 543:17-557:27

**Life is its own creator
In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.**

The main outline of the first or true or only record of creation.

1. Let there be Light

Mind is the creator and manifests itself as a creation of ideas

2. Let there be a firmament

Spirit imparts the understanding which distinguishes between the real and the unreal

3. Let the dry land appear with the seed within itself

Soul bestows on every idea definable, unchanging and self-reproducing identity

4. Let there be lights in the firmament for signs, seasons, days and years

Principle unites all identities into a system of ideas

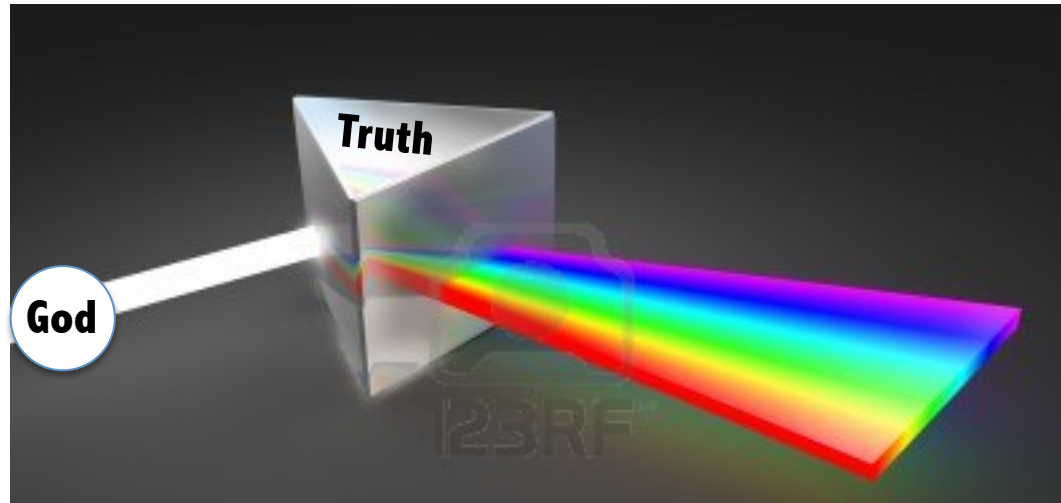
5. Let the waters bring forth abundantly moving creatures that have life and fowls that fly above the earth

Life individualizes infinitely through the multiplication of ideas

6. Let the earth bring forth living creatures, cattle, creeping things, beasts of the earth and man in our image and likeness, male and female

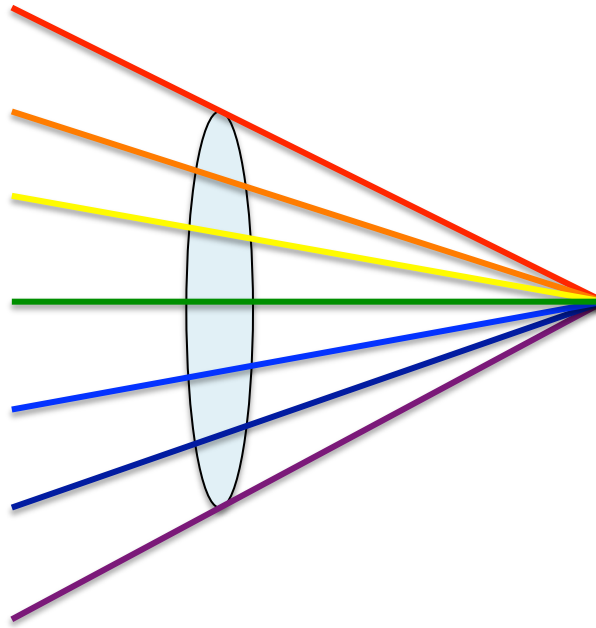
Truth is conscious of itself as its own perfect creation (generic man – including masculine and feminine qualities, the compound idea)

7. Heavens and earth finished and God rested - Love is fulfilled in its creation



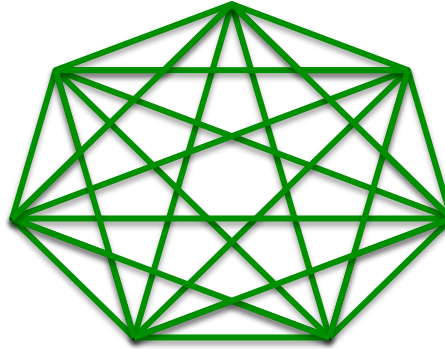
**To mortal sense
Science seems at first obscure, abstract, and dark;
but a bright promise crowns its brow.
When understood, it is Truth's prism and praise.
Science and Health 558:10-13**

**Science is the prism of Truth, which divides its rays and brings out the hues of Deity.
Ret. 35:13-14**



**The rays of infinite Truth, when gathered into the focus of ideas, bring light
instantaneously...**

Science and Health 504:23-24



God understood

**The rays of infinite Truth, when gathered into the focus of ideas, bring light
instantaneously...**

Science and Health 504:23-24

The Son of Man exemplifies the “Numerals of Infinity” from Revelation. (Rev. 1:13-18)

Mind: clothed with a garment down to the foot (Rev. 1:13)

Spirit: head and hair: white like wool (Rev. 1:14)

Soul: feet like fine brass, burned in a furnace (Rev. 1:15)

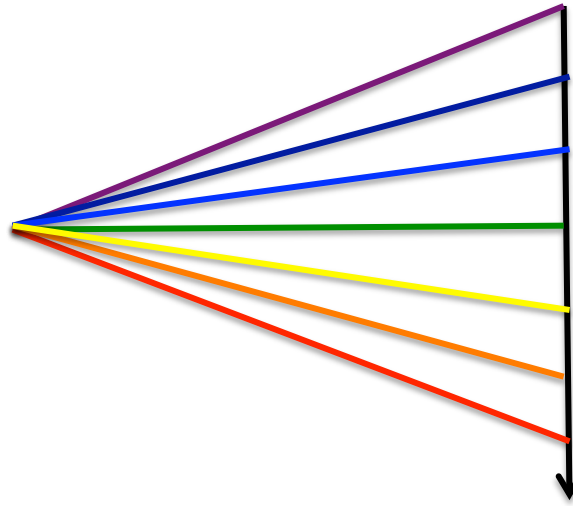
Principle: in his hand, he had seven stars (Rev. 1:16)

Life: fell at his feet as if dead (Rev. 1:17)

Truth: I was dead, but am alive for evermore (Rev. 1:18a)

Love: I have the keys of hell and of death (Rev. 1:18b)

**It seems that Mrs. Eddy really emphasizes the story of Adam and Eve
since we have a Bible Lesson on it.
Why was it so important to her?**



Delusion, sin disease, and death arise from the false testimony of the material sense, which, from a supposed standpoint outside the focal distance of infinite spirit, present an inverted image of Mind and substance with everything turned upside down.

Science and Health 301:24-29

Spiritually followed, the book of Genesis is the history of the untrue image of God, named a sinful mortal. This deflection of being, rightly viewed, serves to suggest the proper reflection of God and the spiritual actuality of man, as given in the first chapter of Genesis.

Science and Health 502:9-14

The Science and truth of the divine creation have been presented in the verses already considered, and now the opposite error, a material view of creation, is to be set forth. The second chapter of Genesis contains a statement of this material view of God and the universe, a statement which is the exact opposite of scientific truth as before recorded.

Science and Health 521:26-29

***Genesis* ii. 4, 5. These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God [Jehovah] made the earth and the heavens, and every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the Lord God [Jehovah] had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground.**

Growth is from Mind

Here is the emphatic declaration that God creates all through Mind, not through matter, — that the plant grows, not because of seed or soil, but because growth is the eternal mandate of Mind. Mortal thought drops into the ground, but the immortal creating thought is from above, not from beneath. Because Mind makes all, there is nothing left to be made by a lower power. Spirit acts through the Science of Mind, never causing man to till the ground, but making him superior to the soil. Knowledge of this lifts man above the sod, above earth and its environments, to conscious spiritual harmony and eternal being.

S&H p. 520:16-521:3

Creation

First Record

Self-contained

Self-reproducing

From above

Has dominion

spiritual qualities

Second Record

Limited

**Needs outside help
for reproduction**

From beneath

Tills the ground

animal qualities

1. light – intelligence, creative power.

CREATOR. God, who made all that was made and could not create an atom or an element the opposite of Himself.

Immortal and divine Mind presents the idea of God: *first*, in light; *second*, in reflection; *third*, in spiritual and immortal forms of beauty and goodness. S&H 502:20-22

1. Mist of obscurity

ignorance evolves false creative sense, a belief of material creation and a false sense of God (Idolatry)

God creates neither erring thought, mortal life, mutable truth, nor variable love. S&H 502:24-25

Mist, or false claim

Because of its false basis, the mist of obscurity evolved by error deepens the false claim, and finally declares that God knows error and that error can improve His creation. S&H 523:3-7

2. firmament – onliness of spiritual reality, separates real from unreal, understanding.

GOOD. God; Spirit; omnipotence; omniscience; omnipresence; omni-action.

FIRMAMENT. Spiritual understanding; the scientific line of demarcation between Truth and error, between Spirit and so-called matter.

Understanding is a quality of God, a quality which separates Christian Science from supposition and makes Truth final. S&H 506:5-7

**2. Adam formed out of the dust of the ground and the breath of life put him in Eden
tree of life
tree of the knowledge of good and evil
Mingling of Spirit and matter
Produces dualistic creation and sensation in matter**

With a single command, Mind had made man, both male and female. How then could a material organization become the basis for man? S&H 524:17-20

The mortal, erring, and finite are human beliefs, which apportion to themselves a task impossible for them, that of distinguishing between the false and the true. S&H 505:29-506:2

3. dry land, seed within itself
- definiteness of spiritual identity, which defines all things rightly

Now to Abram and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ. Gal. 3:16

Spirit, God, gathers unformed thoughts into their proper channels, and unfolds these thoughts, even as He opens the petals of a holy purpose in order that the purpose may appear. S&H 506:18-21

RESURRECTION. Spiritualization of thought; a new and higher idea of immortality, or spiritual existence; material belief yielding to spiritual understanding.

3. Adam in garden (body), names every creature, no helpmeet – corporeal identity, false identification.

In this text Eden stands for the mortal, material body. God could not put Mind into matter nor infinite Spirit into finite form to dress it and keep it,— to make it beautiful or to cause it to live and grow. Man is God's reflection, needing no cultivation, but ever beautiful and complete. S&H 526:1-4

4. sun, moon, stars – Principle’s system governing the universe; demonstration of spiritual power

SUN. The symbol of Soul governing man, — of Truth, Life, and Love.

YEAR. Eternity is God's measurement of Soul- filled years.

God forms and peoples the universe. The light of spiritual understanding gives gleams of the infinite only, even as nebulae indicate the immensity of space. S&H 509:16-19

**Darkness scattered
In divine Science, which is the seal of Deity and has the impress of heaven, God is revealed as infinite light. In the eternal Mind, no night is there. S&H 511:11-14**

4. deep sleep of Adam, Eve made of his rib, the misinterpretation of the serpent – mesmerism, division

Beholding the creations of his own dream and calling them real and God-given, Adam – *alias* error – gives them names. Afterwards he is supposed to become the basis of the creation of woman and of his own kind, calling them *mankind*,— that is, a kind of man. S&H 530:22-27

The serpent enters into the metaphor only as evil. Seeing this, we should have faith to fight all claims of evil, because we know that they are worthless and unreal. S&H 529:22-23,27-29

**5. teeming, abundant fish and fowl
(soaring in the firmament) – fullness,
multiplication, exaltation of spiritual life**

**The fowls, which fly above the earth in the
open firmament of heaven, correspond to
aspirations soaring beyond and above
corporeality to the understanding of the
incorporeal and divine Principle, Love.
S&H 511:23-512:3**

**Advancing spiritual steps in the teeming
universe of Mind lead on to spiritual
spheres and exalted beings. S&H 512:6-8**

**5. serpent tempts Eve, who eats from the
tree of good and evil; nakedness –
demoralization, downfall, lack**

**This myth represents error as always
asserting its superiority over truth,
giving the lie to divine Science and saying,
through the material senses: “I can open
your eyes. I can do what God has not done
for you. Bow down to me and have
another god. Only admit that I am real,
that sin and sense are more pleasant
to the eyes than spiritual Life, more to be
desired than Truth, and I shall know you,
and you will be mine.” Thus Spirit and
flesh war. S&H 530:17-25**

6. every living creature: animals and man – spiritual consciousness, spiritual manhood and dominion

Divine Love blesses its own ideas, and causes them to multiply, – to manifest His power. Man is not made to till the soil. His birthright is dominion, not subjection. S&H 517:20-518:4

The rich in spirit help the poor in one grand brotherhood, all having the same Principle, or Father; and blessed is that man who seeth his brother's need and supplieth it, seeking his own in another's good. S&H 518:15-19

6. Eve cursed, Adam cursed to till the ground, Cain kills Abel – mortal manhood, error self-destroyed

Adam and his progeny were cursed, not blessed; and this indicates that the divine Spirit, or Father, condemns material man and remands him to dust. S&H 532:10-12

***Genesis iv. 9.* And the Lord [Jehovah] said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?**

Here the serpentine lie invents new forms. At first it usurps divine power. It is supposed to say in the first instance, "Ye shall be as god." Now it repudiates even the human duty of man towards his brother. S&H 541:19-26

**7. creation finished, rest – fulfillment,
peace, the perfection of being**

**Thus the ideas of God in universal being
are complete and forever expressed, for
Science reveals infinity and the fatherhood
and motherhood of Love. S&H 519:9-11**

**The absolute ideal, man, is no more seen
nor comprehended by mortals, than is His
infinite Principle, Love. Principle and its
idea, man, are coexistent and eternal.
S&H 520:7-10**

**7. Cain flees from God's presence and
dwells in Nod – error excluded as
nothingness**

**In divine Science, the material man is
shut out from the presence of God.
The five corporeal senses cannot take
cognizance of Spirit. They cannot come
into His presence, and must dwell in
dreamland, until mortals arrive at the
understanding that material life, with
all its sin, sickness, and death, is an
illusion, against which divine Science
is engaged in a warfare of extermination.
S&H 543:8-15**

**The harmony and immortality of man are intact. We should look away from the opposite supposition that man is created materially, and turn our gaze to the spiritual record of creation, to that which should be engraved on the understanding and heart “with the point of a diamond” and the pen of an angel.
Science and Health p. 521:12-17**

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educating our area in the things of God.
Thank you for your loving dedication to
Christian Science.**

Next week

Genesis

Part 3:

The Science of Life

verses

material theories of evolution

Science and Health 543:17-557:27