

2025.12.3 - Advent - the Theologian's story

🗨 *Christian Science Hymnal 451, 11, 538*

🗨 *King James Bible*

1. Gen. 1:1–4

- 1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
- 2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* upon the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.
- 3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.
- 4 And God saw the light, that *it was* good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

2. John 1:1–17

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 The same was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
- 5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.
- 6 ¶ There was a man sent from God, whose name *was* John.
- 7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all *men* through him might believe.
- 8 He was not that Light, but *was sent* to bear witness of that Light.
- 9 *That* was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.
- 10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.
- 11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.
- 12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:
- 13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
- 14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.
- 15 ¶ John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.

- 16 And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.
17 For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

3. Ex. 3:1, 2, 4–6 (to 1st .), 13, 14

- 1 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, *even* to Horeb.
2 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush *was* not consumed.
4 And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here *am* I.
5 And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest *is* holy ground.
6 Moreover he said, I *am* the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ...
13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, *when* I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?
14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

4. John 8:1, 2, 12, 19, 23, 56–58

- 1 Jesus went unto the mount of Olives.
2 And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them.
12 ¶ Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.
19 Then said they unto him, Where is thy Father? Jesus answered, Ye neither know me, nor my Father: if ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also.
23 And he said unto them, Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world.
56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw *it*, and was glad.
57 Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham?
58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

5. John 6:28–35, 51

- 28 Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?
29 Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him

whom he hath sent.

- 30 They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work?
- 31 Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.
- 32 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.
- 33 For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.
- 34 Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread.
- 35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.
- 51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

6. John 10:1–16

- 1 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.
- 2 But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.
- 3 To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice; and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.
- 4 And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.
- 5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers.
- 6 This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them.
- 7 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.
- 8 All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them.
- 9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.
- 10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.
- 11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.
- 12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep.

- 13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.
14 I am the good shepherd, and know my *sheep*, and am known of mine.
15 As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.
16 And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, *and* one shepherd.

7. John 11:1, 17, 20–27, 41–44

- 1 Now a certain *man* was sick, *named* Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.
17 Then when Jesus came, he found that he had *lain* in the grave four days already.
20 Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat *still* in the house.
21 Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.
22 But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give *it* thee.
23 Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again.
24 Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.
25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:
26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?
27 She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.
41 Then they took away the stone *from the place* where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up *his* eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.
42 And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said *it*, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.
43 And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.
44 And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.

8. John 13:1–5, 8–10, 23–26, 30, 31

- 1 Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.
2 And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's *son*, to betray him;
3 Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;

- 4 He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.
- 5 After that he poureth water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe *them* with the towel wherewith he was girded.
- 8 Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.
- 9 Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also *my* hands and *my* head.
- 10 Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash *his* feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.
- 23 Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved.
- 24 Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake.
- 25 He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it?
- 26 Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped *it*. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave *it* to Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon.
- 30 He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night.
- 31 ¶ Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him.

9. John 14:1, 2, 5, 6

- 1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
- 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
- 5 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?
- 6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

10. John 15:1–5

- 1 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.
- 2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every *branch* that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.
- 3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.
- 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.
- 5 I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

11. Rev. 22:16

- 16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, *and* the bright and morning star.

12. I John 1:1–3

- 1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life;
2 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen *it*, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)
3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

🗨 *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy

1. SH 561:16

- John saw the human and divine coincidence, shown in the man Jesus, as divinity embracing humanity in Life
18 and its demonstration, — reducing to human perception and understanding the Life which is God. In divine revelation, material and corporeal self-
21 hood disappear, and the spiritual idea is understood.

Divinity and
humanity

2. SH 510:9

- 9 Truth and Love enlighten the understanding, in whose “light shall we see light;” and this illumination is reflected spiritually by all who walk in the light and turn
12 away from a false material sense.

3. SH 511:11

- In divine Science, which is the seal of Deity and has
12 the impress of heaven, God is revealed as infinite light. In the eternal Mind, no night is there.

Darkness
scattered

4. SH 592:21

- 21 **NIGHT.** Darkness; doubt; fear.

5. SH 584:1–8

- 1 **DAY.** The irradiance of Life; light, the spiritual idea
of Truth and Love.
- 3 “And the evening and the morning were the first day.”
(Genesis i. 5.) The objects of time and sense disappear
in the illumination of spiritual understanding, and Mind
6 measures time according to the good that is unfolded.
This unfolding is God’s day, and “there shall be no night
there.”

6. SH 504:3–15, 27–31

- 3 *Genesis* i. 5. And God called the light Day, and the
darkness He called Night. And the evening and the morn-
ing were the first day.
- 6 All questions as to the divine creation being both
spiritual and material are answered in this passage, for
though solar beams are not yet included in
9 the record of creation, still there is light. This
light is not from the sun nor from volcanic flames, but it
is the revelation of Truth and of spiritual ideas. This
12 also shows that there is no place where God’s light is not
seen, since Truth, Life, and Love fill immensity and are
ever-present. Was not this a revelation instead of a
15 creation?
- 27 Did infinite Mind create matter, and call it *light*?
Spirit is light, and the contradiction of Spirit is matter,
darkness, and darkness obscures light. Mate-
30 rial sense is nothing but a supposition of the
absence of Spirit.

Light preced-
ing the sun

Spirit *versus*
darkness

7. SH 503:12

- 12 Divine Science, the Word of
God, saith to the darkness upon the face of error, “God
is All-in-all,” and the light of ever-present Love illumines
15 the universe. Hence the eternal wonder, — that infinite
space is peopled with God’s ideas, reflecting Him in
countless spiritual forms.

Spiritual
harmony

8. SH 588:9–21

9 **I, or Ego.** Divine Principle; Spirit; Soul; incorporeal, unerring, immortal, and eternal Mind.

There is but one I, or Us, but one divine Principle, or
12 Mind, governing all existence; man and woman unchanged forever in their individual characters, even as numbers which never blend with each other, though they
15 are governed by one Principle. All the objects of God's creation reflect one Mind, and whatever reflects not this one Mind, is false and erroneous, even the belief that
18 life, substance, and intelligence are both mental and material.

I Am. God; incorporeal and eternal Mind; divine
21 Principle; the only Ego.

9. SH 335:32 The

... The Ego is deathless and limitless, for limits
1 would imply and impose ignorance. Mind is the I AM, or infinity. Mind never enters the finite. Intelligence
3 never passes into non-intelligence, or matter. Good never enters into evil, the unlimited into the limited, the eternal into the temporal, nor the im-
6 mortal into mortality. The divine Ego, or individuality, is reflected in all spiritual individuality from the infinitesimal to the infinite.

The divine
Ego

10. SH 250:7

Spirit is the Ego which
never dreams, but understands all things;
9 which never errs, and is ever conscious; which never believes, but knows; which is never born and never dies. Spiritual man is the likeness of this Ego.
12 Man is not God, but like a ray of light which comes from the sun, man, the outcome of God, reflects God.

Spirit the
one Ego

11. SH 295:16

The manifestation of God through mortals is as light passing through the window-pane. The light and the
18 glass never mingle, but as matter, the glass

Goodness
transparent

is less opaque than the walls. The mortal
mind through which Truth appears most vividly is that
21 one which has lost much materiality — much error — in
order to become a better transparency for Truth. Then,
like a cloud melting into thin vapor, it no longer hides
24 the sun.

12. SH 243:4–8

The divine Love, which made harmless the poisonous
viper, which delivered men from the boiling oil, from
6 the fiery furnace, from the jaws of the lion,
can heal the sick in every age and triumph
over sin and death.

Ancient
and modern
miracles

13. SH 505:26–28

This understanding is not intellectual, is not the result
27 of scholarly attainments; it is the reality of all things
brought to light.

14. SH 572:25–28

Through
what sense came this vision to St. John? Not
27 through the material visual organs for seeing, for optics
are inadequate to take in so wonderful a scene.

Man's present
possibilities

15. SH 573:3–5

3 The Revelator was on our plane of existence, while yet
beholding what the eye cannot see, — that which is in-
visible to the uninspired thought.

16. SH 139:15

15 The decisions by vote of Church Councils as to what
should and should not be considered Holy Writ; the man-
ifest mistakes in the ancient versions; the
18 thirty thousand different readings in the Old
Testament, and the three hundred thousand in the New,
— these facts show how a mortal and material sense stole
21 into the divine record, with its own hue darkening to some
extent the inspired pages. But mistakes could neither
wholly obscure the divine Science of the Scriptures seen

Science
obscured

24 from Genesis to Revelation, mar the demonstration of
Jesus, nor annul the healing by the prophets, who foresaw
that “the stone which the builders rejected” would be-
27 come “the head of the corner.”

17. SH 97:29–14

Christianity is again demonstrating the Life that is
30 Truth, and the Truth that is Life, by the apos-
tolic work of casting out error and healing the
sick. Earth has no repayment for the persecutions which
1 attend a new step in Christianity; but the spiritual recom-
pense of the persecuted is assured in the elevation of ex-
3 istence above mortal discord and in the gift of divine Love.

Christianity
still rejected

The prophet of to-day beholds in the mental horizon
the signs of these times, the reappearance of the Chris-
6 tianity which heals the sick and destroys error,
and no other sign shall be given. Body can-
not be saved except through Mind. The Science of Chris-
9 tianity is misinterpreted by a material age, for it is the
healing influence of Spirit (not *spirits*) which the material
senses cannot comprehend, — which can only be spiritu-
12 ally discerned. Creeds, doctrines, and human hypotheses
do not express Christian Science; much less can they
demonstrate it.

Spiritual fore-
shadowings

18. SH 4:27

27 Audible prayer can never do the works of spiritual
understanding, which regenerates; but silent prayer,
watchfulness, and devout obedience enable
30 us to follow Jesus' example. Long prayers,
superstition, and creeds clip the strong pinions of love,
and clothe religion in human forms. Whatever mate-
1 rializes worship hinders man's spiritual growth and keeps
him from demonstrating his power over error.

Veritable
devotion

19. SH 471:22–4

Question. — Are doctrines and creeds a benefit to man?

Answer. — The author subscribed to an orthodox

24 creed in early youth, and tried to adhere to it until she
caught the first gleam of that which inter-

The test of
experience

pretends God as above mortal sense. This
27 view rebuked human beliefs, and gave the spiritual im-
port, expressed through Science, of all that proceeds
from the divine Mind. Since then her highest creed has
30 been divine Science, which, reduced to human apprehen-
sion, she has named Christian Science. This Science
1 teaches man that God is the only Life, and that this Life
is Truth and Love; that God is to be understood, adored,
3 and demonstrated; that divine Truth casts out supposi-
tional error and heals the sick.

20. SH 135:26

Christianity as Jesus taught it was not
27 a creed, nor a system of ceremonies, nor a special gift
from a ritualistic Jehovah; but it was the demonstration
of divine Love casting out error and healing the sick,
30 not merely in the *name* of Christ, or Truth, but in demon-
stration of Truth, as must be the case in the cycles of
divine light.