

The Abundance of Christ's Love for Mankind

December 25, 2013

The Bible

Col 3:1 *seek,2,12-15(to ,)*

- 1 seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
- 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts,

Gen 13:1-10(to 3rd ,),11,12,14-18

1 And Abram went up out of Egypt, he, and his wife, and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the south.

2 And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.

3 And he went on his journeys from the south even to Bethel, unto the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Hai;

4 Unto the place of the altar, which he had made there at the first: and there Abram called on the name of the Lord.

5 ¶ And Lot also, which went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents.

6 And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together.

7 And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled then in the land.

8 And Abram said unto Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren.

9 Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left.

10 And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where,

11 Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other.

12 Abram dwelled in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelled in the cities of the plain, and pitched his tent toward Sodom.

14 ¶ And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward:

15 For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

16 And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of

the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered.

17 Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

18 Then Abram removed his tent, and came and dwelt in the plain of Mamre, which is in Hebron, and built there an altar unto the Lord.

2 Kings 4:38-43

38 ¶ And Elisha came again to Gilgal: and there was a dearth in the land; and the sons of the prophets were sitting before him: and he said unto his servant, Set on the great pot, and seethe pottage for the sons of the prophets.

39 And one went out into the field to gather herbs, and found a wild vine, and gathered thereof wild gourds his lap full, and came and shred them into the pot of pottage: for they knew them not.

40 So they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, O thou man of God, there is death in the pot. And they could not eat thereof.

41 But he said, Then bring meal. And he cast it into the pot; and he said, Pour out for the people, that they may eat. And there was no harm in the pot.

42 ¶ And there came a man from Baal-shalisha, and brought the man of God bread of the firstfruits, twenty loaves of barley, and full ears of corn in the husk thereof. And he said, Give unto the people, that they may eat.

43 And his servitor said, What, should I set this before an hundred men? He said again, Give the people, that they may eat: for thus saith the Lord, They shall eat, and shall leave thereof.

Mal 3:6 / *am*, 10

6 I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

2 Cor 8:11-15

11 Now therefore perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which ye have.

12 For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.

13 For I mean not that other men be eased, and ye burdened:

14 But by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance also may be a supply for your want: that there may be equality:

15 As it is written, He that had gathered much had nothing over; and he that had gathered little had no lack.

2 Cor 9:6-15

6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.
8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:
9 (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever.
10 Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;)
11 Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God.
12 For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God;
13 Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men;
14 And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you.
15 Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.

Luke 12:2 *there*, 6,7,13-32,34

2 there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known.

6 Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God?

7 But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.

13 ¶ And one of the company said unto him, Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me.

14 And he said unto him, Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you?

15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:

17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?

18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

22 ¶ And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on.

23 The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment.

24 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn;

and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?
 25 And which of you with taking thought can add to his stature one cubit?
 26 If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least, why take ye thought for the rest?
 27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.
 28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to-day in the field, and to-morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith?
 29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.
 30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.
 31 ¶ But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.
 32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

34 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Science and Health

270:23-24

Meekness and charity have divine

24 authority.

106:6-29

6 Like our nation, Christian Science has its Declaration
 of Independence. God has endowed man with inalien-
 9 able rights, among which are self-government,
 reason, and conscience. Man is properly self-
 governed only when he is guided rightly and governed by
 his Maker, divine Truth and Love.

Proper self-
 government

12 Man's rights are invaded when the divine order is in-
 terfered with, and the mental trespasser incurs the divine
 penalty due this crime.

15 Let this age, which sits in judgment on Christian
 Science, sanction only such methods as are demonstrable
 in Truth and known by their fruit, and classify
 18 all others as did St. Paul in his great epistle
 to the Galatians, when he wrote as follows:

Right
 methods

21 "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are
 these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,
 idolatry, *witchcraft*, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath,
 strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness,
 24 revellings and such like: of the which I tell you before,
 as I have also told you in time past, that they which do
 such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But
 27 the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering,
 gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against

27 Light is a symbol of Mind, of Life, Truth, and Love,
 and not a vitalizing property of matter. Sci-
 30 ence reveals only one Mind, and this one shin-
 1 ing by its own light and governing the universe, including
 man, in perfect harmony. This Mind forms ideas, its
 own images, subdivides and radiates their borrowed light,
 3 intelligence, and so explains the Scripture phrase, "whose
 seed is in itself." Thus God's ideas "multiply and re-
 plenish the earth." The divine Mind supports the sub-
 6 limity, magnitude, and infinitude of spiritual creation.

Spiritual
 subdivision

260:7-20

The conceptions of mortal, erring thought must give
 way to the ideal of all that is perfect and eternal. Through
 9 many generations human beliefs will be attain-
 ing diviner conceptions, and the immortal and
 perfect model of God's creation will finally be seen as
 12 the only true conception of being.

Spiritual
 discovery

Science reveals the possibility of achieving all good,
 and sets mortals at work to discover what God has already
 15 done; but distrust of one's ability to gain the goodness
 desired and to bring out better and higher results, often
 hampers the trial of one's wings and ensures failure at the
 18 outset.

Mortals must change their ideals in order to improve
 their models.

Requisite
 change of
 our ideals

261:32-7

Good demands of man every hour, in
 1 which to work out the problem of being. Consecration
 to good does not lessen man's dependence on God, but
 3 heightens it. Neither does consecration di-
 minish man's obligations to God, but shows
 the paramount necessity of meeting them. Christian
 6 Science takes naught from the perfection of God, but it
 ascribes to Him the entire glory.

Forgetfulness
 of self

262:9,24

9 We cannot fathom the nature and quality of God's
 creation by diving into the shallows of mortal belief. We
 must reverse our feeble flutterings — our efforts to find
 12 life and truth in matter — and rise above the testimony

- of the material senses, above the mortal to the immortal idea of God. These clearer, higher views inspire the God-
- 15 like man to reach the absolute centre and circumference of his being.
- 24 Starting from a higher standpoint, one rises spontaneously, even as light emits light without effort; for "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Hymns

Hymn 65

Hymn 65

Frances R. Havergal
Adapted

ALFORD
John B. Dykes

From glory unto glory,
Be this our joyous song;
From glory unto glory,
'Tis Love that leads us on;
As wider yet and wider,
The rising splendors glow,
What wisdom is revealed to us,
What freedom we may know.

The fullness of His blessing
Encompasseth our way;
The fullness of His promise
Crowns every dawning day;
The fullness of His glory
Is shining from above,
While more and more we learn to know
The fullness of His love.

From glory unto glory,
What great things He hath done,
What wonders He hath shown us,
What triumphs Love hath won.
From glory unto glory,
From strength to strength we go,
While grace for grace abundantly

Doth from His fullness flow.

Hymn 42

Hymn 42

Jonathan Evans*

REGENT SQUARE
Henry Smart

Come, Thou all-transforming Spirit,
Bless the sower and the seed;
Let each heart Thy grace inherit;
Raise the weak, the hungry feed;
From the Gospel, from the Gospel
Now supply Thy people's need.

O, may all enjoy the blessing
Which Thy holy word doth give;
Let us all, Thy love possessing,
Joyfully Thy truth receive;
And forever, and forever
To Thy praise and glory live.

Hymn 362

Hymn 362

John Morison
Adapted

CHRISTMAS
Georg Friedrich Haendel

To us a Child of Hope is born,
To us a Son is given;
Him shall the tribes of earth obey,
And all the hosts of heaven.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
Forevermore adored;
The Wonderful, the Counsellor,
The great and mighty Lord.

His power, increasing, still shall spread;
His reign shall never cease;

For justice ever guards his throne,
And all his paths are peace.