

# Can a better understanding of God's ever-presence stop the shooting In our cities?

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## **Hab. 1:2, 3 for, 13; 2:2, 3, 8 2nd because, 14**

O LORD, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear! *even* cry out unto thee of violence, and thou wilt not save!

... for spoiling and violence *are* before me: and there are *that* raise up strife and contention. ...

*Thou art* of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, *and* holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth *the man that is* more righteous than he? ...

And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make *it* plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. ...

... because of men's blood, and *for* the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein. ...

For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

## **Jer. 17:7, 9, 10, 14, 17**

Blessed *is* the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is. ...

... ¶ The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the LORD search the heart, *I* try the reins, even to give every man

according to his ways, *and* according to the fruit of his doings. ...

Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou *art* my praise. ...

Be not a terror unto me: thou *art* my hope in the day of evil.

**Job 4:8, 9**

Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same. By the blast of God they perish, and by the breath of his nostrils are they consumed.

**Ps. 64:1, 4 they, 5, 7 suddenly, 10**

Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy.  
...

... they may shoot in secret at the perfect: suddenly do they shoot at him, and fear not. They encourage themselves *in* an evil matter: they commune of laying snares privily; they say, Who shall see them? ...

... suddenly shall they be wounded. ...

The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory.

**Ps. 55:9–11 I**

... I have seen violence and strife in the city. Day and night they go about it upon the walls thereof: mischief also and sorrow *are* in the midst of it. Wickedness *is* in the midst thereof: deceit and guile depart not from her streets.

**Ps. 10:8 (to 2nd :), 9 (to 1st :), 10, 11, 15**

He sitteth in the lurking places of the villages: in the secret places doth he murder the innocent: ...

He lieth in wait secretly as a lion in his den: ...

He croucheth, *and* humbleth himself, that the poor may fall by his strong ones. He hath said in his heart, God hath forgotten: he hideth his face; he will never see *it*. ...

Break thou the arm of the wicked and the evil *man*: seek out his wickedness *till* thou find none.

**Deut. 33:27 (to :), 28 (to :)**

The eternal God *is thy* refuge, and underneath *are* the everlasting arms: ...

Israel then shall dwell in safety alone: ...

**Ps. 91:5, 11–16**

Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; *nor* for the arrow *that* flieth by day; ...

For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in *their* hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: *I will be* with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

**Ps. 121:7, 8**

The LORD shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

**Isa. 54:14, 15, 17; 55:7, 12**

In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee. Behold, they shall surely gather together, *but* not by me: whosoever shall gather together

against thee shall fall for thy sake. ...

... ¶ No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue *that* shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This *is* the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness *is* of me, saith the LORD. ...

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ...

For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap *their* hands.

**Mal. 4:1 (to :), 2 (to ;)**

For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: ...

... ¶ But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; ...

**Matt. 11:7 (to 1st ?), 12; 12:28, 43–45**

¶ And as they departed, Jesus began to say unto the multitudes concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness to see? ...

And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. ...

But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you. ...

When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth *it* empty, swept, and

garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

**Mark 5:1–9, 14 2nd they, 15 (to :)**

And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes. And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, Who had *his* dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any *man* tame him. And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones. But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, *thou* Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not. For he said unto him, Come out of the man, *thou* unclean spirit. And he asked him, What *is* thy name? And he answered, saying, My name *is* Legion: for we are many. ...

... they went out to see what it was that was done. And they come to Jesus, and see him that was possessed with the devil, and had the legion, sitting, and clothed, and in his right mind: ...

**Mark 7:20–23**

And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

**Eph. 6:12**

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

## **I John 2:13, 16, 17**

I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him *that is* from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father. ...

For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

## **Isa. 40:10, 11**

Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong *hand*, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward *is* with him, and his work before him. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry *them* in his bosom, *and* shall gently lead those that are with young.

## **Rev. 21:2–5 (to 1st .), 10, 11 (to :), 23, 24**

And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. ...

And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God: ...

And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof. And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.

### **Ps. 23:1–6**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou *art* with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

### **SH 105:22**

Whoever uses his developed mental powers like an escaped felon to commit fresh atrocities as opportunity occurs is never safe. God will arrest him. Divine justice will manacle him. His sins will be millstones about his neck, weighing him down to the depths of ignominy and death. The aggravation of error foretells its doom, and confirms the ancient axiom: “Whom the gods would destroy, they first make mad.”

### **SH 453:16 Dishonesty**

Dishonesty is human weakness, which forfeits divine help. You uncover sin, not in order to injure, but in order to bless the corporeal man; and a right motive has its reward. Hidden sin is spiritual wickedness in high places. The masquerader in this Science thanks God that there is no evil, yet serves evil in the name of good.

### **SH 8:3–6**

We never need to despair of an honest heart; but there is little hope for those who come only spasmodically face to face with their wickedness and then seek to hide it.

### **SH 494:19**

Reason, rightly directed, serves to correct the errors of corporeal sense; but sin, sickness, and death will seem real (even as the experiences of the sleeping dream seem real) until the Science of man's eternal harmony breaks their illusion with the unbroken reality of scientific being.

**SH 387:27**

The history of Christianity furnishes sublime proofs of the supporting influence and protecting power bestowed on man by his heavenly Father, omnipotent Mind, who gives man faith and understanding whereby to defend himself, not only from temptation, but from bodily suffering.

**SH 201:7**

We cannot build safely on false foundations. Truth makes a new creature, in whom old things pass away and “all things are become new.” Passions, selfishness, false appetites, hatred, fear, all sensuality, yield to spirituality, and the superabundance of being is on the side of God, good.

**SH 102:30–2**

Mankind must learn that evil is not power. Its so-called despotism is but a phase of nothingness. Christian Science despoils the kingdom of evil, and pre-eminently promotes affection and virtue in families and therefore in the community.

**SH 232:7**

Security for the claims of harmonious and eternal being is found only in divine Science.

**SH 561:1**

The understanding of Truth and Love, the Principle which works out the ends of eternal good and destroys both faith in evil and the practice of evil, leads to the discernment of the divine idea.

**SH 563:4–7 (to ?)**

We may well be perplexed at human fear; and still more astounded at hatred, which lifts its hydra head, showing its horns in the many inventions of evil. But why should we stand aghast at nothingness?

**SH 571:10–19**

Who is telling mankind of the foe in ambush? Is the informer one who sees the foe? If so, listen and be wise. Escape from evil, and designate those as unfaithful stewards who have seen the danger and yet have given no warning.



At all times and under all circumstances, overcome evil with good. Know thyself, and God will supply the wisdom and the occasion for a victory over evil. Clad in the panoply of Love, human hatred cannot reach you.

**SH 572:23–25; 574:10–6; 577:19–18**

The Revelator had not yet passed the transitional stage in human experience called death, but he already saw a new heaven and a new earth. ...

This ministry of Truth, this message from divine Love, carried John away in spirit. It exalted him till he became conscious of the spiritual facts of being and the “New Jerusalem, coming down from God, out of heaven,” — the spiritual outpouring of bliss and glory, which he describes as the city which “lieth foursquare.” The beauty of this text is, that the sum total of human misery, represented by the seven angelic vials full of seven plagues, has full compensation in the law of Love. Note this, — that the very message, or swift-winged thought, which poured forth hatred and torment, brought also the experience which at last lifted the seer to behold the great city, the four equal sides of which were heaven-bestowed and heaven-bestowing.

Think of this, dear reader, for it will lift the sackcloth from your eyes, and you will behold the soft-winged dove descending upon you. The very circumstance, which your suffering sense deems wrathful and afflictive, Love can make an angel entertained unawares. Then thought gently whispers: “Come hither! Arise from your false consciousness into the true sense of Love, and behold the Lamb's wife, — Love wedded to its own spiritual idea.” Then cometh the marriage feast, for this revelation will destroy forever the physical plagues imposed by material sense. ...

... This city of our God has no need of sun or satellite, for Love is the light of it, and divine Mind is its own interpreter. All who are saved must walk in this light. Mighty potentates and dynasties will lay down their honors within the heavenly city. Its gates open towards light and glory both within and without, for all is good, and nothing can enter that city, which “defileth, . . . or maketh a lie.”

The writer's present feeble sense of Christian Science closes with St. John's Revelation as recorded by the great apostle, for his vision is the acme of this Science as the Bible reveals it.

In the following Psalm one word shows, though faintly, the light which Christian Science throws on the Scriptures by substituting for the corporeal sense, the incorporeal or spiritual sense of Deity: —

### PSALM XXIII

[DIVINE LOVE] is my shepherd; I shall not want.

[LOVE] maketh me to lie down in green pastures: [LOVE] leadeth me beside the still waters.

[LOVE] restoreth my soul [spiritual sense]: [LOVE] leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for [LOVE] is with me; [LOVE'S] rod and [LOVE'S] staff they comfort me.

[LOVE] prepareth a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: [LOVE] anointeth my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house [the consciousness] of [LOVE] for ever.

### **Hymn. 77**

God is my strong salvation; / What foe have I to fear? / In darkness and temptation, / My light, my help is near: / Though hosts encamp around me, / Firm in the fight I stand; / What terror can confound me, / With God at my right hand?

Place on the Lord reliance; / My heart, with courage wait; / His truth be thine  
affiance, / When faint and desolate: / His might thy heart shall strengthen, / His  
love thy joy increase; / Thy day shall mercy lengthen: / The Lord will give thee  
peace.

### **Hymn. 368**

Watchman, tell us of the night, / What its signs of promise are; / Traveler, o'er  
yon mountain's height / See that glory-beaming star; / Watchman, does its  
beauteous ray / Aught of hope or joy foretell? / Traveler, yes; it brings the day, /  
Promised day of Israel.

Watchman, tell us of the night, / Higher yet that star ascends; / Traveler,  
blessedness and light, / Peace and truth its course portends; / Watchman, will its  
beams alone / Gild the spot that gave them birth? / Traveler, ages are its own; /  
See, it bursts o'er all the earth.

Watchman, tell us of the night, / For the morning seems to dawn; / Traveler,  
darkness takes its flight, / Doubt and terror are withdrawn; / Watchman, let thy  
wanderings cease, / Hie thee to thy quiet home. / Traveler, lo, the Prince of  
Peace, / Lo, the Son of God is come.

### **Hymn. 596**

When peace, like a river, flows calmly each day, / Or sorrows like seas surge  
and roll, / Whatever my lot, Love has taught me to say, / It is well, it is well with  
my soul.

REFRAIN / It is well with my soul, / It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though terror may buffet, my joy is innate. / This unchanging thought is my  
goal: / That God has created my spiritual state, / And has given me strength in  
my soul. // REFRAIN / Lord, hasten the day when my faith shall be sight, / The  
clouds be rolled back as a scroll. / When trumpets shall sound and we all see the  
light, / I will sing, it is well with my soul. // REFRAIN

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