

Sacrament

*Section 1
The Bible*

GOLDEN TEXT | Psalms 109:4 *I give*

. . . I GIVE MYSELF UNTO PRAYER.

RESPONSIVE READING | Psalms 5:1, 3

Matthew 4:17 *Jesus*; 5:6; 6:6 *when*, 9–13 (to 1st.)

- 1 Give ear to my words, O Lord, consider my meditation.
 3 **My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.**
 17 . . . Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
 6 **Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.**
 6 . . . when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.
 9 **After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.**
 10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
 11 **Give us this day our daily bread.**
 12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
 13 **And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.**

1 | I Peter 3:12 *the* (to :)

12 the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers:

2 | I Corinthians 14:15 *I will*

15 I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

3 | Job 16:17 *my*

17 my prayer is pure.

*Section 1
Science and Health*

1 | 2:4

Are we benefited by praying? Yes, the desire which goes forth hungering after righteousness is blessed of our Father, and it does not return unto us void.

Right motives

2 | 12:31–1

In divine Science, where prayers are mental, *all* may avail themselves of God as “a very present help in trouble.”

*Section 2
The Bible*

4 | Matthew 4:23 *Jesus*

23 Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

5 | Matthew 5:1–3, 8

1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:
2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

6 | Matthew 6:6 *when*

6 when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

*Section 2
Science and Health*

3 | 15:3–5 *The*

3 The closet typifies the sanctuary of Spirit, the door of which shuts out sinful sense but lets in Truth, Life, and Love.

4 | 4:3–5

3 What we most need is the prayer of fervent desire for growth in grace, expressed in patience, meekness, love, and good deeds.

5 | 15:14

In order to pray aright, we must enter into the closet and shut the door. We must close the lips and silence the material senses. In the quiet sanctuary of earnest longings, we must deny sin and plead God’s allness. We must resolve to take up the cross, and go forth with honest hearts to work and watch for wisdom, Truth, and Love. We must “pray without ceasing.” Such prayer is answered, in so far as we put our desires into practice. The Master’s injunction is, that we pray in secret and let our lives attest our sincerity.

Effectual
invocation

*Section 3
The Bible*

7 | Psalms 77:5, 6, 13

5 I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times. 6 I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search.

13 Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?

8 | I Samuel 1:2 *Hannah had*, 8–13 (to :), 17, 20

2 Hannah had no children.

8 Then said Elkanah her husband to her, Hannah, why weepest thou? and why eatest thou not? and why is thy heart grieved? am not I better to thee than ten sons? 9 So Hannah rose up after they had eaten in Shiloh, and after they had drunk. Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the Lord. 10 And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the Lord, and wept sore. 11 And she vowed a vow, and said, O Lord of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head. 12 And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the Lord, that Eli marked her mouth. 13 Now Hannah, she spake in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard:

17 Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him.

20 Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the Lord.

Section 3
Science and Health

6 | 15:9

9 To enter into the heart of prayer, the door of the erring senses must be closed. Lips must be mute and materialism silent, 12 that man may have audience with Spirit, the divine Principle, Love, which destroys all error.

7 | 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 materializes worship hinders man's spiritual growth and keeps 1 him from demonstrating his power over error.

Veritable devotion

8 | 1:10

12 Thoughts unspoken are not unknown to the divine Mind. Desire is prayer; and no loss can occur from trusting God with our desires, that they may be moulded and exalted before they take form in words and in deeds.

9 | 506:18

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

Unfolding
of thoughts

10 | 29:14–16

15 Those instructed
in Christian Science have reached the glorious perception that God is the only author of man.

The Father-
hood of God

*Section 4
The Bible*

9 | I Timothy 1:15 (to ;)

15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners;

10 | Luke 18:9–14

9 And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:
10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. 12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. 13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. 14 I tell

you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

*Section 4
Science and Health*

11 | 20:8

9 Jesus' history made a
new calendar, which we call the Christian era; but he established no ritualistic worship. He knew that men can be baptized, partake of the Eucharist, support the clergy, observe the Sabbath, make long prayers, and yet be sensual and sinful.

12 | 5:22

Prayer is not to be used as a confessional to cancel sin. Such an error would impede true religion. Sin is forgiven only as it is destroyed by Christ, — Truth and Life. If prayer nourishes the belief that sin is cancelled, and that man is made better merely by praying, prayer is an evil. He grows worse who continues in sin because he fancies himself forgiven.

Cancellation
of human sin

13 | 448:3–5

3 When the Publican's wail went out to the great heart of Love, it won his humble desire.

14 | 15:26–30

27 Self-forgetfulness,
purity, and affection are constant prayers. Trustworthy
Practice not profession, understanding not beneficence
belief, gain the ear and right hand of omnipotence and
30 they assuredly call down infinite blessings.

*Section 5
The Bible*

11 | Mark 13:33 (to :)

33 Take ye heed, watch and pray:

12 | Matthew 26:1, 2, 18, 19, 26–28, 36, 38–45

1 And it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said unto his disciples, 2 Ye know that after two days is the feast of the passover, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified.

18 And he said, Go into the city to such a man, and say unto him, The Master saith, My time is at hand; I will keep the passover at thy house with my disciples. 19 And the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them; and they made ready the passover.

26 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. 27 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; 28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

36 Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.

38 Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. 39 And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. 40 And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? 41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. 42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done. 43 And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. 44 And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. 45 Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

*Section 5
Science and Health*

15 | 26:28–32

30 Our Master taught no mere theory, doctrine, or belief. It was the divine Principle of all real being which he taught and practised. His proof of Christianity was no form or system of religion and worship, but Christian Science, working out the harmony of Life and Love.

16 | 32:20–2

The true sense is spiritually lost, if the sacrament is
 21 confined to the use of bread and wine. The disciples
 had eaten, yet Jesus prayed and gave them Spiritual
refreshment
 bread. This would have been foolish in a
 24 literal sense; but in its spiritual signification, it was nat-
 ural and beautiful. Jesus prayed; he withdrew from the
 material senses to refresh his heart with brighter, with
 27 spiritual views.

The Passover, which Jesus ate with his disciples in
 the month Nisan on the night before his crucifixion,
 30 was a mournful occasion, a sad supper taken Jesus' sad
repast
 at the close of day, in the twilight of a
 glorious career with shadows fast falling around; and
 1 this supper closed forever Jesus' ritualism or concessions
 to matter.

17 | 33:18, 31–2

18 When the human element in him struggled with the
 divine, our great Teacher said: "Not my will, but
 Thine, be done!" — that is, Let not the flesh, The holy
struggle
 21 but the Spirit, be represented in me. This
 is the new understanding of spiritual Love. It gives all
 for Christ, or Truth. It blesses its enemies, heals the
 24 sick, casts out error, raises the dead from trespasses
 and sins, and preaches the gospel to the poor, the meek
 in heart.

Are all

who eat bread and drink wine in memory of Jesus willing
 1 truly to drink his cup, take his cross, and leave all for
 the Christ-principle?

18 | 4:12–13

12 The habitual struggle to be always good is unceas-
 ing prayer.

19 | 497:24

24 And we solemnly promise to watch, and pray for
 that Mind to be in us which was also in Christ Jesus; to
 do unto others as we would have them do unto us; and
 27 to be merciful, just, and pure.

*Section 6
The Bible*

13 | Acts 6:4 we

4 we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the
 ministry of the word.

14 | Acts 2:22–24

22 Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth,
 a man approved of God among you by miracles and won-
 ders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you,
 as ye yourselves also know: 23 Him, being delivered by the
 determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have

taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:
 24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains
 of death: because it was not possible that he should be
 holden of it.

Section 6
Science and Health

20 | 31:14–22 (to .)

15	It is the living Christ, the practical Truth, which makes Jesus “the resurrection and the life” to all who follow him in deed. Obeying his precious precepts, — following his demonstration so far as we apprehend it, — we drink of his cup, partake of his bread, are baptized with his pu- rity; and at last we shall rest, sit down with him, in a full understanding of the divine Principle which triumphs over death.	Healing primary
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21 | 9:32–4

Consistent prayer is the desire to do right.

1 Prayer means that we desire to walk and will walk in
 the light so far as we receive it, even though with bleed-
 3 ing footsteps, and that waiting patiently on the Lord,
 we will leave our real desires to be rewarded by Him.

Section 7
The Bible

15 | John 21:1–6, 9, 12

1 After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the
 disciples at the sea of Tiberias; and on this wise shewed he
 himself. 2 There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas
 called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the
 sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples. 3 Simon
 Peter saith unto them, I go a-fishing. They say unto him,
 We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into
 a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.
 4 But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the
 shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus. 5 Then
 Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They
 answered him, No. 6 And he said unto them, Cast the net
 on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast
 therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the
 multitude of fishes.

9 As soon then as they were come to land, they saw
 a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread.

12 Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of
 the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that
 it was the Lord.

16 | Luke 14:15 *Blessed*

15 Blessed is he that shall eat bread in the kingdom
 of God.

17 | Philippians 4:4, 6, 7

4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.
 6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

*Section 7
 Science and Health*

22 | 10:5–6

6 The world must grow to the spiritual understanding of prayer.

23 | 34:29–14

30 What a contrast between our Lord’s last supper and his last spiritual breakfast with his disciples The last breakfast in the bright morning hours at the joyful meeting on the shore of the Galilean Sea! His gloom had passed into glory, and his disciples’ grief into repentance, — hearts chastened and pride rebuked. Convinced of the fruitlessness of their toil in the dark and wakened by their Master’s voice, they changed their methods, turned away from material things, and cast their net on the right side. Discerning Christ, Truth, anew on the shore of time, they were enabled to rise somewhat from mortal sensuousness, or the burial of mind in matter, into newness of life as Spirit.

This spiritual meeting with our Lord in the dawn of a new light is the morning meal which Christian Scientists commemorate. They bow before Christ, Truth, to receive more of his reappearing and silently to commune with the divine Principle, Love.

24 | 16:2–4

The highest prayer
 3 is not one of faith merely; it is demonstration. Loftiest adoration

25 | 208:20

21 Let us learn of the real and eternal, and prepare for the reign of Spirit, the kingdom of heaven, — the reign and rule of universal harmony, which cannot be lost nor remain forever unseen.

*Section 8
 The Bible*

18 | James 5:13 (to 1st .), 15 (to ;)

13 Is any among you afflicted? let him pray.
 15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up;

Section 8
Science and Health

26 | 1:6

6 Prayer, watching, and working, combined with self-im-
molation, are God's gracious means for accomplishing
9 whatever has been successfully done for the Christian-
ization and health of mankind.

27 | 326:20–21

Working and praying with true motives,
21 your Father will open the way.

28 | 35:25–26

Our Eucharist is spiritual communion with the one
God.

