ILLUSTRATIVE MATERIAL

used during talks

on

THE STRUCTURE OF THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE TEXTBOOK—OUR WAY OF LIFE

Chapter III
Marriage
(Audio Code C-1M)

Max Kappeler

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Introduction for the chapters "Marriage" and "Christian Science vs. Spiritualism"

Dear Student,

We are studying the Christian Science Textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, by Mary Baker Eddy, chapter by chapter, with the purpose of interpreting it in a spiritually scientific way rather than in an individually subjective way. This endeavor demands a method of text-interpretation that proceeds from the standpoint of divine Principle and its explanation of itself through the categories of Being.

In the chapter "Prayer," we consider the text not mainly to discover the concept of prayer taught in Christian Science, but to point out the method of spiritually scientific text-interpretation through textural illustration. Since facility with this method requires exercise, we continue with the chapters. When dealing with the chapter "Atonement and Eucharist," we apply our knowledge of the method and exercise it with the text. We will do the same with the chapters "Marriage" and "Christian Science vs. Spiritualism" to become even clearer and more thoroughly schooled in the method. Only by continual exercise can we gain mastery.

Some advice for preparation:

- 1. The two chapters should be studied separately: first the chapter "Marriage" according to this study advice and the enclosed study-references on "Marriage," afterwards the same work can be done with the chapter "Christian Science vs. Spiritualism".
- 2. It is helpful first to read through the chapter various times in a consecrated and understanding way, without the help of the epitomes. By so doing, the creative faculties of each student are called into action, no matter where one is spiritually.
- 3. An overall view of the chapter can then be gained by carefully studying my books:
 - a) The Structure of the Christian Science Textbook Our Way of Life, pp. 22–28, and 29–45:
 - b) The Science of the Oneness of Being in the Christian Science Textbook, pp. 89–95 and 97–106.
- 4. On this basis, one can start investigating the finer structure of the chapter with the help of the epitomes found in my book, *Epitomes for the Spiritually Structured Interpretation of the Christian Science Textbook*.
- 5. The audio recordings of the class on "Marriage," C-1M, and the class on "Christian Science vs. Spiritualism," C-2SP, can be a great help in this work. Epitomes for the chapters and tables of contents for the recordings are included

Introduction (continued)

6. Since the purpose of the class is to understand the method of scientific text-interpretation and the method of epitomizing the findings, students should become thoroughly familiar with the method involved. To this end, much attention should be devoted to the section in my book, *The Seven Synonyms for God*, entitled, "Spiritually scientific interpretation, pp. 324–335, as well as to the introduction to the *Epitomes for the Spiritually Structured Interpretation of the Christian Science Textbook*, pp. 1–11.

Because of their place value within the whole structure of the Textbook, "Marriage" and "Christian Science vs. Spiritualism" are crucial for our life-practice.

With best wishes,

Man Kanneler.

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The Structure of the Christian Science Textbook —Our Way of Life Chapter III Marriage

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	ABBREVIATIONS		
M, Sp, So, P, Li, T, Lo	= Mind, Spirit, Soul, Principle, Life, Truth, Love.		
W, X, Xty, Sc	= Word, Christ, Christianity, Science.		
M-Lo	= the sequence of Mind through Love.		
M/M - M/P	= Mind in its subtones of M, Sp, So, P (Mind as Mind, etc.).		
MIND, SPIRIT, etc.	= in all capitals means that tone is the main tone.		
W/W, W/X, W/Xty, W/S	W/Sc = the Word in its subtones of Christ, Christianity, Science.		
> < S&H	= versus= Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, by Mary Baker Eddy		
MH	= Marginal Heading		
Mis.	= Miscellaneous Writings, by Mary Baker Eddy		

Study Assignment: "Marriage"

- 1. Read: Mis. 52:11–17; 285–290 ("Wedlock"), 297–298 ("A Christian Science Statute")
- 2. Consider the statements in this chapter in connection with the terms "marriage" and "matrimony":
 - a) it is temporal: 56:8–14; MH; 64:26–27
 - b) a provision for generation: 56: 7–8
 - c) for improvement of the human species: 60:16-18
 - d) its spiritual signification: 61:30-31; 64:17
 - e) its erroneous foundations: 56:15–17; 59:27–31 65:8–11; 65:25–28
- 3. Concession marriage as a concession:

56:7-14; 61:29-30; 61:31-2; 64:27-29

4. Compare the beginning (56:7–8) with the end of the chapter:

68:30-2; 69:10-16; 69:19-26

- 5. The seven subjects of the chapter:
 - a) Can you see how each of the seven subjects is the natural outcome of the corresponding subject in the chapters "Prayer" and "Atonement and Eucharist"? In other words, try to see the spiritually logical flow from the main tone of Mind in "Prayer" to the main tone of Mind in "Atonement and Eucharist" and then to the main tone of Mind in "Marriage." Try this with the subjects of each of the synonyms for God.
 - b) 1st main subject: Mind.

Note the qualities through which "law-abiding" is characterized in the text.

c) 2nd main subject: Spirit.

Note what kind of spiritual, pure qualities are needed.

d) 3rd main subject: Soul.

Note the qualities through which "selflessness" and "unity of interest" are expressed (positively and negatively) in the text.

"Marriage" Study Assignment (continued)

e) 4th main subject: Principle.

Note the qualities through which a "scientific attitude" is expressed (positively and negatively) in the text.

f) 5th main subject: Life.

Note through which qualities "exalted and refined affections" are expressed (positively and negatively) in the text.

g) 6th main subject: Truth

- a) Note through which qualities "metaphysical understanding" is expressed (positively and negatively) in the text.
- b) This subject compares the nature of mortal manhood with the higher nature of man. Can you see how another aspect of this comparison is brought out in each subtone?

h) 7th main subtone: Love.

- a) Note through which qualities "a stronger adherence to the spiritual" is expressed in the text.
- b) Note how each subtone shows how the insufficiency of the human draws mortals to the spiritual.

The Scriptural Notes of Principle, Life, Truth in the seven main subjects of the chapter "Marriage",1

Principle		Life	Truth
spiritual unity in:	qualities of the 7 synonyms for God		
Mind	law-abiding	advancing	civilization
Spirit	pure qualities	enrich	human nature
Soul	selflessness and unity of interest	promote	human partnership
Principle	scientific attitude	permanent	human relationship
Life	exalted and refined affections	nobler	human species
Truth	metaphysical understanding	the higher	nature of man
Love	stronger adherence to the spiritual	brings more and more into evidence	the man of God's creation

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¹ See main tone epitomes to Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures (Mary Baker Eddy) in Max Kappeler's Epitomes for the Spiritually Structured Interpretation of the Christian Science Textbook (Seattle: Kappeler Institute Publishing, 1982).

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Study Material

on

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

Chapter III **Marriage**

(Word reflecting Christianity)²

Read also: "What do you think of marriage?" (Mis. 52:11–17)

"Wedlock" (Mis. 285-290)

"A Christian Science Statute" (Mis. 297–298)

Standpoint: Word reflecting Christianity:

Word from the absolute standpoint: Statement of God's nature

Christianity from the relative standpoint: Evolution of a higher sense of humanity

Scriptural Notes: Principle: joined together by God

Life: in the resurrection

Truth: as in the angels of God

Introduction: S&H 56:1–6

• Concessions only for the advancement of spiritual good.

• Compare the beginning with the end of the chapter (S&H

69:17-30)

Spiritual unity in God brings forth a higher humanity.

Mind Spiritual unity in Mind assures, through being law-abiding, an

advanced civilization (S&H 56:7-57:3).

What does being law-abiding imply?

as Mind: The necessity of submitting oneself to legal and moral regulations

(S&H 56:7–14);

as Spirit: the command to keep these regulations pure (S&H 56:15–20),

as Soul: and the exercise of self-control (S&H 57:1–3).

² Excerpt from Max Kappeler, *Epitomes for the Spiritually Structured Interpretation of the Christian Science Textbook* (Seattle: Kappeler Institute Publishing USA, 1979), Chapter III.

Spirit Spirit al unity in Spirit enriches the human nature through the

union of pure qualities (S&H 57:4–30). (See Appendix)

How does this unifying of pure qualities enrich human nature?

as Mind: Pure qualities of mind conjoin in a natural way to form a higher

mentality (S&H 57:4–14).

as Spirit: Worldly qualities do not weigh against divine qualities (S&H 57:15–

21).

as Soul: Pure qualities may bring a separation of fleshly ties but this only

serves to lift thought heavenward (S&H 57:22–30).

Soul Spiritual unity in Soul promotes, through selflessness and unity

of interests, the happiness of human partnership (S&H 57:31–

59:26).

How does this of interests express itself?

as Mind: Through intercourse with exalting mentalities (S&H 57:31–58:4);

as Spirit: through association of pure qualities (S&H 58:5–11);

as Soul: through moral freedom which cannot be abused or limited by

selfishness (S&H 58:22–23);

as Principle: through the obligations of solicitude, mutual attention and

approbation (S&H 58:24–59:6);

as Life: through the maintenance and furtherance of the individuality of each

partner (S&H 59:7–26).

Principle Spiritual unity in Principle makes, through a scientific attitude,

human relationships more harmonious and permanent (S&H

59:27-61:3).

Wherein consists this scientific attitude?

as Mind: In keeping moral obligations intact (S&H 59:27–60:3);

as Spirit: in the good and pure welding indissolubly the links of affection

(S&H 60:4–15);

as Soul: in the education of a higher nature which builds a barrier against

vice (S&H 60:16–23);

as Principle: in a scientific sense which alone can evaluate what harmony really is

(S&H 60:24–28);

as Life: in seeking in Soul, not in personal sense, the unlimited source of

happiness (S&H 60:29–61:3).

Life Spiritual unity in Life brings forth, through exalted and refined

affections, a nobler human species (S&H 61:4–62:19).

How can progeny be improved?

as Mind: Through heavenly-minded parents from whom the children inherit

better minds and healthier bodies (S&H 61:4–13);

as Spirit: by cherishing the good (S&H 61:14–28);

as Soul: by an improved morale of propagation (S&H 61:29–62:3);

as Principle: by educating the children so as to form habits of obedience to moral

and spiritual laws (S&H 62:4-19).

Truth Spiritual unity in Truth brings forth, through a metaphysical

understanding, the higher nature of man (S&H 62:20-65:12).

What is this understanding of man's higher nature?

as Mind: that the divine Mind, not erring human beliefs, takes care of the

human body (S&H 62:20–63:4);

as Spirit: that Spirit, the good and pure, is the only source of man's being

(S&H 63:5-11);

as Soul: that both sexes have equal human rights (S&H 63:12–32);

as Principle: that man includes both masculine and feminine qualities and is one

with all men (S&H 64:1–25);

as Life: that God is the Father of all men (S&H 64:26–32);

as Truth: that Christ, Truth, gives to man a higher sense of being (S&H 65:1–

6);

as Love: that life should be regarded more and more metaphysically (S&H

65:7–12).

Love Spiritual unity in Love, through a stronger adherence to the

spiritual, brings more and more into evidence the man of God's

creation (S&H 65:13-69:30)

How does Love bring forth in a greater measure the man of God's

creation?

as Mind: As the human mind becomes aware of its own insufficiency it at last

demands a higher affection (S&H 65:13–19).

as Spirit: In the transitional period, by a stronger adherence to the spiritual, all

evil and impurity will be thrown off through mental fermentation

(S&H 65:20–32).

as Soul: Holding steadfastly to the spiritual in the midst of adversities,

tribulations, sorrows and trials assuredly holds in itself God's

blessing (S&H 66:1–67:17).

as Principle: This superiority of spiritual power brings forth the man of scientific

creation (S&H 67:18-68:8).

as Life: In proportion as man gives up the belief that he has a humanly

propagated life, his eternal being, coexistent with God, appears

(S&H 68:9-69:2).

as Truth: In proportion as man understands the truth of being the real ideal

man appears (S&H 69:2-10).

as Love: The understanding that there is only *one* creator, God, brings the

assurance that man can never be separated from God; therefore he is

deathless, perfect and eternal (S&H 69:10-30).

Appendix

"Union of the masculine and feminine qualities constitutes completeness" (S&H 57:4–5)

Mrs. Eddy stated:

"This is my support, that the male and female natures are equally expressed, coexistent in me. This is the way that I exist and is the reason I never lack. It is because I am of the nature of infinite completeness; there is never anything in my experience in which the male and female qualities are not infinitely at one, supporting each other. It is because my spiritual inspiration is perfectly balanced with scientific understanding; because my joy is perfectly balanced with courage, and because my love is perfectly balanced with strength. My tender emotional nature is perfectly balanced with thought, reason and understanding; therefore I am a state of perfect protection, perfect substance, and I am supported by my own infinity. I am the presence of substance, because there is no unsupported idea in me.

"My manhood takes care of my womanhood, defends, protects, and supports her. My joy is defended and protected by my courage. My love is protected and defended by my understanding, by the strength of my scientific understanding which is omnipotence. I am never undefended and my womanhood cherishes my manhood. My tender affection cherishes my scientific understanding and unfolds love to it, takes care of it, watches over it with love, and gives it every opportunity to unfold and demonstrate itself in perfect harmony, unity, equality, and unfoldment. So my nature is complete."

Collection of Gilbert Carpenter Jr.

³ From: Arguments, given by Mary Baker Eddy to students; reprinted in *Collectanea*, p. 73,

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