# **ILLUSTRATIVE MATERIAL**

used during talks

on

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

Chapter III
Marriage
(Tape code C-2M)

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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 tape 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 Kanseler.

#### **Contents**

## 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/Sc = the Word in its subtones of Christ, Christianity, Science.

> < = versus

S&H = 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) 2<sup>nd</sup> main subject: Spirit.

Note what kind of spiritual, pure qualities are needed.

d) 3<sup>rd</sup> 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) 4<sup>th</sup> main subject: Principle.

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

### f) 5<sup>th</sup> main subject: Life.

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

# g) 6<sup>th</sup> 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) 7<sup>th</sup> 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"

(see main tone epitomes in *Epitomes for the Spiritually Structured Interpretation of the Christian Science Textbook*, Max Kappeler, to "Science and Health")

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