



How does God operate?

The 4-fold operation of Being

Max Kappeler

When consciousness becomes familiar with the operational breadth of Being, it reflects its 4-fold operation, which in the terminology of Christian Science is called Word, Christ, Christianity, Science.

The culmination of the Bible is the Holy City, which has four equal sides. The Textbook interprets the four sides as Word, Christ, Christianity and Science. As they are four *equal* sides, it means that they are equal in status, so that not one of them is superfluous, not one is less important in meaning than another, nor can any single one be neglected. Each one of the four sides necessarily requires the other three; only all four together constitute *one* city, the symbol of *one* consciousness of spiritual Being. Therefore, to solve a problem spiritually, we must always take into account all four sides.

4-fold dynamics

Word, Christ, Christianity and Science are four different phases of divine operation and define the eternal working of the one Being from four different aspects; they are, as it were, four different offices or modes of operation of Being. Being is certainly not static, but enormously dynamic. As soon as we have dynamics, thought leads us to inquire into the modus operandi and the laws which govern it. Knowing these, we can bring ourselves consciously into accord with them, and so participate harmoniously.

To human thought, the order of Word, Christ, Christianity, Science, is a logical sequence. What is this sequence?

Word: self-declaration

The Word is the self-declaration of Being; Being presents its fundamental, inherent nature. Without an understanding of that which constitutes the true nature of Being, human thought remains stuck with a human point of view, and its starting point is then ignorance, blind belief, superstition, occultism, and spiritualism.



How does God operate? *continued*

Christ: self-manifestation

But the Word calls for the Christ, for the self-manifestation of Being. The Word alone is not sufficient, because it only *states* that which constitutes the nature of Being, and thereby, implies that which does not belong to reality. It would appear to us to be something static, purely a statement of motionless, eternal facts; but Being is dynamic. The Word has a Christ, and it expresses itself continuously. As soon as we, in the Word, touch the Principle of Being, it is as though this Principle says: I have an idea, a purpose, an aim, a design. Christ is this true idea, the power of *executing* that which the Word has in view. As the idea is infinite, it has operational breadth—that is to say, diversification in all directions.

Christianity: self-fulfillment

The nature of Being not only includes the will to do, but also the power to fulfill. Christ is that will to do and its operation; Christianity is the self-fulfillment of Being. That which the Word has in view as idea is executed by the Christ and shows itself in Christianity as the fulfilled, perfect *result*. In Being, nothing ever begins that will not find fulfillment or, rather, that is not *already* fulfilled. Because the Word has an infinite idea, there is, in Christianity, infinite fulfillment. As a result, each detail in infinite Being reflects the design of the Word. Throughout the whole of Being, the infinite Principle is echoed in infinite ideas. We see the infinite outcome of Principle in operation in the expression of fulfilled ideas.

Science: self-explanation

In Being, is there really a process of transition from Word to Christ to Christianity? In Being, which knows no time, are there successive stages: stating a proposition (Word), the execution of the proposition (Christ), the result or solution of the stated proposition (Christianity)? Not exactly. They are only introduced as tools for our human faculty of comprehension, to bring us finally to the fourth side of the Holy City—to the self-explanation of Being. Science explains

that which *is*. That which has been presented by Word, Christ and Christianity as “process,” Science explains as a state of being.

Exalted being

Science explains the facts of being and, thereby, becomes a connecting link with the Word, which presents the nature of Being, though now from a higher standpoint. It is not exactly a closed circle—the symbol of Buddhism—but a spiral, the symbol of scientific Christianity. So, operational breadth brings about an exalted sense as infinite progression, and this is concrete being. In the measure that we, in consciousness, are in accord with the spiritual 4-fold operation of Being, we enjoy an ever-higher individualized sense of being.

Illustrative material for this subject is found on page 4 of this newsletter.

Excerpt from Max Kappeler's book
The Four Levels of Spiritual Consciousness:
Science itself
divine Science
absolute Christian Science
Christian Science
pp. 87-89.

Kappeler Institute Publishing, USA 1970

Available now from:
Kappeler Institute Publishing
Cloth: 198 pages \$16.00 U.S.

THE SELF-OPERATION OF BEING¹

symbol	WORD	CHRIST	CHRISTIANITY	SCIENCE
Holy City S&H 575:7–577:31	Word of Life, Truth, Love (Logos)	Christ, spiritual idea of God	Christianity, the outcome of the divine Principle of the Christ-idea in Christian history	Christian Science, which today and forever interprets this great example and Exemplar
God S&H 465:9	incorporeal	divine	supreme	infinite
God/Good S&H 587:19	omnipotence	omniscience	omnipresence	omni-action
cardinal points S&H 575:26–576:2	north	east	south	west
4-fold operation (Doorly)	revelation	translation	reflection	interpretation
4-fold operation (Doorly)	seeking	finding	using	being
our universal life- principle:	choosing the right guiding principle	submitting ourselves to this principle and trusting its power of salvation	acting in accordance with this principle	understanding the Principle of being to be the guiding Principle of all life
self-operation of Being:	self-declaration	self-manifestation	self-fulfillment	self-explanation
God operates	out of itself	through itself	as itself	to and for itself
cybernetic system	input	process	output	feedback
God/man relationship	man's relationship to God	God's relationship to man	man's relationship to man	Principle and its idea is one
Bible	Law	prophets	Jesus Christ	"Science and Health"
Gospels	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John

¹ From Max Kappeler, *A Study Aid for the Science of Christian Science*, (Seattle: Kappeler Institute Publishing, 1984), p. 39.



How Does God Operate? (as Word, Christ, Christianity, Science)

as explained in the book

“The Four Levels of Spiritual Consciousness”

Max Kappeler

The subject of our last newsletter (#9) was “What is God”? This question was answered by the 7 synonymous terms for God, “Mind, Spirit, Soul, Principle, Life, Truth, Love.” (S&H 465:10).

In this newsletter (#10), we turn our focus to the question “How does God operate”? We find the answer in the 4-fold operation of Being: Word, Christ, Christianity, and Science.

Kappeler’s book “The Four Levels of Spiritual Consciousness”¹ is an important source for studying the exact spiritually scientific explanation of how God operates as Word, Christ, Christianity, and Science. It brings out this 4-fold operation of God as the dynamic part of the laws of universal Science. This book is a vital part of our continued study and prayerful pondering of the Science of Christian Science—a timeless classic.

198 pages (Cloth)

\$16

Illustrative materials for this subject is found on page 4 of this newsletter

¹ The 4 levels of spiritual consciousness are: Science itself, divine Science, absolute Christian Science, and Christian Science. The 4 levels, along with the 7 synonymous terms for God and the 4-fold operation of Being, comprise the divine system of reference (7 + 4 + 4). The entire system is expounded upon in Max Kappeler’s book, *The Four Levels of Spiritual Consciousness* (Seattle: Kappeler Institute Publishing, 1970).



“Mini” Audio Recording

How Does God Operate?

as explained in the unique recording

“The Fourfold Operation of Being”

Max Kappeler

With the divine factors of Word, Christ, Christianity, and Science, we have quite a different category for God than that of the nature of God as defined through the symbols “Mind, Spirit, Soul, Principle, Life, Truth, and Love.” (S&H 465:10) These four terms represent the operational factors in Being. For example, it is as if we have a perfect automobile, but this auto does not run until we have moving power, until we have dynamic operation. It is the same in Being. In Christian Science, the operational factors are defined as “incorporeal [Word], divine [Christ], supreme [Christianity], and infinite [Science].” (S&H 465:9)

This one hour recording by Max Kappeler presents a powerful and timeless explanation of the dynamic operation of God. As one of the main pioneers in the Science of Christian Science, Kappeler’s recordings cannot be equaled.

Tape Code: M-43 (from B-2, hour 7)
1 Cassette from B-2 (#7)
Recording time: 1 hour

Price Audio: \$11

Illustrative materials for this audiotape is found on page 4 of this newsletter



Announcements

Credit to Max Kappeler

The following announcement should appear on the Mary Baker Eddy Institute website and in all copies of the book *Your Divinity Revealed* by Helen Wright sold after August 31, 2001:

“When I wrote my book *Your Divinity Revealed*, I used notes taken from Dr. Max Kappeler’s *Syllabus I* class in 1977, as well as photocopied pages of his *Compendiums for the Study of Christian Science* No. 4–10.

Dr. Kappeler has informed me that the content of his books and lectures, along with the tape recordings and transcripts of those lectures, are protected by copyright law, and he claims my use of the material infringed his copyrights. Instead of pursuing this matter in court, Dr. Kappeler has graciously agreed to accept this credit in the remaining copies of *Your Divinity Revealed*, with the agreement that the book will not be reprinted. Dr. Kappeler wants to make it clear that this situation should not be used as a precedent and that he will protect his copyrights.

Syllabus I is available, as are all Dr. Kappeler’s published works, from the Kappeler Institute USA, PO Box 99735, Seattle, WA 98139-0735. I highly recommend them for anyone interested in the study of Christian Science.”