



Notes
on
Handling Evil

with
**References from the Work of
Mary Baker Eddy**

Max Kappeler

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with *References from the Work of Mary Baker Eddy*
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Abbreviations

used to reference the work of Mary Baker Eddy

S&H	Throughout this book, quotations from the Christian Science textbook, <i>Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures</i> , will be noted with a page and line number, for example: (465:10).
MH	Marginal heading (inside <i>Science and Health</i>)
Man.	<i>Manual of The Mother Church</i>
Mis.	<i>Miscellaneous Writings</i>
Ret.	<i>Retrospection and Introspection</i>
Un.	<i>Unity of Good</i>
No.	<i>No and Yes</i>
Mess.'01	<i>Message to The Mother Church, June 1901</i>
Mess.'02	<i>Message to The Mother Church, June 1902</i>
Hea.	<i>Christian Healing</i>
Peo.	<i>The People's Idea of God</i>
My.	<i>The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany</i>

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NOTES ON HANDLING EVIL

The following notes are presented in the endeavor to assist students in their research work on the subject of handling evil.

I. The Necessity of Handling Evil

As one progresses in the study of Christian Science, two important questions inevitably arise: Is it necessary to handle evil? Is it necessary to understand the nature and operation of evil? The mental state of mere human goodness answers these questions in the negative; this is the Abel state of consciousness—which is always slain by Cain. On the other hand, Science answers these questions in the affirmative, as is shown very clearly in Mis. 222:29–223:5, where Mrs. Eddy points out that she took up the research of the metaphysical mystery of error on God’s command: “I shall not forget the cost of investigating, for this age, the methods and power of error. While the ways, means, and potency of Truth had flowed into my consciousness as easily as dawns the morning light and shadows flee, the metaphysical mystery of error—its hidden paths, purpose, and fruits—at first defied me. I was saying all the time, ‘Come not thou into the secret’—but at length took up the research according to God’s command.”

451:23–27 “He feels morally obligated to open the eyes of his students that they may perceive the nature and methods of error of every sort, especially any subtle degree of evil, deceived and deceiving. All mental malpractice arises from ignorance or malice aforethought.”

454:14–17 “He, who understands in a sufficient degree the Principle of Mind-healing, points out to his student error as well as truth, the wrong as well as the right practice.”

570:30–571:5 “Many are willing to open the eyes of the people to the power of good resident in divine Mind, but they are not so willing to point out the evil in human thought, and expose evil’s hidden mental ways of accomplishing iniquity.

Why this backwardness, since exposure is necessary to ensure the avoidance of the evil?”

321:8–18 “When, led by wisdom to cast down his rod, he saw it become a serpent, Moses fled before it; but wisdom bade him come back and handle the serpent, and then Moses’ fear departed. In this incident was seen the actuality of Science. Matter was shown to be a belief only. The serpent, evil, under wisdom’s bidding, was destroyed through understanding divine Science, and this proof was a staff upon which to lean. The illusion of Moses lost its power to alarm him, when he discovered that what he apparently saw was really but a phase of mortal belief.”

It was “wisdom” that bade Moses handle evil and this process became a staff to him.

II. The Nothingness of Nothing Must be Understood

It is not sufficient just to admit or to believe that error is nothing. It must be *understood* why error is nothing.

- 346:9–13 “The nothingness of nothing is plain; but we need to understand that error *is* nothing, and that its nothingness is not saved, but must be demonstrated in order to prove the somethingness—yea, the allness—of Truth.”
- 394:1–4 “...to understand that sickness is not real and that Truth can destroy its seeming reality, is best of all, for this understanding is the universal and perfect remedy.”
- 400:15–18 “This task becomes easy, if you understand that every disease is an error, and has no character nor type, except what mortal mind assigns to it.”
- 403:14–16 “You command the situation if you understand that mortal existence is a state of self-deception and not the truth of being.”
- 447:27–29 “The sick are not healed merely by declaring there is no sickness, but by knowing that there is none.”
- 356:11–14 “Understanding the nothingness of material things, he spoke of flesh and Spirit as the two opposites,—as error and Truth, not contributing in any way to each other’s happiness and existence.”
- Mis. 334:16–18 “You must find error to be *nothing*: then, and *only* then, do you handle it in Science.”
- Ret. 55:3–5 “Let us follow the example of Jesus, the master Metaphysician, and gain sufficient knowledge of error to destroy it with Truth.”

III. Error in all its Forms must be Reduced to its Native Nothingness

Through analysis, it is evident that all forms of error can be reduced to mortal mind and its native nothingness. Before this has been accomplished, a new idea cannot evolve.

- Matthew 12:28–29 “But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.
“Or else how can one enter into a strong man’s house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house.”
- 399:29–400:8 “Our Master asked: ‘How can one enter into a strong man’s house and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man?’ In other words: How can I heal the body, without beginning with the so-called mortal mind, which

directly controls the body? When disease is once destroyed in this so-called mind, the fear of disease is gone, and therefore the disease is thoroughly cured. Mortal mind is 'the strong man,' which must be held in subjection before its influence upon health and morals can be removed. This error conquered, we can despoil 'the strong man' of his goods,—namely, of sin and disease.”

- 572:3–6 “Thus we see, in both the first and last books of the Bible,—in Genesis and in the Apocalypse,—that sin is to be Christianly and scientifically reduced to its native nothingness.”
- 201:13–14,
20–202:2 “We cannot fill vessels already full. They must first be emptied. Let us disrobe error....”
- “Grafting holiness upon unholiness, supposing that sin can be forgiven when it is not forsaken, is as foolish as straining out gnats and swallowing camels.”
- 281:30–282:1 “The old belief must be cast out or the new idea will be spilled, and the inspiration, which is to change our standpoint, will be lost.”
- 346:29–30 “Material beliefs must be expelled to make room for spiritual understanding.”
- Mis. 334:16–21 “You must find error to be *nothing*: then, and *only* then, do you handle it in Science. The diabolism of suppositional evil at work in the name of good, is a lie of the highest degree of nothingness: just reduce this falsity to its proper denomination, and you have done with it.”
- Mis. 109:12–15 “Even a mild mistake must be seen as a mistake, in order to be corrected; how much more, then, should one’s sins be seen and repented of, before they can be reduced to their native nothingness!”

IV. Understanding the Nothingness of Error Demonstrates the Somethingness of Truth

Understanding why error is nothing is not dealing with a vacuum, because “understanding” is always positive. The more one knows of the unreality of error the more one understands the reality of Truth.

- 251:28–30 “Ignorance, like intentional wrong, is not Science. Ignorance must be seen and corrected before we can attain harmony.”
- 91:9–15 “It is difficult for the sinner to accept divine Science, because Science exposes his nothingness; but the sooner error is reduced to its native nothingness, the sooner man’s great reality will appear and his genuine being

will be understood. The destruction of error is by no means the destruction of Truth or Life, but is the acknowledgment of them.”

- 252:8–14 “A knowledge of error and of its operations must precede that understanding of Truth which destroys error, until the entire mortal, material error finally disappears, and the eternal verity, man created by and of Spirit, is understood and recognized as the true likeness of his Maker.”
- 346:9–13 “The nothingness of nothing is plain; but we need to understand that error *is* nothing, and that its nothingness is not saved, but must be demonstrated in order to prove the somethingness—yea, the allness—of Truth.”
- 253:15–17 “Knowing the falsity of so-called material sense, you can assert your prerogative to overcome the belief in sin, disease, or death.”
- 563:15–18 “The Revelator lifts the veil from this embodiment of all evil, and beholds its awful character; but he also sees the nothingness of evil and the allness of God.”
- 450:19–22 “The Christian Scientist has enlisted to lessen evil, disease, and death; and he will overcome them by understanding their nothingness and the allness of God, or good.”
- My. 193:17–18 “Protesting against error, you unite with all who believe in Truth.”
- Un. 9:27–10:1 “What is the cardinal point of the difference in my metaphysical system? This: that *by knowing the unreality of disease, sin, and death*, you demonstrate the allness of God.”
- Mis. 339:6–18 “Experience is victor, never the vanquished; and out of defeat comes the secret of victory. That to-morrow starts from to-day and is one day beyond it, robes the future with hope’s rainbow hues.
- “In the battle of life, good is made more industrious and persistent because of the supposed activity of evil. The elbowing of the crowd plants our feet more firmly. In the mental collisions of mortals and the strain of intellectual wrestlings, moral tension is tested, and, if it yields not, grows stronger. The past admonishes us: with finger grim and cold it points to every mortal mistake; or smiling saith, ‘Thou hast been faithful over a few things.’”
- No. 24:15–20 “The claims of evil become both less and more in Christian Science, than in human philosophies or creeds: *more*, because the evil that is hidden by dogma and human reason is uncovered by Science; and *less*, because evil, being thus uncovered, is found out, and exposure is nine points of destruction.”

V. Ignorance about Error is an Error Itself

To be blind to the nature and operation of error is not an attitude to be desired. Error which is undetected is operating unrestrictedly.

- 446:31–32 “Ignorance of the error to be eradicated oftentimes subjects you to its abuse.”
- 448:5–11 “Evil which obtains in the bodily senses, but which the heart condemns, has no foundation; but if evil is uncondemned, it is undenied and nurtured. Under such circumstances, to say that there is no evil, is an evil in itself. When needed tell the truth concerning the lie. Evasion of Truth cripples integrity, and casts thee down from the pinnacle.”
- 92:21–25 “Uncover error, and it turns the lie upon you. Until the fact concerning error—namely, its nothingness—appears, the moral demand will not be met, and the ability to make nothing of error will be wanting.”
- 121:12–16 “So we have goodness and beauty to gladden the heart; but man, left to the hypotheses of material sense unexplained by Science, is as the wandering comet or the desolate star—‘a weary searcher for a viewless home.’”
- My. 210:18–211:11 “WAYS THAT ARE VAIN
“Certain individuals entertain the notion that Christian Science Mind-healing should be two-sided, and only denounce error in general,—saying nothing, in particular, of error that is damning men. They are sticklers for a false, convenient peace, straining at gnats and swallowing camels. The unseen wrong to individuals and society they are too cowardly, too ignorant, or too wicked to uncover, and excuse themselves by denying that this evil exists. This mistaken way, of hiding sin in order to maintain harmony, has licensed evil, allowing it first to smoulder, and then break out in devouring flames. All that error asks is to be let alone; even as in Jesus’ time the unclean spirits cried out, ‘Let us alone; what have we to do with thee?’”
- Ret. 64:24–29 “It is scientific to abide in conscious harmony, in health-giving, deathless Truth and Love. To do this, mortals must first open their eyes to all the illusive forms, methods, and subtlety of error, in order that the illusion, error, may be destroyed; if this is not done, mortals will become the victims of error.”
- Mis. 284:25–28 “Evil let alone grows more real, aggressive, and enlarges its claims; but, met with Science, it can and will be mastered by Science.”
- Mess.’01 15:4–6 “Error uncondemned is not nullified. We must condemn the claim of error in every phase in order to prove it false, therefore unreal.”

VI. Understanding the Nothingness of Error and the Allness of Truth Holds Evil in Check

Handling evil is based on a true recognition of God, divine Being, *and* the nothingness of its suppositional opposite.

96:31–97:4 “During this final conflict, wicked minds will endeavor to find means by which to accomplish more evil; but those who discern Christian Science will hold crime in check. They will aid in the ejection of error. They will maintain law and order, and cheerfully await the certainty of ultimate perfection.”

15:15–18 “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.”

52:19–23 “The ‘man of sorrows’ best understood the nothingness of material life and intelligence and the mighty actuality of all-inclusive God, good. These were the two cardinal points of Mind-healing, or Christian Science, which armed him with Love.”

Matthew 5:37 “But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil.”

Matthew 17:21 “Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.”

VII. Protection Against Evil is Necessary

Protecting oneself against evil systematically—both generally and specifically—is imperative.

445:2–5 “Also the teacher must thoroughly fit his students to defend themselves against sin, and to guard against the attacks of the would-be *mental assassin*, who attempts to kill morally and physically.”

449:20–21 “The inoculation of evil human thoughts ought to be understood and guarded against.”

451:31–452:3 “Show your student that mental malpractice tends to blast moral sense, health, and the human life. Instruct him how to bar the door of his thought against this seeming power,—a task not difficult, when one understands that evil has in reality no power....”

Man. (Art. VIII. Sect. 6) “**Alertness to Duty.** It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to defend himself daily against aggressive mental suggestion, and not be made to forget nor to neglect his duty to God, to his Leader, and to mankind. By his works he shall be judged,—and justified or condemned.”

- Mis. 114:30–115:10 “The teacher in Christian Science who does not specially instruct his pupils how to guard against evil and its silent modes, and to be able, through Christ, the living Truth, to protect themselves therefrom, is committing an offense against God and humanity. With Science and Health for their textbook, I am astounded at the apathy of some students on the subject of sin and mental malpractice, and their culpable ignorance of the workings of these—and even the teacher’s own deficiency in this department. I can account for this state of mind in the teacher only as the result of sin; otherwise, his own guilt as a mental malpractitioner, and fear of being found out.”
- Mis. 114:17–26 “They must always have on armor, and resist the foe within and without. They cannot arm too thoroughly against original sin, appearing in its myriad forms: passion, appetites, hatred, revenge, and all the *et cetera* of evil. Christian Scientists cannot watch too sedulously, or bar their doors too closely, or pray to God too fervently, for deliverance from the claims of evil. Thus doing, Scientists will silence evil suggestions, uncover their methods, and stop their hidden influence upon the lives of mortals.”
- My. 128:30–129:2 “Watch, and pray daily that evil suggestions, in whatever guise, take no root in your thought nor bear fruit. Ofttimes examine yourselves, and see if there be found anywhere a deterrent of Truth and Love, and ‘hold fast that which is good.’”

VIII. Evil and Good are not Two

Here the central problem is touched: the belief that good and evil are two; scientifically recognized there is only oneness—allness always discerning the nothingness of its unlikeness.

- Un. 21:3–9 “If we observe our mental processes, we shall find that we are perpetually arguing with ourselves; yet each mortal is not two personalities, but one.
“In like manner good and evil talk to one another; yet they are not two but one, for evil is naught, and good only is reality.”
- Un. 49:16–21 “There are not two realities of being, two opposite states of existence. One should appear real to us, and the other unreal, or we lose the Science of being. Standing in no basic Truth, we make ‘the worse appear the better reason,’ and the unreal masquerades as the real, in our thought.”
- No. 17:21–24 “If mortals could grasp these two words *all* and *nothing*, this mystery of a God who has no knowledge of sin would disappear, and the eternal, infinite harmony would be fathomed.”

1. Evil is only a negative definition of good.

In mathematics the following *two* statements are contained in *one* truth:

- (a) $2 + 2 = 4$ is correct.
- (b) $2 + 2 = \text{not } 4$ is incorrect.

The statement (b) says by implication exactly the same as (a). From (b) follows (a). Therefore (a) and (b) are equal in exactness and truthfulness. On this logic rest the explanations of Christian Science.

My. 235:1–13

“INCONSISTENCY

“To teach the truth of life without using the word death, the suppositional opposite of life, were as impossible as to define truth and not name its opposite, error. Straining at gnats, one may swallow camels.

“The tender mother, guided by love, faithful to her instincts, and adhering to the imperative rules of Science, asks herself: Can I teach my child the correct numeration of numbers and never name a cipher? Knowing that she cannot do this in mathematics, she should know that it cannot be done in metaphysics, and so she should definitely name the error, uncover it, and teach truth scientifically.”

Mis. 346:24–25

“It is a rule in Christian Science never to repeat error unless it becomes requisite to bring out Truth.”

Un. 36:6–9

“The use of a lie is that it unwittingly confirms Truth, when handled by Christian Science, which reverses false testimony and gains a knowledge of God from opposite facts, or phenomena.”

484:28–485:2

“*Question.*—Is materiality the concomitant of spirituality, and is material sense a necessary preliminary to the understanding and expression of Spirit?

“*Answer.*—If error is necessary to define or to reveal Truth, the answer is yes; but not otherwise.”

91:13–15

“The destruction of error is by no means the destruction of Truth or Life, but is the acknowledgment of them.”

91:17–21

“The denial of material selfhood aids the discernment of man’s spiritual and eternal individuality, and destroys the erroneous knowledge gained from matter or through what are termed the material senses.”

543:5–7

“The image of Spirit cannot be effaced, since it is the idea of Truth and changes not, but becomes more beautifully apparent at error’s demise.”

2. Evil is a counterfeit of good

Evil of any sort or shape is not a counterfact, but only a counterfeit of good. It possesses nothing of itself, but draws all—by reversion—from good. Consequently, a counterfeit can only serve as a waymark to the real fact.

- 267:19–22 “When examined in the light of divine Science, mortals present more than is detected upon the surface, since inverted thoughts and erroneous beliefs must be counterfeits of Truth.”
- 285:7–11 “What, then, is the material personality which suffers, sins, and dies? It is not man, the image and likeness of God, but man’s counterfeit, the inverted likeness, the *unlikeness* called sin, sickness, and death.”
- 337:22–24 “The visible universe and material man are the poor counterfeits of the invisible universe and spiritual man.”
- 409:20–23 “The real man is spiritual and immortal, but the mortal and imperfect so-called ‘children of men’ are counterfeits from the beginning, to be laid aside for the pure reality.”
- 476:1 “Mortals are the counterfeits of immortals.”
- 286:24–26 “The temporal and material are not then creations of Spirit. They are but counterfeits of the spiritual and eternal.”
- 293:13–20,
24–28 “The material so-called gases and forces are counterfeits of the spiritual forces of divine Mind, whose potency is Truth, whose attraction is Love, whose adhesion and cohesion are Life, perpetuating the eternal facts of being. Electricity is the sharp surplus of materiality which counterfeits the true essence of spirituality or truth,—the great difference being that electricity is not intelligent, while spiritual truth is Mind....”
- “The manifestations of evil, which counterfeit divine justice, are called in the Scriptures, ‘The anger of the Lord.’ In reality, they show the self-destruction of error or matter and point to matter’s opposite, the strength and permanency of Spirit.”
- No. 42:18–19 “It is said that the devil is the ape of God.”
- No. 25:24–26 “A material, sinful mortal is but the counterfeit of immortal man.”

3. Evil simulates good

Webster’s Dictionary defines the word “simulation” as: “Act of simulating, or assuming an appearance which is feigned, or not true; pretense or profession meant to deceive.” Simulation, therefore, is the falsification of an original. Therefore it presupposes an original; simulation without an original is impossible; simulation implies the reality of the original.

- 528:19–22 “Beginning creation with darkness instead of light,—materially rather than spiritually,—error now simulates the work of Truth, mocking Love and declaring what great things error has done.”
- 286:31–287:4 “Sin, sickness, and death are comprised in human material belief, and belong not to the divine Mind. They are without a real origin or existence. They have neither Principle nor permanence, but belong, with all that is material and temporal, to the nothingness of error, which simulates the creations of Truth.”
- 281:20–26 “When we put off the false sense for the true, and see that sin and mortality have neither Principle nor permanency, we shall learn that sin and mortality are without actual origin or rightful existence. They are native nothingness, out of which error would simulate creation through a man formed from dust.”
- 97:5–7 “In reality, the more closely error simulates truth and so-called matter resembles its essence, mortal mind, the more impotent error becomes as a belief.”
- 513:27–514:6 “So-called mortal mind—being nonexistent and consequently not within the range of immortal existence—could not by simulating deific power invert the divine creation, and afterwards recreate persons or things upon its own plane, since nothing exists beyond the range of all-inclusive infinity, in which and of which God is the sole creator.”
- Mis. 334:8–12 “Whatever simulates power and Truth in matter, does this as a lie declaring itself, that mortals’ faith in matter may have the effect of power; but when the whole fabrication is found to be a lie, away goes all its supposed power and prestige.”

4. Evil is a suppositious opposite of good

Evil is not just some vague deflection of good, but it is in its way exact. It is the *exact* opposite of good and is always only a supposition and not a fact.

- 521:23–522:2 “The Science and truth of the divine creation have been presented in the verses already considered, and now the opposite error, a material view of creation, is to be set forth. The second chapter of Genesis contains a statement of this material view of God and the universe, a statement which is the exact opposite of scientific truth as before recorded. The history of error or matter, if veritable, would set aside the omnipotence of Spirit; but it is the false history in contradistinction to the true.”
- 523:6–7 “Although presenting the exact opposite of Truth, the lie claims to be truth.”
- 295:26–28 “The theoretical mind is matter, named *brain*, or *material consciousness*, the exact opposite of real Mind, or Spirit.”

- 368:1–2 “The greatest wrong is but a supposititious opposite of the highest right.”
- 72:21–23 “God, good, being ever present, it follows in divine logic that evil, the suppositional opposite of good, is never present.”
- Un. 52:22–53:1 “Why are earth and mortals so elaborate in beauty, color, and form, if God has no part in them? By the law of opposites. The most beautiful blossom is often poisonous, and the most beautiful mansion is sometimes the home of vice. The senses, not God, Soul, form the condition of beautiful evil, and the supposed modes of self-conscious matter, which make a beautiful lie.”

5. Evil the supposititious antipode of good

Antipode means “diametrically opposite,” therefore an exact opposite presupposes an opposite fact.

- 335:29–31 “Sin, sickness, and mortality are the suppositional antipodes of Spirit, and must be contradictions of reality.”
- 286:27–29 “Transitory thoughts are the antipodes of everlasting Truth, though (by the supposition of opposite qualities) error must also say, ‘I am true.’”
- 257:22–24 “Finite mind manifests all sorts of errors, and thus proves the material theory of mind in matter to be the antipode of Mind.”
- 72:18–19 “Spirit is not made manifest through matter, the antipode of Spirit.”
- 215:24–26 “Mortal man is the antipode of immortal man in origin, in existence, and in his relation to God.”
- 484:21–27 “Mesmerism is mortal, material illusion. Animal magnetism is the voluntary or involuntary action of error in all its forms; it is the human antipode of divine Science. Science must triumph over material sense, and Truth over error, thus putting an end to the hypotheses involved in all false theories and practices.”
- 538:19–22 “Until that which contradicts the truth of being enters into the arena, evil has no history, and evil is brought into view only as the unreal in contradistinction to the real and eternal.”

6. Evil is inverted good

- Un. 53:1–3 “Now a lie takes its pattern from Truth, by reversing Truth. So evil and all its forms are inverted good.”
- 572:8–11 “In Science we are children of God; but whatever is of material sense, or mortal, belongs not to His children, for materiality is the inverted image of spirituality.”

207:30–208:4 “Spiritual facts are not inverted; the opposite discord, which bears no resemblance to spirituality, is not real. The only evidence of this inversion is obtained from suppositional error, which affords no proof of God, Spirit, or of the spiritual creation. Material sense defines all things materially, and has a finite sense of the infinite.”

All these references can be summarized in stating that evil is not an entity with an origin, nature, and essence of its own, but that it is only a false presentation of an existing good. Reality, therefore, is one, not two.

IX. Evil Serves as a Waymark for Good

Evil, which is never original in itself but only a false interpretation of the original or a misconstrued interpolation, always hints at the facts of reality through the process of reversal.

Mis. 60:23–61:10 “*If mortal mind and body are myths, what is the connection between them and real identity, and why are there as many identities as mortal bodies?*”

“Evil in the beginning claimed the power, wisdom, and utility of good; and every creation or idea of Spirit has its counterfeit in some matter belief. Every material belief hints the existence of spiritual reality; and if mortals are instructed in spiritual things, it will be seen that material belief, in all its manifestations, reversed, will be found the type and representative of verities priceless, eternal, and just at hand.

“The education of the future will be instruction, in spiritual Science, against the material symbolic counterfeit sciences. All the knowledge and vain strivings of mortal mind, that lead to death,—even when aping the wisdom and magnitude of immortal Mind,—will be swallowed up by the reality and omnipotence of Truth over error, and of Life over death.”

Un. 56:1–2 “The chaos of mortal mind is made the stepping-stone to the cosmos of immortal Mind.”

Mess.’02 1:10–14 “Evil, though combined in formidable conspiracy, is made to glorify God. The Scripture declares, ‘The wrath of man shall praise Thee: the remainder of wrath shalt Thou restrain.’”

Mis. 232:12–14 “Human skill but foreshadows what is next to appear as its divine origin.”

319:3–5 “Science depicts disease as error, as matter *versus* Mind, and error reversed as subserving the facts of health.”

267:22–25 “Thought is borrowed from a higher source than matter, and by reversal, errors serve as waymarks to the one Mind, in which all error disappears in celestial Truth.”

- 120:7–9 “Science reverses the false testimony of the physical senses, and by this reversal mortals arrive at the fundamental facts of being.”
- 442:16–18 “Neither animal magnetism nor hypnotism enters into the practice of Christian Science, in which truth cannot be reversed, but the reverse of error is true.”
- 282:31–32 “The rule of inversion infers from error its opposite, Truth;....”
- 502:9–17 “Spiritually followed, the book of Genesis is the history of the untrue image of God, named a sinful mortal. This deflection of being, rightly viewed, serves to suggest the proper reflection of God and the spiritual actuality of man, as given in the first chapter of Genesis. Even thus the crude forms of human thought take on higher symbols and significations, when scientifically Christian views of the universe appear, illuminating time with the glory of eternity.”
- 574:16–30 “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.”
- 276:12–16 “The realization that all inharmony is unreal brings objects and thoughts into human view in their true light, and presents them as beautiful and immortal. Harmony in man is as real and immortal as in music. Discord is unreal and mortal.”

X. The Suppositional Origin of Evil

Christian Science explains that every form of evil can be traced back to mortal mind. In mortal mind is the source of all evil manifestations. But where does mortal mind come from? Here Mrs. Eddy gives but one answer: it is a solecism in language. It is a false concept in contradistinction to the true concept of the divine Mind.

- 114:1–9, 12–17 “Usage classes both evil and good together as *mind*; therefore, to be understood, the author calls sick and sinful humanity *mortal mind*,—meaning by this term the flesh opposed to Spirit, the human mind and evil in contradistinction to the divine Mind, or Truth and good. The spiritually

unscientific definition of mind is based on the evidence of the physical senses, which makes minds many and calls *mind* both human and divine....”

“Mortal mind is a solecism in language, and involves an improper use of the word *mind*. As Mind is immortal, the phrase *mortal mind* implies something untrue and therefore unreal; and as the phrase is used in teaching Christian Science, it is meant to designate that which has no real existence.”

210:19–21 “The expression *mortal mind* is really a solecism, for Mind is immortal, and Truth pierces the error of mortality as a sunbeam penetrates the cloud.”

Considering what has been explained in VIII (1), it is plain that the only origin and source of all things is in Mind. Mortal mind tries to draw its arguments from the immortal Mind by attempting to reverse the facts of Mind. There are not two—divine Mind and mortal mind; but one—the infinite origin, cause, and creative ability of the divine Mind, implying the unreality and nothingness of mortal mind and of all that it is supposed to evolve.

XI. The Suppositional Evolution of Evil

1. *Mortal mind* is the origin of all forms of evil.

230:30–231:2 “So-called mortal mind or the mind of mortals being the remote, predisposing, and the exciting cause of all suffering, the cause of disease must be obliterated through Christ in divine Science, or the so-called physical senses will get the victory.”

387:24–26 “It is a law of so-called mortal mind, misnamed matter, which causes all things discordant.”

189:25–190:13 “From mortal mind comes the reproduction of the species,—first the belief of inanimate, and then of animate matter. According to mortal thought, the development of embryonic mortal mind commences in the lower, basal portion of the brain, and goes on in an ascending scale by evolution, keeping always in the direct line of matter, for matter is the subjective condition of mortal mind.

“Next we have the formation of so-called embryonic mortal mind, afterwards mortal men or mortals,—all this while matter is a belief, ignorant of itself, ignorant of what it is supposed to produce. The mortal says that an inanimate unconscious seedling is producing mortals, both body and mind; and yet neither a mortal mind nor the immortal Mind is found in brain or elsewhere in matter or in mortals.

“This embryonic and materialistic human belief called mortal man in turn fills itself with thoughts of pain and pleasure, of life and death, and arranges itself into five so-called senses, which presently measure mind by the size of a brain and the bulk of a body, called man.”

2. Matter is the subjective state of mortal mind.

- 292:13–14 “Matter is the primitive belief of mortal mind, because this so-called mind has no cognizance of Spirit.”
- 114:29–31 “Science shows that what is termed *matter is* but the subjective state of what is termed by the author *mortal mind*.”
- 108:26–28 “...that this false sense evolves, in belief, a subjective state of mortal mind which this same so-called mind names *matter*....”
- 189:31–32 “...for matter is the subjective condition of mortal mind.”

3. Material sense is the outcome of putting mortal mind into matter.

- 278:5–7 “The material senses oppose this, but there are no material senses, for matter has no mind.”
- 532:29–31 “...but now error demands that *mind* shall see and feel through matter, the five senses.”
- 298:15–16 “Material sense expresses the belief that mind is in matter.”

4. Beliefs are the formulations of what the material senses testify.

- 88:14–17 “Ideas are spiritual, harmonious, and eternal. Beliefs proceed from the so-called material senses, which at one time are supposed to be substance-matter and at another are called spirits.”
- 490:20–21 “Human belief—or knowledge gained from the so-called material senses....”

5. Mortality is the immediate effect of practicing beliefs.

- 481:15–19 “This is the significance of the Scripture concerning this ‘tree of the knowledge of good and evil,’—this growth of material belief, of which it is said: ‘in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.’”

6. Error is the form in which mortality manifests itself.

7. Annihilation is the inevitable doom of error.

XII. The Second Record of Creation

The second record of creation gives a clear picture of how the suggestion of mortal mind evolves itself. At the same time it illustrates the exact opposite of the first and true record of creation, making it clear that evil is only the negative definition of good.¹

	<u>1st Record</u>		<u>2nd Record</u>	
1st day:	Gen. 1:3–5	light intelligence	mist ignorance	Gen. 2:6
2nd day:	Gen. 1:6–8	separation substance	mingling matter	Gen. 2:7–14
3rd day:	Gen. 1:9–13	spiritual understanding identity	corporeal senses body	Gen. 2:15–20
4th day:	Gen. 1:14–19	spiritual power government	personal despotism theories & beliefs	Gen. 2:21–3:3
5th day:	Gen. 1:20–23	multiplication individuality	demoralization time	Gen. 3:4–8
6th day:	Gen. 1:24–31	man consciousness	condemnation of mortals to till the ground	Gen. 3:9–4:15
7th day:	Gen. 2:1–3	fulfillment holiness	self-destruction complete annihilation	Gen. 4:16–5:27

XIII. The Seven Synonymous Terms for God and Their Counterfeits

Having seen that evil must be handled intelligently and scientifically, the student of Christian Science must be able to analyze evil according to the fact it counterfeits. A study of the ideas characterizing God as Mind, Spirit, Soul, Principle, Life, Truth, and Love must also include research into how these terms are counterfeited. For example, a study of the synonym Mind shows how it is the divine Mind which handles the beliefs of mortal mind, the human mind, the carnal mind, hypnotism, mesmerism, occultism, *materia medica*, health-laws, etc.

¹ For a more detailed study on the first and second records of creation, see John W. Doorly, *Talks on the Science of the Bible, Volume 1: The True and False Records of Creation* (London: Foundational Book Company for the John W. Doorly Trust, 1947); and Max Kappeler, *Compendium for the Study of Christian Science, No. 1–10* (Seattle: Kappeler Institute Publishing USA, 1951–1953).

XIV. The Purpose of Evil

Students should not only know something definite about the so-called nature of evil, but also about the purpose of evil. It helps them to wake themselves up [from the Adam-dream of dualism], because the ultimate aim of evil is to destroy man. The following are some of the methods evil uses:

1. The tendency of evil is to assume new forms

Evil does not present itself always in the same age-old form, but takes on new ones in order to fool the mind untrained in analyzing the ways of evil.

102:16–20 “The mild forms of animal magnetism are disappearing, and its aggressive features are coming to the front. The looms of crime, hidden in the dark recesses of mortal thought, are every hour weaving webs more complicated and subtle.”

96:15–18 “The breaking up of material beliefs may seem to be famine and pestilence, want and woe, sin, sickness, and death, which assume new phases until their nothingness appears.”

96:31–32 “During this final conflict, wicked minds will endeavor to find means by which to accomplish more evil....”

225:25–28 “The despotic tendencies, inherent in mortal mind and always germinating in new forms of tyranny, must be rooted out through the action of the divine Mind.”

251:7–8 “Fright is so great at certain stages of mortal belief as to drive belief into new paths.”

398:27–30 “Even a blind faith removes bodily ailments for a season, but hypnotism changes such ills into new and more difficult forms of disease.”

2. Evil wants us to believe that it is a reality

Evil tries to make us believe in its reality; if we did so, we should have been led one step nearer to believing in the superiority of evil over good.

287:18–19 “Evil calls itself something, when it is nothing.”

330:27–32 “Evil is nothing, no thing, mind, nor power. As manifested by mankind it stands for a lie, nothing claiming to be something,—for lust, dishonesty, selfishness, envy, hypocrisy, slander, hate, theft, adultery, murder, dementia, insanity, inanity, devil, hell, with all the etceteras that word includes.”

- 71:2–4 “Evil has no reality. It is neither person, place, nor thing, but is simply a belief, an illusion of material sense.”
- 92:26–31 “The foundation of evil is laid on a belief in something besides God. This belief tends to support two opposite powers, instead of urging the claims of Truth alone. The mistake of thinking that error can be real, when it is merely the absence of truth, leads to belief in the superiority of error.”
- 470:14–16 “And evil can only seem to be real by giving reality to the unreal.”
- 397:9–12 “You cause bodily sufferings and increase them by admitting their reality and continuance, as directly as you enhance your joys by believing them to be real and continuous.”
- 307:3–6 “This pantheistic error, or so-called *serpent*, insists still upon the opposite of Truth, saying, ‘Ye shall be as gods;’ that is, I will make error as real and eternal as Truth.”
- 472:26–29 “Therefore the only reality of sin, sickness, or death is the awful fact that unrealities seem real to human, erring belief, until God strips off their disguise.”
- 292:14–16 “To mortal mind, matter is substantial, and evil is real.”

3. Evil wants to be left alone

Evil suggestions evolve if they are not checked by Truth. Therefore, evil grows if left alone and undisturbed; it is cultured in the soil of an apathetic mind.

- 102:20–23 “So secret are the present methods of animal magnetism that they ensnare the age into indolence, and produce the very apathy on the subject which the criminal desires.”
- 570:4–7 “The present apathy as to the tendency of certain active yet unseen mental agencies will finally be shocked into another extreme mortal mood,—into human indignation; for one extreme follows another.”
- 48:1–6 “The pangs of neglect and the staves of bigoted ignorance smote him sorely. His students slept. He said unto them: ‘Could ye not watch with me one hour?’ Could they not watch with him who, waiting and struggling in voiceless agony, held uncomplaining guard over a world?”
- My. 211:9–11 “All that error asks is to be let alone; even as in Jesus’ time the unclean spirits cried out, ‘Let us alone; what have we to do with thee?’”

Man. (Art. VIII, Sect. 6) **“Alertness to Duty.** It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to defend himself daily against aggressive mental suggestion, and not be made to forget nor to neglect his duty to God, to his Leader, and to mankind. By his works he shall be judged,—and justified or condemned.”

4. Evil wants to hide itself

In order to be left alone, evil tries to hide itself. Unseen, and therefore unattacked, it broods over its plan, awaiting the opportunity to spring into action with sudden surprise.

376:6–9 “Just so is it with the greatest sin. It is the most subtle, and does its work almost self-deceived. The diseases deemed dangerous sometimes come from the most hidden, undefined, and insidious beliefs.”

453:20–23 “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.”

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.”

8:16–20 “...it is wise not to try to deceive ourselves or others, for ‘there is nothing covered that shall not be revealed.’ Professions and audible prayers are like charity in one respect,—they ‘cover the multitude of sins.’”

542:5–13 “Though error hides behind a lie and excuses guilt, error cannot forever be concealed. Truth, through her eternal laws, unveils error. Truth causes sin to betray itself, and sets upon error the mark of the beast. Even the disposition to excuse guilt or to conceal it is punished. The avoidance of justice and the denial of truth tend to perpetuate sin, invoke crime, jeopardize self-control, and mock divine mercy.”

294:29–30 “The thief believes that he gains something by stealing, and the hypocrite that he is hiding himself.”

308:5–8 “Until the lesson is learned that God is the only Mind governing man, mortal belief will be afraid as it was in the beginning, and will hide from the demand, ‘Where art thou?’”

597:5–10 “The great Nazarene, as meek as he was mighty, rebuked the hypocrisy, which offered long petitions for blessings upon material methods, but cloaked the crime, latent in thought, which was ready to spring into action and crucify God’s anointed.”

570:30–571:3 “Many are willing to open the eyes of the people to the power of good resident in divine Mind, but they are not so willing to point out the evil in

human thought, and expose evil's hidden mental ways of accomplishing iniquity.”

5. Evil wants to fool us

Evil tries to intoxicate the human mind so that it mistakes evil for good and worse still, so that it mistakes the world's evil suggestions for its own thoughts. Only an impersonal, thorough, exact, and scientific analysis can correct such an error.

- My. 211:29–
212:13 “Other minds are made dormant by it, and the victim is in a state of semi-individuality, with a mental haziness which admits of no intellectual culture or spiritual growth. The state induced by this secret evil influence is a species of intoxication, in which the victim is led to believe and do what he would never, otherwise, think or do voluntarily.
- “‘This intricate method of animal magnetism is the essence, or spirit, of evil, which makes mankind drunken. In this era it is taking the place of older and more open sins, and other forms of intoxication. A harder fight will be necessary to expose the cause and effects of this evil influence, than has been required to put down the evil effects of alcohol. The alcoholic habit is the use of higher forms of matter, wherewith to do evil; whereas animal magnetism is the highest form of mental evil, wherewith to complete the sum total of sin.’”
- My. 213:15–19 “Unless one's eyes are opened to the modes of mental malpractice, working so subtly that we mistake its suggestions for the impulses of our own thought, the victim will allow himself to drift in the wrong direction without knowing it.”
- 169:31–170:2 “The good that a poisonous drug seems to do is evil, for it robs man of reliance on God, omnipotent Mind, and according to belief, poisons the human system.”
- 266:21–23 “The opposite persecutions of material sense, aiding evil with evil, would deceive the very elect.”
- 327:9–10 “Evil is sometimes a man's highest conception of right, until his grasp on good grows stronger.”
- 563:24–28 “‘*Revelation xii. 4.* ...and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.’
- “‘The serpentine form stands for subtlety, winding its way amidst all evil, but doing this in the name of good.’”
- 118:20–23 “In all mortal forms of thought, dust is dignified as the natural status of men and things, and modes of material motion are honored with the name of *laws*.”

- 185:13–17 “They have their birth in mortal mind, which puts forth a human conception in the name of Science to match the divine Science of immortal Mind, even as the necromancers of Egypt strove to emulate the wonders wrought by Moses.”
- 230:22–26 “According to Holy Writ, the sick are never really healed by drugs, hygiene, or any material method. These merely evade the question. They are soothing syrups to put children to sleep, satisfy mortal belief, and quiet fear.”
- 564:3–7 “As of old, evil still charges the spiritual idea with error’s own nature and methods. This malicious animal instinct, of which the dragon is the type, incites mortals to kill morally and physically even their fellow-mortals, and worse still, to charge the innocent with the crime.”
- 512:25–27 “Mortal mind inverts the true likeness, and confers animal names and natures upon its own misconceptions.”

6. Evil wants us to believe in Christian Science and not to understand it

Belief (in anything) weakens the intellect, and thereby weakens the alertness of analyzing, uncovering, and annihilating evil.

- 460:18–23 “If Christian healing is abused by mere smatterers in Science, it becomes a tedious mischief-maker. Instead of scientifically effecting a cure, it starts a petty crossfire over every cripple and invalid, buffeting them with the superficial and cold assertion, ‘Nothing ails you.’”
- Ret. 54:1–21 “It is often asked, Why are faith-cures sometimes more speedy than some of the cures wrought through Christian Scientists? Because faith is belief, and not understanding; and it is easier to believe, than to understand spiritual Truth. It demands less cross-bearing, self-renunciation, and divine Science to admit the claims of the corporeal senses and appeal to God for relief through a humanized conception of His power, than to deny these claims and learn the divine way,—drinking Jesus’ cup, being baptized with his baptism, gaining the end through persecution and purity.
- “Millions are believing in God, or good, without bearing the fruits of goodness, not having reached its Science. Belief is virtually blindness, when it admits Truth without understanding it. Blind belief cannot say with the apostle, ‘I know whom I have believed.’ There is danger in this mental state called belief; for if Truth is admitted, but not understood, it may be lost, and error may enter through this same channel of ignorant belief. The faith-cure has devout followers, whose Christian practice is far in advance of their theory.”²

² *Christian Science Sentinel*, September, 1917: “Principle and Practice” by Mary Baker Eddy. Also reproduced in the booklet: Max Kappeler, *Why Study Christian Science as a Science?* (Seattle: Kappeler Institute Publishing USA, 1973), pp. 29–30.

7. Evil wants to destroy error with error

Trying to destroy error with error demands the application of a greater error leaving the situation as a whole worse than before.

- 104:22–28 “The hypnotizer employs one error to destroy another. If he heals sickness through a belief, and a belief originally caused the sickness, it is a case of the greater error overcoming the lesser. This greater error thereafter occupies the ground, leaving the case worse than before it was grasped by the stronger error.”
- 12:2–10 “A mere request that God will heal the sick has no power to gain more of the divine presence than is always at hand. The beneficial effect of such prayer for the sick is on the human mind, making it act more powerfully on the body through a blind faith in God. This, however, is one belief casting out another,—a belief in the unknown casting out a belief in sickness.”
- 101:26–32 “If animal magnetism seems to alleviate or to cure disease, this appearance is deceptive, since error cannot remove the effects of error. Discomfort under error is preferable to comfort. In no instance is the effect of animal magnetism, recently called hypnotism, other than the effect of illusion. Any seeming benefit derived from it is proportional to one’s faith in esoteric magic.”
- 143:13–17 “Sometimes the human mind uses one error to medicine another. Driven to choose between two difficulties, the human mind takes the lesser to relieve the greater. On this basis it saves from starvation by theft, and quiets pain with anodynes.”
- 145:25–30 “Other methods undertake to oppose error with error, and thus they increase the antagonism of one form of matter towards other forms of matter or error, and the warfare between Spirit and the flesh goes on. By this antagonism mortal mind must continually weaken its own assumed power.”
- 146:7–9 “By trusting matter to destroy its own discord, health and harmony have been sacrificed.”
- 370:10–17 “Homoeopathy furnishes the evidence to the senses, that symptoms, which might be produced by a certain drug, are removed by using the same drug which might cause the symptoms. This confirms my theory that faith in the drug is the sole factor in the cure. The effect, which mortal mind produces through one belief, it removes through an opposite belief, but it uses the same medicine in both cases.”

8. Evil's ultimate purpose is to destroy man and Christian Science

- 564:3–12 “As of old, evil still charges the spiritual idea with error’s own nature and methods. This malicious animal instinct, of which the dragon is the type, incites mortals to kill morally and physically even their fellow-mortals, and worse still, to charge the innocent with the crime. This last infirmity of sin will sink its perpetrator into a night without a star.”
- “The author is convinced that the accusations against Jesus of Nazareth and even his crucifixion were instigated by the criminal instinct here described.”
- 565:9–13 “Led on by the grossest element of mortal mind, Herod decreed the death of every male child in order that the man Jesus, the masculine representative of the spiritual idea, might never hold sway and deprive Herod of his crown.”
- 597:10–11 “The martyrdom of Jesus was the culminating sin of Pharisaism. It rent the veil of the temple.”
- 542:3–5 “Material beliefs would slay the spiritual idea whenever and wherever it appears.”
- 341:1–4 “The strictures on this volume would condemn to oblivion the truth, which is raising up thousands from helplessness to strength and elevating them from a theoretical to a practical Christianity.”
- 65:13–16 “The broadcast powers of evil so conspicuous to-day show themselves in the materialism and sensualism of the age, struggling against the advancing spiritual era.”
- Ret. 61:26–62:2 “Posterity will have the right to demand that Christian Science be stated and demonstrated in its godliness and grandeur,—that however little be taught or learned, that little shall be right. Let there be milk for babes, but let not the milk be adulterated. Unless this method be pursued, the Science of Christian healing will again be lost, and human suffering will increase.”

XV. The Methods of Handling Evil

Evil is always a derived form of mortal mind, which in its turn again is only a counterfeit of the divine Mind. Mortal mind is the one and only enemy, and all its forms need to be handled through the seven synonymous terms for God. Deut. 28: 7 expresses it clearly: “The Lord shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee *one* way, and flee before thee *seven* ways.”

1. The importance of handling evil at once

As evil which is left alone evolves and takes on more aggressive forms, it is imperative to handle evil at once or it becomes more difficult to deal with it.

- 234:26–27 “You must control evil thoughts in the first instance, or they will control you in the second.”
- 405:5–17 “Christian Science commands man to master the propensities,—to hold hatred in abeyance with kindness, to conquer lust with chastity, revenge with charity, and to overcome deceit with honesty. Choke these errors in their early stages, if you would not cherish an army of conspirators against health, happiness, and success. They will deliver you to the judge, the arbiter of truth against error. The judge will deliver you to justice, and the sentence of the moral law will be executed upon mortal mind and body. Both will be manacled until the last farthing is paid,—until you have balanced your account with God.”
- 452:5–6 “The wrong thought should be arrested before it has a chance to manifest itself.”
- 463:21–24 “To decide quickly as to the proper treatment of error—whether error is manifested in forms of sickness, sin, or death—is the first step towards destroying error.”
- 218:24–25 “Treat a belief in sickness as you would sin, with sudden dismissal.”
- 273:29–274:7 “Science shows that material, conflicting mortal opinions and beliefs emit the effects of error at all times, but this atmosphere of mortal mind cannot be destructive to morals and health when it is opposed promptly and persistently by Christian Science. Truth and Love antidote this mental miasma, and thus invigorate and sustain existence. Unnecessary knowledge gained from the five senses is only temporal,—the conception of mortal mind, the offspring of sense, not of Soul, Spirit,—and symbolizes all that is evil and perishable.”
- Matthew 5:25 “Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison.”

2. Argumentation

It must be thoroughly understood that argumentation is not Science. Arguments are only “human auxiliaries to aid in bringing thought into accord with the spirit of Truth and Love...” (454:32–455:1).

- 412:18–24 “To heal by argument, find the type of the ailment, get its name, and array your mental plea against the physical. Argue at first mentally, not audibly, that the patient has no disease, and conform the argument so as to destroy the evidence of disease. Mentally insist that harmony is the fact, and that sickness is a temporal dream.”

- 411:3–10 “My first discovery in the student’s practice was this: If the student silently called the disease by name, when he argued against it, as a general rule the body would respond more quickly,—just as a person replies more readily when his name is spoken; but this was because the student was not perfectly attuned to divine Science, and needed the arguments of truth for reminders.”
- 376:21–26 “Therefore the efficient remedy is to destroy the patient’s false belief by both silently and audibly arguing the true facts in regard to harmonious being,—representing man as healthy instead of diseased, and showing that it is impossible for matter to suffer, to feel pain or heat, to be thirsty or sick.”
- 412:4–9 “Mentally and silently plead the case scientifically for Truth. You may vary the arguments to meet the peculiar or general symptoms of the case you treat, but be thoroughly persuaded in your own mind concerning the truth which you think or speak, and you will be the victor.”

Arguments never reach the heights of scientific demonstration. They are a means to convince the one who argues until he himself believes what he argues. Truth does not need to be convinced, it assures itself.

Manifold are the mental approaches for arguing in a case. Study of the following references will give some idea of their nature.

(a) *assure, reassure*

- 416:28–30 “Assure them that they think too much about their ailments, and have already heard too much on that subject.”
- 384:5–6 “Let us reassure ourselves with the law of Love.”
- 411:28–29 “Silently reassure them as to their exemption from disease and danger.”

(b) *calm*

- 415:24–26 “To remove the error producing disorder, you must calm and instruct mortal mind with immortal Truth.”
- 421:21–24 “Calm the excitement sometimes induced by chemicalization, which is the alterative effect produced by Truth upon error, and sometimes explain the symptoms and their cause to the patient.”

(c) *convince*

- 327:27–29 “Through human consciousness, convince the mortal of his mistake in seeking material means for gaining happiness.”
- 377:1–5 “If your patient believes in taking cold, mentally convince him that matter cannot take cold, and that thought governs this liability. If grief causes suffering, convince the sufferer that affliction is often

the source of joy, and that he should rejoice always in ever-present Love.”

(d) *banish*

208:31–209:1 “You should banish all thoughts of disease and sin and of other beliefs included in matter.”

381:27–28 “Let us banish sickness as an outlaw, and abide by the rule of perpetual harmony,—God’s law.”

391:9–12 “Banish the belief that you can possibly entertain a single intruding pain which cannot be ruled out by the might of Mind, and in this way you can prevent the development of pain in the body.”

(e) *deny*

184:8–12 “The remedy consists in probing the trouble to the bottom, in finding and casting out by denial the error of belief which produces a mortal disorder, never honoring erroneous belief with the title of law nor yielding obedience to it.”

368:29–31 “Deny the existence of matter, and you can destroy the belief in material conditions.”

412:10–13 “You may call the disease by name when you mentally deny it; but by naming it audibly, you are liable under some circumstances to impress it upon the thought.”

339:31–32 “You conquer error by denying its verity.”

(f) *dismiss*

390:20–23 “Suffer no claim of sin or of sickness to grow upon the thought. Dismiss it with an abiding conviction that it is illegitimate, because you know that God is no more the author of sickness than He is of sin.”

218:24–25 “Treat a belief in sickness as you would sin, with sudden dismissal.”

(g) *declare*

397:17–22 “Now reverse the process. Declare that you are not hurt and understand the reason why, and you will find the ensuing good effects to be in exact proportion to your disbelief in physics, and your fidelity to divine metaphysics, confidence in God as All, which the Scriptures declare Him to be.”

- (h) *exclude*
 392:31–32 “Exclude from mortal mind the offending errors; then the body cannot suffer from them.”
- (i) *insist*
 412:23–24 “Mentally insist that harmony is the fact, and that sickness is a temporal dream.”
 421:15–18 “Insist vehemently on the great fact which covers the whole ground, that God, Spirit, is all, and that there is none beside Him. There is *no disease*.”
- (j) *negate*
 392:11–12 “The physical affirmation of disease should always be met with the mental negation.”
 418:16–20 “Whatever the belief is, if arguments are used to destroy it, the belief must be repudiated, and the negation must extend to the supposed disease and to whatever decides its type and symptoms.”
- (k) *protest*
 384:9–12 “If man seems to incur the penalty through matter, this is but a belief of mortal mind, not an enactment of wisdom, and man has only to enter his protest against this belief in order to annul it.”
 391:19–22 “Since matter cannot talk, it must be mortal mind which speaks; therefore meet the intimation with a protest.”
- (l) *repudiate*
 418:16–20 “Whatever the belief is, if arguments are used to destroy it, the belief must be repudiated, and the negation must extend to the supposed disease and to whatever decides its type and symptoms.”
- (m) *remove*
 40:1–2 “Remove error from thought, and it will not appear in effect.”
 377:20–25 “Remove the leading error or governing fear of this lower so-called mind, and you remove the cause of all disease as well as the morbid or excited action of any organ. You also remove in this way what are termed organic diseases as readily as functional difficulties.”
 378:9–10 “Remove the error, and you destroy its effects.”

3. Reversal

One step further seems to be the method of exact reversal of the claims of error, thereby reaching the true facts about the situation.

(a) *reversing evil*

461:11–15

“Only by the illumination of the spiritual sense, can the light of understanding be thrown upon this Science, because Science reverses the evidence before the material senses and furnishes the eternal interpretation of God and man.”

129:7–10

“If you wish to know the spiritual fact, you can discover it by reversing the material fable, be the fable *pro* or *con*,—be it in accord with your preconceptions or utterly contrary to them.”

111:14–18

“Divine metaphysics reverses perverted and physical hypotheses as to Deity, even as the explanation of optics rejects the incidental or inverted image and shows what this inverted image is meant to represent.”

116:5–10

“Science so reverses the evidence before the corporeal human senses, as to make this Scriptural testimony true in our hearts, ‘The last shall be first, and the first last,’ so that God and His idea may be to us what divinity really is and must of necessity be,—all-inclusive.”

120:7–9

“Science reverses the false testimony of the physical senses, and by this reversal mortals arrive at the fundamental facts of being.”

273:10–12

“Divine Science reverses the false testimony of the material senses, and thus tears away the foundations of error.”

(b) *rule of inversion*

113:26–32

“The divine metaphysics of Christian Science, like the method in mathematics, proves the rule by inversion. For example: There is no pain in Truth, and no truth in pain; no nerve in Mind, and no mind in nerve; no matter in Mind, and no mind in matter; no matter in Life, and no life in matter; no matter in good, and no good in matter.”

282:31–32

“The rule of inversion infers from error its opposite, Truth....”

(c) *resolving*

123:12–15

“Divine Science, rising above physical theories, excludes matter, resolves *things* into *thoughts*, and replaces the objects of material sense with spiritual ideas.”

- 269:14–16 “Metaphysics resolves things into thoughts, and exchanges the objects of sense for the ideas of Soul.”
- 428:3–6 “A demonstration of the facts of Soul in Jesus’ way resolves the dark visions of material sense into harmony and immortality.”
- (d) *exchanging*
390:9–11 “Truth will at length compel us all to exchange the pleasures and pains of sense for the joys of Soul.”
- 269:14–16 “Metaphysics resolves things into thoughts, and exchanges the objects of sense for the ideas of Soul.”
- (e) *replacing*
428:19–21 “We must realize the ability of mental might to offset human misconceptions and to replace them with the life which is spiritual, not material.”
- 123:12–15 “Divine Science, rising above physical theories, excludes matter, resolves *things* into *thoughts*, and replaces the objects of material sense with spiritual ideas.”

4. Scientific analysis

While the two previous methods (argumentation and reversal) start from the claims of evil, the method of Science, on the other hand, deduces all from the divine point of view. The light of Truth is projected on the situation, and results in the analysis of it. This is Christian Science, the “intelligence, analyzing, uncovering, and annihilating the false testimony of the physical senses” (Ret. 30:11–12). This method requires a thorough understanding of the seven synonymous terms for God and their counterfeits, as indicated in XIII above.³

- (a) *analyzing, detecting, finding out, dissecting, discerning*
447:24–27 “To put down the claim of sin, you must detect it, remove the mask, point out the illusion, and thus get the victory over sin and so prove its unreality.”
- 184:8–12 “The remedy consists in probing the trouble to the bottom, in finding and casting out by denial the error of belief which produces a mortal disorder, never honoring erroneous belief with the title of law nor yielding obedience to it.”

³ For an in-depth study of the synonymous terms for God, see Max Kappeler, *Compendium for the Study of Christian Science, No. 1-10* (Seattle: Kappeler Institute Publishing USA, 1951–53); also Max Kappeler, *The Seven Synonyms for God* (Seattle: Kappeler Institute Publishing USA, 1984).

- 462:20–22,
31–463:1 “Anatomy, when conceived of spiritually, is mental self-knowledge, and consists in the dissection of thoughts to discover their quality, quantity, and origin....”
- “The Christian Scientist, through understanding mental anatomy, discerns and deals with the real cause of disease.”
- 95:6–11 “We approach God, or Life, in proportion to our spirituality, our fidelity to Truth and Love; and in that ratio we know all human need and are able to discern the thought of the sick and the sinning for the purpose of healing them. Error of any kind cannot hide from the law of God.”
- 95:13–16 “The greater or lesser ability of a Christian Scientist to discern thought scientifically, depends upon his genuine spirituality.”
- 233:17–24 “Ye who can discern the face of the sky,—the sign material,—how much more should ye discern the sign mental, and compass the destruction of sin and sickness by overcoming the thoughts which produce them, and by understanding the spiritual idea which corrects and destroys them. To reveal this truth was our Master’s mission to all mankind, including the hearts which rejected him.”
- 85:19–22 “Our Master rebuked the lack of this power when he said: ‘O ye hypocrites! ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?’”
- (b) uncovering, exposing, unveiling, rebuking, disclosing*
- 542:19–21 “Let Truth uncover and destroy error in God’s own way, and let human justice pattern the divine.”
- 572:12–17 “Love fulfils the law of Christian Science, and nothing short of this divine Principle, understood and demonstrated, can ever furnish the vision of the Apocalypse, open the seven seals of error with Truth, or uncover the myriad illusions of sin, sickness, and death.”
- 6:23–24 “Jesus uncovered and rebuked sin before he cast it out.”
- 540:11–16 “In moral chemicalization, when the symptoms of evil, illusion, are aggravated, we may think in our ignorance that the Lord hath wrought an evil; but we ought to know that God’s law uncovers so-called sin and its effects, only that Truth may annihilate all sense of evil and all power to sin.”
- 97:21–22 “The broadest facts array the most falsities against themselves, for they bring error from under cover.”

- Mis. 209:32–210:7 “Divine Love, as unconscious as incapable of error, pursues the evil that hideth itself, strips off its disguises, and—behold the result: evil, uncovered, is self-destroyed.”
- “Christian Science never healed a patient without proving with mathematical certainty that error, when found out, is two-thirds destroyed, and the remaining third kills itself.”
- 343:14–15 “Jesus strips all disguise from error, when his teachings are fully understood.”
- 454:11–13 “That evil or matter has neither intelligence nor power, is the doctrine of absolute Christian Science, and this is the great truth which strips all disguise from error.”
- 472:26–29 “Therefore the only reality of sin, sickness, or death is the awful fact that unrealities seem real to human, erring belief, until God strips off their disguise.”
- 447:20–22 “Expose and denounce the claims of evil and disease in all their forms, but realize no reality in them.”
- 91:9–13 “It is difficult for the sinner to accept divine Science, because Science exposes his nothingness; but the sooner error is reduced to its native nothingness, the sooner man’s great reality will appear and his genuine being will be understood.”
- 542:7–8 “Truth, through her eternal laws, unveils error.”
- 406:11–12 “The Science of being unveils the errors of sense, and spiritual perception, aided by Science, reaches Truth.”
- 216:5–7 “Here theories cease, and Science unveils the mystery and solves the problem of man.”
- 202:17–23 “The days of our pilgrimage will multiply instead of diminish, when God’s kingdom comes on earth; for the true way leads to Life instead of to death, and earthly experience discloses the finity of error and the infinite capacities of Truth, in which God gives man dominion over all the earth.”
- 447:12–14 “Ignorance, subtlety, or false charity does not forever conceal error; evil will in time disclose and punish itself.”

(c) destroying, neutralizing

- 157:30–31 “Science both neutralizes error and destroys it.”

- 162:5–7 “Christian Science acts as an alterative, neutralizing error with Truth.”
- 233:28–30 “The counter fact relative to any disease is required to cure it. The utterance of truth is designed to rebuke and destroy error.”
- 411:18–19 “The Scripture seems to import that Jesus caused the evil to be self-seen and so destroyed.”
- 540:5–9 “In Isaiah we read: ‘I make peace, and create evil. I the Lord do all these things;’ but the prophet referred to divine law as stirring up the belief in evil to its utmost, when bringing it to the surface and reducing it to its common denominator, nothingness.”
- 569:21–25 “The sin, which one has made his bosom companion, comes back to him at last with accelerated force, for the devil knoweth his time is short. Here the Scriptures declare that evil is temporal, not eternal.”
- 542:29–543:5 “The sinful misconception of Life as something less than God, having no truth to support it, falls back upon itself. This error, after reaching the climax of suffering, yields to Truth and returns to dust; but it is only mortal man and not the real man, who dies.”
- 476:6 “Error, urged to its final limits, is self-destroyed.”

5. The scientific statement of being

The scientific statement of being is the equivalent of Jesus’ “Yea, yea, nay, nay”; it states the nothingness of evil as well as the allness of good.

- 468:8–15 “*Question.*—What is the scientific statement of being?
Answer.—There is no life, truth, intelligence, nor substance in matter. All is infinite Mind and its infinite manifestation, for God is All-in-all. Spirit is immortal Truth; matter is mortal error. Spirit is the real and eternal; matter is the unreal and temporal. Spirit is God, and man is His image and likeness. Therefore man is not material; he is spiritual.”
- 43:28–31 “The Science Jesus taught and lived must triumph over all material beliefs about life, substance, and intelligence, and the multitudinous errors growing from such beliefs.”
- 300:9–12 “So far as the scientific statement as to man is understood, it can be proved and will bring to light the true reflection of God—the real man, or the *new* man (as St. Paul has it).”
- 380:22–28 “Many years ago the author made a spiritual discovery, the scientific evidence of which has accumulated to prove that the divine Mind produces in

man health, harmony, and immortality. Gradually this evidence will gather momentum and clearness, until it reaches its culmination of scientific statement and proof.”

6. Translation

This process is well summarized in the two statements: “Christian Science translates Mind, God, to mortals” (Mis. 22:10–11) and “Science, understood, translates matter into Mind...” (Mis. 25:12).

115:12–116:5

“SCIENTIFIC TRANSLATION OF IMMORTAL MIND

“GOD: Divine Principle, Life, Truth, Love, Soul, Spirit, Mind. (MH: Divine synonyms)

“MAN: God’s spiritual idea, individual, perfect, eternal. (MH: Divine image)

“IDEA: An image in Mind; the immediate object of understanding.—*Webster*. (MH: Divine reflection)

“SCIENTIFIC TRANSLATION OF MORTAL MIND

“*First Degree*: Depravity.

“PHYSICAL. Evil beliefs, passions and appetites, fear, depraved will, self-justification, pride, envy, deceit, hatred, revenge, sin, sickness, disease, death. (MH: Unreality)

“*Second Degree*: Evil beliefs disappearing.

“MORAL. Humanity, honesty, affection, compassion, hope, faith, meekness, temperance. (MH: Transitional qualities)

“*Third Degree*: Understanding.

“SPIRITUAL. Wisdom, purity, spiritual understanding, spiritual power, love, health, holiness. (MH: Reality)

“In the third degree mortal mind disappears, and man as God’s image appears.”

I John 4:9–10

“In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.

“Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.”

John 3:13–14

“And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, *even* the Son of man which is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up....”

- 298:20–24 “Spiritual ideas, like numbers and notes, start from Principle, and admit no materialistic beliefs. Spiritual ideas lead up to their divine origin, God, and to the spiritual sense of being.”
- 209:16–24 “The compounded minerals or aggregated substances composing the earth, the relations which constituent masses hold to each other, the magnitudes, distances, and revolutions of the celestial bodies, are of no real importance, when we remember that they all must give place to the spiritual fact by the translation of man and the universe back into Spirit. In proportion as this is done, man and the universe will be found harmonious and eternal.”
- 485:14–19 “Emerge gently from matter into Spirit. Think not to thwart the spiritual ultimate of all things, but come naturally into Spirit through better health and morals and as the result of spiritual growth. Not death, but the understanding of Life, makes man immortal.”
- Mis. 74:15–17 “His earthly mission was to translate substance into its original meaning, Mind.”
- Hea. 7:6–10 “‘The new tongue’ is the spiritual meaning as opposed to the material. It is the language of Soul instead of the senses; it translates matter into its original language, which is Mind, and gives the spiritual instead of the material signification.”
- Peo. 1:2–7 “Every step of progress is a step more spiritual. The great element of reform is not born of human wisdom; it draws not its life from human organizations; rather is it the crumbling away of material elements from reason, the translation of law back to its original language,—Mind, and the final unity between man and God.”

7. Divine infinite calculus

The scientific translation of immortal Mind swells up into the divine infinite calculus of reality, operating in the realm of spiritual sense, which Mrs. Eddy describes as a “...conscious, constant capacity to understand God” (209:31–32).

- 520:10–15 “The numerals of infinity, called *seven days*, can never be reckoned according to the calendar of time. These days will appear as mortality disappears, and they will reveal eternity, newness of Life, in which all sense of error forever disappears and thought accepts the divine infinite calculus.”
- 209:25–30 “Material substances or mundane formations, astronomical calculations, and all the paraphernalia of speculative theories, based on the hypothesis of material law or life and intelligence resident in matter, will ultimately vanish, swallowed up in the infinite calculus of Spirit.”

- Mis. 22:10–19 “Christian Science translates Mind, God, to mortals. It is the infinite calculus defining the line, plane, space, and fourth dimension of Spirit. It absolutely refutes the amalgamation, transmigration, absorption, or annihilation of individuality. It shows the impossibility of transmitting human ills, or evil, from one individual to another; that all true thoughts revolve in God’s orbits: they come from God and return to Him,—and untruths belong not to His creation, therefore these are null and void.”
- Mis. 104:9–12 “In Science all being is individual; for individuality is endless in the calculus of forms and numbers. Herein sin is miraculous and supernatural; for it is not in the nature of God, and good is forever good.”
- Mess.’01
22:15–27 “I begin at the feet of Christ and with the numeration table of Christian Science. But I do not say that one added to one is three, or one and a half, nor say this to accommodate popular opinion as to the Science of Christianity. I adhere to my text, that one and one are two all the way up to the infinite calculus of the infinite God. The numeration table of Christian Science, its divine Principle and rules, are before the people, and the different religious sects and the differing schools of medicine are discussing them as if they understood its Principle and rules before they have learned its numeration table, and insist that the public receive their sense of the Science, or that it receive no sense whatever of it.”

8. The Oneness of God, good

All handling of evil climaxes in a wide understanding of the oneness of Being, where there are not two but one: good. From this standpoint, we are conscious of the fact that from everlasting to everlasting God knows no such thing as sin.

- 201:17–19 “The way to extract error from mortal mind is to pour in truth through flood-tides of Love. Christian perfection is won on no other basis.”
- 276:12–14 “The realization that all inharmony is unreal brings objects and thoughts into human view in their true light, and presents them as beautiful and immortal.”
- 287:32–288:2 “Truth cannot be contaminated by error. The statement that *Truth is real* necessarily includes the correlated statement, that *error, Truth’s unlikeness, is unreal.*”
- 72:9–13, 21–23 “So-called *spirits* are but corporeal communicators. As light destroys darkness and in the place of darkness all is light, so (in absolute Science) Soul, or God, is the only truth-giver to man. Truth destroys mortality, and brings to light immortality....”
- “God, good, being ever present, it follows in divine logic that evil, the suppositional opposite of good, is never present.”

480:2–5

“Where the spirit of God is, and there is no place where God is not, evil becomes nothing,—the opposite of the something of Spirit.”569:6–11 “The Scripture, ‘Thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many,’ is literally fulfilled, when we are conscious of the supremacy of Truth, by which the nothingness of error is seen; and we know that the nothingness of error is in proportion to its wickedness.”

281:28–30

“Our false views of matter perish as we grasp the facts of Spirit.”

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