

**THE DEADLY FALLACY
Of
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE**

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The Deadly Fallacy Of Christian Science or Eddyism

Its Delusions Considered.

Its Claims Examined.

Its False Teachings Investigated.

Its Denials Exposed.

BY

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THE DEADLY FALLACY OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE OR EDDYISM.

Eddyism like other modern cults was conceived and born of deceit and duplicity.

Mrs. Eddy was not the founder of Christian Science. She founded the church of that name, but she took for its teachings and its chief principles the writings of "Dr." Phineas P. Quimby, the New England blacksmith, who won fame as a mental healer.

Quimby was a man of most remarkable character. He had great success in treating cases that seemed serious enough, but which were doubtless more imaginary than real, and the outgrowth of the same kind of hysteria that had made Mary Baker Eddy an invalid. Quimby had devoted his life to study of what he called his science. He believed thoroughly in himself. Quimby understood mesmerism as well as any man ever understood it. He used it at times. Quimby believed in implanting in a patient's mind an unshakable faith that he would get well. In a time when clairvoyants, magnetizers, mind readers and spiritualists all claimed to treat diseases successfully, *and when the country was full of quacks* Quimby stood out as an honest, hardworking, conscientious man. After a short career of mesmeric treatment,

he dropped mesmerism and worked out his theory of the mind cure. He did not practice animal magnetism, but mind cure. Quimby wrote ten volumes of manuscripts in six years.

Quimby usually called his discovery of mental healing the "Science of Health" and the "Science of Health and Happiness." Once or twice he described it as "Christian Science," and his writings were full of reference to it as the "Science of Christ." Quimby used freely the terms that Mrs. Eddy took later on in the terminology of Christian Science.

Quimby believed that disease was error and he used all his energies to eradicate error in the form of disease. He contended that health was the true and natural state. He insisted always that his cures were purely mental, and he never used manipulation or mesmerism after he made what he called his great discovery.

Dr. Quimby, in the fall of 1862, cured Mary Baker who came to him so feeble and frail that she had to be helped into the office.

She looked upon Quimby as her deliverer. His new and original theory gave her a new interest in life. She talked incessantly of this wonderful man. She wrote sonnets to him, and had them published in the local newspapers. She hailed him as a sage pro-

found, a scientist potent over all with power the captive to unbind, to heal the sick, the faint, the halt and blind. From Sanbornton Bridge, or Tilton, she wrote to Quimby in 1863 that she was a living wonder, a monument to his power. She spoke in that letter of his theories on matter, and said that her explanation of his curative principles had surprised people, especially those whose minds were all matter. She wrote another letter asking for "absent treatment."

With this new interest in her life, Mary became active, and announced that she would wisely improve the present rather than look mournfully into the past. She forgot all her imaginary ills, and believed that she was absolutely sound. However, the perfectly natural complaints of backache, stomach trouble and constipation would assert themselves and she would have to call on "Dr." Quimby for absent treatment.

She went to Portland again in 1864 and spent two or three months *there studying the system of Quimby*. Quimby became interested in his disciple and gave her much of his time. He taught her all he could and *gave her free use of his manuscripts*. She would work with Quimby all afternoon and then sit up late at night writing down what she had learned.

After Quimby's death she wrote: "It was

in Massachusetts, February, 1866, and after the death of the magnetic doctor, P. P. Quimby, whom Spiritualists would associate therewith, but who was in no-wise connected with this event, that I discovered the Science of Divine Meta-physical Healing, which I afterward named Christian Science. The discovery came to pass in this way. During twenty years prior to my discovery I had been trying to trace all physical effects to a mental cause; and in the latter part of 1866 I gained the scientific certainty that all causation was mind, and every effect a mental phenomenon.

As far back as 1869 Mary Baker Glover, recently having announced herself as having been cured by the mystic power of Dr. P. P. Quimby, published an advertisement in the little organ of the spiritualists called the *Banner of Light*.

This is the advertisement:

Any person desiring to learn how to heal the sick can receive of the undersigned instruction that will enable them to commence healing on a principle of science with success far beyond any of the present modes. No medicine, electricity, physiology or hygiene required for unparalleled success in the most difficult cases. No pay is required unless the skill is obtained. Address Mrs. Mary B. Glover, Amesbury, Mass, box 61.

At this time she required all her students to make a copy of Quimby's manuscript but they were placed under \$3,000 bond not to show it.

Mary was out for the money then. *She charged \$100 down from each pupil and 10 per cent annually of the income that her graduated pupils might receive from their practice.* Then she raised the tuition fee to \$300, and said that the fee had been *impelled by God.* She said she shrank from asking \$300 for lessons extending only over twelve half days, but God showed her that the price of \$300 was all right. This statement is from her book "Retrospection and Introspection."

Most of her early students were shoemakers and poor people of the same class who have made spiritualism so popular in the New England manufacturing towns. She had trouble with some of her students and was sued for the recovery of tuition money. *She and Kennedy had continued to be the best of friends, but one night she lost her temper, because he beat her at cards, and she declared he had cheated.* They parted and Mrs. Glover was left with about \$6,000 in money after their affairs had been arranged.

Mrs. Eddy, the so-called founder of "Christian Science," was a good business woman, money getter, book seller and she

died worth over a million. Dr. Frank Ballard very well said of her: "She was a woman of boundless egoism, unlimited ambition, unusually clever in business, unparalleled in autocracy, and not over-sensitive to truth. Else how comes it that on her third marriage she poses on the marriage license as forty, when really she was fifty-six? But she managed to accumulate more than \$1,000,000, which she could not take with her, when—in direct contradiction to her own assertions—she died."

Here are some examples of her business genius. The following "ad" appeared:

SPOONS.

On each of these most beautiful spoons is a motto in bas-relief that every person on earth needs to hold in thought. Mother requests that Christian Scientists shall not ask to be informed what this motto is; but each Scientist shall purchase at least one spoon and those who can afford it one dozen spoons that their families may read this motto at every meal and their guests made partakers of its simple truth.

MARY BAKER G. EDDY.

The price of the spoons was \$3 for the plain ones and \$5 for fancy. The motto was never revealed until the spoons were finally put on the market, and then it was found to

be concise enough to be included entirely in the bowl.

GIFTS.

On December 21, 1899, there appeared in the *Christian Science Sentinel* a "card" from Mrs. Eddy. It was this:

BELOVED: I ask this favor of all Christian Scientists: Do not give me on, before or after the forthcoming holidays aught material except three tea jackets. All may contribute to these. One learns to value material things only as they need them, and the costliest things are those that one needs least. Among my present needs material are these three jackets—two of darkish heavy silk a shade appropriate to white hair, the third of heavy satin, lighter shade, but sufficiently sombre. Numbers 1 and 2 to be common sense jackets for Mother to work in and not overtrimmed by any means. Number 3 for best, such as she can afford for her drawing room.

MARY BAKER EDDY.

BOOKS.

Christian Science was a wealth producing book agency with Mrs. Eddy at its head. Here is a note which was sent out to all Christian Scientists in March, 1897:

"Christian Scientists in the United States and Canada are hereby enjoined not to teach a student Christian Science for one year, commencing on March 14, 1897. 'Mis-

cellaneous Writings' (her last book, just published) is calculated to prepare the minds of all true thinkers to understand the Christian Science Text-Book more correctly than a student can. The Bible, 'Science and Health, with Key to the Scriptures,' and my other published works, are the only proper instructors for this hour. It shall be the duty of all Christian Scientists to circulate and sell as many of these books as they can. If a member of the First Church of Christ, Scientists, shall fail to obey this injunction, it will render him liable to lose his membership in this Church. MARY BAKER EDDY.

It will be seen from this injunction that every Christian Scientist is required to become a book agent for the sale of Mrs. Eddy's works or run the risk of excommunication.

FACTS ABOUT CHRISTIAN SCIENCE OR EDDYISM.

1. Eddyism is stolen property. Mrs. Eddy got her "Science" from old Dr. Quimby—read the story.

2. It is neither "Christian" or "Science."

3. "It knows nothing about a personal Saviour, the forgiveness of sin, the impartation of spiritual life, the sanctification or guidance of the Holy Spirit. It denies the resurrection of Jesus Christ or of any human being. It knows nothing about divine provi-

dences, an atonement for sin, a saving faith, or a local heaven. It affirms that man has no physical senses, no body, no mind, no will, no pain, no death."

4. It is bold and blatant in its assumptions. One of its lecturers say that "Christian Science is unquestionably a direct challenge to the traditional and conventional beliefs held by other Churches." and "Christian Science directly challenges the accuracy of all other religious teaching."

5. It repudiates the great central truths of the Christian faith.

THE DENIALS OF "CHRISTIAN SCIENCE."

1. It denies God in Personality and Trinity. It says "The theory of three persons in one God that is a personal trinity suggests heathen God rather than the one ever present I AM "*God is a principle not a person.*"...

2. Its doctrine of the Holy Spirit is monstrous. It says: "The Holy Spirit is Divine Science—the development of eternal life."

3. It denies the Christian Doctrine of Jesus.

His Incarnation is put thus: "Jesus was the offspring of Mary's self conscious communion with God." "Jesus as material manhood was not Christ." It says Christ was not always superior to his surroundings and made concessions to popular ignorance.

4. *It denies the Atonement.* It says "One sacrifice however great is insufficient to pay the debt of sin." "The Atonement requires constant self-immolation on the sinner's part." "Atonement has nothing to do with the blood flowing from the veins of Jesus—Atonement is not the death on the Cross but the Cross being deathless life, which was left by Jesus as an example to man and which example ransoms from sin all who follow it."

6. It denies the Resurrection. It says "Our Master reappeared to His students—to their apprehension He rose from the grave—on the third day of His ascending thought." Resurrection is Spiritualization of thought: material being yielding to spiritual understanding." "Jesus restored Lazarus by the understanding, that (he) Lazarus had never died, not by an admission that his body had died and lived again." (This makes Christ out as being deceived and false because He said: "Lazarus is dead.")

His Disciples, says Mrs. Eddy, believe Jesus to be dead while He was hidden in the Sepulchre where He was alive, demonstrating within the narrow tomb the power of spirit to overrule mortal material sense." "The lonely precincts of the tomb gave Jesus a refuge from His foes, a place in which to solve the great problem of being."

7. It denies the Christian Doctrine of sin. It says "In reality there is no evil." It is the same of sin and not the sinful soul which must be lost." "Sin, sickness, death is a belief only." "To get rid of sin through Science is to divert sin of any supposed reality." Matter and evil are unreal." "Man is incapable of sin, sickness." "Evil is the fable of the serpents." "If there is no sin why did Jesus come to save sinners? Jesus came to seek and to save them from this false belief." "Destroy the sense of sin and sin itself disappears."

8. Its doctrine of the Bible is perverse. Mrs. Eddy says: "My work Science and Health is the voice of truth to this age"—"It regards the revealed truth uncontaminated by human hypothesis." "In this volume of mine there are no contradictory statements." She speaks of the legendary scripture text in the second chapter of Genesis."

Some of its renderings of scripture are absolutely absurd. Dr. A. C. Dixon says:

"Much of the "Glossary" in "Science and Health" would be suitable for the pages of a comic paper; and yet Christian Scientists commit it to memory, as if it were valuable knowledge—another confirmation of Dr. Hudson's saying that they "lack a healthy, protective sense of humor." In this glossary,

Benjamin (Jacob's son) is a "physical belief as to life, substance and mind." *Dan* (Jacob's son) is "animal magnetism." *Ears* are "not organs of the so-called corporeal senses, but spiritual understanding." *Euphrates* (a river) is "divine science, encompassing the universe and man." *Gad* (Jacob's son) is "science, spiritual being understood." *Firmament* is "spiritual understanding." *Gihon* (river) is "the rights of woman acknowledged morally, civilly and socially." *Ham* (Noah's son) is "corporeal belief; sensuality." *Hiddekel* (river) is "divine science, understood and acknowledged." *Holy Ghost* (which is the next word after *Hiddekel*) is also "divine science; the developments of eternal Life"—so that, according to the geometrical axiom, "things which are equal to the same thing are equal corporeal belief; the offspring of error." *Japhet* (Noah's son) is "a type of spiritual peace, flowing from the understanding that God is the divine Principle of all existence." *Jerusalem* is "mortal belief and knowledge, obtained from five corporeal senses." *Joseph* is "a corporeal mortal." *Judah* is "a corporeal, material belief, progressing and disappearing." *Levi* (Jacob's son) is "a corporeal and sensual belief." *Mother* is "God"—and this is very significant, in view of the fact that Mrs. Eddy has demanded of her

followers that she, and she alone, shall be called "Mother." *New Jerusalem* is "divine science." The river *Pison* is "the love of the good and beautiful." *Purse* is "laying up treasures in matter; error"—and according to this definition Mrs. Eddy has quite a large amount of "error" in the shape of treasures laid up in matter. Her weekly bank deposits, were enormous.

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