

The Spirit of Truth and The Spirit of Error

"What God has said on Seven Fundamentals", and "What men are now saying!"

The Truths of Christianity Compared to:

Christian Science, Spiritualism, Jehovah's Witnesses, Armstrongism, Mormonism, Eastern Mysticism, The Way International, Unity, Unification Church

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- Quotations are from standard writings and leading teachers of the various sects or cults. Initials in parentheses are abbreviations of aforementioned book and magazine titles.
- Scripture quotations are from the *New Scofield Reference Bible* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1967).

Compare The "Truths" of The Word of God to the "Errors" of Christian Science

The following provide a side by side, topical comparison of the Truths of Christianity, "What God Has Said on Seven Fundamentals", and the Errors of Christian Science, "**What Men Are Now Saying**".

- God
- Christ
- Holy Spirit
- Sin
- Redemption
- Salvation
- Retribution

The Word of God

Personality Of The Godhead

- In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth (Genesis 1:1).
- He is God; there is none else beside him (Deuteronomy 4:35).
- God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth (John 4:24).
- For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man, Christ Jesus (1 Timothy 2:5)
- Go. . . and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19).
- Jesus was baptized; the Spirit descended; the Father spoke (Matthew 3:16-17).
- Come, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech (Genesis 11:7).
- From the time that it was, there am I; and now the Lord
- God, and his Spirit, hath sent me (Isaiah 48:16).

Christian Science

God

- God is All-in-all (*Science and Health*, 113:16).
- God, Spirit, being all, nothing is matter (*SH*, 113:18).
- God is incorporeal, divine, supreme, infinite Mind, Spirit, Soul, Principle, Life, Truth, Love (*SH*, 465:9).
- God is infinite, the only Life, substance, Spirit, or Soul. The only intelligence of the universe, including man (*SH*, 330: II).
- Life, Truth, and Love constitute the triune Person called God -- God the Father-Mother; Christ the spiritual idea of sonship; Divine Science or the Holy Comforter (*SH*, 331:26-31).
- God is "the ever-present, I am, filling all space, including in itself all Mind, the one Father-Mother God" (MB. Eddy, *Rudimentary Divine Science*, pp. 3:26; 4:1).
- The theory of three persons in one God (that is, a personal Trinity or Tri-unity) suggests polytheism, rather than the one everpresent I am (*SH*, 256:9-11).

Jesus Christ

- In the beginning was the Word,. . . and the Word was God (John 1:1).
- When, as His mother, Mary, was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:18).
- Behold, the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14).
- God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the nations, believed on in the world, received up into glory (1 Timothy 3:16).
- And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth (John 1:14).
- No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him (John 1:18).
- And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead (Romans 1:4).
- And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain (1 Corinthians 15:17).
- Wherefore, he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them (Hebrews 7:25).
- This same Jesus . . . shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into Heaven (Acts 1:11; cf. John 14:3; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

Jesus Christ

- Jesus is the human man and Christ is the divine idea (*SH*, 473:15-16).
- If there had never existed such a person as the Galilean Prophet, it would make no difference to me (*First Church of Christ Scientist & Misc.*, pp. 318-19).
- The virgin mother conceived this idea of God and gave to her ideal the name of Jesus. Jesus was the offspring of Mary's self-conscious communion with God (*SH*, 29:17-18, 32; 30:1).
- Not that the human Jesus was or is eternal . . . not one with the Father, . . . , but fleshly. . . . Christ is "the ideal Truth," "Divine Idea," "reflection of God."
- The dual personality (Christ Jesus) continued until the ascension, when Jesus disappeared, while Christ continues to exist in the eternal order of Divine Science taking away the sins of the world (*SH*, 333:32; 334:1).
- His disciples believed Jesus to be dead, while he was in the sepulchre, whereas he was alive (*SH*, 44:28-29).
- To the apprehension (of his students) our Master rose from the grave on the third day of his ascending thought (*SH*, 509:4-7).
- Resurrection is spiritualization of thought (*SH*, 593:9).

Holy Spirit

- When the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, . . . he shall testify of me (John 15:26).
- When he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment (John 16:8).
- When he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth (John 16:13).
- The Comforter, who is the Holy Spirit, . . . he shall teach you all things (John 14:26).
- His spirit that dwelleth in you (Romans 8:11).
- Be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18; see also 1 Corinthians 3:16; Ephesians 3:16).
- But ye are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his (Romans 8:9; see also vv. 14, 16).

Holy Spirit

- Holy Ghost is Divine Science; the development of eternal Life, Truth, and Love (*SH*, 588:78).
- In the words of St. John: "He shall give you another Comforter...." This Comforter I understand to be Divine Science (*SH*, 55:27-29).
- The Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters, (that is) Divine Science, the Word of God, saith to the darkness upon the face of error, "God is All in all" (*SH*, 503:8-14).

Sin

- There is none righteous, no, not one (Romans 3:10).
- For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God (Roman, 3:23).
- If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us (I John 1:10).
- If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us (I John 1:8).
- Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law; for sin is the transgression of the law (I John 3:4).
- All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin not unto death (I John 5:17).
- Whatever is not of faith is sin (Romans 14:23).
- Therefore, to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin (James 4:17).

Sin

- Here also is found the cardinal point in Christian Science, that matter and evil (including all inharmony, sin, disease, and death) are UNREAL (*Misc. Writings*, p. 27).
- Man is incapable of sin, sickness, and death (*SH*, 475:28).
- The real man cannot depart from holiness (*SH*, 475:29).
- Sin, sickness, and death are to be classified as effects of error. Christ came to destroy the belief of sin (*SH*, 473:4-6).
- Evil is unreal (*SH*, 339:9-10).
- 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 (*SH*, 472:27-29).
- The opposite of Truth, called error, sin, sickness, disease, death, is the false testimony of false material sense, of mind in matter (*SH*, 108:24-26).

Redemption

- We have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins (Ephesians 1:7).
- Ye were not redeemed with corruptible things . . . but with the precious blood of Christ (1 Peter 1:18-19).
- Unto him that loveth us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us a kingdom of priests unto God and his Father (Revelation 1:5-6).
- Without shedding of blood is no remission (Hebrews 9:22).
- Made peace through the blood of his cross (Colossians 1:20).
- This man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God. . . For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified (Hebrews 10:12, 14).

Redemption

- Jesus aided in reconciling man to God by giving man a truer sense of Love and this redeems man from the law of matter, sin, and death by the law of the Spirit (*SH*, 19:6-10).
- Jesus of Nazareth taught and demonstrated man's oneness with the Father (*SH*, 18:3-4).
- The efficacy of the crucifixion lay in the practical perfection and goodness it demonstrated for mankind (*SH*, 24:27-28).
- Atonement is the exemplification of man's unity with God (*SH*, 18:1-2).
- One sacrifice, however great, is insufficient to pay the debt of sin (*SH*, 23:3-4).
- The way to escape the misery of sin is to cease sinning. There is no other way (*SH*, 327:12-13).

Salvation

- Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house (Acts 16:3 1).
- But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the children of God, even to them that believe on his name (John 1:12).
- He that believeth on him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the . . . only begotten Son of God (John 3:18).
- He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life (John 3:36).
- Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit (Titus 3:5).
- For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God -- not of works, lest any man should boast (Ephesians 2:8-9).
- Justified freely . . . through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus (Romans 3:24).
- Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth (Romans 10:4).

Salvation

- The material blood of Jesus was no more efficacious to cleanse from sin when it was shed upon the accursed tree than when flowing in his veins as he went daily about his Father's business (*SH*, 25:6-9).
- Salvation is Life, Truth, and Love understood and demonstrated as supreme over all; sin, sickness, and death destroyed (*SH*, 593:20-22).
- Sin, sickness, and death must be deemed as devoid of reality as they are of good, God (*SH*, 525:28, 29).
- To get rid of sin through Science, is to divert sin of any supposed mind or reality, and never to admit that sin can have intelligence or power, pain or pleasure. You conquer error by denying its verity (*SH*, 339:28-31).
- Jesus taught the way of Life by demonstration. There is but one way to heaven; harmony and Christ in Divine Science shows us this way (*SH*, 242:9-10; 244:5).

Retribution

- The wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23).
- Those who sleep in the dust . . . shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame, and everlasting contempt (Daniel 12:2).
- And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment (Hebrews 9:27).
- And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God. . . . And the dead were judged out of those things written in the books, according to their works (Revelation 20:12).
- The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven . . . in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel. . . ; who shall be punished with everlasting destruction (2 Thessalonians 1:7-10).
- If thy foot offend thee, cut it off; it is better for thee to enter lame into life than, having two feet, to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched (Mark 9:45).

Retribution

- Hell is "Mortal belief, error, lust, remorse, hatred, revenge, sin, sickness, death . . . that which worketh abomination or maketh a lie" (SH, 588:14).
- No final judgment awaits mortals, for the judgment day of wisdom comes hourly and continually (SH, 291:28-29).
- Sin makes its own hell, and goodness its own heaven (SH, 196:18-19).
- Death is an illusion, the lie of life in matter; the unreal and untrue (SH, 584:9-10).
- The body cannot die, because matter has no life to surrender (SH, 426:30-31).
- Universal salvation rests on progression and probation (SH, 291:12).
- If man should not progress after death, but should remain in error, he would be inevitably self-annihilated (*Misc. Writings*, p. 2).