

These Readings are comprised of selections from *the Bible* and the Christian Science textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy

## The Lost and Found

**Matt. 16:25 KJV** <sup>25</sup>For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

### **2 Kings 4:8-37 New Living Translation (NLT)**

8 One day Elisha went to the town of Shunem. A wealthy woman lived there, and she urged him to come to her home for a meal. After that, whenever he passed that way, he would stop there for something to eat. 9 She said to her husband, "I am sure this man who stops in from time to time is a holy man of God. 10 Let's build a small room for him on the roof and furnish it with a bed, a table, a chair, and a lamp. Then he will have a place to stay whenever he comes by." ...Elisha asked Gehazi, "What can we do for her?" Gehazi replied, "She doesn't have a son, and her husband is an old man." ...Elisha said to her as she stood in the doorway, 16 "Next year at this time you will be holding a son in your arms... And at that time the following year she had a son, just as Elisha had said. 18 One day when her child was older, he went out to help his father, who was working with the harvesters. 19 Suddenly he cried out, "My head hurts! My head hurts!" His father said to one of the servants, "Carry him home to his mother." 20 So the servant took him home, and his mother held him on her lap. But around noontime he died. 21 She carried him up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, then shut the door and left him there...when she came to the man of God at the mountain, she fell to the ground before him and caught hold of his feet. So Elisha returned with her. 32 When Elisha arrived, the child was indeed dead, lying there on the prophet's bed. 33 He went in alone and shut the door behind him and prayed to the Lord. he stretched out on him, the child's body began to grow warm again! 35 Elisha got up, walked back and forth across the room once, and then stretched himself out again on the child. This time the boy sneezed seven times and opened his eyes! 36 Then Elisha summoned Gehazi. "Call the child's mother!" he said. And when she came in, Elisha said, "Here, take your son!" 37 She fell at his feet and bowed before

him, overwhelmed with gratitude. Then she took her son in her arms and carried him downstairs.

**Lamentations 3:58** O Lord, thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul; thou hast redeemed my life.

**Luke 15:3-7; 10-24 Common English Bible (CEB)**

3 Jesus told ... this parable: 4 “Suppose someone among you had one hundred sheep and lost one of them. Wouldn’t he leave the other ninety-nine in the pasture and search for the lost one until he finds it? 5 And when he finds it, he is thrilled and places it on his shoulders. 11 To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: “A man had two sons. 12 The younger son told his father, ‘I want my share of your estate now before you die.’ So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons. 13 “A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living. 14 About the time his money ran out, a great famine swept over the land, and he began to starve. 15 He persuaded a local farmer to hire him, and the man sent him into his fields to feed the pigs. 16 The young man became so hungry that even the pods he was feeding the pigs looked good to him. But no one gave him anything. 17 “When he finally came to his senses, he said to himself, ‘At home even the hired servants have food enough to spare, and here I am dying of hunger! 18 I will go home to my father and say, “Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, 19 and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. Please take me on as a hired servant.”’ 20 “So he returned home to his father. And while he was still a long way off, his father saw him coming. Filled with love and compassion, he ran to his son, embraced him, and kissed him. 21 His son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against both heaven and you, and I am no longer worthy of being called your son. 22 “But his father said to the servants, ‘Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. 23 We must celebrate with a feast, 24 for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found. So the party began.

**Luke 7 36-48 36 CEB** One of the Pharisees invited Jesus to eat with him. After he entered the Pharisee's home, he took his place at the table. 37 Meanwhile, a woman from the city, a sinner, discovered that Jesus was dining in the Pharisee's house. She brought perfumed oil in a vase made of alabaster. 38 Standing behind him at his feet and crying, she began to wet his feet with her tears. She wiped them with her hair, kissed them, and poured the oil on them. 39 When the Pharisee who had invited Jesus saw what was happening, he said to himself, If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. He would know that she is a sinner. 40 Jesus replied, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher, speak," he said. 41 "A certain lender had two debtors. One owed enough money to pay five hundred people for a day's work. The other owed enough money for fifty. 42 When they couldn't pay, the lender forgave the debts of them both. Which of them will love him more?" 43 Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the largest debt canceled." Jesus said, "You have judged correctly." ...her many sins have been forgiven; ...she has shown great love. ... 48 Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

**Isaiah 51:11 New Living Translation (NLT)** 11 Those who have been ransomed by the Lord will return. Sorrow and mourning will disappear, and they will be filled with joy and gladness.

## SCIENCE AND HEALTH

**SH 363:8-7** Did Jesus spurn the woman? Did he repel her adoration? No! He regarded her compassionately. ...Had she repented and reformed, and did his insight detect this unspoken moral uprising? She bathed his feet with her tears before she anointed them with the oil. In the absence of other proofs, was her grief sufficient evidence to warrant the expectation of her repentance, reformation, and growth in wisdom? Certainly there was encouragement in the mere fact that she was showing her affection for a man of undoubted goodness and purity, who has since been rightfully regarded as the best man that ever trod this planet. Her reverence was unfeigned, and it was manifested towards one who was soon, though they knew it not, to lay down his mortal existence in behalf of all sinners, that through his word and works they might be redeemed from sensuality and sin.

**SH 202:6-13** If men would bring to bear upon the study of the Science of Mind half the faith they bestow upon the so-called pains and pleasures of material sense, they would not go on from bad to worse, until disciplined by the prison and the scaffold; but the whole human family would be redeemed through the merits of Christ, — through the perception and acceptance of Truth.

**SH 241:23-27** One's aim, a point beyond faith, should be to find the footsteps of Truth, the way to health and holiness. We should strive to reach the Horeb height where God is revealed; and the corner-stone of all spiritual building is purity.

**SH 302:3** The material body and mind are temporal, but the real man is spiritual and eternal. The identity of the real man is not lost, but found through this explanation; for the conscious infinitude of existence and of all identity is thereby discerned and remains unchanged. It is impossible that man should lose aught that is real, when God is all and eternally his. The notion that mind is in matter, and that the so-called pleasures and pains, the birth, sin, sickness, and death of matter, are real, is a mortal belief; and this belief is all that will ever be lost.

**SH 416:24** The sick know nothing of the mental process by which they are depleted, and next to nothing of the metaphysical method by

which they can be healed. Turn their thoughts away from their bodies to higher objects. Teach them that their being is sustained by Spirit, not by matter, and that they find health, peace, and harmony in God, divine Love.

**SH 260:31–11** If we look to the body for pleasure, we find pain; for Life, we find death; for Truth, we find error; for Spirit, we find its opposite, matter. Now reverse this action. Look away from the body into Truth and Love, the Principle of all happiness, harmony, and immortality. Hold thought steadfastly to the enduring, the good, and the true, and you will bring these into your experience proportionably to their occupancy of your thoughts. The effect of mortal mind on health and happiness is seen in this: If one turns away from the body with such absorbed interest as to forget it, the body experiences no pain.

**SH 359:29–21** A Christian Scientist and an opponent are like two artists. One says: “I have spiritual ideals, indestructible and glorious. When others see them as I do, in their true light and loveliness, — and know that these ideals are real and eternal because drawn from Truth, — they will find that nothing is lost, and all is won, by a right estimate of what is real.” The other artist replies: “You wrong my experience. I have no mind-ideals except those which are both mental and material. It is true that materiality renders these ideals imperfect and destructible; yet I would not exchange mine for thine, for mine give me such personal pleasure, and they are not so shockingly transcendental. They require less self-abnegation, and keep Soul well out of sight. Moreover, I have no notion of losing my old doctrines or human opinions.” Dear reader, which mind-picture or externalized thought shall be real to you, — the material or the spiritual? Both you cannot have. You are bringing out your own ideal. This ideal is either temporal or eternal. Either Spirit or matter is your model. If you try to have two models, then you practically have none. Like a pendulum in a clock, you will be thrown back and forth, striking the ribs of matter and swinging between the real and the unreal.

**SH 265:10** This scientific sense of being, forsaking matter for Spirit, by no means suggests man's absorption into Deity and the loss

of his identity, but confers upon man enlarged individuality, a wider sphere of thought and action, a more expansive love, a higher and more permanent peace.

**SH 315:29–7** Wearing in part a human form (that is, as it seemed to mortal view), being conceived by a human mother, Jesus was the mediator between Spirit and the flesh, between Truth and error. Explaining and demonstrating the way of divine Science, he became the way of salvation to all who accepted his word. From him mortals may learn how to escape from evil. The real man being linked by Science to his Maker, mortals need only turn from sin and lose sight of mortal selfhood to find Christ, the real man and his relation to God, and to recognize the divine sonship.

**SH 390:9** Truth will at length compel us all to exchange the pleasures and pains of sense for the joys of Soul.

**SH 123:11** The verity of Mind shows conclusively how it is that matter seems to be, but is not. Divine Science, rising above physical theories, excludes matter, resolves *things* into *thoughts*, and replaces the objects of material sense with spiritual ideas.

**SH 324:32** Jesus said substantially, “He that believeth in me shall not see death.” That is, he who perceives the true idea of Life loses his belief in death. He who has the true idea of good loses all sense of evil, and by reason of this is being ushered into the undying realities of Spirit. Such a one abideth in Life, —life obtained not of the body incapable of supporting life, but of Truth, unfolding its own immortal idea. Jesus gave the true idea of being, which results in infinite blessings to mortals.

**SH 481:29–32** In Science we learn that it is material sense, not Soul, which sins; and it will be found that it is the sense of sin which is lost, and not as sinful soul.

**SH 491:12** It is only by acknowledging the supremacy of Spirit, which annuls the claims of matter, that mortals can lay off mortality and find the indissoluble spiritual link which establishes man forever in the divine likeness, inseparable from his creator.

## Hymns

**562**

Praise, I will praise You, Lord, with all my heart.  
O God, I will tell the wonders of Your ways,  
And glorify Your name.  
Praise, I will praise You, Lord, with all my heart.  
In You I will find the source of all my joy.  
Alleluia!

Love, I will love You, Lord, with all my heart.  
O God, I will tell the wonders of Your ways,  
And glorify Your name.  
Love, I will love You, Lord, with all my heart.  
In You I will find the source of all my joy.  
Alleluia!

Serve, I will serve You, Lord, with all my heart.  
O God, I will tell the wonders of Your ways,  
And glorify Your name.  
Serve, I will serve You, Lord, with all my heart.  
In You I will find the source of all my joy.  
Alleluia!

**572**

Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
And His righteousness,  
And all these things shall be added unto you.  
Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you.  
Seek and ye shall find,  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.  
Allelu, alleluia!

We do not live by bread alone,  
But by every word  
That proceeds from the mouth of God.  
Allelu, alleluia!

DESCANT

Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

**438**

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,  
That saved a soul like me.  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.