

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.

WAITING IS NOT THE SAME AS PATIENCE.

Psalm 37:7 Contemporary English Version (CEV)

7 Be patient and trust the Lord. Don't let it bother you when all goes well for those who do sinful things.

Ps. 40:1–3 1 I WAITED patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. 2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, *and* established my goings. 3 And he hath put a new song in my mouth, *even* praise unto our God: many shall see *it*, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.

Ps. 46:10 ¹⁰Be still, and know that I *am* God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

Isa. 55:8–13 Common English Bible (CEB) 8 My plans aren't your plans, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. 9 Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my plans than your plans. 10 Just as the rain and the snow come down from the sky and don't return there without watering the earth, making it conceive and yield plants and providing seed to the sower and food to the eater, so is my word that comes from my mouth; it does not return to me empty. Instead, it does what I want, and accomplishes what I intend. 2 Yes, you will go out with celebration, and you will be brought back in peace. Even the mountains and the hills will burst into song before you; all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

Jer. 29:11–13 Common English Bible (CEB) 11 I know the plans I have in mind for you, declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not disaster, to give you a future filled with hope. 12 When you call me and come and pray to me, I will listen to you. 13 When you search for me, yes, search for me with all your heart, you will find me.

Ps. 139:17 Contemporary English Version (CEV) 7 Your thoughts are far beyond my understanding, much more than I could ever imagine.

Judges 7 Common English Bible (CEB) 7 Then Jerubbaal, that is, Gideon, and all of the people with him rose early and set up camp beside the Harod spring; Midian's camp was north of theirs, in the valley by the Moreh hill. 2 The Lord said to Gideon: "You have too many people on your side. If I were to hand Midian over to them, the Israelites might claim credit for themselves rather than for me, thinking, We saved ourselves. 3 So now, announce in the people's hearing, 'Anyone who is afraid or unsteady may return home from Gideon's mountain.'" [a] At this, twenty-two thousand people went home, and ten thousand were left. 4 The Lord said to Gideon, "There are still too many people. Take them down to the water, and I will weed them out for you there. Whenever I tell you, 'This one will go with you,' he should go with you; but whenever I tell you, 'This one won't go with you,' he should not go." 5 So he took the people down to the water. And the Lord said to Gideon, "Set aside those who lap the water with their tongues, as a dog laps, from those who bend down on their knees to drink." 6 The number of men who lapped was three hundred, and all the rest of the people bent down on their knees to drink water, with their hands to their mouths. [b] 7 Then the Lord said to Gideon, "With the three hundred men who lapped I will rescue you and hand over the Midianites to you. Let everyone else go home." 8 So the people gathered their supplies and trumpets, and Gideon sent all the Israelites home, but kept the three hundred. 16 He divided the three hundred men into three units and equipped every man with a trumpet and an empty jar, with a torch inside each jar. 17 "Now watch me," he ordered them, "and do what I do. When I get to the outpost of the camp, do just what I do. 18 When I blow the trumpet, along with all who are with me, then you blow the trumpets, all of you surrounding the whole camp. And then shout, 'For the Lord and for Gideon!'" 19 Gideon and one hundred of his men moved to the outpost of the camp at the middle watch of the night, when they had just changed the guards. Then they blew the trumpets and smashed the jars that were

in their hands. 20 So the three units blew their trumpets and broke their jars, holding the torches with their left hands and blowing the trumpets in their right hands. And they called out, "A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!" 21 Each man stood fast in his position around the camp, and the entire camp took off running, shouting, and fleeing

James 1: 4 let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

II Thess. 3:5 ⁵And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ

Matthew 13:24-30 Common English Bible (CEB)

"The kingdom of heaven is like someone who planted good seed in his field. 25 While people were sleeping, an enemy came and planted weeds among the wheat and went away. 26 When the stalks sprouted and bore grain, then the weeds also appeared. 28 "'An enemy has done this,' ..."The servants said to him, 'Do you want us to go and gather them?' 29 "But the landowner said, 'No, because if you gather the weeds, you'll pull up the wheat along with them. 30 Let both grow side by side until the harvest. And at harvesttime I'll say to the harvesters, "First gather the weeds and tie them together in bundles to be burned. But bring the wheat into my barn.'""

Ps. 25:5 Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou *art* the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.

Rom 8:25 But if we hope for that we see not, *then* do we with patience wait for *it*.

Hosea 12:6 Contemporary English Version (CEV)

6 So return to your God. Patiently trust him,

SCIENCE AND HEALTH

SH 319:21–23 The divine Science taught in the original language of the Bible came through inspiration, and needs inspiration to be understood.

SH 4:3–26 What we most need is the prayer of fervent desire for growth in grace, expressed in patience, meekness, love, and good deeds. To keep the commandments of our Master and follow his example, is our proper debt to him and the only worthy evidence of our gratitude for all that he has done.

The habitual struggle to be always good is unceasing prayer. Its motives are made manifest in the blessings they bring — blessings which, even if not acknowledged in audible words, attest our worthiness to be partakers of Love.

Simply asking that we may love God will never make us love Him; but the longing to be better and holier, expressed in daily watchfulness and in striving to assimilate more of the divine character, will mould and fashion us anew, until we awake in His likeness. We reach the Science of Christianity through demonstration of the divine nature; but in this wicked world goodness will “be evil spoken of,” and patience must bring experience.

SH 14:31–21 The Father in secret is unseen to the physical senses, but He knows all things and rewards according to motives, not according to speech. To enter into the heart of prayer, the door of the erring senses must be closed. Lips must be mute and materialism silent, that man may have audience with Spirit, the divine Principle, Love, which destroys all error. In order to pray aright, we must enter into the closet and shut the door. 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. We must resolve to take up the cross, and go forth with honest hearts to work and watch for wisdom, Truth, and Love. We must “pray without ceasing.”

SH 89:20-21 Spirit, God, is heard when the senses are silent.

SH 254:10–12 When we wait patiently on God and seek Truth righteously, He directs our path.

SH 454:18 Love inspires, illumines, designates, and leads the way. Right motives give pinions to thought, and strength and freedom to speech and action. Love is priestess at the altar of Truth. Wait patiently for divine Love to move upon the waters of mortal mind, and form the perfect concept. Patience must “have her perfect work.”

SH 454:29 The superiority of spiritual power over sensuous is the central point of Christian Science. Remember that the letter and mental argument are only human auxiliaries to aid in bringing thought into accord with the spirit of Truth and Love, which heals the sick and the sinner.

SH 46:7 The divine Spirit, which identified Jesus thus centuries ago, has spoken through the inspired Word and will speak through it in every age and clime. It is revealed to the receptive heart, and is again seen casting out evil and¹² healing the sick.

SH 84:14 Acquaintance with the Science of being enables us to commune more largely with the divine Mind, to foresee and foretell events which concern the universal welfare, to be divinely inspired, — yea, to reach the range of fetterless Mind.

SH 242:26 Mere speculation or superstition appropriates no part of the divine vesture, while inspiration restores every part of the Christly garment of righteousness.

SH 547:28 Inspired thought relinquishes a material, sensual, and mortal theory of the universe, and adopts the spiritual and immortal.

SH 262:9 We cannot fathom the nature and quality of God's creation by diving into the shallows of mortal belief. We must reverse our feeble flutterings — our efforts to find life and truth in matter — and rise above the testimony of the material senses, above the mortal to the immortal idea of God. These clearer, higher views inspire the God-like man to reach the absolute centre and circumference of his being.

SH 495:14–24 When the illusion of sickness or sin tempts you, cling¹⁵ steadfastly to God and His idea. Allow nothing but His likeness to abide in your thought. Let neither fear nor doubt overshadow your clear sense and calm trust, that the recognition of life harmonious — as Life eternally is — can destroy any painful sense of, or belief in, that which Life is not. Let Christian Science, instead of corporeal sense,

support your understanding of being, and this understanding will supplant error with Truth, replace mortality with immortality, and silence discord with harmony.

SH 22:11–14 “Work out your own salvation,” is the demand of Life and Love, for to this end God worketh with you. “Occupy till I come!” Wait for your reward, and “be not weary in well doing.”

SH 218:27–29 The Scriptures say, “They that wait upon the Lord shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”

SH 90:24 The admission to one's self that man is God's own likeness sets man free to master the infinite idea. This conviction shuts the door on death, and opens it wide towards immortality. The understanding and recognition of Spirit must finally come, and we may as well improve our time in solving the mysteries of being through an apprehension of divine Principle. At present we know not what man is, but we certainly shall know this when man reflects God.

323:9 Beholding the infinite tasks of truth, we pause, — wait on God. Then we push onward, until boundless thought walks enraptured, and conception unconfined is winged to reach the divine glory.

HYMNS

Hymn. 92:1-4

Happy the man who knows
His Master to obey;
Whose life of love and labor flows,
Where God points out the way.

Rising to every task,
Soon as the word is given,
He doth not wait nor question ask
When orders come from heaven.

God's will he makes his own,
And nothing can him stay;
His feet are shod for God alone,
And God alone obey.

Give us, O God, this mind,
Which waits but Thy command,
And doth its highest pleasure find
In Thy great work to stand.

Hymn. 359:1-3

Trust the Eternal when the shadows gather,
When joys of daylight seem so like a dream;
God the unchanging pities like a father;
Trust on and wait, the daystar yet shall gleam.

Trust the Eternal, for the clouds that vanish
No more can move the mountains from their base
Than sin's illusive wreaths of mist can banish
Light from His throne or loving from His face.

Trust the Eternal, and repent in meekness
Of that heart's pride which frowns and will not

yield,
Then to thy child-heart shall come strength in weakness,
And thine immortal life shall be revealed.

Hymn. 501:1-3

I love Your way of freedom, Lord,
To serve You is my choice;
In Your clear light of Truth I rise
And, listening for Your voice,
I hear Your promise old and new,
That bids all fear to cease:
“My presence still shall go with you
And I will give you peace.”

Though storm or discord cross my path
Your power is still my stay,
Though human will and woe would check
My upward-soaring way;
All unafraid I wait, the while
Your angels bring release,
For still Your presence is with me,
And You do give me peace.

I climb, with joy, the heights of Mind,
To soar o'er time and space;
I yet shall know as I am known
And see You face to face.
Till time and space and fear are naught
My quest shall never cease,
Your presence ever goes with me
And You do give me peace.