

## **2 Wednesday Readings October 10 2018**

### **Make the Right Choice: Worship at the Altar of God as Spirit**

#### **Hymn 196**

**Now is the time approaching, By prophets long foretold, When all shall dwell together, One Shepherd and one fold. Now Jew and Gentile, meeting From many a distant shore, Around one altar kneeling, One common Lord adore. Let all that now divides us Remove and pass away, Like shadows of the morning Before the blaze of day. Let all that now unites us More sweet and lasting prove, A closer bond of union, In a blest land of love.**

#### **Hymn 260**

**One thought I have, my ample creed, so deep it is and broad, And equal to my every need, – It is the thought of God.**

**Each morn unfolds His blessings new, I take in trust my road; And rising freshly to my view, Shines forth the thought of God.**

**To this their secret strength they owed, The martyr's path who trod; The fountains of their patience flowed From out their thought of God.**

**Be still the light upon my way, My pilgrim staff and rod, My rest by night, my strength by day, O Blessed thought of God.**

#### **Hymn 391**

**Why search the future and the past? Why do ye look with tearful eyes And seek far off for paradise? Before your feet Life's pearl is cast.**

**As deathless as His spirit free, The Perfect lives and works today As in the ancient prophets' lay, Where there's an open eye to see.**

**Of all that was and is to come The present holds the Mind and Cause; For God lives in eternal laws, And here today upholds His throne.**

**Then rise and greet the signs that prove Unreal the ages' long lament; The "one far-off divine event" Is now, and that event is Love.**

#### **Hymn 349**

**Thy will, almighty Father, Thine, And Thine alone be ever done; For Thou art Life and Truth and Love, The great, eternal, Holy One.**

**Reflecting truly all Thou art And all the sunshine of Thy love, No life we know from Thee apart, But peace on earth from heaven above.**

**We walk in freedom and in peace Thy holy purpose to fulfill, And Thou dost ever point the path For loving servants of Thy will.**

## Holy Bible

1. **Matt 13:45-46** the ...the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls:  
Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.
  
2. **1 Kings 18:21** And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.
  
3. **1 Kings 18:21-26, 29-39** The Message (MSG)  
**21** Elijah challenged the people: “How long are you going to sit on the fence? If GOD is the real God, follow him; if it’s Baal, follow him. Make up your minds!”  
Nobody said a word; nobody made a move.  
**22-24** Then Elijah said, “I’m the only prophet of GOD left in Israel; and there are 450 prophets of Baal. Let the Baal prophets bring up two oxen; let them pick one, butcher it, and lay it out on an altar on firewood—but don’t ignite it. I’ll take the other ox, cut it up, and lay it on the wood. But neither will I light the fire. Then you pray to your gods and I’ll pray to GOD. The god who answers with fire will prove to be, in fact, God.”  
All the people agreed: “A good plan—do it!”  
**25** Elijah told the Baal prophets, “Choose your ox and prepare it. You go first, you’re the majority. Then pray to your god, but don’t light the fire.”  
**26** So they took the ox he had given them, prepared it for the altar, then prayed to Baal. They prayed all morning long, “O Baal, answer us!” But nothing happened—not so much as a whisper of breeze. Desperate, they jumped and stomped on the altar they had made.  
**29** This went on until well past noon. They used every religious trick and strategy they knew to make something happen on the altar, but nothing happened—not so much as a whisper, not a flicker of response.  
**30-35** Then Elijah told the people, “Enough of that—it’s my turn. Gather around.” And they gathered. He then put the altar back together for by now it was in ruins. Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes of Jacob, the same Jacob to whom GOD had said, “From now on your name is Israel.” He built the stones into the altar in honor of GOD. Then Elijah dug a fairly wide trench around the altar. He laid firewood on the altar, cut up the ox, put it on the wood, and said, “Fill four buckets with water and drench both the ox and the firewood.” Then he said, “Do it again,”

and they did it. Then he said, "Do it a third time," and they did it a third time. The altar was drenched and the trench was filled with water.

<sup>36-37</sup> When it was time for the sacrifice to be offered, Elijah the prophet came up and prayed, "O GOD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, make it known right now that you are God in Israel, that I am your servant, and that I'm doing what I'm doing under your orders. Answer me, GOD; O answer me and reveal to this people that you are GOD, the true God, and that you are giving these people another chance at repentance."

<sup>38</sup> Immediately the fire of GOD fell and burned up the offering, the wood, the stones, the dirt, and even the water in the trench.

<sup>39</sup> All the people saw it happen and fell on their faces in awed worship, exclaiming, "GOD is the true God! GOD is the true God!"

#### 4. 1 Corinthians 8:4-6 NLT New Living Translation

Well, we all know that an idol is not really a god and that there is only one God.<sup>5</sup> There may be so-called gods both in heaven and on earth, and some people actually worship many gods and many lords. <sup>6</sup> But for us,

There is one God, the Father,

by whom all things were created,  
and for whom we live.

And there is one Lord, Jesus Christ,

through whom all things were created,  
and through whom we live.

#### 5. Colossians 3:1-4,10-12,14,17 NLT New Living Translation

Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. <sup>2</sup> Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth.<sup>3</sup> For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God.<sup>4</sup> And when Christ, who is your<sup>[a]</sup> life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.

Put on your new nature, and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him.<sup>11</sup> In this new life, it doesn't matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile,<sup>[c]</sup> circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized,<sup>[d]</sup> slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us.

**<sup>12</sup> Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.**

**<sup>14</sup> Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.**

**<sup>16</sup> Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.**

- 6. I John 4:14-16 we we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love.**
- 7. I John 5:19 (and) to (of God), 20-21 And we know that we are of God And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, *even* in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.**

### **Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures**

- 1. SH 19:29-1 Jesus urged the commandment, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me,” which may be rendered: Thou shalt have no belief of Life as mortal; thou shalt not know evil, for there is one Life, — even God, good.**
- 2. SH 467:3 This This *me* is Spirit. Therefore the command means this: Thou shalt have no intelligence, no life, no substance, no truth, no love, but that which is spiritual. The second is like unto it, “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.” It should be thoroughly understood that all men have one Mind, one God and Father, one Life, Truth, and Love. Mankind will become perfect in proportion as this fact becomes apparent, war will cease and the true brotherhood of man will be established. Having no other gods, turning to no other but the one perfect Mind to guide him, man is the likeness of God, pure and eternal, having that Mind which was also in Christ.**

3. SH 454:21,17-24 Love is priestess at the altar of Truth.  
Love for God and man is the true incentive in both healing and teaching. Love inspires, illumines, designates, and leads the way. Right motives give pinions to thought, and strength and freedom to speech and action.  
Wait patiently for divine Love to move upon the waters of mortal mind, and form the perfect concept. Patience must “have her perfect work.
4. SH 275:25 Our material human theories are destitute of Science. The true understanding of God is spiritual. It robs the grave of victory. It destroys the false evidence that misleads thought and points to other gods, or other so-called powers, such as matter, disease, sin, and death, superior or contrary to the one Spirit.
5. SH 203:17-19 We are prone to believe either in more than one Supreme Ruler or in some power less than God. We imagine that Mind can be imprisoned in a sensuous body.
6. SH 2:18-22\_The mere habit of pleading with the divine Mind, as one pleads with a human being, perpetuates the belief in God as humanly circumscribed, — an error which impedes spiritual growth.
7. SH 492:3-4\_For right reasoning there should be but one fact before the thought, namely, spiritual existence.
8. SH 312:14-30 People go into ecstasies over the sense of a corporeal Jehovah, though with scarcely a spark of love in their hearts; yet God *is* Love, and without Love, God, immortality cannot appear. Mortals try to believe without understanding Truth; yet God *is* Truth. Mortals claim that death is inevitable; but man’s eternal Principle is ever-present Life. Mortals believe in a finite personal God; while God is infinite Love, which must be unlimited.

Our theories are based on finite premises, which cannot penetrate beyond matter. A personal sense of God and of man’s capabilities necessarily limits faith and hinders spiritual understanding. It divides faith and understanding between matter and Spirit, the finite and the infinite, and so

turns away from the intelligent and divine healing Principle to the inanimate drug.

9. SH 7:17 Physical sensation, not Soul, produces material ecstasy and emotion. If spiritual sense always guided men, there would grow out of ecstatic moments a higher experience and a better life with more devout self-abnegation and purity. A self-satisfied ventilation of fervent sentiments never makes a Christian. God is not influenced by man. The “divine ear” is not an auditory nerve. It is the all-hearing and all-knowing Mind, to whom each need of man is always known and by whom it will be supplied.
10. SH 203:7-8 If God were understood instead of being merely believed, this understanding would establish health.
11. SH 506:18 Spirit, God, gathers unformed thoughts into their proper channels, and unfolds these thoughts, even as He opens the petals of a holy purpose in order that the purpose may appear.
12. SH 390:13-18 Let your higher sense of justice destroy the false process of mortal opinions which you name law, and then you will not be confined to a sick-room nor laid upon a bed of suffering in payment of the last farthing, the last penalty demanded by error.
13. SH 281:18 The mind supposed to exist in matter or beneath a skull bone is a myth, a misconceived sense and false conception as to man and Mind. 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.
14. SH 34:18-9 Through all the disciples experienced, they became more spiritual and understood better what the Master had taught. His resurrection was also their resurrection.  
They needed this quickening, for soon their dear Master would rise again in the spiritual realm of reality, and ascend far above their

apprehension. As the reward for his faithfulness, he would disappear to material sense in that change which has since been called the ascension. What a contrast between our Lord's last supper and his last spiritual breakfast with his disciples in the bright morning hours at the joyful meeting on the shore of the Galilean Sea! His gloom had passed into glory, and his disciples' grief into repentance, — hearts chastened and pride rebuked. Convinced of the fruitlessness of their toil in the dark and wakened by their Master's voice, they changed their methods, turned away from material things, and cast their net on the right side. Discerning Christ, Truth, anew on the shore of time, they were enabled to rise somewhat from mortal sensuousness, or the burial of mind in matter, into newness of life as Spirit.

15. SH 170:8-10 Christian ideas certainly present what human theories exclude — the Principle of man's harmony.
16. SH 452:12-15 When error confronts you, withhold not the rebuke or the explanation which destroys error. Never breathe an immoral atmosphere, unless in the attempt to purify it.
17. SH 128:20-22 An odor becomes beneficent and agreeable only in proportion to its escape into the surrounding atmosphere. So it is with our knowledge of Truth.
18. SH 540:9 The muddy river-bed must be stirred in order to purify the stream. 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.
19. SH 492:7-11 Being is holiness, harmony, immortality. It is already proved that a knowledge of this, even in small degree, will uplift the physical and moral standard of mortals, will increase longevity, will purify and elevate character.

20. SH 55:22-29 The time for the reappearing of the divine healing is throughout all time; and whosoever layeth his earthly all on the altar of divine Science, drinketh of Christ's cup now, and is endued with the spirit and power of Christian healing.

In the words of St. John: "He shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you *forever*." This Comforter I understand to be Divine Science.