

Wednesday Readings  
Handling Fake News  
Bible (ESV unless noted)

Matthew 7:17 (to 1<sup>st</sup> .),18 (to emotions) MSG

Don't be impressed with charisma; look for character. A genuine leader will never exploit your emotions...

Matthew 10:26 MSG

Don't be intimidated. Eventually everything is going to be out in the open, and everyone will know how things really are.

Genesis 3:1-6, 8-13 ESV

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

Psalm 17:11 MSG, 14-16 ESV

Nobody gets by with anything. God is already in action. Behold, the wicked man conceives evil and is pregnant with mischief and gives birth to lies. He

makes a pit, digging it out, and falls into the hole that he has made. His mischief returns upon his own head, and on his own skull his violence descends.

#### Isaiah 41:11-13 MSG

Count on it: Everyone who had it in for you will end up out in the cold—real losers. Those who worked against you will end up empty-handed—nothing to show for their lives. When you go out looking for your old adversaries you won't find them—Not a trace of your old enemies, not even a memory. That's right. Because I, your GOD, have a firm grip on you and I'm not letting go. I'm telling you, 'Don't panic. I'm right here to help you.'

#### John 12:44, 46-47

Jesus cried out and said, "Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world."

#### Matthew 12:9-14, 22-28

He went on from there and entered their synagogue. And a man was there with a withered hand. And they asked him, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?"—so that they might accuse him. He said to them, "Which one of you who has a sheep, if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not take hold of it and lift it out? Of how much more value is a man than a sheep! So it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." Then he said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." And the man stretched it out, and it was restored, healthy like the other. But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how to destroy him.

Then a demon-oppressed man who was blind and mute was brought to him, and he healed him, so that the man spoke and saw. And all the people were amazed, and said, "Can this be the Son of David?" But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this man casts out demons." Knowing their thoughts, he said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be

your judges. But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

### 2 Corinthians 11:3 *I*

...I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

### Ephesians 4:7 *grace*, 13-15

...grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. ...until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

### Proverbs 8:1-11 ESV

Does not wisdom call? Does not understanding raise her voice? On the heights beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud: "To you, O men, I call, and my cry is to the children of man. O simple ones, learn prudence; O fools, learn sense. Hear, for I will speak noble things, and from my lips will come what is right, for my mouth will utter truth; wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the words of my mouth are righteous; there is nothing twisted or crooked in them. They are all straight to him who understands, and right to those who find knowledge. Take my instruction instead of silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold, for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her.

### Philippians 4:8 NKJV

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

### I Corinthians 3:18 (to 1<sup>st</sup> .), 23 *you*

Let no one deceive himself. ... you are Christ's, and Christ is God's.

Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures and Prose Works  
by Mary Baker Eddy

505:29-2, 21-22, 16-17

The mortal, erring, and finite are human beliefs, which apportion to themselves a task impossible for them, that of distinguishing between the false and the true.

Understanding is the line of demarcation between the real and unreal. Spirit imparts the understanding which uplifts consciousness and leads into all truth.

452:32-4

You do not deny the mathematician's right to distinguish the correct from the incorrect among the examples on the blackboard, nor disbelieve the musician when he distinguishes concord from discord.

Mis. 246:15-17 (to ;)

Another form of inhumanity lifts its hydra head to forge anew the old fetters; to shackle conscience, stop free speech, slander, vilify;

186:17-20, 22-24,

Evil is self-assertive. It says: "I am a real entity, overmastering good." This falsehood should strip evil of all pretensions. The only power of evil is to destroy itself. It can never destroy one iota of good. If we concede the same reality to discord as to harmony, discord has as lasting a claim upon us as has harmony.

289:9-11

To suppose that sin, lust, hatred, envy, hypocrisy, revenge, have life abiding in them, is a terrible mistake.

298:8

What is termed material sense can report only a mortal temporary sense of things, whereas spiritual sense can bear witness only to Truth. To material sense, the unreal is the real until this sense is corrected by Christian Science.

238:25-26 (to 1<sup>st</sup> .), 27

Society is a foolish juror, listening only to one side of the case. People with mental work before them have no time for gossip about false law or

testimony. To reconstruct timid justice and place the fact above the falsehood, is the work of time.

486:1 *you*

...you can have no faith in falsehood when you have learned falsehood's true nature.

Mis. 277:3-7, 9 *a*

Falsehood is on the wings of the winds, but Truth will soar above it. Truth is speaking louder, clearer, and more imperatively than ever. Error is walking to and fro in the earth, trying to be heard above Truth, but its voice dies out in the distance. ...a heart loyal to God is patient and strong. Justice waits, and is used to waiting; and right wins the everlasting victory.

8:28-30

We should examine ourselves and learn what is the affection and purpose of the heart, for in this way only can we learn what we honestly are.

92:21 *Until*

Until the fact concerning error — namely, its nothingness — appears, the moral demand will not be met, and the ability to make nothing of error will be wanting. We should blush to call that real which is only a mistake. The foundation of evil is laid on a belief in something besides God. This belief tends to support two opposite powers, instead of urging the claims of Truth alone. The mistake of thinking that error can be real, when it is merely the absence of truth, leads to belief in the superiority of error.

450:1-2, 4-11, 12, 19-22

There is a large class of thinkers whose bigotry and conceit twist every fact to suit themselves. Another class, still more unfortunate, are so depraved that they appear to be innocent. They utter a falsehood, while looking you blandly in the face, and they never fail to stab their benefactor in the back. A third class of thinkers build with solid masonry. They are sincere, generous, noble, and are therefore open to the approach and recognition of Truth. They do not incline longingly to error, whine over the demands of Truth, nor play the traitor for place and power.

The Christian Scientist has enlisted to lessen evil, disease, and death; and he will overcome them by understanding their nothingness and the allness of God, or good.

453:18-20

You uncover sin, not in order to injure, but in order to bless the corporeal man; and a right motive has its reward.

Mis. 7:7-13

Great charity and humility is necessary in this work of healing. The loving patience of Jesus, we must strive to emulate. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" has daily to be exemplified; and, although skepticism and incredulity prevail in places where one would least expect it, it harms not; for if serving Christ, Truth, of what can mortal opinion avail?

341:11 (only)

In Christian Science mere opinion is valueless.

Mis. 118:4-6

We shall have no faith in evil when faith finds a resting-place and scientific understanding guides man.

453:6-8, 14-20

Right and wrong, truth and error, will be at strife in the minds of students, until victory rests on the side of invincible truth.

192:4-16, 23-24, 30

We are Christian Scientists, only as we quit our reliance upon that which is false and grasp the true. We are not Christian Scientists until we leave all for Christ. Human opinions are not spiritual. They come from the hearing of the ear, from corporeality instead of from Principle, and from the mortal instead of from the immortal. Spirit is not separate from God. Spirit *is* God.

Erring power is a material belief, a blind miscalled force, the offspring of will and not of wisdom, of the mortal mind and not of the immortal. It is the headlong cataract, the devouring flame, the tempest's breath. It is lightning and hurricane, all that is selfish, wicked, dishonest, and impure.

The good you do and embody gives you the only power obtainable.

Whatever holds human thought in line with unselfed love, receives directly the divine power.

451:2

Christian Scientists must live under the constant pressure of the apostolic command to come out from the material world and be separate. They must renounce aggression, oppression and the pride of power. Christianity, with the crown of Love upon her brow, must be their queen of life.

405:5-11

Christian Science commands man to master the propensities,— to hold hatred in abeyance with kindness, to conquer lust with chastity, revenge with charity, and to overcome deceit with honesty. Choke these errors in their early stages, if you would not cherish an army of conspirators against health, happiness, and success.

563:1-2

Human sense may well marvel at discord, while, to a diviner sense, harmony is the real and discord the unreal.

542:5-8, 19-21

Though error hides behind a lie and excuses guilt, error cannot forever be concealed. Truth, through her eternal laws, unveils error. Let Truth uncover and destroy error in God's own way, and let human justice pattern the divine.

67:23

Grace and Truth are potent beyond all other means and methods.