

# Christianity, Cults & Religion

Scientology

New Age

Wicca



Islam

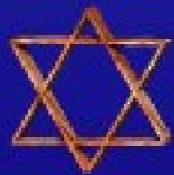
Buddhism



Christianity



Taoism



Judaism

Hinduism



Christian  
Science

Jehovah's  
Witnesses

Mormonism

# Christianity, Cults & Religion

Purpose –

- To strengthen our foundation as Christians
  - Know what others believe
  - Know what their beliefs are founded on
  - Compare those beliefs and foundations with Christianity
- To be better prepared in evangelism

# Overview

Week 1 Hinduism

Week 2 Buddhism

Week 3 New Age

Week 4 Islam

Week 5 Scientology

Week 6 Christian Science



# Christian Science



Headquarters – Boston, MA

2,300 branch churches

In over 60 countries.

1,600 are in the U.S.

About 60 in Canada.

150,000 – 400,000 adherents.

Governed by a 5 member board.



# Christian Science



## Growth

1960's – Began Decline

1970's – Scandal

1980's – Regrouped

1990's - Turmoil





# Christian Science

Mary Baker Eddy

Born – 1821

Raised – Congregationalist

Married – 3 Times

Suffered – Many Illnesses

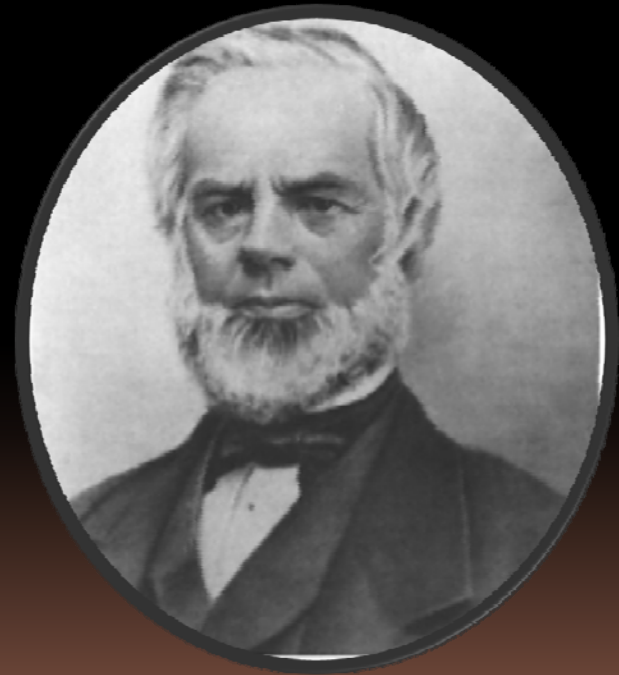


# Christian Science

Phineas Quimby

Popular Healer

Believed illness and disease  
could be cured through  
positive thoughts



# Christian Science



## Turning Point

1866 Suffered Severe Fall  
Discovered principal of Healing

### **Matthew 9:2**

Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you."



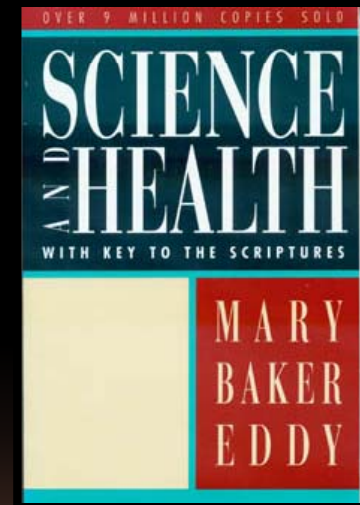


# Christian Science

## Writings

1875 – *Science and Health*

She claimed it was the final revelation of God to mankind and asserted that her work was inspired of God.



# Christian Science



Meetings

1879 – 15 Followers

The First Church of Christ, Scientist

Aim of Reinstating:  
“primitive Christianity and its lost  
element of healing”



# Christian Science



## Publications

1908

*The Christian Science Monitor*

a popular international daily newspaper



# Christian Science



## Death

Mary Baker Eddy

Died - December 3, 1910

Pneumonia

89 Years Old

She is buried at Mount Auburn  
Cemetery in Cambridge,  
Massachusetts





# Christian Science



## Churches

2300 in 60 countries

Board of 5 directors

Readers conduct services

Bible Reading

Eddy's Book Reading

Healing Testimonies

Practitioners – Spiritual healings





Christian Science



The Bible



## God

Pantheistic = God is all and in all.

According to Mary Baker Eddy  
God is all that exists and what we  
perceive as matter is only an  
illusion.

Even sin and sickness are only  
errors of interpreting the Divine  
Mind and have no true reality  
(S&H, 330:25-274; 470:9-14).

**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



## **God**

**God is the Creator and Separate from His Creation**

**Genesis 1:1**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

**Isaiah 44:24**

Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, And He who formed you from the womb: "I am the Lord, who makes all things, Who stretches out the heavens all alone, Who spreads abroad the earth by Myself;

**Colossians 1:21**

And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled

Christian Science 

The Bible



## Jesus

A "way-shower"

a perfect representation of the Christ consciousness that is the true and higher self of every person.

"If there had never existed such a person as the Galilean Prophet, it would make no difference to me."  
-Mary Baker Eddy, First Church of Christ Scientist and Miscellany, pp. 318 -319

**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



## **Jesus**

**Jesus was God**

**John 1:1, 14**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

And the Word became 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 20:28**

And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

**John 8:58**

Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."

Christian Science



The Bible



## Man

### Man is Perfect

“Man is spiritual and perfect....He is the compound idea of God, including all right ideas; the generic term for all that reflects God’s image and likeness....that which has not a single quality underived from Deity;” (*Science and Health*, 475:11-20.)



**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



## **Man**

### **Man is Sinful**

#### **1 John 1:8, 10**

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

#### **Romans 3:10, 23**

As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Christian Science



The Bible



## Jesus' Death

### Jesus' Death Made No Atonement

"One sacrifice, however great, is insufficient to pay the debt of sin. The atonement requires constant self-immolation on the sinner's part. That God's wrath should be vented upon His beloved Son, is divinely unnatural. Such a theory is man-made" (S&H, p. 23:3-7).

"The material blood of Jesus was no more efficacious [or effective] to cleanse from sin when it was shed upon 'the accursed tree,' than when it was flowing in his veins as he went daily about his Father's business" (S&H, 25:6-8).

**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



## **Jesus' Death**

### **Romans 5:8-9**

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

### **Hebrews 10:14**

For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.

Christian Science



The Bible



## Sin

### Sin Does not Exist

"...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."

*(Science and Health, 472:27-29)*

"False theology would tell you that it is sin we need to be saved from."

—Edward Kimball, *Lectures and Articles on Christian Science*, p. 209



**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



## **Sin**

### **Sin is Lawlessness**

**1 John 3:4**

Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.

**Romans 3:23**

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,



**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



## **Heaven**

### **Heaven is a state of mind**

“Heaven is not a locality, but a divine state of Mind in which all the manifestations of Mind are harmonious and immortal, because sin is not there and man is found having no righteousness of his own, but in possession of ‘the mind of the Lord,’ as the Scriptures says”

*(Science and Health, With Keys to the Scriptures 291:13-18)*

**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



## **Heaven**

**Heaven is an actual place**

**John 14:2-3**

In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

**Mark 16:19**

So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.

**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



## **Hell**

### **Hell is a state of mind**

Hell, according to Mary Baker Eddy, exists when a person's thoughts are out of harmony with the reality of the Divine Mind.

"Mortal belief, error; lust; remorse; hatred; revenge; sin; sickness; death; suffering and self destruction; self imposed agony; effects of sin; that which worketh abomination or maketh a lie." (*Science and Health* 588: 1-4)

**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



## **Hell**

### **Hell is an actual place**

#### **Matthew 25:41, 46**

“Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’”

#### **Revelation 20:10, 15**

The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.  
And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



## **The Devil**

### **The Devil is Not a Person**

The glossary in Science and Health gives this definition for the devil:

“Evil; a lie; error; neither corporeality nor mind; the opposite of Truth; a belief in sin, sickness, and death;...”



**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



## **The Devil**

**The Devil is a fallen angelic creature**

**1 Peter 5:8-9**

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

Christian Science



The Bible



## Salvation

Salvation is achieved through progressive spiritual understanding.

“Final deliverance from error,... is *not* reached... by pinning one's faith without works to another's *vicarious* effort,” (*Science and Health*, p. 22).

**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



## **Salvation**

**Salvation is a gift of God's grace**

**Romans 6:23**

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



## **Final Judgment**

“No final judgment awaits mortals, for the judgment-day of wisdom comes hourly and continually, even the judgment by which mortal man is divested of all material error.” (Science and Health, 291:28-31)

**Christian Science**



**The Bible**



# **Final Judgment**

**A Day of Judgment Awaits Everyone**

**Hebrews 9:27**

And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,

# Christian Science



## Dangerous Teachings Result in Child Abuse / Manslaughter

A hall-mark of Christian Science teaching is that all disease can be cured by prayer rather than through medical treatment.

Eddy said, "The sick are not healed merely by declaring there is no sickness, but by knowing that there is none."



# Christian Science



## Summary

Christian Scientists call themselves Christians, but their beliefs deviate from Biblical Christianity on nearly every central Doctrine.

Due to Mary Baker Eddy's worldview and totally different interpretation of reality, Christian Science and Christianity are 180 degrees apart.





# CHRISTIAN SCIENCE



## FOUNDER

- Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910)



## DATE

- Church of Christ, Scientist founded in 1879

## LOCATION

- Headquarters in Boston, Massachusetts

# CHRISTIAN SCIENCE



## KEY WRITINGS

Include...

- *Science and Health, With Key to the Scriptures* (published in 1875)
- *Miscellaneous Writings*
- *Manual of the Mother Church*
- other books by Mrs. Eddy
- The Bible (not as reliable)
- *Christian Science Journal*
- *Christian Science Sentinel*



# CHRISTIAN SCIENCE



WHO IS GOD?

- According to Mrs. Eddy, God is an impersonal Principle of life, truth, love, intelligence, and spirit.
- God is all that truly exists; matter is an illusion.



**Bible**

# CHRISTIAN SCIENCE



## WHO IS JESUS?

- According to Mrs. Eddy, Jesus was *not* the Christ, but a man who displayed the Christ idea. (“Christ” means perfection, *not* a person.)
- He was not God, and God can never become man or flesh.
- He did not suffer and could not suffer for sins.
- He did not die on the cross.
- He was not resurrected physically.
- He will not literally come back.



**Bible**

# CHRISTIAN SCIENCE



## WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- Mrs. Eddy defines the “Holy Ghost” as “Divine Science” (that is, the teaching of Christian Science).
- It is an impersonal power.



Bible

# CHRISTIAN SCIENCE



## HOW TO BE SAVED

- Sin, evil, sickness, and death are not real.
- Humanity is already eternally saved.



# CHRISTIAN SCIENCE



## WHAT HAPPENS AFTER DEATH

- **Death is not real.**
- **Heaven and hell are states of mind.**
- **The way to reach heaven is by attaining harmony (oneness with God).**





# CHRISTIAN SCIENCE



## OTHER BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

- Members use Christian Science “practitioners” (authorized professional healers who “treat” supposed illnesses for a fee) instead of doctors.
- Healing comes through realizing one cannot really be sick or hurt and that the body cannot be ill, suffer pain, or die (since matter is an illusion).



# CHRISTIAN SCIENCE



## OTHER BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

- **Attracts followers by claims of miraculous healing.**
- **Publishes *Christian Science Monitor* newspaper**

# Christianity, Cults & Religion

Scientology

New Age

Wicca



Islam

Buddhism



Christianity



Taoism



Judaism

Hinduism



Christian  
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