



The Might of God's Spiritual Government

L. IVIMY GWALTER

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The mental atmosphere of a nation is determined by its government. When integrity and justice rule, the rights of the individual and of the country are protected, and freedom reigns. Despotic control is bondage. Hence the need that human governments should derive their pattern from divinity. One of humanity's greatest needs is an enlightened sense of God's government.

We have but to look upon the universe to realize that a power beyond the human governs it. What is it that holds the earth in its orbit, governs the seasons, controls the tides, brings forth the leaf, and blesses mankind? Is it not the omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence that we call God? And do not the movements of the universe prove that His law is supreme over all? Viewed in their true light, man and the universe are spiritual, and the law that governs them is divine. Human authority errs unless it derives its sanction from divine statutes.

Wherever God is, government is; wherever true government is, God is. This is true because God by His very nature is All-in-all. There is none beside Him. He is not corporeal, unpredictable, and finite. He is all the Mind there is, all the Life and Truth and wisdom. He is Spirit, unseen to physical sense, yet ever tangible and clear to spiritual sense. He is the Soul of all because in Him alone are all order, beauty, perfection, harmony, and immortality. And because of His changelessness and infallibility He is the divine Principle which, reflecting itself in man and the universe, embraces its idea in inseparable bonds of oneness. Only as we through prayer look deeply into reality can we gain the least concept of God's divine, ever-present government and of the love and harmony it includes. Human government errs because of human fallibility. God's government is unerring Science, supreme and eternal.

In human government we may trace four distinct areas of operation: legislative, judicial, economic, and administrative. Let us examine these from the standpoint of divine Science.

The legislative, or lawmaking branch of government, is basic. The prosperity of a country is commensurate with the wisdom of its laws. Human law changes, but God's law is changeless. In protecting some, human law may work ill to others; but God's law is impartial, universal, and applicable to every human need.

The purpose and function of God's law is to bless. His law is divine Science. It blesses one and all alike. It destroys every phase and form of error. Evil cannot hide from the law of Truth. There are no dark areas where God's light does not penetrate. Christ Jesus' words assure us, "There is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known."¹ As light destroys darkness, so good destroys evil. God's pardon of sin is the destruction of sin. Herein lies the salvation of mankind. The Bible declares that "God is light, and in him is no darkness at all."²

The universe of Spirit, upheld and governed by the law of Spirit, is the one and only universe here and now. In the infinitude of Spirit there is no matter. The allness of Spirit precludes the existence of matter. This fact underlies the revelation that man and the universe are wholly spiritual. It is not a material universe that needs to be discarded or changed but a material sense of the universe. This false material sense must yield to the all-might of Spirit and to the spiritual sense of that which divinely is.

The law God's government enacts is not a law of penalty but of peace; not a law of condemnation but of Love; not a law of death but of Life. In *No and Yes* Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, writes, "God's law is in three words, 'I am All,' and this perfect law is ever present to rebuke any claim of another law."³

Progress is the forever demand of God's government. No uncertainty, no element of time or chance, can prevent, retard, or reverse it. To human sense, progress appears as the advancement of a mortal out of the limitations which fetter him; but spiritually understood, progress is the revelation of man's purposeful activity and present perfection in God's likeness. As this revelation is demonstrated in human experience, the limitations of material sense pale into nothingness.

In the judicial function of God's government, we see God as unerring Principle. Principle is exact. It admits of no superficiality, no halfway position; it leaves no room for discrepancy or error of judgment. The divine standard is God, perfect Mind, and man, God's perfect image. The government of God upholds this standard.

Today when the "new morality" is so much in vogue and the Mosaic Decalogue is often said to be outmoded, it is well to stop and think. The Master, Christ Jesus, was not only the most scientific man but also the most successful man the world has ever known. He preached and practiced the Ten Commandments. They underlay his healing ministry. They were the basis of his power. Invariably he demanded of those who sought healing some evidence of their worthiness to receive it. He said, "I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me."⁴

The government of God extends its beneficence to the physical realm, so called, as well as to the mental and moral. It meets the needs of mankind in sickness as in health. Compromise with material methods of healing has no place when it is proved that God governs man. Christian Science demands radical reliance on Spirit. It demands a subjugation of human will, a purification of sense and self. Thus Mrs. Eddy admonishes in *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*: "Rise in the conscious strength of the spirit of Truth to overthrow the plea of mortal mind, alias matter, arrayed against the supremacy of Spirit. Blot out the images of mortal thought and its beliefs in sickness and sin. Then, when thou art delivered to the judgment of Truth, Christ, the judge will say, 'Thou art whole!'"⁵

In the economic aspect of government, the spiritual differs radically from the human. Human government draws its revenue from the governed through legitimate and necessary systems of taxation. Yet these systems are often burdensome and sometimes unjust. Under God's government the order of divine Principle is maintained. This Principle is Love. Here supply inevitably meets demand, and vice versa, leaving no room for extortion or waste. Recognizing God's government of the universe and man the Psalmist sang, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."⁶ The operation of divine law in our lives is the outpouring of good from an inexhaustible source. The law of divine Love prepares a table for us in the wilderness of human beliefs. Under Love's government our fears are stilled, our anguish assuaged, streams of blessing break forth in the desert, and the bow of promise spans the cloud.

Is there not something that we must give in return for all this blessing? Indeed there is. We must give our gratitude—gratitude for Christian Science, gratitude for Life, for Truth, for Love. Gratitude brings the government of God and its attendant blessings into our lives. When the heart burns with gratitude, we are not motivated by the selfish desire to get. We are spurred on with the unselfish desire to give. We yearn to share with all mankind the great message of Christian Science, to do the healing works, to enter the public practice of Christian Science, to give our all to its Cause in service and time and financial support. Such giving achieves its goal. It is not hardship but joy, a joy unknown to the materially-minded, a joy paying rich dividends of peace and harmony and well-being.

To perfect himself in the art of giving, the loyal student of Christian Science becomes ever more faithful and diligent in his daily study of the Bible and of Mrs. Eddy's writings. He grows ever more conscious of the priceless treasures these books contain and of his need to make these treasures his own and demonstrate their truth.

Mrs. Eddy, our Leader and beloved Pastor Emeritus, knew this joy. It came to her as the result of her lifetime of selfless giving. She truly gave her all to bequeath this legacy of scientific Christianity to mankind. Through her obedience, humility, and love she not only placed herself under the protection of divine government but also the Cause she founded. She stood through trials, persecution, and mockery, and she triumphed in the glory of humility.

The *Manual of The Mother Church*, a little volume of inspired By-Laws, is her adaptation of God's government to the needs of her Church. Obedience to its provisions not only spells protection to the organization but to the individual church member. This little book uniquely adapted to the organization's needs, both present and future, allows for the unrestricted growth of her Church while building an impregnable hedge of protection about it.

And what of God's administration of His government? The law of God is self-enforcing because in governing Himself God governs the universe. God is the I AM or Ego. Thus man, reflecting God, is divinely self-governed. Demonstrated in human experience this self-government means that in exact proportion to our obedience to God's law we are a law to ourselves, a law of immunity to evil, to materiality, to malice and hate and limitation in whatever form.

Human government, depending on persons to frame its provisions and implement them, is oftentimes the tool of selfishness, dishonesty, and intrigue. Despotism tendencies often appear to outweigh the good in human thought. Hence the political corruption, lack of unity, the red tape, waste, and ruthlessness that oppress the world. But in the measure that human government reflects the divine it becomes clean, unified, direct, honest, and beneficent.

The following incident has stood like a beacon throughout the years. The writer's home faced a river where ships of the United States Navy sometimes dropped anchor. On one occasion the ships were fogbound all day long. The fog became even more dense with nightfall. The noise of clanging bells and blowing foghorns was deafening. The atmosphere was one of blackness, tenseness, and confusion.

The writer was serving as Second Reader in her branch church, and that evening the First Reader came to her home to rehearse the Sunday service. Also, since early morning repeated telephone calls had reported on the case of a lad who was stricken with fever and whose mother was calling for Christian Science help for him. The young practitioner was struggling within herself with a sense of confusion and anxiety.

As the rehearsal progressed, a sweet sense of security and certainty replaced the foreboding suggestions; and when it ended, the room seemed diffused with light. There was great peace. Lifting her eyes to the window, she was startled to see the lights on the ships and on the opposite shore sparkling and bright. And then she realized that a wind had sprung up, not a stormy, turbulent wind but a soft, gentle one, yet strong enough to completely dissipate the fog. The transition had come quickly and silently. Turning to the Glossary of *Science and Health* she read: "Wind. That which indicates the might of omnipotence and the movements of God's spiritual government, encompassing all things."² It was only a matter of moments when the telephone rang again to say that the fever had broken and the child was well.

In times of national elections and mid the din and confusion of troubled world thought, may Christian Scientists everywhere rise on wings of prayer to prove "the might of omnipotence and the movements of God's spiritual government, encompassing all things." God, good, does reign and He is even now supreme.

¹ [Matt. 10:26](#):↑

² [John 1:5](#):↑

³ [No and Yes, p. 30](#):↑

⁴ [John 5:30](#):↑

⁵ [Science and Health, pp. 390, 391](#):↑

⁶ [Ps. 23:1](#):↑

⁷ [Science and Health, p. 597](#):↑