**"The 'male and female' of God's creating"**

L. IVIMY GWALTER

From the [January 1973 issue](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1) of *The Christian Science Journal*

the first chapter of Genesis we read, "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness .... So God created man in his own image ... male and female created he them." [1](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnote-1) Christian Science says, in the words of Mary Baker Eddy, "Let the 'male and female' of God's creating appear." Mrs. Eddy prefaces this, in the Christian Science textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, thus: "Let us accept Science, relinquish all theories based on sense-testimony, give up imperfect models and illusive ideals; and so let us have one God, one Mind, and that one perfect, producing His own models of excellence." [2](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnote-2)

Mrs. Eddy's summons "Let the 'male and female' of God's creating appear" finds no fulfillment in idle petitions, wishful thinking, or human will. It involves an active yielding to God's demands. It calls upon the individual for willingness and watchfulness, for obedience, humility, and love.

That "the 'male and female' of God's creating" may appear in ourselves demands mighty wrestlings with self, a deep spiritual regeneration that repudiates material selfhood and acknowledges man in God's likeness, the individual expression of His completeness.

The creative divine Principle, or God, is Father-Mother to His own creation. Here is no dividing line between Father and Mother, no friction, no separation. Indissolubly one, the infinite Father-Mother includes the Son or spiritual idea, for without the Son there could be neither Father nor Mother. God's infinite individuality or wholeness is reflected throughout creation in the completeness of individual spiritual man.

What is scientifically true is demonstrable in human experience, and awaits only a fuller understanding of God in order to be manifested. In an interview with a reporter that is recorded in her book *The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany* (see pp. 346, 347), Mrs. Eddy refers to Christ Jesus and Christian Science as the two witnesses who reveal the manhood and womanhood of God.

The incorporeal spiritual idea, or Christ, first appeared to humanity in its fullness as the man Jesus, who demonstrated that God is the Father of all. The second appearing of the Christ is the promised Comforter, which has come to all mankind in fulfillment of prophecy, revealing God's motherhood. Nothing but this revelation of infinite Love, this living Christ, Truth, can satisfy the human aspirations and cravings and emancipate the race.

Mrs. Eddy recognized the revelation as the incorporeal Christ. She knew that she did not originate the revelation. She wrote the textbook as one under heavenly orders, who for all time to come will stand as the loved and honored Discoverer, Founder, and Leader of Christian Science. This second appearing of the Christ had to come through a woman, for it brings to light the spiritual idea of womanhood which completes the revelation of God as Father-Mother.

"The 'male and female' of God's creating" alone presents the idea of divine Love's infinitude. In the second chapter of Genesis, the material account of creation, where the mortal separation of male and female is emphatically presented, each is dissatisfied and incomplete. This illusion of incompleteness cooperates with sin.

Christian Science enables us to demonstrate that out of the amplitude of His completeness the Father-Mother supplies here and now all the distinguishing characteristics of man and woman. To the man in the business world lacking self-confidence, this truth means confidence. To the woman enslaved by timidity and self-consciousness, it means the freedom and joy of self-expression. To the one weighed down with a sense of failure, it means fresh opportunity, dominion, and success. It assures to each the individual demonstration of self-completeness that finds its all in God, good. No task is too difficult, no need too great, no problem too severe, no sickness too long-standing, no grief too deep for the completeness of divine Love to heal.

The world is looking to Christian Scientists to see how Christian Science fills the human need. Never before has the world been so conscious of its shortcomings, never before has the hideousness of sin stood out in such stark nakedness. What is at work in human thought that is bringing all this error to the surface? Christ's divine Science is leavening world thought.

The unrest of mankind, its deep discontent with the past—its rebelling against conventionalities, its striving to escape through drugs, its exaggerated indulging of sex, together with the racial prejudices, the civil and political injustices and conflicts of the world—are the birth throes which indicate that the new birth of Spirit is convulsing and transforming the world. And at the very heart of this transformation —indeed its very impulsion—is the Christ, revealed in Christian Science. The new birth of Spirit is bringing forth "the 'male and female' of God's creating," and mortal mind is saying, "Let it not appear!"

The prophet Ezekiel proclaimed God's verdict, "I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him."[3](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnote-3) In this final overturning all may find refuge in the secret place of the Most High, through learning to know God aright. Through deep, prayerful study of the Bible in conjunction with Mrs. Eddy's writings, and through daily obedience to God's law, we put on the Mind of Christ. Superficiality will not see us through. The Christian Scientist must spiritualize his thought that he may rebuke sin and disease in himself, and thus speak to error with the authority of the Christ.

While sex is occupying so much of human thought and the marriage covenant is so often ignored, the error of materialism and disregard for law seem rampant. The need of the hour is alertness, an awakening such as we have never known before. "Mortal mind at this period mutely works in the interest of both good and evil in a manner least understood; hence the need of watching, and the danger of yielding to temptation from causes that at former periods in human history were not existent." [4](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnote-4) In these words Mrs. Eddy urgently warns mankind. The Christian Scientist knows that his defense is pure Mind, and nothing short of this will do it. Pure Mind is present and available to every man, woman, and child, at all times, because pure Mind is God, the ever-present, self-enforcing, and triumphant good which man reflects.

The lawlessness asserting itself in crime, throwing self-discipline to the winds, ignoring the marriage covenant, and seeking escape in drugs, is figuratively described in the book of Revelation as the woman named "Babylon," the mythical personification of lust. [5](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnote-5) Christian Science exposes this false mental state and its doom. This mistaken sense is the antipode of divine Science.

Mrs. Eddy was insistent in demanding of her followers obedience to law. She insisted on legal adoption and legal marriage. In *Retrospection and Introspection* she says, "Guard yourselves against the subtly hidden suggestion that the Son of man will be glorified, or humanity benefited, by any deviation from the order prescribed by supernal grace." [6](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnote-6)

The Ten Commandments will never be outmoded, nor can they be suppressed, because they are not human, man-made instruments but a divine utterance of basic spiritual law. The commandments are not superseded by the Beatitudes. They find their fulfillment in the Beatitudes. Without the commandments there are no Beatitudes.

The Master's whole ministry was love for God and man. But what did he say about these things? Going about Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of disease—so much so that the multitudes thronged him—he said: "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." And he added, "Except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven." [7](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnote-7)

The struggle of society today is the world's frenzied outreach for perfection, for the self-completeness that can only be attained spiritually. A great moral awakening is going on, an awakening that will ultimate in peace, security, and abiding satisfaction for all mankind. This awakening has its foundation in the Ten Commandments and its fulfillment in the bliss of the Beatitudes. These represent the strength of Principle and the tenderness of Love, "the 'male and female' of God's creating." Without the one there cannot be the other. Together the Decalogue and the Sermon on the Mount form a God-given moral code that can never be abandoned or relegated to the past.

Hence the trumpet call of wisdom that we "accept Science, relinquish all theories based on sense-testimony, give up imperfect models and illusive ideals." Then we shall "have one God ... producing His own models of excellence." "The 'male and female' of God's creating" will appear practically in our daily lives in proportion as we grow in spiritual understanding, lay off false fleshly beliefs, and demonstrate the forever unbroken completeness of God and man.

1 [Gen. 1:26, 27](http://concordexpress.christianscience.com/?query=And+God+said%2C+Let+us+make+man+in+our+image%2C+after+our+likeness+....+So+God+created+man+in+his+own+image+...+male+and+female+created+he+them.&book=tfccs.main.hb.kj)[↑](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnotelink-1%22%20%5Co%20%22Return%20to%20text)   2 [Science and Health, p. 249](http://concordexpress.christianscience.com/?query=Let+us+accept+Science%2C+relinquish+all+theories+based+on+sense-testimony%2C+give+up+imperfect+models+and+illusive+ideals%3B+and+so+let+us+have+one+God%2C+one+Mind%2C+and+that+one+perfect%2C+producing+His+own+models+of+excellence.&book=tfccs.main.sh)[↑](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnotelink-2%22%20%5Co%20%22Return%20to%20text)   3 [Ezek. 21:27](http://concordexpress.christianscience.com/?query=I+will+overturn%2C+overturn%2C+overturn%2C+it%3A+and+it+shall+be+no+more%2C+until+he+come+whose+right+it+is%3B+and+I+will+give+it+him.&book=tfccs.main.hb.kj)[↑](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnotelink-3%22%20%5Co%20%22Return%20to%20text)   4 [Miscellaneous Writings, p. 12](http://concordexpress.christianscience.com/?query=Mortal+mind+at+this+period+mutely+works+in+the+interest+of+both+good+and+evil+in+a+manner+least+understood%3B+hence+the+need+of+watching%2C+and+the+danger+of+yielding+to+temptation+from+causes+that+at+former+periods+in+human+history+were+not+existent.&book=tfccs.main.pw.misc)[↑](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnotelink-4%22%20%5Co%20%22Return%20to%20text)   5 See Rev., Chaps. 17, 18[↑](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnotelink-5%22%20%5Co%20%22Return%20to%20text)   6 [Retrospection and Introspection, p. 85](http://concordexpress.christianscience.com/?query=Guard+yourselves+against+the+subtly+hidden+suggestion+that+the+Son+of+man+will+be+glorified%2C+or+humanity+benefited%2C+by+any+deviation+from+the+order+prescribed+by+supernal+grace.&book=tfccs.main.pw.ret)[↑](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnotelink-6%22%20%5Co%20%22Return%20to%20text)   7 [Matt. 5:17, 18, 20](http://concordexpress.christianscience.com/?query=Except+your+righteousness+shall+exceed+the+righteousness+of+the+scribes+and+Pharisees%2C+ye+shall+in+no+case+enter+into+the+kingdom+of+heaven.&book=tfccs.main.hb.kj)[↑](http://journal.christianscience.com/issues/1973/1/91-1/the-male-and-female-of-god-s-creating%22%20%5Cl%20%22footnotelink-7%22%20%5Co%20%22Return%20to%20text)