

Revelations—Part 3

April 26, 2013

This is a very brief recap the first four visions:

The First vision is the establishment of the oneness of the One-God. Mrs. Eddy emphasizes the first Commandment and states that God is All in all.

The Second vision is the establishment of 'true selfhood'. Mrs. Eddy states emphatically that man is the image and likeness of God, Spirit. This is in accord with Genesis 1.

The Third vision begins the declarations of Truth which starts the self-destruction of all materialism. Mrs. Eddy tells us that in the presence of Truth a lie cannot exist. Also that error uncovered is two-thirds destroyed.

The Fourth Vision is establishment of the fullness of the Christ that annihilates all phases of resistance to the Truth. The dragon thought is destroyed. Mrs. Eddy emphasizes the all power of God and the native nothingness of evil or error of any kind.

Vision 5

The theme of this vision is "Love poured out, annihilates all carnality." In this vision the Seven Bowls of Love are poured out. Why would they be called bowls of Love? The vast majority of Christians see this as a horrific plague to destroy humanity. Look at the chart of the seven steps in this vision. All phases of sin are uncovered and self-destroyed. The only plague is to material thinking.

Note the footnote at the bottom of the page about Armageddon. I visited the fortified remains of Megiddo. Also note that the air refers to gnostic beliefs that suggested a separation of God and man. We must be quite vigilant to be clear that CS is not referred to as later day Gnosticism. We are not that any more Gnostic than we are Scientology.

At the beginning of this Vision we have a protective introduction. (See page 187—Translator's note.) This indicates our protection is our oneness with God. We are not now or ever hopeless sinners. This is false theology.

Why is the pouring out of the bowls of Love referred to as a plague?

What does the "wrath of God" allude to in Apocalyptic code?

I felt this statement by Hoyt was very important. "So complete is the pouring out of the bowls (vials) of Love that the temple of thought is filled with the glory of God, and no foreign suggestion can find an entering wedge, or an opportunity to slip in." Doesn't this relate to Jesus' parable about the 'strong man's house?' Our precious leader tells us to keep our thought so filled with Truth and Love that evil and error cannot enter.

Each of the seven bowls is specifically targeted to destroy a specific error. Why would this be the case?

False religion cannot stand. Are we allowing any propaganda to invade our church? Are we influenced by materialistic thinking?

What are angels? Are they intermediaries between God and man?

Do you think a phase of Gnostic incorrect reasoning is seen in Christianity?

Hoyt quotes Romans 8. Each of us has a special and inseparable relationship to God. There is no pride of priesthood permitted in Christianity. Intellectualism was a part of Gnosticism. As a side note I have found that atheism enters through prideful intellectualism. Stay alert to false pride. Do not think for one minute that a practitioner or anyone else has some special relationship to God that you don't have. All are God's children. Our leader tells us true spirituality is not gained through scholarly attainments. We are responsible for our own thinking. Hoyt translates for us "Mankind was tormented by these scorching plagues because of its own evil thinking." We must watch our own thinking. Our leader very much stresses self-government throughout the entire Manual.

I found it interesting that harlot means confusion and abomination means destruction. So the Babylonish woman or the carnal mind is the mother of confusion and destruction. Also, Hoyt states that “mystery is symbolic of the mystery cults.” Don’t other Christian faiths talk about the mystery of faith? God is not in mystery or clouds of confusion. This is so important in our study of Revelations. Our Leader tells us the ‘Truth is revealed—it only needs to be practiced.’

I suggest we read the summary at the bottom of page 86. On page 197 Hoyt quotes the Abingdon Bible Commentary: “The value of this prophecy is in its message of the victory of righteousness (right thinking) over evil, even though evil arms itself with the strongest, political, material, and mechanical resources.”

Vision 6