

Divine Science Federation International

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DivineScienceFederation.org

Spirit in Action

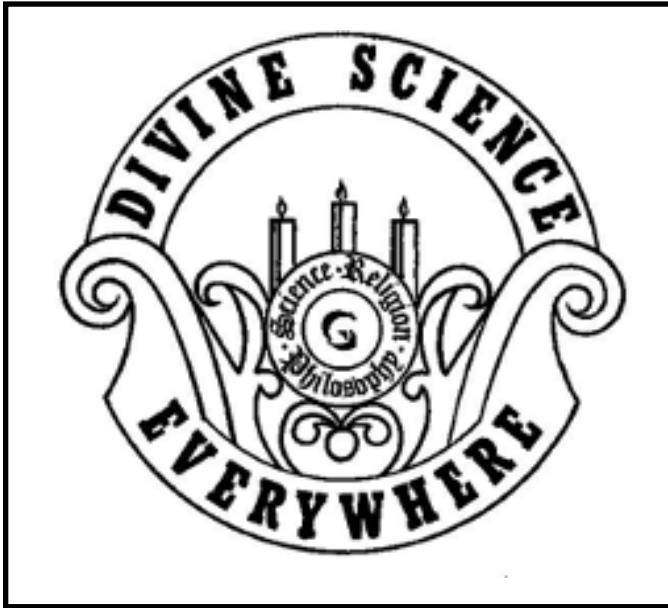
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April 2022

The SIA Daily Prayers and the DSFI Daily Study are both posted each day on the Divine Science Federation International Facebook page.

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BIENNIEL CONFERENCE

“SPIRIT IN ACTION”

August 19 – 20

Live-Streamed!

Only \$99

More details soon, but for now,

SAVE THE DATES

DAILY PRAYERS & REFLECTIONS

April 1 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“The inner power of Life within me is God, and God has all power...I silently bless all who enter my atmosphere.” Ernest Holmes

God in me, I expect and allow you to bless every person I come in contact with today.

April 2 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“Heaven is wherever God is. God is everywhere.” Fannie B. James

I dwell in the heavenly Omnipresence, wherein all is well.

April 3 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“God within me is mighty to heal.” Ernest Holmes

God in me, thank you for your healing love which flows through me now. Amen.

April 4 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“The world has been crying for ‘more light’, and then shrinks in alarm at the ‘new things’ that ‘more light’ reveals.” Fannie B. James

*The Light of God reveals what is good. I need not be afraid.
The Light will guide me toward blessings and miracles. And so it is.*

April 5 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“My God within is now healing me...and is bringing comfort to my soul.” Ernest Holmes

God in me, I thank you for your healing, comforting presence.

April 6 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“Jesus came as a light to the world, not to bring anything that was not always here, but to throw light upon the world.” Fannie B. James

Jesus is a light that reveals God’s omnipresent goodness. I am so thankful for the Light!

April 7 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“I am born of Pure Spirit.” Ernest Holmes

God is my Source and is the Substance of my life. I am part of God and, therefore, one with All Good.

April 8 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“Truth is not changing – our light upon it is growing.” Fannie B. James

My understanding is growing and expanding day by day.

April 9 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“My Word casts out all fear.” Ernest Holmes

*I speak the word of hope, and despair flees. I speak the word of joy, and weariness vanishes.
I speak the word of love, and fear crumbles before me. I speak the word of gratitude, and
more good leaps to my awareness. My word is powerful. I speak the word wisely.*

April 10 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“God, the giver of every good gift, has never withheld anything from us.” Fannie B. James

Dear God, all good comes from you and you withhold nothing good from us. Thank you, God. Amen.

April 11 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“My whole being responds to the thought of Life. I am alive with the Great Vitality of the Spirit.” Ernest Holmes

*Life is full of opportunity, abundance, joy, and vitality.
I celebrate Life and allow it to bless me continuously. And so it is.*

April 12 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“For centuries we have been pleading, ‘Thy kingdom come.’ If the kingdom is ‘at hand,’ and ‘within us,’ whence is it to come? It has already come. The Divine promise is, ‘Before they call I will answer.’ Before we asked for the kingdom to come, it was with us!” Fannie B. James

*God, you are here with me, now and always. All that you are, which is all
and only Good, is available to me. And so it is that I rejoice. Amen.*

April 13 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“My flesh is...kept perfect through the Law of God. ‘In my flesh shall I see God.’” Ernest Holmes

*Life-giving, life-enhancing energies of the Universe flow through my body. Divine Life is expressing as my
life, and is doing so through my body. What possibilities exist for me! Amen.*

April 14 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“Everything that lives and moves, begins its life in God-Life.” Fannie B. James

*In God, with God, and through God is my life. God is always with me
for I am always part of God. This is truly good news. Amen.*

April 15 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“I cannot be sad nor sorry, but must radiate Joy and Life, for Life is within me now.” Ernest Holmes

*Divine Life, with all of Its perfection, beauty, wholeness, peace, and joy, is in me
and is expressing through me, now and always. And so it is.*

April 16 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“We know that God is good...if good, then always good, and sends forth only good...’Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.” Fannie B. James

*My God, you are always good and all that comes from you is good.
This is my hope, my joy, my confidence. Amen.*

April 17 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“Today I express the Limitless Life of the All Good.” Ernest Holmes

*God in me, through me, as me is attracting, moving toward, and manifesting miracles.
Love fills my life and blessings abound. This Truth brings me joy and for it, I am thankful. Amen.*

April 18 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“We know God as Life; therefore as the only Life, and the only Source of Life; so it is written, ‘Whosoever findeth me, findeth Life.’” Fannie B. James

*God, the Good, is my very life. God is the Life that embraces every life, the Life in which we all live and
move and have our being. I can enjoy communion with God at any moment, even this very moment. In God
I find peace, happiness, strength, wisdom, and grace equal to every need. And so it is.*

April 19 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“The Spirit of [humanity] is God. In the great calm of the All Good, I rest in peace and security...I am Peace...I am One with God.” Ernest Holmes

*Nothing can disturb my inner calm, my divinely given peace.
I choose and give thanks for blessed serenity. Amen.*

April 20 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“We know God as Love...Not loving, but is Love itself...” Fannie B. James

*God is Love. The I Am that I am is Love.
Love is what is true. Love is what is everlasting.
Love is divine. When I love, I am experiencing and expressing God.
Love is miracle working power. I am loved. I Am Love. And so it is.*

April 21 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“I am constantly finding more and more Good.” Ernest Holmes

God is Good. God is All. And so it is that there is unlimited Good to discover and experience.

April 22 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“God is Light.” Fannie B. James

Light, energy, power...It's everywhere. Holy Light leads me in paths of joy and wellness.

Light shows blessings to embrace. Light warms. Light comforts. Light gives hope.

Oh, how thankful I am for divine Light.

April 23 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“O Soul of mine, look out and see...Be not cast down nor dismayed; be uplifted within me and exult, for Thy Salvation has come. Behold the wonders of the Great Whole and the marvels of the Universe. Look out and see Thy good. It is not afar off; but is at hand...Rejoice that the Perfect Whole is so completely reflected through Thee.” Ernest Holmes

God in me is Life, Perfection, Joy, the Source of abundance, infinite Intelligence, true Peace.

As I reflect on these divine attributes, I allow myself to manifest them in my life experience.

April 24 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“God is the Infinite Mind – All Wisdom.” Fannie B. James

God knows. God in me, knows. Because I am one with God, I know. I know how to thrive.

I know how to be happy. I know how to show love. I know. And so it is.

April 25 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“I shall sit in your Presence and learn the wondrous things You will tell me; for You are God.” Ernest Holmes

God leads, guides, and directs me. I am continuously blessed. God whispers love to me with every heartbeat. The future has infinite possibilities. And so I rejoice. Amen.

April 26 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“God is Spirit...The Substance of all things is not the visible but the Invisible...not matter, but Spirit.” Fannie B. James

God is my Source and Substance. One with God, I can do, be, and have anything that is truly good. Alleluia!

April 27 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“My Life is in Thee, O Inner Presence. I look upon Thee and hope springs forth into realization. O Hope within me, undying evidence of Good, Thou dost completely hold me in Thy loving embrace, and from this fond caress assurance shall be born, and confidence and love. My hope is in Thee.” Ernest Holmes

*Because God is Good and I am forever part of God, I have the power of indomitable hope.
Hope is a blessing for which I am truly thankful. Amen.*

April 28 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“...I cannot be anything that God is not, for I have no other Source. God is all. I cannot be something else.” Fannie B. James

I trust, revere, and rejoice in the divine Presence that saturates my life. All is well. Amen.

April 29 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“I have an Inner Friend who walks and talks with me daily...I shall never become lonely, for my Friend is always near...O my kind Friend, how dear to me is Thy presence. The Spirit within me is my Friend.” Ernest Holmes

*Indwelling God: Mother, Father, dearest Friend – you will forever hold me safe
in your loving embrace, and for this, I am very thankful. Amen.*

April 30 Daily Prayer by Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

“[Humanity] has never yet been bettered by condemnation; would it not be wise to try the opposite course? See the Angel or the Divine Nature, the Christ presence is every soul, no matter how hidden; deny...all seeming error...” Fannie B. James

*My True Nature is divine. The entire universe is sacred because God is All-in-all.
God dwells within every atom, every cell, every wave, every particle, and every fiber that exists.
Today I will try to remember that God is in every person, every plant, every creature that I see.
God's goodness is part of everything. And so it is.*

April's Metaphysicians

Ernest Holmes (1887-1960) – Founder of Religious Science. Holmes was an influential figure in the New Thought movement. After studying philosophy and world religions independently, working with his brother who was a Congregational minister, and becoming ordained in the Divine Science movement, Holmes wrote *The Science of Mind* (among several books) and started the Religious Science Church. In his *The Art of Life*, Holmes instructed, “When you pray or affirm your good, close the door of your consciousness to everything which denies this good and state your needs, not as a supplication but as an affirmation of acceptance... We shall not gain happiness by continuing to repeat mental patterns of unhappiness... Can we, in the midst of negative conditions, accept a great good? If we can we shall be complying with the Law of Life. We shall be giving Life a chance to work for us.”

Fenwicke Holmes (1883 – 1973) - earned a B.A. from Colby College and attended Hartford Seminary and was ordained a Congregationalist minister (and later, a Divine Science minister). In addition to assisting his brother (Ernest Holmes) in the Science of Mind movement, he also served as the pastor of a Divine Science church. He was helpful in spreading New Thought philosophy in Japan through his collaboration with Seicho-No-Ie's founder, Masaharu Taniguchi. Fenwicke's books include: *Being & Becoming* (1925), *The Law of Mind in Action* (1926), and *The Truth About Matter* (1944). He wrote a poem in the divine voice: “I am thy life within thee, I am thy health; I am thy choicest treasure, I am thy wealth. I am thy deepest wisdom, I am thy light; I am thy power within thee, I am thy might. I am thy warm emotion, I am thy truth; I am thy ageless heritage, I am thy youth. I am thy hope of heaven, I am the way; I am the light eternal, I am the day. I am thy will-to-conquer, I am thy sword; I am the peace thou cravest, I am thy word... I am the Inner Presence, Forever nigh – Whenever thou dost say, ‘I am’: I AM That I.”

Frederick Bailes (1889-1970) - Was a medical student from New Zealand. He had to drop out of medical school because he was diagnosed with diabetes (at the time considered to be untreatable). He found the writings of Thomas Troward and with the help of spiritual principles, found himself cured of his diabetes. He returned to medical school. He found that encouraging his patients made a noticeable difference in their recovery. He went on to become a Religious Science minister and writer. His books include *Your Mind Can Heal You* and *Hidden Power for Human Problems*. He wrote, “Our world will change as our ideas concerning ourselves change. So never be afraid to think highly of your value.”

James Dillet Freeman (1912-2003) – the “Poet Laureate” of the Unity School of Christianity. He composed the prayer: “The Light of God surrounds us; the love of God enfolds us. The power of God protects us; the presence of God watches over us. Wherever we are, God is!” Not only is that prayer used in the Sunshine Cathedral liturgy (and in New Thought centers everywhere), it was taken to the moon in 1969!

Kahlil Gibran (1883 – 1931) - was born in Ottoman Syria (now Lebanon) and was the grandson of a Maronite Catholic priest. The Gibran family moved from the Middle East to Boston (USA) where he flourished as a poet, artist, and philosopher. He later studied in Paris and lived in NYC where he wrote and painted. His most famous work is *The Prophet*. His writings were very popular in the counter-cultural movement of the 1960s. Here are some of his inspiring words: “All that spirits desire, spirits attain”, “An eye for an eye, and the whole world would be blind”, “Beauty is eternity gazing at itself in a mirror”, “Faith is a knowledge within the heart, beyond the reach of proof”, and “I existed from all eternity and, behold, I am here; and I shall exist till the end of time, for my being has no end.”

Lillian DeWaters (1883 – 1964) – a Christian Scientist who expanded into broader New Thought. She was known as a spiritual healer. She lectured widely and gave private instruction at the Astor Hotel in NYC. She wrote over 40 books on spirituality. She encouraged: “Remember that some feet will tread all heights now unattained. Why not thine own? Press on! Achieve! Your dominion is ever within thee, waiting your command to set you free.”

Morris Lichtenstein (1889 – 1938) – building on the ideas of Rabbi A. G. Moses (who believed the healing philosophy of Christian Science was compatible with Judaism and could be offered in a Jewish context), Rabbi Morris Lichtenstein and his wife Tehilla co-founded the Society for Jewish Science. Jewish Science sees God as a “force” or “energy”, practices visualization and affirmations in its healing work, and believes religion has a role to play in healing of mind and body. Unlike Christian Science, Jewish Science does not oppose the use of medicine when it is needed. Some of the Jewish Science beliefs were, overtime, embraced by other branches of Judaism. The Society for Jewish Science still offers services in their own building in NYC.

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955)—Mystic and scientist. A French Jesuit priest, Teilhard was both one of the most creative theological minds of the 20th century and an imminent scientist. He did extensive work in geology and paleontology in China, helping to discover the remains of “Peking Man.” He sought to develop a synthesis of science and religion, integrating the theory of evolution with a cosmic vision of Christ at the heart of the cosmos. His writings, seminal to the development of Process Theology, were suppressed by the Vatican during his lifetime.

Pseudo-Dionysius (5th or 6th century) – mystical theologian who influenced later mystics, theologians, and philosophers. He understood “god-talk” to always be symbolic, that is, divine Transcendence necessitates speaking of the Divine in symbols, but whatever we say about God must fall short of all that God is. He believed “evil” is temporary and has no real substance to it.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 – 1882) - American essayist, philosopher, poet, and leader of the Transcendentalist movement in the early 19th century. His teachings directly influenced the growing New Thought movement of the mid-1800s. Emerson wisely noted, “A person will worship something, have no doubt about that. We may think our tribute is paid in secret in the dark recesses of our hearts, but it will come out. That which dominates our imaginations and our thoughts will determine our lives, and our character. Therefore, it behooves us to be careful what we worship, for what we are worshipping, we are becoming.” Referring to divine unity and omnipresence, Emerson wrote, “the currents of the Universal Being circulate through me; I am part and parcel of God.”

Sidhartha Gautama, the Buddha (circa 560 – 480 BCE) – Buddha means “Awakened.” He was born in what is today Nepal and he died in India. The Buddha is said to have had a dramatic experience whereby he became “awake” (or enlightened), and then set about teaching others how they, too, could learn to live as fully awake beings. Many Buddhists speak of the “Buddha Nature” that is latent within all of us; as we achieve enlightenment (or awakening), we express that Buddha Nature. The Buddha is regarded as the model, or supreme Buddha, but others have been thought to achieve enlightenment. Compare this to the belief that some have that Jesus demonstrates the Christ Principle that is latent within all people. The Buddha taught that suffering is caused by ignorance. Attachment and craving are symptoms of ignorance. By learning the Truth (and practicing what we learn), we can change our thoughts and attitudes, that is, we can control our cravings and thereby limit suffering. Buddha taught and practiced meditation and gave an 8-fold righteous path to follow, which included right understanding, right thinking, right speech, and right action.

Thomas Parker Boyd (1864 – 1936) – Episcopal priest and psychologist. Founded the Society of the Healing Christ. Believed healing was part of the gospel message and should be practiced by the Church. Throughout his life he prayed for the sick and they would often recover. He was a member of the International New Thought Alliance.

excerpts from
“Christianity”
in
Divine Science Hints to Bible Study
by *Agnes Lawson

Someone has said that the greatest discovery of the nineteenth century was Jesus Christ. He was rediscovered and rescued from the superstitious misconceptions regarding him, in which he was thought of as a superman of extraordinary powers which were, and ever would be, beyond the rank and file of the [human] race. A new interest was given Christianity with the rescue of the thought of its founder from a supernatural being to that of a man who was but a member of the human family with powers not extraordinary, but the ordinary powers all [people] possess will they but believe in them and use them.

This brought about the renaissance of Christianity and it is studied now, not as something supernatural to which all [people] must give superstitious credence, but as a revelation of spiritual law which all may comprehend and apply. “Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free,” is the fiat of Christianity. This is the positive assertion of one who has perceived the principle of life and demonstrated its exactness.

...Principle is the way things are in the spiritual world; in other words, the way God thinks of them. The eternal [human] quest is for principles, for when one masters the principle of anything one possesses the thing itself. Freedom is a bequest then in that these life principles exist for [our] benefit. The conquest of these principles through our comprehension of them is the promised freedom of Christianity.

...Christianity is more than an evolution, it is a revolution. It reveals a spiritual creation in the consciousness of the Creator... Time and space conceptions of finite sense are eliminated as we put off “mortality,” the [common] beliefs of life, “and put on immortality,” God’s consciousness of [God’s] universe.

...Christianity reveals man as being created by God, not in the sense that man is later in time than God, that there was a time when God was and man was not, but since God is Mind, man, the Idea of God, is an eternal consequence of this Mind.

...Man expresses his Creator in fullness and freedom when he knows the truth. Jesus revealed the nature, spirituality, love and substance of God. He said the Kingdom is here and now, that it becomes apparent to us as we put away sin (the discords of sense) and that it was [God’s] good will that we have the Kingdom. God is Life and the purpose of life is its own expression. God is Love and the purpose of love is to express love...

The spiritual realm is omnipresent. The author of Ben Hur has this to say of it: “There is a kingdom... of wider bounds than the earth; wider than the sea and the earth though they be rolled together as finest gold and spread by the beating of hammers. Its existence is a fact as our hearts are facts and we journey through it from birth to death without seeing it. Nor shall anyone see it until he [or she] has known his [or her] own soul, and in its dominion there is glory such as has not entered imagination, original, incomparable, impossible of increase.”

This is the Real and to enter the life of the Soul is to be in it and of it...Jesus said: "The Kingdom of God cometh not with observation: neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for behold, the kingdom of God is within you." That is, it must be within one's consciousness.

...The central doctrine of Christianity is the incarnation. Man is the incarnate word of God held steadfastly in God consciousness, a spiritually perfect being. This includes [our] spiritual body which is the only body we have...To know the truth of the body is to place it in its sustaining principle, incapable of discord, for we are individual entities in perfect bodies, our eternal identity in God.

Man comes to know himself because God knows him eternally...[L]ife is...a sacred trust for the expression of God's original idea. When we have found this we have found ourselves in God and henceforth life is free, spontaneous, joyous expression.

...Christianity's initial command is, "Repent ye," demanding a complete and radical change of thought. [Humanity] is not mortal...[We are each] an idea in God's mind, sinless and deathless. [We are each] eternally a citizen of the spiritual world even when [we are] ignorant of its existence.

...There is a perfect method given in Christianity for the task which confronts humanity in the mode of thinking called prayer in the New Testament. We work out our own salvation...Agreement is the working basis of Christianity, the method of transmitting God's power to man and it reveals the eternal unison of God and man. There is no line of demarcation where God the cause ends and man the result begins, so there must be perpetual agreement between them; if they cannot be separated they are one, there can be no disagreement in absolute unity.

In spiritual creation man exists in eternal completeness and supply, not only for every need he has now but also for every need he ever will have...

Prayer as taught by Christianity is the process of getting into the stream of God's will and receiving our inheritance. Prayer is a state of pure receptivity and acceptance...True prayer is never petition, it is contemplation of the truths of life and establishing these facts in consciousness.

In agreement with God, healing of thought, health of body, freedom of expression, come into our consciousness, and we possess all that enters our consciousness...

Agreement is the law of Christianity because it is unity and unity is love. God is life and all life is on the inside of this universal life...Life is one and that One pure Spirit...therefore...there is nothing to oppose our full expression of life. Thus we take all power to harm us out of everything or anyone. The only power the adversary has we give it by our belief in it as power. All power is God's, there can be no other power.

...The great discovery of Jesus was, "The flesh profiteth nothing." The life of man and his body are in Spirit alone.

...Forgiveness of sin is the Biblical term for correcting our misconceptions of life to the Truth. We correct our material errors in direct ratio to our perception of God's finished Creation. This is another of Christianity's revolutionary ideas, that it is man not God that forgives sin. It is the false concept of life which has sinned and man's perception of Reality enables him to correct the errors of sense...

...True vision enables us to live in God's eternal love and life. To "heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils," is the natural result of the forgiveness of sin. In fact, there is nothing to cast out but sin (an evil belief), and wholeness results. The whole process which confronts the Christian worker is to hold consciously in vision the Real...For joy, radiant, soul-filling joy, is the purpose of Christianity...

{*Agnes Lawton was ordained by Nona Brooks in 1905.
In addition to writing Hints to Bible Study, Lawton also collaborated with Albert Grier on the book, Truth and Life.}



Divine Science Statement of Being

God is all, both invisible and visible.
One Presence, One Mind,
One Power is all.
This One that is all is perfect life, perfect love, and perfect substance.

*[We are] the individualized expression of God and [are] ever one with this perfect life, perfect love, and perfect substance.

*Man is...and is...