

Christian Science

Christian Science – What they believe.

- 1) **Summary Information**
 - a) 3 k in world. Mary Baker Eddy founded in 1866.
 - b) Strongly influenced by P. Quimby.

- 2) **Authority** – The Bible has been corrupted by man.
 - a) Her writings, Science and Health are considered on an equal level with the Bible.

- 3) **God** – He is a divine principal. Trinity– Defined as Life, Truth and Love.

- 4) **Jesus Christ** – Jesus was a man. Christ is a divine concept like God.

- 5) **Man** – Matter (the physical world) does not exist. Only Spirit exists.
 - a) Man is spiritual not material.

- 6) **Sin** – Sin, death, disease and pain are not part of God and therefore do not exist. They are only illusions. Disease is created in the mind. Disease and pain will be “cured” as we realize it is not real outside of the mind. This took the form of spiritual healing.

- 7) **Salvation** – Involves overcoming the belief that the physical world exists.

Christian Science – Why what they believe is wrong.

- 1) **Summary Information**
 - a) Notorious for re-defining Biblical terms.
 - b) Mary Baker Eddy, in the latter years of her life, went regularly to doctors and took morphine as a pain killer, flying in the face of her own theology that disease and pain are illusions of the mind.

- 2) **Authority** – “We believe the Bible, as originally written is the inspired, infallible, authoritative and inerrant Word of God and the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.” GPBC Doctrine Statement.

- 3) **God / Trinity** – “We believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit” GPBC Doctrine Statement.
 - a) God has a personality and is not a force or attribute such as love.
 - b) He is the Creator not part of the creation.

- 4) **Jesus Christ** – “ We believe that Jesus Christ, the eternally pre-existent Son, is fully God and was fully man, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin and lived a sinless life. He now sits at the right hand of the Father and intercedes for us.” GPBC Doctrine Statement.

- 5) **Man** – Made by God in his image but not a god. Man is physically real and mortal. Man is sinful and in need of a savior.

- 6) **Sin** – “We believe that everyone sins and as such, no one has the ability to save themselves by doing good deeds or by being a ‘good person’ . GPBC Doctrine Statement.

- 7) **Salvation** – “It is only through accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior that one can receive eternal life in Heaven. Salvation and eternal life in Heaven is available to anyone who acknowledges in their heart that Jesus Christ died on the cross for their sins, rose bodily from the grave and then asks Him to forgive them of their sins and save their

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- 8) **After Physical Death** – Death is an illusion since God and man are immortal spirit. Death is a transition from the illusion of the material to the ultimate reality of immortal spirit.

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soul. Once a person has been saved they cannot lose their salvation. GPBC Doctrine Statement.

- 8) **After Physical Death** – “We believe that everyone will be resurrected from the grave: the saved resurrected to eternal life in Heaven and the lost to eternal damnation in a real and literal Hell.” GPBC Doctrine Statement.

Witnessing to the Christian Scientist

- a) Begin from the premise that the Christian Scientist believes that pain, disease, and sin are not real. Suggest research that will demonstrate that the founder of this false teaching herself, used doctors and medication on a regular basis toward the end of her life. Since the Bible is considered to be a source of authority (even though a flawed one), focus on the many scriptures that discuss death, pain, disease, etc. in very real terms and that a belief in these physical realities does not detract from the faith of a believer. There is nothing in the Bible that suggests that the physical world does not exist. Only that there is the spiritual operating along with the physical.