

## Terms and Definitions of Christian Science

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by [Matt Slick](#)

1. **Angels** are God's thoughts passing to man, an inspiration of goodness, purity that counters evil and material reality.
2. **Atonement** is not the shedding of Christ's blood, but "At-one-ment." "Lifting the whole man into Christ Consciousness." The Biblical account is metaphorical, not real.
3. **Baptism** means the daily, ongoing purification of thought and deed. Eucharist is spiritual communion with God, celebrated with silent prayer and Christian living. It is a "submergence in Spirit."
4. **Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit** is the belief that God created disharmony in the world.
5. **Body** is "the form of expression of both spirit and soul" (Metaphysical Bible Dictionary, p. 628). It is the apparent materialization of the limits of soul as influenced by a person's conscious development in Christian Science Principles.
6. **Christ** is the divine idea man. Jesus was not the Christ but a perfect representation of the Christ consciousness that is the true and higher self of every person. Christ is the manifestation of all that is good and true, the realization of divine principle. A Christian Scientist can say, "I am Christ."
7. **Creation** is the product of Divine Mind. There is only one reality which emanates and is part of the Divine Mind. Anything that is not in harmony with the Divine Mind is not a reality, but a lack of understanding of the principles of divine mind brought about by people.
8. **Death** - "An illusion, the lie of life in matter."
9. **Devil** - "Evil, a lie, error." He is not an entity, not a person, has no existence. "A belief in sin, sickness, and death."
10. **Evil spirits** are false beliefs
11. **Flesh** - "An error of physical belief; a supposition that life, substance, and intelligence are in matter; an illusion."
12. **Gods** - "A belief that life, substance, and intelligence are both mental and material; a supposition of sentient physicality.
13. **God** is Spirit who is a ever-present, all-knowing, all-powerful, and good. God is the Father/Mother God. Other names for God are Divine Mind, Soul, Principle, Life, Truth, Love. To the Christian Scientist God is the governing Principle of the universe to which a person must harmonize his belief system.
14. **Healing** is accomplished by correct thinking according to Christian Science principles. A change in belief that effects physical symptoms. (S&H 194:6)
15. **Heaven** is not a literal place of eternal bliss, but a harmonious condition of understanding where a person's consciousness are in harmony with Divine Mind. "Harmony; the reign of Spirit; government of divine Principle."

16. **Hell** is a state of mind which can include the effects of their improper understanding of Divine Mind and Christian Science Principles. Hell is not a literal place of damnation and eternal torment. Hell exists when a person's thoughts are out of harmony with the reality of Divine Mind. "Mortal belief, error; lust; hatred, sin; sickness; effects of sin."
17. **Holy Spirit**, the, is Divine Science. is the spirit of God and is only discernable and knowable by a person through his spiritual awareness. It is an emanation, a presence, "a law of God in action."
18. **Jesus' stripes** is simply his rejection of error, not the beating he received in the flesh (*S&H* 20:15).
19. **Knowledge** - "Evidence obtained from the five corporeal senses; mortality; beliefs and opinions. The opposite of spiritual Truth and understanding." (*S&H* 590).
20. **Material reality** is really non-existent. It is only an interpretation of Divine Mind. Even though someone might feel pain or sickness, in reality it does not exist.
21. **Mortal Mind** - "Nothing claiming to be something, for Mind is immortal; error creating other errors."
22. **Pastor** really means the combined books of the Bible and Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures.
23. **Personhood** is an aspect and reflection of Divine Mind.
24. **Prayer** is contemplation and internalization of divine truths. "The taking hold of God's willingness." It is an affirmation of God's being in relation to man.
25. **Resurrection** is "Spiritualization of thought; a new and higher idea of immortality, or spiritual existence; material belief yielding to spiritual understanding."
26. **Salvation** is "Life, Truth, and Love understood and demonstrated as supreme over all; sin, sickness, and death destroyed."
27. **Sickness** is the false understanding given the appearance of reality by the unfaithful and ignorant of Divine Principle and Mind.
28. **Sin** is not understanding and behaving according to Divine Law of God and the law of our being.
29. **Soul** is "man's consciousness -- that which he has apprehended or developed out of Spirit. . .  
Soul is both conscious and subconscious" (*Metaphysical Bible Dictionary*, p. 628).
30. **Spirit** is another name for God. Divine substance; Mind; divine Principle; all that is good." Christ
31. **Wrath** is really the working out of the law of God's being upon a person. It is not God's judgment upon a sinner.