

C. Christian Science

The Trinity:

The Bible teaches the God-head exists in three separate, co-equal persons (three-in-one).

Christian Science teaches: “The theory of the three persons in one God (that is, a personal Trinity or Tri-unity) suggests polytheism, rather than one ever-present I AM,” (Science and Health with Key to the Scripture, p. 256). “Life, Truth, Love constitute the triune Person called God, — that is, the triply divine Principle, Love. They represent a trinity in unity, three in one — the same in essence, though multiform in office: God the Father-Mother; Christ the spiritual idea of sonship; divine Science or the Holy Comforter,” (Ibid, p. 331).

God the Father:

The Bible teaches God the Father is a divine person.

Christian Science teaches: “The Science of divine metaphysics removes the mysticism that used to enthrall my sense of the Godhead, and of Jesus as the Son of God and the son of man. Christian Science explains the nature of God as both Father and Mother,” (Messages to The Mother Church, 1901, p. 10). “These refer not to personality, but present the type and shadow of Truth’s appearing in the womanhood as well as the manhood of God, our divine Father and Mother,” (Miscellaneous Writings, p. 33).

Son:

The Bible teaches Jesus was the one and only God-Man, and that He was the one and only Christ.

Christian Science teaches: “The Virgin-mother conceived this idea of God, and gave to her ideal the name of Jesus... Jesus is the name of the man who, more than all other men, has presented Christ, the true idea of God... Jesus is the human man, and Christ is the divine idea; hence the duality of Jesus the Christ,” (Science & Health, pp. 29 & 473). “The spiritual Christ was infallible; Jesus, as the material manhood, was not Christ.”

Holy Ghost:

The Bible teaches the Holy Ghost is God, the third person of the God-head.

Christian Science teaches: “This Science of God and man is the Holy Ghost, which reveals and sustains the unbroken and eternal harmony of both God and the universe,” (Unity of Good, p. 52); (Science and Health, p. 588).

Man:

The Bible teaches the material world (matter) is “good” and real. Matter is separate from God, its Creator. It is sin that has corrupted the universe.

Christian Science teaches: “There is no life, truth, intelligence, nor substance in matter. All is infinite Mind and its infinite manifestation, for God is All-in-all. Spirit is immortal Truth; matter is moral error. Spirit is real and eternal; matter is the unreal and temporal. Spirit is God, and man is his image and likeness. Therefore, man is not material, but is spiritual,” (Miscellaneous Writings, p. 21).

Salvation:

The Bible teaches “the wages of sin is death,” and the only way to escape eternal death is to believe on the vicarious work of Christ on the cross. Salvation is not universal.

Christian Science teaches: “Final deliverance from error... is not reached... by pinning one’s faith without works to another’s vicarious effort,” (Science and Health, p. 22). “In Christian Science it is plain that God removes the punishment for sin only as sin is removed... hence the hope of universal salvation. ...To lose the sense of sin we must first detect the claim of sin; hold it invalid... sin disappears, and its unreality is proven,” (Message, 1901, p. 13).

Scripture:

The Bible teaches the Bible, aided by the Holy Spirit in the heart of every true believer, is all you need to understand what God wants man to know.

Christian Science teaches you must depend on their founder’s writings: “The thirty thousand different readings in the Old Testament, and the three hundred thousand in the New — these facts show how a mortal and material sense stole into the divine record,” (Science and Health, p. 139). “Students who strictly adhere to the right, and make the Bible and Science and Health a study, are in no danger of mistaking their way,” (Miscellaneous Writings, p. 284).