

"Agree with God and be at peace; "

Job 22:21 (NRSV)



May 10, 2023

Dear friend,

How important it is to agree with God!

It is an immediate help, whether in thinking about the issues of the day, having a difficult conversation, or when solving an apparently intractable problem. What better step to take than to agree with the source of infinite intelligence, God!

One definition of "agree" is "to give consent." The question is: To what are we giving our consent?

One way to distinguish when we should or should not give our consent is to carefully consider the source. Mary Baker Eddy, in her ground breaking book, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, states:

How are veritable ideas to be distinguished from illusions? By learning the origin of each. Ideas are emanations from the divine Mind. Thoughts, proceeding from the brain or from matter, are offshoots of mortal mind; they are mortal material beliefs (p. 88).

Our task is straightforward: agree with thoughts coming from divine Mind (God) and withhold agreement from "mortal, material beliefs."

An example from James J. Rome, a watchman during the construction of the Mother Church's 1906 extension, is instructive. Faced with what seemed to be an impossible situation — completing the building of the extension by early June — he prayed deeply. Later he wrote,

One feature about the work interested me. I noticed that as soon as the workmen began to admit that the work could be done, everything seemed to move as by magic; the human mind was giving its consent. (*The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, Mary Baker Eddy, p. 61:21–24)

The construction was completed on time.

When we agree with God we feel the gentle presence of not only peace, but joy, clarity, right action, purpose, even Life divine.

We join with you in consenting only to good.

With much affection,

Bruce L. Jeffrey
Executive Director

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