

260923 Peter - Readings

23 September 2026



The Bible

1. Matt. 4:18–20 Jesus

- 18 ... Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.
- 19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.
- 20 And they straightway left *their* nets, and followed him.

2. Luke 6:17, 19, 20, 22, 23

- 17 ¶ And he came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judæa and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases;
- 19 And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed *them* all.
- 20 ¶ And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said, Blessed *be ye* poor: for yours is the kingdom of God.
- 22 Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you *from their company*, and shall reproach *you*, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake.
- 23 Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward *is* great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets.

3. Matt. 26:31, 33–35, 57–59, 69–75; 27:1

- 31 Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad.
- 33 Peter answered and said unto him, Though all *men* shall be offended because of thee, *yet* will I never be offended.
- 34 Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.
- 35 Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples.
- 57 ¶ And they that had laid hold on Jesus led *him* away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled.
- 58 But Peter followed him afar off unto the high priest's palace, and went in, and sat with the servants, to see the end.
- 59 Now the chief priests, and elders, and all the council, sought false witness against Jesus, to put him to death;
- 69 ¶ Now Peter sat without in the palace: and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee.
- 70 But he denied before *them* all, saying, I know not what thou sayest.
- 71 And when he was gone out into the porch, another *maid* saw him, and said unto them that were there, This *fellow* was also with Jesus of Nazareth.

- 72 And again he denied with an oath, I do not know the man.
- 73 And after a while came unto *him* they that stood by, and said to Peter, Surely thou also art *one* of them; for thy speech bewrayeth thee.
- 74 Then began he to curse and to swear, *saying*, I know not the man. And immediately the cock crew.
- 75 And Peter remembered the word of Jesus, which said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly.
- 1 When the morning was come, all the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death:

4. John 21:1–7, 15–17

- 1 After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias; and on this wise shewed he *himself*.
- 2 There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the *sons* of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples.
- 3 Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a-fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.
- 4 But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.
- 5 Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No.
- 6 And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.
- 7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt *his* fisher's coat *unto him*, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea.
- 15 ¶ So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my lambs.
- 16 He saith to him again the second time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, Feed my sheep.
- 17 He saith unto him the third time, Simon, *son* of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep.

5. Acts 3:1–4, 6, 8–13, 16

- 1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, *being* the ninth *hour*.
- 2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;
- 3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.
- 4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.
- 6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.
- 8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.
- 9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God:
- 10 And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.
- 11 And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in

the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

- 12 ¶ And when Peter saw *it*, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?
- 13 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let *him* go.
- 16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

6. Acts 12:1 Herod, 3 (to 1st.), 4–11

- 1 ... Herod the king stretched forth *his* hands to vex certain of the church.
- 3 And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. ...
- 4 And when he had apprehended him, he put *him* in prison, and delivered *him* to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people.
- 5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.
- 6 And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.
- 7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon *him*, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from *his* hands.
- 8 And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.
- 9 And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision.
- 10 When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him.
- 11 And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and *from* all the expectation of the people of the Jews.



Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy

1. SH 136:21–25

- 21 That a wicked king and debauched husband should have no high appreciation of divine Science and the great work of the Master, was not surprising; for how could such
- 24 a sinner comprehend what the disciples did not fully understand?

2. SH 239:11–12

- The wicked man is not the ruler of his upright
- 12 neighbor.

3. SH 136:1–10 (to ?), 11–12; 137:16–9

1 Jesus established his church and maintained his mission
on a spiritual foundation of Christ-healing. He taught
3 his followers that his religion had a divine
Principle, which would cast out error and heal
both the sick and the sinning. He claimed no intelli-
6 gence, action, nor life separate from God. Despite the
persecution this brought upon him, he used his divine
power to save men both bodily and spiritually.
9 The question then as now was, How did Jesus heal the
sick?

The
Christ-mission

He appealed to his students: “Whom do
12 men say that I, the Son of man, am?”

Ancient
spiritualism

With his usual impetuosity, Simon replied for his
brethren, and his reply set forth a great fact: “Thou
18 art the Christ, the Son of the living God!”
That is: The Messiah is what thou hast de-
clared, — Christ, the spirit of God, of Truth, Life, and
21 Love, which heals mentally. This assertion elicited from
Jesus the benediction, “Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-
jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee,
24 but my Father which is in heaven;” that is, Love hath
shown thee the way of Life!

A divine
response

Before this the impetuous disciple had been called
27 only by his common names, Simon Bar-jona, or son of
Jona; but now the Master gave him a spir-
itual name in these words: “And I say also
30 unto thee, That thou art Peter; and upon this rock [the
meaning of the Greek word *petros*, or *stone*] I will build
my church; and the gates of hell [*hades*, the *under-*
1 *world*, or the *grave*] shall not prevail against it.” In
other words, Jesus purposed founding his society, not
3 on the personal Peter as a mortal, but on the God-
power which lay behind Peter’s confession of the true
Messiah.

The true and
living rock

6 It was now evident to Peter that divine Life, Truth, and
Love, and not a human personality, was the healer of the
sick and a rock, a firm foundation in the realm
9 of harmony.

Sublime
summary

4. SH 496:31–27

The following is a brief exposition of
1 the important points, or religious tenets, of Christian

Science: —

3 1. As adherents of Truth, we take the inspired Word
of the Bible as our sufficient guide to eternal Life.

2. We acknowledge and adore one supreme and in-
6 finite God. We acknowledge His Son, one Christ; the
Holy Ghost or divine Comforter; and man in God's
image and likeness.

9 3. We acknowledge God's forgiveness of sin in the
destruction of sin and the spiritual understanding that
casts out evil as unreal. But the belief in sin is pun-
12 ished so long as the belief lasts.

4. We acknowledge Jesus' atonement as the evi-
dence of divine, efficacious Love, unfolding man's unity
15 with God through Christ Jesus the Way-shower; and
we acknowledge that man is saved through Christ,
through Truth, Life, and Love as demonstrated by the
18 Galilean Prophet in healing the sick and overcoming
sin and death.

5. We acknowledge that the crucifixion of Jesus and
21 his resurrection served to uplift faith to understand eter-
nal Life, even the allness of Soul, Spirit, and the noth-
ingness of matter.

24 6. And we solemnly promise to watch, and pray for
that Mind to be in us which was also in Christ Jesus; to
do unto others as we would have them do unto us; and
27 to be merciful, just, and pure.