

HOUSTON VISITING CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSE SERVICE

October 2020

Lifting the Veil

Halloween is around the corner. Its origins lie in the pre-Christian Celtic festival of Samhain. The ancient belief that the dead come back to earth on the night of October 31 and that the wearing of masks and animal skins scares away evil spirits has long since evolved into the happy tradition of children dressing up in costumes—sometimes with masks—and ringing neighbors' doorbells in hopes of receiving treats.



Photo by Steven Libralon on Unsplash

The latest mask-wearing custom, practiced by Christian Scientists during the so-called pandemic for the sole purpose of lovingly allaying others' fears of a contagious disease, will likewise evolve until it, too, fades away.

On what basis do we make such a bold statement? On a divine basis! Donning a face covering, it will one day be seen, has no more bearing on man's spiritual substance and identity than does sickness itself. God's children are forever immortal, free from earthly taint. Mary Baker Eddy explains:

“As God is substance and man is the divine image and likeness, man should wish for, and in reality has, only the substance of good, the substance of Spirit, not matter. The belief that man has any other substance, or mind, is not spiritual and breaks the First Commandment, Thou shalt have one God, one Mind.” (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, 301:17-23)

Christian Science practitioners and Christian Science visiting nurses have the daily privilege of compassionately blessing those seeking help. They do this by gently rousing thought. Our Leader inquires, “Now I ask, Is there any more reality in the waking dream of mortal existence than in the

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sleeping dream?" (*Science and Health*, 250:22–23). The answer, of course, is NO! To awake from the "waking dream" is to lift the veil of belief that we live in matter and to acknowledge that we actually live in Spirit. Spirit and Her man see face to face.

"To material sense, this divine universe is dim and distant, gray in the somber hues of twilight; but anon the veil is lifted, and the scene shifts into light." (*Science and Health*, 513:7-10)

"The daystar of this appearing is the light of Christian Science—the Science which rends the veil of the flesh from top to bottom." (*Miscellaneous Writings*, 165:10-12)

Error has no face. We are beheld by—and, by reflection, we behold—only the loving face of God. Not for an instant is the light of Divine Love's face obscured by false fear. Joy is here!

Tricked? No way.

Treated? Yes, every day is God's day!

Christian Science Nurse COVID-19 Response

Our *Journal*-listed Christian Science nurse, Susie Petersen, meets State of Texas COVID-19 requirements when caring for clients in their homes. This includes, but is not limited to, wearing a mask if required, washing hands, wearing gloves, cleaning surfaces if appropriate, and asking COVID-19-related questions when assessing a case. If an in-home visit is deemed unfeasible, she counts on God's infinite embrace to answer the need when she phones His (and her!) dear ones.

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Christian Science Hymn 324