CHRISTIAN SCIENCE: THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

The Road to Emmaus by Robert Zund

Robert Zünd, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

SCIENCE IS...

- Universal and repeatable by anyone
- Underlying natural laws to be discovered, understood and applied
- Truth independent of human belief, not a social construct. And yet **the consensus definitely rules** (took 300 years for church to accept sun at center of solar system).
- Can apply systematically in the human experience to make a better world

Offers empirical evidence or proof

If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, **believe the works**: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him. *(John 10:37, 38)*

THREE PARADIGMS FOR THE NATURE OF REALITY

The theories I combat are these: (1) that all is matter; (2) that matter originates in Mind, and is as real as Mind, possessing intelligence and life. ... One only of the following statements can be true: (1) that everything is matter; (2) that everything is Mind. Which one is it?

(SH 269:29-31; 270:2)

THREE PARADIGMS FOR THE NATURE OF REALITY

1. All is matter. Intelligence in matter. Philosophy: Naturalism and Atheism

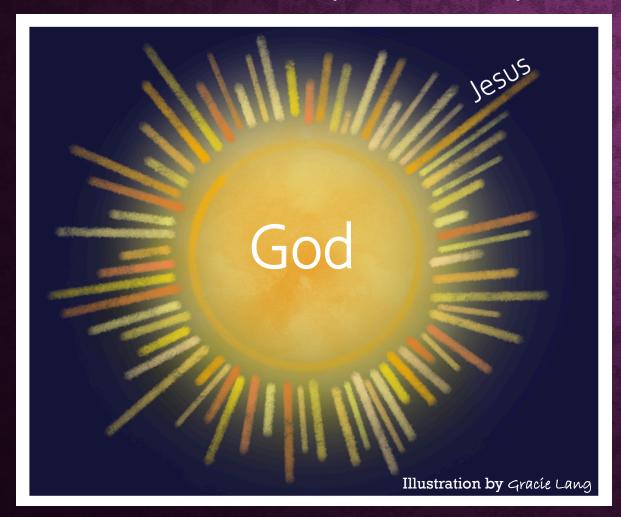
Methodological naturalism: in scientific study only physical causes are valid.

- 2. Matter originates in Mind. Philosophy: Dualism creationism/intelligent design **Physical and mental/supernatural causes.**
- 3. All is mind. Philosophy: Idealism Christian Science: All is Mind. Matter is the "unconscious substratum" of mortal mind. Deific Naturalism spiritual creation "Christian Science explains all cause and effect as mental, not physical."



JESUS AND THE CHRIST

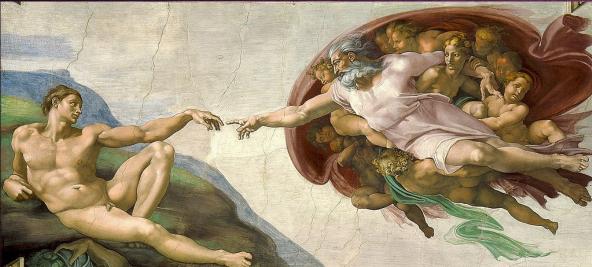
Christ = all the rays collectively



CHRIST. The divine manifestation of God, which comes to the flesh to destroy incarnate error. (SH 583:10)



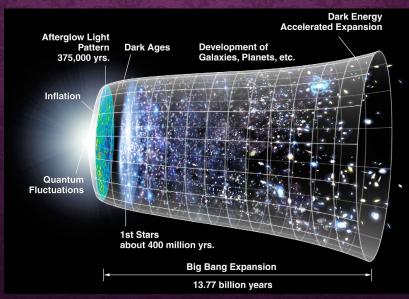
CREATION VS EVOLUTION DEBATE



Creation of Adam by Michelangelo circa 1511, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons



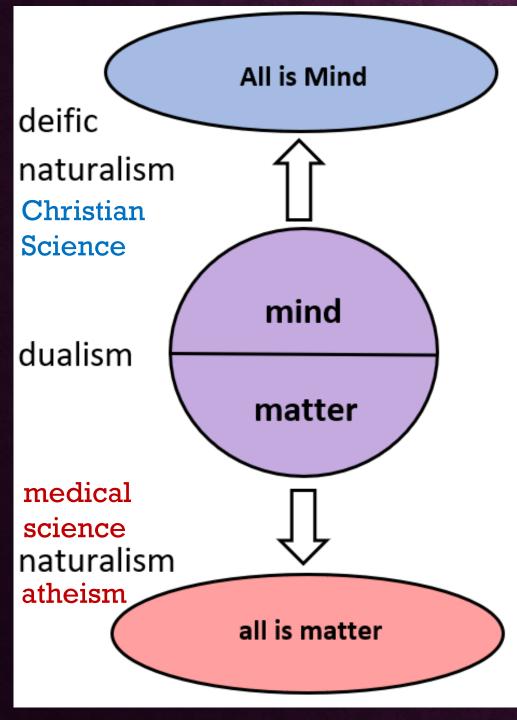
Creation of Eve by Michelangelo Web Gallery of Art: Image Info about artwork, Public Domain, via Wikimedia Commons



Big Bang and Expansion of the Universe NASA/WMAP Science Team, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

CHARLES URB TO THE RISE OF MAN -REYMOND DITMARS NEW YORK

Evolution: From the Birth of the Planets to the Age of Man 1923 Documentary Film Unknown author, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

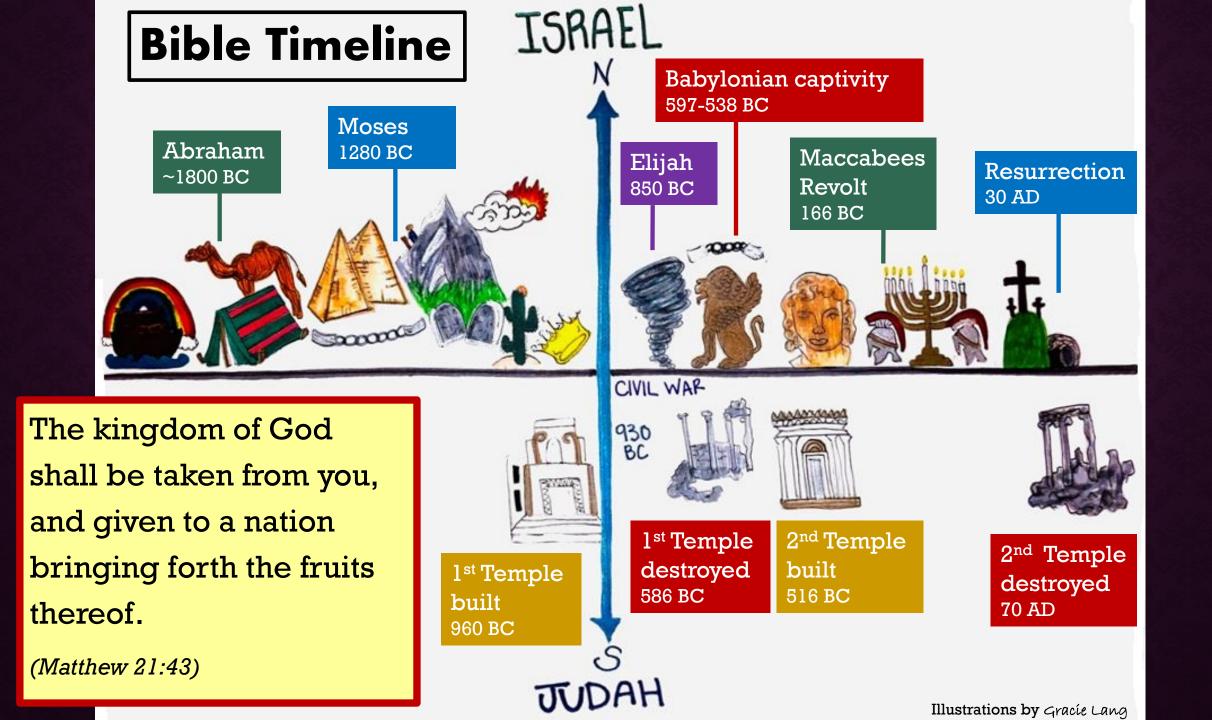


AT ONE MOMENT IN HISTORY (~1875) DUALISM SPLIT

With an atheistic evolution and material science of medicine was also given to the world an entirely spiritual creation and Spiritual Science of medicine.

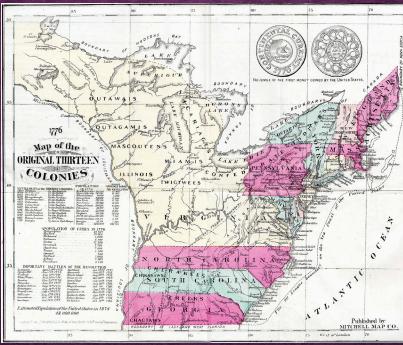
Wildflowers of Palestine, Tares and wheat

Matson Collection, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons



ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES







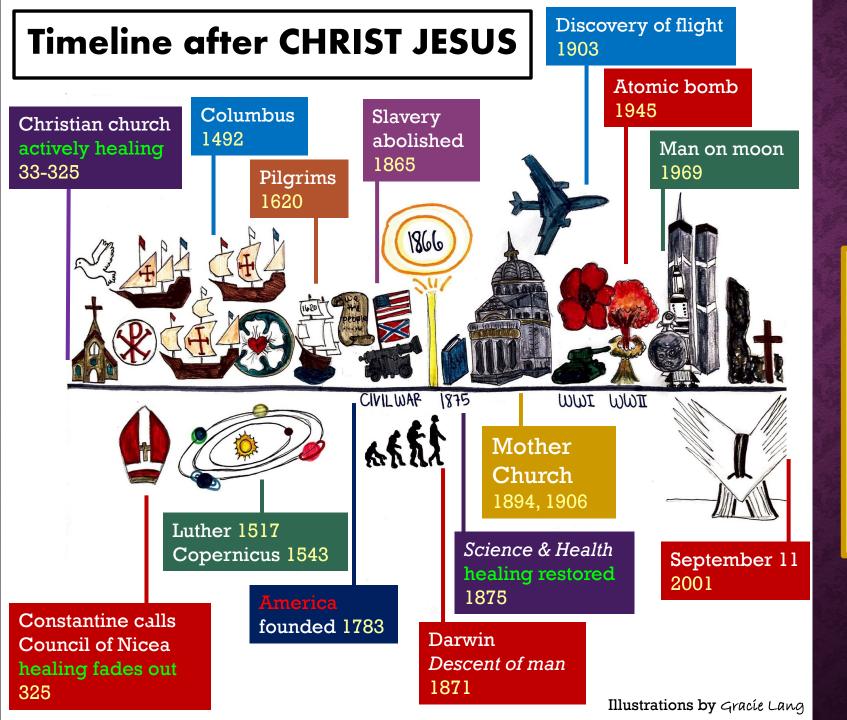
1959: Hawaii admitted as 50th state
50 → year of jubilee in the
Bible, symbolic of
deliverance or restoration.
Also associated with the
coming of the Holy Spirit.

1776: Map of the Thirteen Original Colonies

Centpacrr at English Wikipedia, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

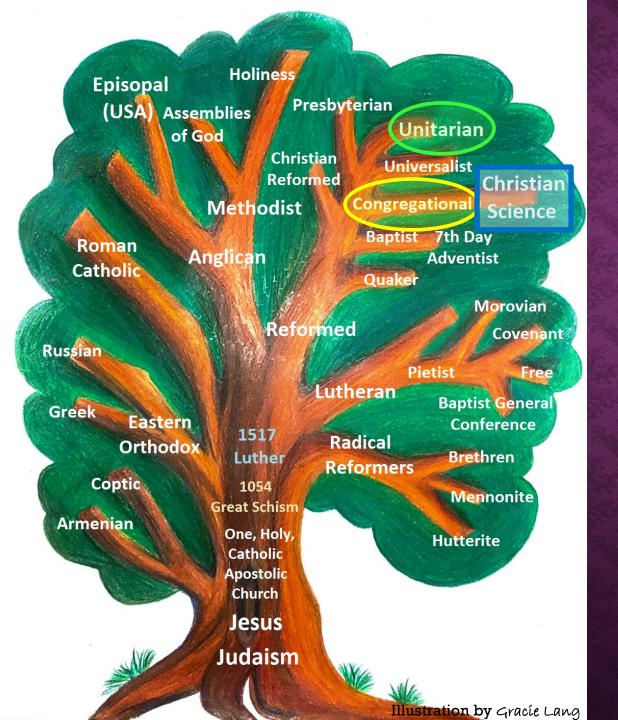
13 territories in Israel for 12 tribes

1744 map of the Holy Land by Matthaus Seutter Matthäus Seutter, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons



TODAY Christianity has 2.4 billion adherents (29% of world population)

Christian Science: members in over 130 countries, churches in more than 70 countries



CHRISTIAN ROOTS: DARWIN AND EDDY

Darwin: Raised in a Unitarian household. Unitarian Christians (est. 1774 in London) believe Jesus was Savior but not God incarnate and also reject the doctrine of original sin. By the end of his life, unsure about God's existence, Darwin considered himself an agnostic.

"Evolution describes the gradations of human belief, but it does not acknowledge the method of divine Mind, nor see that material methods are impossible in divine Science and that all Science is of God, not of man." (SH 551:12)

• Mary Baker Eddy: member of the Congregational church.

MARY BAKER EDDY'S PARADIGM SHIFT

- Late 1866: "And the world of matter which was the universal idea was then in solution no identities as yet were formed for intelligence had not yet embraced belief in matter and matter had no intelligence of its own darkness was upon it until the principle of Wisdom gave intelligence to matter." (In My True Light and Life, Mary Baker Eddy Collections, p. 177)
- **1870**: "... matter as substance is not the idea of God." (In My True Light and Life, Mary Baker Eddy Collections, p. 214)
- **1876**: "...all is mind and there is no matter." (The Development of "The Scientific Statement of Being", an article on www.marybakereddylibrary.org)

"Mind, not matter, must have been the first medicine." (SH 143:27)

Spiritual idea – Christ and Comforter

Christian Science All is Mind deific naturalism mind dualism matter naturalism Darwin (agnostic) all is matter



Wicked be revealed... whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders... (II Thess 2: 8-11)



HOW DUALISM SPLIT

 1866-1875: God, Spirit created man wholly spiritual. "...Mind, not matter, must have been the first medicine." (SH 142:27)

 1850s -1860s: The germ theory of disease, the most powerful idea in the history of medicine, was born, and medicine as a science was born with it.

 1871: Descent of Man by Darwin → man was now stated scientifically to be the product of material evolution.

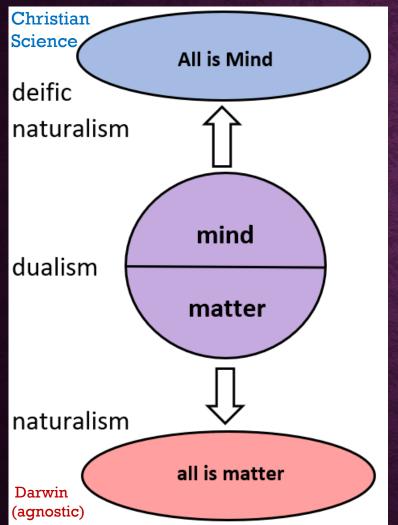
Material counterfeit – antichrist and false prophet

spiritual evidence opposed to material sense

Spiritual

material

medicine







ELIAS

....spiritual evidence opposed to material sense; Christian Science...

"Elias truly shall first come and restore all things." (Matthew xvii. 11)

(SH 585:9-14)

Rapture = man's spiritual identity found forever in heaven, sinless and eternal, a sure "safety in divine Science"

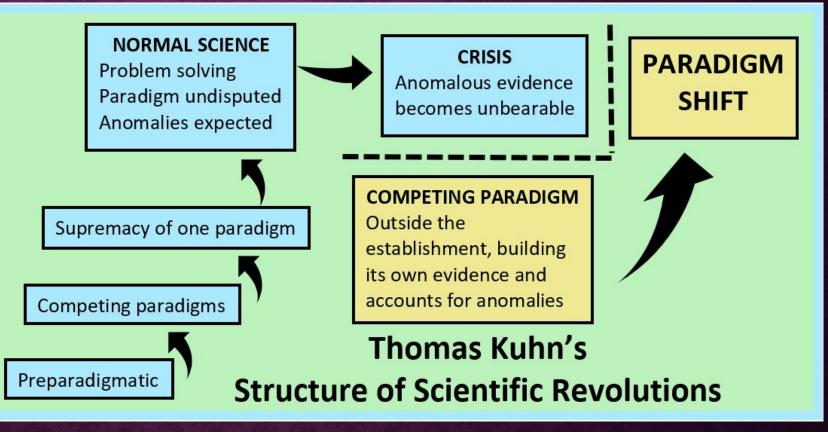
material evidence opposed to spiritual sense

THOMAS KUHN (1922-1996): THE STRUCTURE OF SCIENTIFIC REVOLUTIONS

 Kuhn saw discontinuities in the development of science
 – revolutionary phases

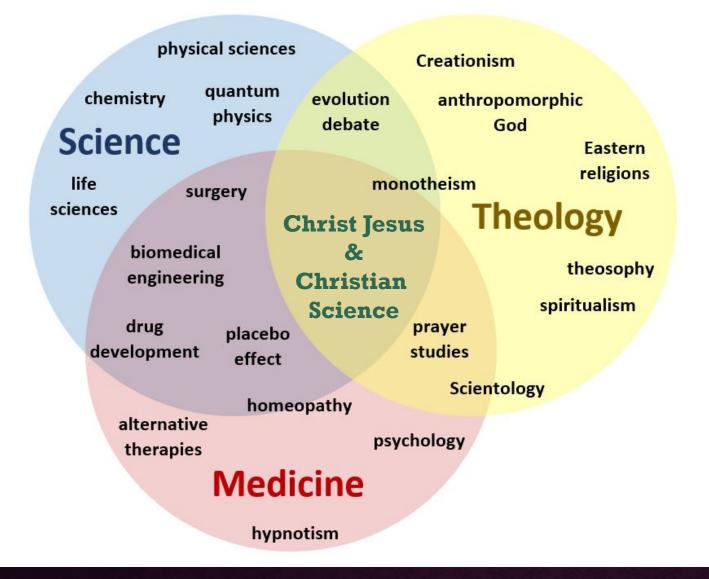
paradigm shift

a fundamental change in basic assumptions and practices in the sciences



We are in the midst of a revolution; physics are yielding slowly to metaphysics; mortal mind rebels at its own boundaries; weary of matter, it would catch the meaning of Spirit. (Christian Healing, 11:6–9)

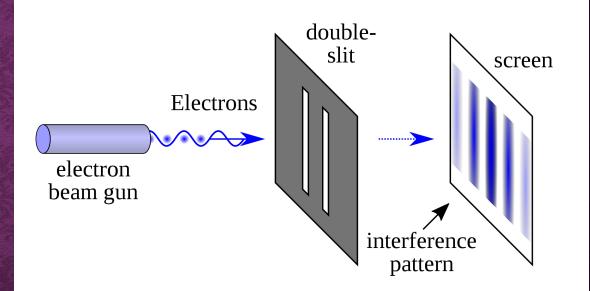
THREE MODES OF THOUGHT: SCIENCE, THEOLOGY AND MEDICINE



Christ Jesus and Christian Science stand at the intersection of all three modes of thought.

QUANTUM PHYSICS: DOUBLE SLIT EXPERIMENT

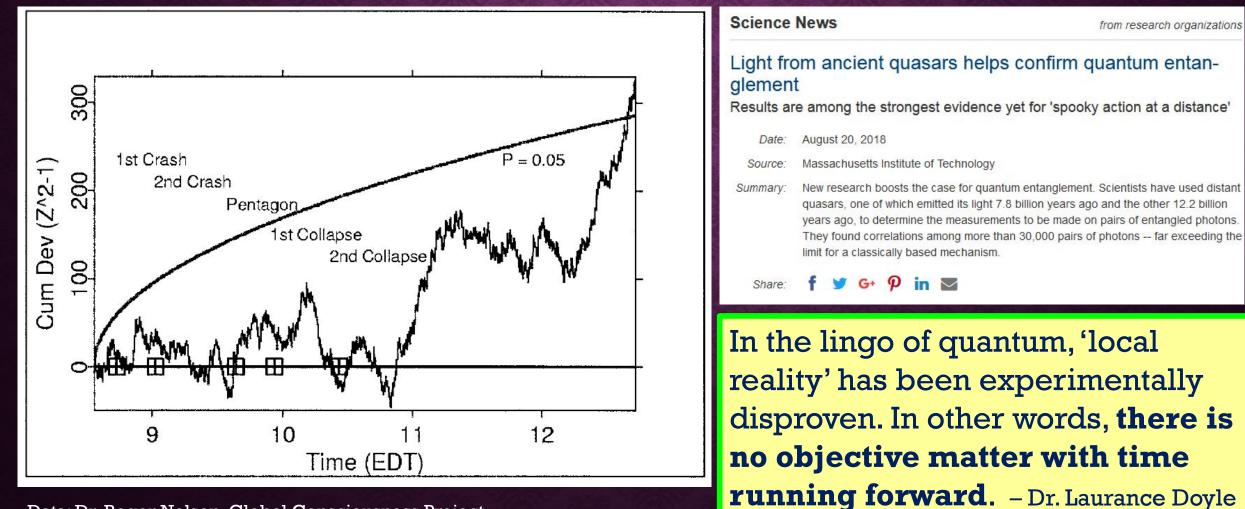
- Richard Feynman was fond of saying that all of quantum mechanics can be gleaned from carefully thinking through the implications of this single experiment.
- Firing electrons through two slits create an interference pattern indicating the electron acts like a wave of uncertainty.



The observer, or consciousness, collapses the wave function. Matter goes from being a wave of uncertainty to a particle state simply by the act of observing.

QUANTUM PHYSICS

Results are mounting that consciousness is an active participant in the physical world. Quantum entanglement, or Einstein's "spooky action at a distance" has been proven again and again.



Data: Dr. Roger Nelson, Global Consciousness Project

WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS OF QUANTUM PHYSICS?

- The metaphysical implications of quantum physics tell us to <u>reject both</u> <u>naturalism and dualism</u>, because matter is NOT an observer independent reality.
- "The utility of this shift in stance is the recognition of areas for scientific study that remain outside the currently acceptable bounds of scientific discourse, important areas such as biofields...and non-Western methods of health and healing." -- Theise & Kafatos (2016)

Max Planck: "...I regard consciousness as fundamental. I regard matter as derivative from consciousness." \rightarrow **IDEALISM**

DEVELOPMENTS IN MEDICINE

 RESEARCH ARTICLE
 MIGRAINE

 Altered Placebo and Drug Labeling Changes the Outcome of Episodic Migraine Attacks
 Science News
 trom research organizations

 Slavenka Kam-Hansen¹, Moshe Jakubowski², John M. Kelley^{3,4,5}, trving + See all authors and affiliations
 Randomized Controlled Trial boi: 10.1056/NEJMoa1305189.
 > N Engl J Med. 2013 Dec 26;369(26):2515-24.

 Void
 6, Issue 218, pp. 218ra5 DOI: 10.1126/scitranslmed.3006175
 > N Engl J Med. 2013 Dec 26;369(26):2515-24.
 Id

New Scientist / November 2019 THE HEALING POWER OF YOUR MIND Why hypnosis is finally being taken seriously by modern medicine.

DEVELOPMENTS IN MEDICINE: THE SCIENCE OF NDEs

- Jeffrey Long, MD started a website in 1998 establishing the Near Death Research Foundation (NDERF).
- Voluntarily reported NDEs through a rigorous questionnaire.
- Recorded over 4,700 experiences in over 23 languages. Largest study every conducted.

EVIDENCE of the AFTERLIFE

The Science of Near-Death Experiences

> Jeffrey Long, MD with Paul Perry

"There is currently more scientific evidence to the reality of near death experience (NDE) than there is for how to effectively treat certain forms of cancer."

NDEs commonly include out-of-body experiences, or "in a body unseen" by others, and **being witness to events they could not have any knowledge of**, vision by those blind who still come back blind, encountering deceased loved ones, and remarkable similarities in experiences across cultures including a **profound feeling of unconditional love**.

FAMOUS CASE: DR. EBEN ALEXANDER

- Prior to his NDE in 2008, as a practicing neuroscientist he sincerely believed in the paradigm that the material brain gives rise to consciousness.
- His experience led him to make a dramatic paradigm shift. "Consciousness is the thing that exists. It is the support, the basis on which all the universe is based." ("Dr. Eben Alexander says it's time for brain science to graduate from kindergarten", Christian Science Journal, February 2014)

PROOF of HEAVEN

A Neurosurgeon's Journey into the Afterlife

Eben Alexander, MD

#1 New York Times Bestseller

[My story breaks] the back of the last efforts of reductive science to tell the world that the material realm is all that exists, and that consciousness, or spirit – yours and mine – is not the great and central mystery of the universe. I'm living proof."

THE HISTORICAL JESUS

- The resurrection is a historical event at the intersection of the fields of religion, history and philosophy.
- Dr. Gary Habermas, Professor of Apologetics and Philosophy, Liberty University
- Minimal facts method: His arguments showing that the resurrection event is the most probable conclusion using normal historical methods has changed the academically accepted view → 40 years ago only Christians believed in the historicity of the event. Today the majority of scholars (almost 2/3, skeptics among them) believe it happened.

"Bodily resurrection is the predominant view in the academy."



La Résurrection du Christ 1560 Véronèse San Francesco della Vigna, via Wikimedia Commons

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE HEALINGS: 135 YEARS OF EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE

- Over 83,000 healings since 1883. We know this is only the tip of the iceberg of the healing work that has gone one.



Every Christian Science healing is the demonstration of eternal Life.

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS OF CHRISTIAN SCIENCE TESTIMONIES 1969-1988 PUBLISHED BY THE MOTHER CHURCH

- Over 80% of these 7,154 testimonies included healings of bodily disorders.
- 2,337 (33%) involved healings of medically diagnosed conditions. Serious conditions included cancer, leukemia, tuberculosis, heart disorders, including 13 of epilepsy and 6 of multiple sclerosis.
- 599 cases of broken bones, and of these in at least 11 cases the <u>healing took one</u> <u>day or less</u>. X-rays showed the break in one to no breakage in the second in some cases separated only by a few hours or less. Of those that gave specifics, 91 cases were healed in 3 weeks or less.

"Hundreds of millions of people today claim to have experienced miracles."

some other healings occurred, the praying church began growing.⁴⁴³

- Although doctors expected a youth to survive his cancer only another month, he was cured after prayer with a prayer group in San Francisco.⁴⁴⁴
- A patient who had been dying after the surgical removal of his stomach experienced both the recovery and formation of a new stomach.⁴⁴⁵

HEALING EVIDENCE IN CHRISTIANITY MIRACLES: THE CREDIBILITY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT ACCOUNTS BY CRAIG KEENER

- A Baptist pastor was told he could never speak again due to damage to the myelin sheath to his vocal cords; after enduring this problem for three years, he suddenly found his speech fully restored after reading Ps 103:3.⁴²⁰
- While pastoring, Presbyterian evangelist Don Dunkerley prayed for a visitor who had been given six months to live due to her cancer. The next day she felt fine, and the doctor declared that the cancer was gone. As of the time of

If the lives of Christian Scientists attest their fidelity to Truth, **I predict that in the twentieth century every Christian church in our land, and a few in far-off lands, will approximate the understanding of Christian Science sufficiently to heal the sick in his name.** Christ will give to Christianity his new name, and Christendom will be classified as Christian Scientists. (Pul 22:9)

the age of two, was instantly and publicly healed during prayer, including his withered foot being made normal.⁴⁵¹

THREE WISEMEN OF THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

Science, Theology and Medicine

As the Wisemen grew in the understanding of Christ, the spiritual idea, it grew in favor with them. Thus it will continue, as it shall become understood, **until man be found in the actual likeness of his Maker.** (*Misc. Writ. 164:20–23*)



The element of Christian healing has almost been lost to the world for 1800 years, but we are still the sons of God and live and move and have our being in Him, and by faith we are able to claim our inheritance; and when this attribute of Christ shall be once again in the hearts of his followers, then in deed and in truth has the Second Coming of Christ been fulfilled.

November 1884 Christian Science Journal, Mary Baker Eddy

We are not living at a time of defeat or uncertainty. We are living in an age of prophetic triumph—a time when there is every reason to have powerful spiritual conviction. But it's not enough to simply live in an age of triumph. The miracle of spiritual vision is essential to help us fully appreciate the possibilities of our times. We need to cultivate an expectancy of what our Leader foresaw: the demonstration of perfection—full proof that man is God's likeness.

-- Nathan Talbot, "What Mrs. Eddy envisioned for us", CS Journal, April 1980