

### ***Addition and Subtraction***

*The propitious smiles of heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which Heaven itself has ordained.*

*(George Washington)*

In 1687 Sir Issac Newton, building on the work of Galileo and Kepler, published his theory of gravity in Principia and received credit for developing the first quantitative theory of gravitation. Newton held that every particle of matter in the universe attracts every other particle with a force that is proportional to the product of their masses and inversely proportional to the square of the distance between them. Simply stated, gravity is defined as the universal force of attraction that affects all matter. Most of us cannot explain the intricate details of Newton's law, but we have experienced it working in our lives; when we were learning to walk and ride a bicycle.

There is another law working in our lives. It is the Law of Addition and Subtraction which the Bible, our textbook of Spiritual Science, defines in Matthew 6:33, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." The law of addition says that when we seek the right thing first than the values which make life meaningful, significant and worth living are added to our lives. The law of addition causes us to experience fulfillment that exceeds even our ability to comprehend (Paul). The law of subtraction states that when we make a priority of things other than God, everything that makes life good, worthwhile and fulfilling is subtracted from us. The law of subtraction causes life to be unfulfilling and empty. The law of addition and subtraction are always at work.

A tragedy that we repeat with almost every passing generation is that when our ways fail to work, we hesitate in taking God's way. We become so accustomed to the wrong way that the wrong way seems right, and the right way seems wrong. Our textbook of Spiritual Science, the Bible, reveals that the laws which guided us in this life will remain constant and decide our eternal destiny in the next life. If we seek the wrong thing first, then the Law of Subtraction will direct our eternal existence. The opposite occurs when we seek the right thing first. The laws mastering us in this life will direct us in the next. What will you seek first?

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