Summary

This thesis attempts to compare the feminist principles of two American Christian women, Mary Baker Eddy (1821-1910) and Rosemary Radford Ruether (b. 1936-). Although separated by one hundred years, they are both considered to be Christian Feminists in the sense that they have both tried to extend women’s voice into the male world of religion. Further they compliment each other in the struggle and opportunity they see for Women in the Church.

Mary Baker Eddy, founder of Christian Science, was dedicated to “equality” of the sexes in her Church. Despite Eddy’s insistence on “equality”, she was more interested in her Church as a healing institution rather than in a Church that was known for its Feminist principles. Rosemary Radford Ruether is a contemporary academic whose writings have become the standard texts for female theologians. She has written with outstanding scholarship on the androcentrism in the Christian Church.