

Our Firm Foundation

The Seventh-day Sabbath

Christ Our Righteousness

The Immutable Law of God

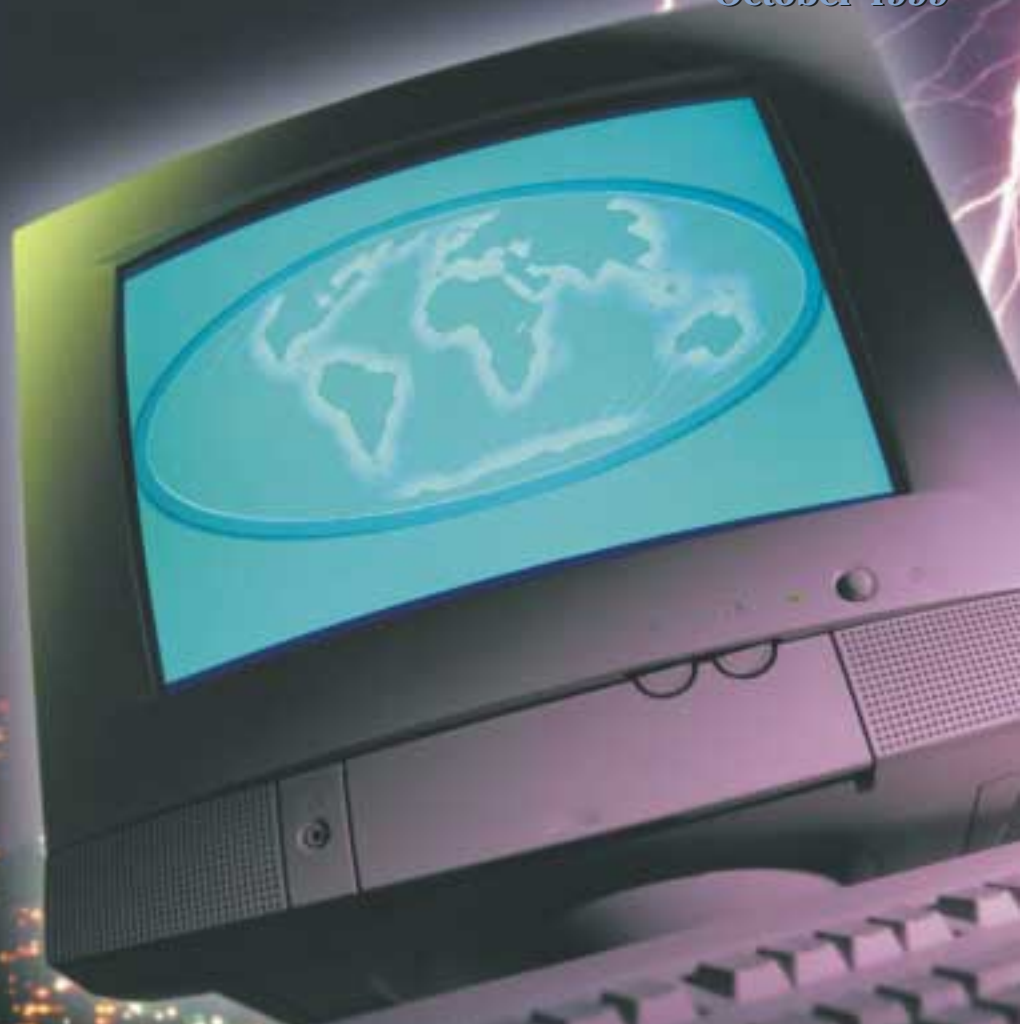
The Non-Immortality of the Soul

The Three Angels' Messages

The Sanctuary

Volume 14, Number 10

October 1999



Y2K

Crying Wolf
or World Crisis?

Church Leadership

A solemn responsibility in Israel's day—and in ours

Bible history is very clear that the abomination was caused by the corrupt leadership of Daniel's day, as well as in the days of Christ. The abomination of desolation brought on the seventy years of the captivity of the ancient church, and in Christ's day it was responsible for the crucifixion of Christ and the martyrdom of thousands of the faithful and obedient followers of Christ.

Let us review from Scripture the history of Jehoiakim, the king of Israel—the then equivalent of the General Conference President in our day:

"Jehoiakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD his God. . . . And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD his God, and humbled not himself before Jeremiah the prophet speaking from the mouth of the LORD. And he also rebelled against king Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God: but he stiffened his neck, and hardened his heart from turning unto the LORD God of Israel. Moreover all the chief of the priests, and the people, transgressed very much after all the abominations of the heathen; and polluted the house of the LORD which he had hallowed in Jerusalem." 2 Chronicles 36:5, 12–14.

The leaders had transgressed the orders of the Lord. Their abominations had taken place in God's sacred, holy place, the house of the Lord. The religious leaders of that day had purposely led the people to fully adopt worldly practices and incorporate them into

the worship of God in His temple. We are told by our prophet that the sins of the final-generation church will be similar to the apostasy of the ancient church. Let the prophets speak:

"For the leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed." Isaiah 9:16. See also Jeremiah 5:25, 31.

"Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the house of Jacob, and princes of the house of Israel, that abhor judgment, and pervert all equity. They build up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity. The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean upon the LORD, and say, Is not the LORD among us? none evil can come upon us. Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field; and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest." Micah 3:9–12.

"Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin. . . . That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD: which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits: get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us." Isaiah 30:1, 9–11.

The apostasy in Elijah's day will be seen to have been a type of the final apostasy:

"A blessing or a curse is now before the people of God—a blessing if they come out from the world and are separate, and walk in the path of humble obedience; and a curse if they unite with the idolatrous, who trample upon the high claims of Heaven. The sins and iniquities of rebellious Israel are recorded and the picture presented before us as a warning that if we imitate their example of transgression and depart from God we shall fall as surely as did they. 'Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.' 1 Corinthians 10:11." *Testimonies*, vol. 1, 609; see also *ibid.*, vol. 3, 280–281; vol. 5, 94; *Selected Messages*, book 1, 406.

We are told by our prophet that just before the close of our probation, dancing and the Devil's music with drums will again pollute the sacred temples of some of God's—our—churches. Could it be then that the Omega of Apostasy is now among us?

The evidence that the Devil's music and dancing is already among us has been captured on film and has already been seen by many on the video entitled *Are You Ready For Church?* produced by Kirk and Cathy Weedman.

The Omega is about to overwhelm us. Probation is about to close. May we not sit idly by, neglecting our responsibility to do all we can to stop the tide of worldliness in our church! May God help us to make preparation for eternity, is my prayer. ✨

Ron Spear, Executive Editor

It is the mission of Hope International and the editors of *Our Firm Foundation* to clearly present Christ and His truth. The days that yet remain of this world are few, and what we do we must do quickly. We must boldly proclaim the historic truths of Adventism that place us on so firm a foundation in the midst of this troubled world. —Editors

Executive Editor: Ron Spear
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Hope International
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E-Mail: editor@hopeint.org
Web: http://www.hopeint.org

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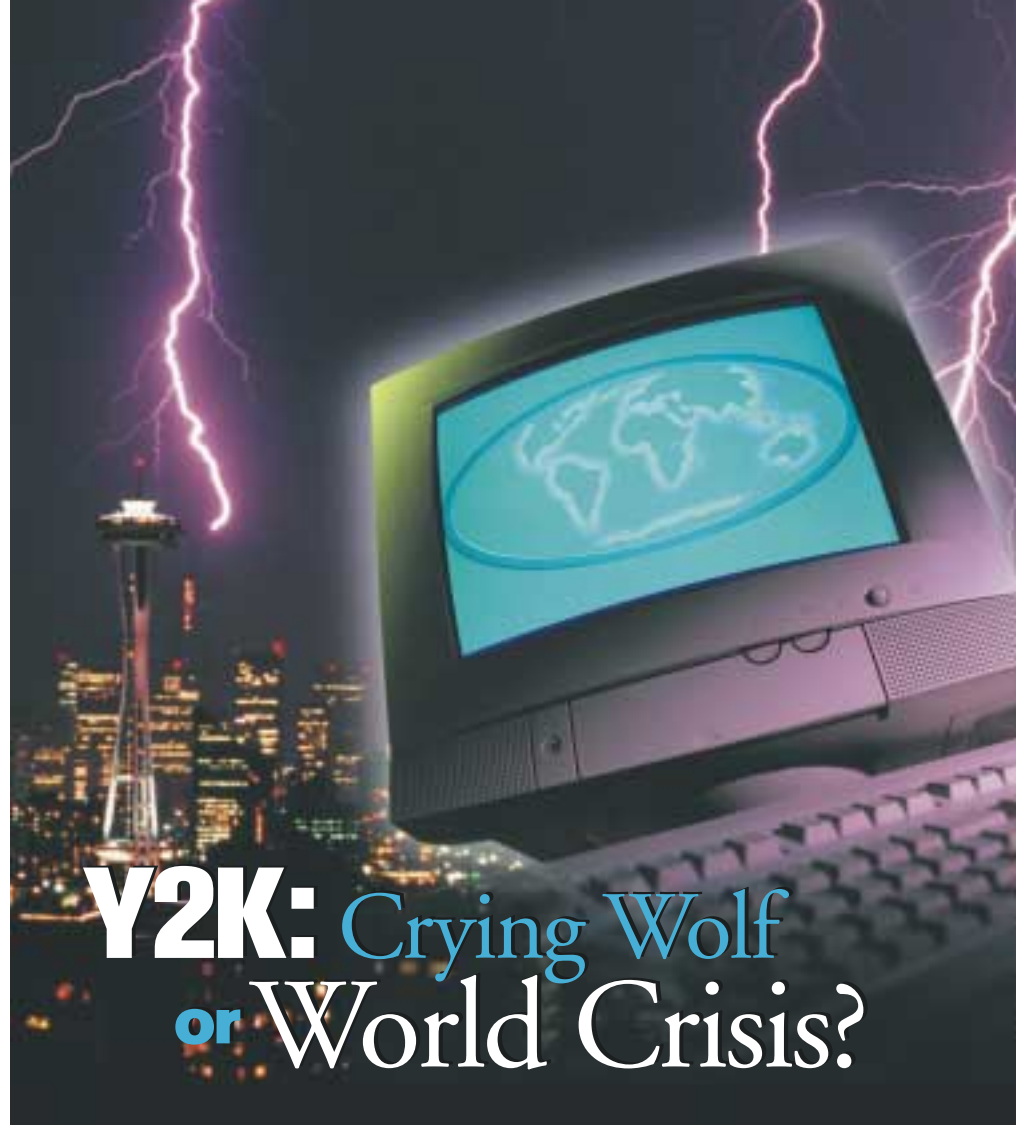
Will I have electricity? Will food and water be rationed? Will I have access to money in my bank account? Is it time to flee to the mountains? Many people inside and outside of the church are asking these kinds of questions concerning the approaching year 2000 and the potential computer failure—dubbed Y2K.

What Is the Problem?

In the early days of computer programming, computer memory was very expensive, due to limited space in magnetic core memories. Therefore, programmers looked for ways to save space. One way they found was to represent the four-digit calendar year with just two digits. For example, the year “1963” was changed to “63,” and “1974” was changed to just “74.” So, when the clock strikes midnight on January 1, 2000, the dating systems of many computers will go from “99” to “00.” These computers may then recognize the year “00” not as the year 2000—but as the year 1900! At that point, the computer could produce incorrect information—or just shut down altogether. There was a humorous example recently of a computer producing incorrect information when a notice arrived in the mailbox of a 104-year-old great grandmother. The local elementary school had sent her notification that she needed to be in kindergarten this year—the computer thought she was four years old! Obviously, the computer recognized the year “00” as being the year 1900.

What Could Happen?

Victor Porlier, co-Chair of the Washington, D. C., Year 2000 Group, uses a one-to-ten Y2K scale to illustrate what could happen over the next several months. *One* equates to a few bumps in the road while *ten* represents the total collapse of our economic systems. Porlier says that the majority of officials working on Y2K remediation in government or businesses are currently projecting something between levels four and seven. In contrast, he says the financial publications and most economists are predicting levels of between one to three! At the same



Y2K: Crying Wolf or World Crisis?

time about twelve percent of Y2K remediation people are predicting levels ranging from eight to ten.

Since the majority predict the problem will be between four and seven, let us see what would be expected to occur at that level: Unemployment may rise at least two percent, but could go as high as fifteen percent; at least one Fortune 100 company could go bankrupt; supply sources may run into serious problems; utility disruptions might last three to seven days, or perhaps even one to two months; domestic terrorism could occur as isolated incidences; at least one major government agency may need to revert to Y2K contingency planning; and significant problems could occur in the government’s delivery of social services.

According to *Computer Weekly*, September 25, 1997, “in the United Kingdom, of those systems responsible for running critical processes

(e.g., oil and petrochemical production, electrical power, and aviation), one in five will fail in the year 2000.”

Senator Bob Bennett (R-Utah), chairman of the Senate Committee on the Year 2000 Problem, is concerned not only about problems related to dates in computer software, but he is also concerned about embedded chips, which often have a date function built right into them. These chips may be found in such things as computers, oil drilling rigs, water treatment systems, and on robots in automobile assembly lines.

General Motors will spend an estimated \$500 million on Y2K fixes. Citibank will spend about \$600 million, and the federal government expects to spend as much as \$50 billion. Throughout the world, total expenditures for trying to correct the “Millennium Bug” is likely to reach approximately \$600 billion.

Of course, the expenditure of large sums of money will not necessarily correct the problem in time. Even if your company or business is Y2K compliant by the year 2000, there are other companies that will not be. Furthermore, due to the interrelationships and dependencies that exist between businesses and various organizations, most all of these entities are at the mercy of some supplier.

Today we have a “just-in-time” supply chain, meaning that most businesses do not stock as much as they used to. Most of them depend upon central storehouses which are located within a day or two shipping distance. This system works well when the trucks and trains are able to travel. However, what will happen if these systems break down?

Perhaps the best example is the case of General Motors. When two plants recently went on strike, failing to provide auto parts to other GM plants, this giant car company was forced to shut down all of its automobile plants. Over 180,000 workers were laid-off, and GM lost \$1.6 billion. This two-month-old strike devastated GM.

Another example of that sort of problem was the United Parcel Service strike in 1998 that lasted only a few weeks. However, this disruption in the supply system—or delivery line—affected hundreds of thousands of businesses that depended upon UPS for fast and safe shipping.

We all know that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. As a result, no matter how diligently any company works to be Y2K compliant, the failure of key suppliers (e.g., parts suppliers or manufacturers, freight carriers, telecommunications, banking systems, and so forth) could be absolutely disastrous.

Preparing for Y2K

The U.S. Treasury Department has decided to print extra money in anticipation that people will begin withdrawing large sums of cash as we approach January 1, 2000. Utility companies may stockpile extra coal just in case the rail systems fail.

Some companies, including banks, are preparing to operate manually, without computers.

When it comes to individual or family preparation—whether Y2K will amount to anything or not—it would be prudent to keep the following ten items in mind: trust in God, food, water, cooking, heat, light, cash, housing, medical supplies, and important documents.

Trust in God

In any crisis—or potential crisis—we must have faith in God’s promises. We must cultivate a love for souls and have a steadfast commitment to the truth. Remember, we are not Seventh-day Adventists, but rather Seventh-day Adventists. We have been entrusted with the mission of declaring the three angels’ messages. See Revelation 14:6–12. That mission will not be accomplished by fleeing to the mountains prematurely, nor will it be possible to accomplish unless we have a vital connection with Jesus Christ. Therefore, we must spend time communing with Christ every day. We must grow in Christ and sharpen our skills to share His love with those around us.

Of course, spiritual preparation does not nullify the need to prepare in other ways. It would be wise for us to consider such things as food and water supplies, country living, and placing our assets in God’s hands for furthering the work.

Food

Most people have about a two-week supply of food in their homes. With the potential computer crisis, we may want to consider increasing our supply to last at least six weeks. Canned goods store well and can be prepared with very little effort. It is possible that Y2K will be of little consequence; however, if you decide to store up food, make sure that it is of the best quality and that the family will enjoy eating it. Keep in mind also that refrigeration could be a very real problem, so purchase items that will not leave you with a lot of leftovers.

Our family is growing a large garden this year with a variety of

fruits and vegetables. We will be able to store much of it in our simple, homemade, root cellar. You do not need to go to a great expense for a root cellar to keep food through the winter. A friend was sharing with me the other day that he is simply digging a hole in the ground that is a four-foot cube. He has lined it with treated plywood and insulated the sides and the top. He says that the temperature remains a cool 40 degrees here in Eastern Washington State. The book which I used myself and which I heartily recommend on this subject is *Root Cellaring: Natural Cold Storage of Fruits and Vegetables*, by Mike and Nancy Bubel.

Water

Water is perhaps the single most important resource to help keep this wonderful, human machinery working. So be sure that you have plenty of water available. This may mean purchasing bottled water every week and storing it until the end of 1999. You may want to set aside a few gallons every week for about three months.

Cooking

If you plan to cook, you will need heat. The cheapest emergency cooking option is a camper’s cook stove. If you go this route, make sure that you have extra containers of cooking fuel. Since we live in the country, we have decided to use our small, wood, cook stove that we bought for \$550.

Heat

If you do not have a wood stove or fireplace, there are other types of heating options. There are a number of stand-alone heaters that burn a variety of fuels. Be sure that you understand whether the heater needs to be vented or not. If you live in a city apartment, probably you will need a non-vented heater.

Light

Years ago most homes used oil lamps for light in emergencies. However, there are a variety of other options today—ranging from propane lamps to battery-operated light sources.

Cash

Some people are planning to have about a one-to-three month's supply of cash available, since there is the possibility that cash withdrawals may be difficult. We recall that during the Great Depression of the 1930s, a huge number of banks failed because of their exposure to bad investments in real estate, non-paying loans, and massive withdrawals by their customers. More than 4,700 banks failed between the years of 1928 and 1932. In response, President Roosevelt proclaimed a bank moratorium on March 6, 1933, leaving millions of Americans without access to their cash. While some people later received a portion of their funds, many never saw a dime of it again.

The response by the U.S. Congress was to guarantee the funds deposited by banking customers. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) was created in 1933 to insure bank deposits up to \$100,000. However, remember that this is a voluntary system, and today over five hundred U.S. banks are not insured by FDIC. Furthermore, the FDIC is very much underfunded. In fact, there are less than three cents of FDIC assets to insure every one hundred dollars of insured bank deposits. If the banking system collapses, millions could lose their whole life savings. Of course, I am not predicting a crash on January 1, 2000. In fact, I really do not know what will happen. I cannot tell you the precise moment to withdraw some of your funds. That is a matter of prayer between you and God. However, in light of the fact that only three percent of the nation's money actually exists in paper currency or coins, it is obviously impossible for everyone to withdraw any large sums of money.

If you plan to have money in the bank on January 1, the following is a simple, personal, financial checklist:

1. If at all possible, get out of debt.
2. Assess your possessions to decide what you can sell or give away to improve your own financial situation or to help others.
3. Check to see whether the financial institutions you use are Y2K ready.

4. Be sure that all your financial records are up-to-date.
5. Consider having extra cash on hand.
6. If possible, consider paying your rent or mortgage a month or two ahead of time.
7. Consider possible contingency plans in case certain incomes are disrupted—like child support, alimony, social security, pensions, veteran benefits, disability payments, and so forth.

Housing

If it is possible, move out into the country. We have counsel to move out into the country—whether we face a computer crisis or not. Some people have asked, "What if I'm in debt on my home in the city or suburbs?" My reply is, I would rather be in debt on a country property than on a city property. The most important thing we can do is to simply place everything on the altar and allow God to direct. Remember, God will take care of His own.

Of course, end-time, country homes do not need to be fancy. My wife and I purchased a mobile home that needed a fair amount of fixing and then we added on two bedrooms for the kids and also a pantry area in which to store our canned goods.

Medical Supplies

If you have diabetes or some other condition that requires a regular supply of medication, you may want a one-to-four-month's supply on hand. We just do not know how supply systems will be affected.

Important Documents

We should keep very accurate records of our financial transactions (banks, insurance, stocks, taxes, and so forth). You may need these documents to verify your financial assets. Other important documents include: birth certificates, death certificates, marriage licenses, school transcripts, and automobile and property titles.

Again, in suggesting these various things, I am not predicting a total

collapse of the economy and power blackouts for weeks and months. I simply do not know what will happen. However, according to the prophecies, the time will come when God's people will not be allowed to buy or sell. That time is coming soon—whether Y2K is a simple matter of crying wolf, or if we will truly face a world crisis at that time.

Opportunities

Even if Y2K seriously weakens the world's economy, it can provide us with blessed opportunities to share present truth. While many will be filled with fear, we can provide the good news of the soon return of Jesus. We can inspire hope in others by trusting in Christ.

Serious problems with Y2K could cause many to search for something they do not have. In these situations, we would be wise to have adequate outreach literature available. We at Hope are planning to make a variety of tracts available very soon which will help in reaching people with varying challenges and concerns.

It is likely that there will be an increase of sickness in our world which will, no doubt, open doors for the medical missionary work. Therefore, the present time is an opportune time for God's remnant church to train the laity for works of service. Among these great evangelistic works, the medical missionary work must not be neglected.

In closing, I want to make it clear that I am not dismissing the Y2K computer problem as being something grossly exaggerated, nor do I want to sound like a doomsday prophet.

Nonetheless, we know that troublous times are ahead of us. Perhaps Y2K will trigger a greater call for Sunday legislation, or perhaps it will bring the stock market to its knees. Whatever happens, *this I do know*, Y2K will not be the last word. God will not allow times to become so terrible that we cannot finish the work. Though times will get tough, yet this message will go to all the world. God will finally have a people who will reflect the image of Jesus fully. This I know. Therefore, we have nothing to fear. Jesus will soon be here! Amen. ✨

The Awful Nature of Sin

Ron Spear

The awful nature of sin demands our attention in this very dynamic hour of the great controversy. The Bible tells us that all have sinned, and that the wages of sin is death. See Romans 3:23; 6:23.

Therefore, our only hope is the atonement of Christ, who took our place, accepted the penalty that we deserve—eternal death—that we may accept the gift of a second chance to live forever. John 3:16 confirms God’s love for the human family: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” The Spirit of Prophecy explains this love in these inspired words:

“In stooping to take upon Himself humanity, Christ revealed a character the opposite of the character of Satan. But He stepped still lower in the path of humiliation. ‘Being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.’ Philipians 2:8. As the high priest laid aside his gorgeous pontifical robes, and officiated in the white linen dress of the common priest, so Christ took the form of a servant, and offered sacrifice—Himself the Priest, Himself the Victim. ‘He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him.’ Isaiah 53:5.

“Christ was treated as we deserve, that we might be treated as

He deserves. He was condemned for our sins, in which He had no share, that we might be justified by His righteousness, in which we had no share. He suffered the death which was ours, that we might receive the life which was His. ‘With his stripes we are healed.’ Isaiah 53:5.” *The Desire of Ages*, 25.

The human mind can never grasp the depths of God’s love. It will be our study for eternity.

We know that sin is the transgression of the law of God. See 1 John 3:4; Romans 5:13; 4:15. Furthermore, “the wages of sin is death.” Romans 6:23.

Therefore, just one sin of Adam and Eve demanded that they should die and be banished from Eden. However, God, the Father, and the Son immediately revealed a plan to save them and as many of their posterity who would be willing to accept the condition of God’s plan for their salvation. The condition was obedience to His sacred, holy law that had been broken.

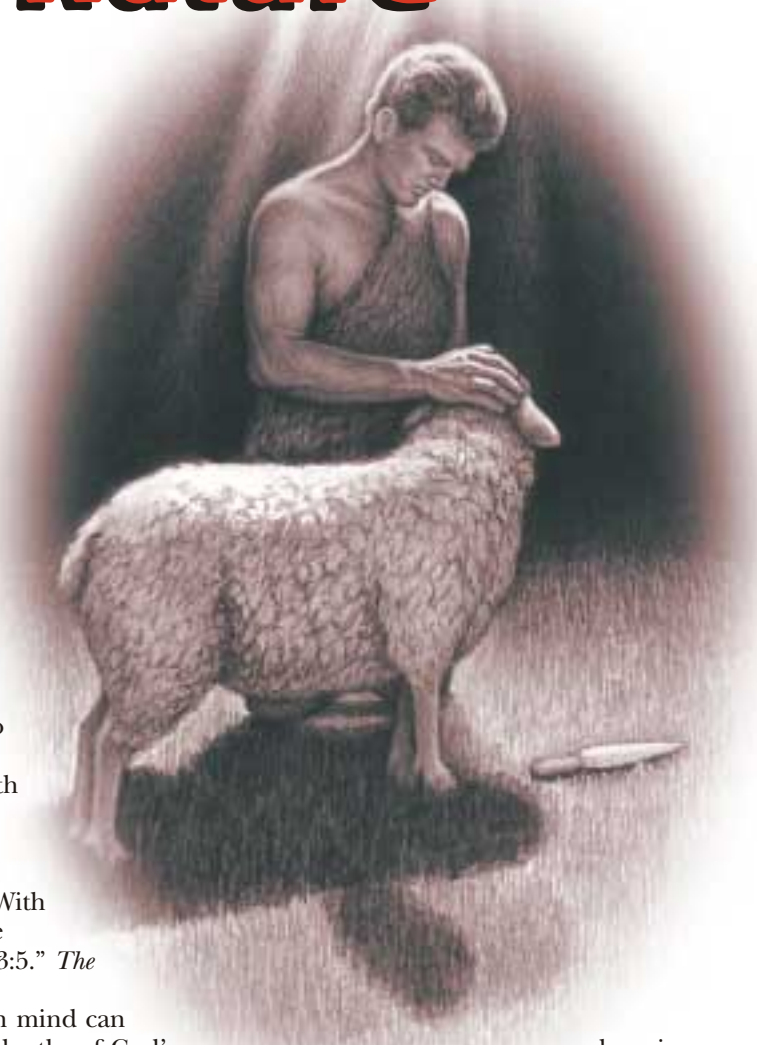
Disobedience to the law brought death into our world; loving obedience to God’s law is necessary for all who would live a life of joy—

happiness in this world and an eternity in the paradise of God.

The question is asked, But who can keep the law? The answer: Everyone who is willing to be made willing to obey by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Some respond with, “I have tried a thousand times, but I keep failing.” Yet the solution can be found in the following inspired quotation:

“The question is asked: What is the cause of the dearth in the church? The answer is: We allow our minds to be drawn away from the Word. If the Word of God were eaten as the food for the soul, if it were treated with respect and deference, there would be no



necessity for the many and repeated testimonies that are borne. The simple declarations of Scripture would be received and acted upon.

“Its living principles are as the leaves of the tree of life for the healing of the nations.

“The Word of the living God is not merely written, but spoken. The Bible is God’s voice speaking to us, just as surely as though we could hear it with our ears. If we realized this, with what awe would we open God’s Word, and with what earnestness would we search its precepts! The reading and contemplation of the Scriptures would be regarded as an audience with the Infinite One.

cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9; see also Acts 5:31.

3. Abiding in Christ. “If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.” John 15:6.

The following inspired statements will help us to understand this important subject:

“We do not earn salvation by our obedience; for salvation is the free gift of God, to be received by faith. But obedience is the fruit of faith. ‘Ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. Whosoever abideth in

... He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk even as he walked.’ 1 John 2:3, 6. ‘Because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps.’ 1 Peter 2:21.

“The condition of eternal life is now just what it always has been—just what it was in Paradise before the fall of our first parents—perfect obedience to the law of God, perfect righteousness. If eternal life were granted on any condition short of this, then the happiness of the whole universe would be imperiled. The way would be open for sin, with all its train of woe and misery, to be immortalized.” *Steps to Christ*, 61–62.

How do I receive saving faith?

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Romans 10:17.

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15.

“Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.” John 5:39.

4. We see that the key to all of our sincere efforts to reach the seemingly impossible standard of righteousness is in our will:

“Many are inquiring, ‘How am I to make the surrender of myself to God?’ You desire to give yourself to Him, but you are weak in moral power, in slavery to doubt, and controlled by the habits of your life of sin. Your promises and resolutions are like ropes of sand. You cannot control your thoughts, your impulses, your affections. The knowledge of your broken promises and forfeited pledges weakens your confidence in your own sincerity, and causes you to feel that God cannot accept you; but you need not despair. What you need to understand is the true force of the will. This is the governing power in the nature of man, the power of decision, or of choice. Everything depends on the right action of the will. The power of choice God has given to men; it is theirs to exercise. You cannot change your heart, you cannot of yourself give to God its affections; but you can *choose* to serve Him. You can give Him your

If we abide in Christ, if the love of God dwells in us, our feelings, our thoughts, our purposes, our actions, will be in harmony with the will of God.

“When Satan presses his suggestions upon our minds, we may, if we cherish a ‘Thus saith the Lord,’ be drawn into the secret pavilion of the Most High.

“Many fail of imitating our Holy Pattern because they study so little the definite features of that character. So many are full of busy plans, always active; and there is no time or place for the precious Jesus to be a close, dear Companion. They do not refer every thought and action to Him, inquiring: ‘Is this the way of the Lord?’ If they did they would walk with God, as did Enoch.” *Testimonies*, vol. 6, 392–393.

The sin problem can never be solved in our lives until we are ready and willing to meet the following conditions of salvation that God has set for all mankind:

1. Full surrender of the life to God’s love through obedience to His law. “Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.” Psalm 37:3.

2. Confession, repentance, and the forsaking of all sin. “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to

him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.’ 1 John 3:5–6. Here is the true test. If we abide in Christ, if the love of God dwells in us, our feelings, our thoughts, our purposes, our actions, will be in harmony with the will of God as expressed in the precepts of His holy law. ‘Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.’ Verse 7. Righteousness is defined by the standard of God’s holy law, as expressed in the Ten Precepts given on Sinai.

“That so-called faith in Christ which professes to release men from the obligation of obedience to God, is not faith, but presumption. ‘By grace are ye saved through faith.’ Ephesians 2:8. But ‘faith, if it hath not works, is dead.’ James 2:17. Jesus said of Himself before He came to earth, ‘I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.’ Psalm 40:8. And just before He ascended again to heaven He declared, ‘I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love.’ John 15:10. The Scripture says, ‘Hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

will; He will then work in you to will and to do according to His good pleasure. Thus your whole nature will be brought under the control of the Spirit of Christ; your affections will be centered upon Him, your thoughts will be in harmony with Him.

“Desires for goodness and holiness are right as far as they go; but if you stop here, they will avail nothing. Many will be lost while hoping and desiring to be Christians. They do not come to the point of yielding the will to God. They do not now *choose* to be Christians.

“Through the right exercise of the will, an entire change may be made in your life. By yielding up your will to Christ, you ally yourself with the power that is above all principalities and powers. You will have strength from above to hold you steadfast, and thus through constant surrender to God you will be enabled to live the new life, even the life of faith.” *Ibid.*, 47–48. (Emphasis in original unless otherwise noted.)

“You will be in constant peril until you understand the true force of the will.” *Temperance*, 113.

The awfulness of sin caused Jesus to die to pay the penalty for our sins. Furthermore, it caused Him to take our fallen, human nature so He could be our Example

in perfect overcoming—perfect law keeping. It was the only way God could solve the sin problem forever. Sin will never rise up again after the conclusion of the great controversy between Christ and Satan—good and evil. See Nahum 1:9; *The Faith I Live By*, 114–115.

In closing this very important and significant topic—the awfulness of sin—we present to the reader this inspired statement:

“The sanctification of the soul by the working of the Holy Spirit is the implanting of Christ’s nature in humanity. Gospel religion is Christ in the life—a living, active principle. It is the grace of Christ revealed in character and wrought out in good works. The principles of the gospel cannot be disconnected from any department of practical life. Every line of Christian experience and labor is to be a representation of the life of Christ.

“Love is the basis of godliness. Whatever the profession, no man has pure love to God unless he has unselfish love for his brother. But we can never come into possession of this spirit by *trying* to love others. What is needed is the love of Christ in the heart. When self is merged in Christ, love springs forth spontaneously. The completeness of Christian character is attained when the impulse to help and bless others

springs constantly from within—when the sunshine of Heaven fills the heart and is revealed in the countenance.

“It is not possible for the heart in which Christ abides to be destitute of love. If we love God because He first loved us, we shall love all for whom Christ died. We cannot come in touch with Divinity without coming in touch with humanity; for in Him who sits upon the throne of the universe, Divinity and humanity are combined. Connected with Christ, we are connected with our fellow men by the golden links of the chain of love. Then the pity and compassion of Christ will be manifest in our life. We shall not wait to have the needy and unfortunate brought to us. We shall not need to be entreated to feel for the woes of others. It will be as natural for us to minister to the needy and suffering as it was for Christ to go about doing good.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 384–385.

This is what it means to abide in Christ. May we choose to abide every day in that love, which cannot fail, that we will be included among those overcomers who will see our Lord Jesus Christ appear in the clouds and will greet Him with those ringing words, “Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us.” Isaiah 25:9. ❖



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The FINAL

RESTORATION
of the SEED

J. O. Corliss

Whatever may be the final outcome of the plan of salvation, all must admit that it will fully harmonize with God's "eternal purpose" (see Ephesians 3:11), which was determined with Christ Jesus even before the world began. See Ephesians 1:4; 1 Peter 1:20. This purpose has been the basis of God's work in behalf of His people in all ages. When arranging to "break" Assyria and to overthrow Egypt, it was simply to carry out a pre-appointed plan for the sake of the seed of Abraham. See Isaiah 14:24-25; 19:12. More than this, God has declared through His prophet that His purpose regarding the whole world has been fixed, and cannot be disannulled. See Isaiah 14:26-27.

This expressed purpose does not signify that certain persons have been foreordained to be saved or lost according to an arbitrary decision. It does, however, mean that before the world was brought forth by the fiat of God, He had in mind a well-defined purpose, which formed the motive for the world's Creation. A choice was therefore to be exercised in the kind of creatures who should inhabit the world. It was said, "Let us make man *in our image*, after our likeness." Genesis 1:26. (All emphasis supplied unless otherwise noted.)

The creature had no part in deciding his physical or mental standing, since the entire purpose in His Creation was announced before it actually went into effect.

And when the creative act was accomplished, it was the Son who brought it about.

"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds." Hebrews 1:1-2. From this text one gets the whole matter in few words. He learns that not only was Christ the One associated in the Creation, but that as Heir of all things, He performed that part of His Father's purpose which contemplated the peopling of the earth with creatures to whom earthly dominion might be intrusted. See Genesis 1:26. In thus executing the Word of God, the

Lord Jesus became the Word. His introduction in the Gospel is to this same effect: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:1. This same Word was made flesh (see John 1:14), taking the name Emmanuel, which is "God with us." Matthew 1:23.

It further stands to the credit of this Word that "all things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made." John 1:3. Indeed, everything was in Him, since they were all made for Him, even the man himself. See Colossians 1:16. It was He who intrusted the first dominion to Adam, as the responsible agent for the Lord's possession. When Adam lost his divine likeness through sin, he also lost his position as the earth's director, and this was at once assumed by the enemy of Christ. The result has been immeasurable depravity, which must be swept away in order for God's eternal purpose to be realized.

Had Adam proved loyal to his trust, the life of God breathed into him (see Genesis 2:7) would have been retained forever, and his agency of the world dominion

Adam, and lived a sinless life among men (see 1 John 3:5).

Having subdued sin in the flesh, Christ, the "everlasting Father" of those elected to inherit the promises, undertakes the regeneration of all who believe on Him (see John 3:3-7), in order to fit them to be "children of God" and joint heirs with Himself (see Romans 8:16-17).

entire race. Yet Christ, in assuming man's place, tastes death for the helpless (see Hebrews 2:9), and so lifts the race above that condition of being. This done, all are placed where they may, if choice directs, be born from above, as was Adam, and thus become, through Christ, a constituent part of the family of God, according to His eternal purpose.

Christ, the "everlasting Father" of those elected to inherit the promises, undertakes the regeneration of all who believe on Him, in order to fit them to be "children of God" and joint heirs with Himself.

In this work Christ performs the office of High Priest for His people, sitting at the "right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens." Hebrews 8:1. In that position He is the Mediator of the everlasting covenant, which is based on the eternal promise of God rather than on the agreement of mortals. Verse 6. Between Him and God alone, the original parties to that agreement, ratified at the

But this work will be limited to the time covered in spreading a knowledge of this gospel in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and then the end must come. See Matthew 24:14. Just what then takes place is well told by the inspired apostle: "Then cometh the end, when he [Christ] shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father."

1 Corinthians 15:24. Conjointly with God, Christ reigns on the heavenly throne until His enemies are conquered and Satan's rule overthrown. Then, as Heir to the Abrahamic covenant promise, Christ leaves the mediatorial throne, and descends in person to earth to claim His own, who, by virtue of accepting Him as "everlasting Father," have with Him become the seed of Abraham. See Galatians 3:29.

As the heavenly Deliverer sits in the clouds of midheaven, the "children" are caught up by angel hands (see Matthew 24:31) to meet the Lord in the air (see 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17). These are borne in triumph into the heavens, and presented to the Father, as trophies of grace in Christ. See Hebrews 2:11-13. Sin is burned out of the earth (see 2 Peter 3:10) to fit it for the eternal abode of the saints (see verses 12-13). Thus the work is finished, and God's eternal purpose is carried out, and He will dwell forever with His redeemed. See Revelation 22:3-4. ✠

He performed that part of His Father's purpose which contemplated the peopling of the earth with creatures to whom earthly dominion might be intrusted.

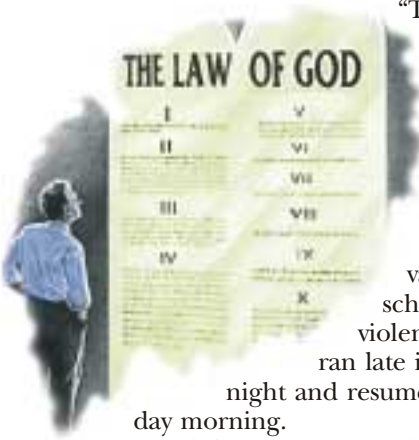
would have remained intact, in the name of the Christ for whom it was purposed. See Colossians 1:16. But inasmuch as Adam failed to maintain his warrant of authority, the second Adam (see 1 Corinthians 15:45) undertook the work of re-peopling the world with righteous inhabitants, according to the purpose of God's everlasting covenant, made with Christ at the beginning. In assuming this responsibility, Christ not only undertook to re-create righteous persons (see Ephesians 2:10) as an "everlasting Father" (Isaiah 9:6), but to do so, He stepped into the place and work vacated by the first

world's founding (see Revelation 13:8), the counsel of peace is held, which qualifies believers to become members of the heavenly family. See Zechariah 6:12-13.

How long then must the Representative of Abraham's seed remain on the throne of Jehovah as Prince of Peace? The great apostle has anticipated this question, and formulated a clear answer. "In Adam," he says, "all die," but "in Christ" they are "made alive." 1 Corinthians 15:22. That is to say, that death came upon all men because of Adam's transgression, who was set as the Father and Representative of the

House Vote Backs Display of the Ten Commandments

News Item: “The U.S. House Thursday backed allowing states to publicly display the Ten Commandments over the objections of some lawmakers who termed it a violation of the Constitutional separation of church and state.



“The House vote followed an impassioned debate about God, values and school violence that ran late into the night and resumed Thursday morning.

“The vote was 248–180, with about 45 Democrats joining most Republicans in backing the measure.

“The amendment, sponsored by Alabama Republican Robert Aderholt, was part of the House’s wide-ranging debate on youth crime and gun control that is expected to last until Friday.

“Aderholt argued that the Ten Commandments display in public places would help instill values in children.

“ ‘The recent shootings in Littleton, Colorado, provide an unfortunate picture of the terror infested in our schools today, children killing children in the halls of our schools, children who do not understand the basic principles of humankind,’ he said.” *Reuters*, June 17, 1999.

“Democrats called Aderholt’s proposal unconstitutional, saying it violates the separation between church and state.

“ ‘Whose 10 Commandments? The Christian version, the Protestant version or the Jewish version?’ asked Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y. ‘They’re different, you know.’ ” *The New York Times*, June 17, 1999.

Prophetic Perspective: Oh, how quickly we forget the lessons of the past! And when we forget, oh, how soon we repeat its mistakes! It was Constantine who, first in the early days of Christianity, united the church and state together. Under this new order, Christian symbols were displayed on the imperial standard. However, what followed was even more ominous, for Constantine presided over the affairs of the church and decided the outcome of all debates and questions.

Perhaps the greatest of all unions of church and state was the great union of Caiaphas (the church), and Pilate (the state) to crucify Jesus, the Son of God. Upon this great evil confederacy—the union of church and state that crucified Christ—God has put an eternal curse. And to those who in our day attempt to revive this union will come the same results that came upon the Jewish nation.

We know what is coming, for in Revelation 13 the scenario is plainly described. This nation will follow in the footsteps of Caiaphas, Constantine and the Papacy to form a union of Church with the state. It is so solemn to realize that what is currently transpiring in our national legislatures is rapidly moving us toward the final fulfillment of these prophecies!

A Day of Rest Even for Presidential Hopefuls

News Item: “Texas Gov. George W. Bush may represent the newest generation of Republicans, but when it comes to Sundays, he’s old fashioned. Aides say he won’t campaign on the Sabbath. ‘He just won’t do it, and it sometimes creates problems,’ says an adviser.” *U.S. News & World Report*, May 10, 1999.

Prophetic Perspective: With the current enthusiasm in our country over the Sunday-sabbath, it is certainly interesting that the presidential front-runner holds such strong principles on this subject. We can clearly see that, if elected, he would be naturally inclined to support legislation for a national Sunday law. Ever since Pope John Paul II wrote his apostolic letter

in support of Sunday observance as the sabbath, this issue has been gaining momentum.

And finally, as the servant of the Lord has said, “The dignitaries of church and state will unite to bribe, persuade, or compel all classes to honor the Sunday. The lack of divine authority will be supplied by oppressive enactments. Political corruption is destroying love of justice and regard for truth; and even in free America, rulers and legislators, in order to secure public favor, will yield to the popular demand for a law enforcing Sunday observance. Liberty of conscience, which has cost so great a sacrifice, will no longer be respected.” *The Great Controversy*, 592.

Luxemburg Tribunal Rejects Appeal: Places Education Before the Sabbath

News Item: “The judgment of the European Court of Human Rights in the case of schoolchildren from Luxemburg puts the demands of state education before the principles of religious freedom.

“The case brought by the children’s families appealed for education authorities in Luxemburg (initially reported in ANN [Adventist News Network] Bulletin January 19, 1999) to allow children exemption from school attendance on Sabbath (Saturday). The European Court in Strasburg, France, rejected the appeal, upholding the verdict of the Luxemburg administrative tribunal.

“The Luxemburg tribunal had stated that ‘the right to education is part of the fundamental rights in a state, and these must be protected, and may restrain the liberty to manifest one’s religion. It is necessary in a democratic society to protect the educational rights.’

“The court concluded that the refusal of the Luxemburg authorities for exemption from school attendance on Saturdays was justified ‘on the basis of the right to instruction’ and rejected the families’ appeal.



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“In reaching this verdict, the Court appears to be voiding the concept of the right to freely practice religion in contravention of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, says Maurice Verfaillie, Religious Liberty director for the Seventh-day (Adventist) Church and secretary-general of the International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty in the European region.

“ ‘We increasingly see rights being brought into conflict,’ says Verfaillie. ‘Even though the right to religious freedom is protected by the law, there is a tendency to increase the restrictions of this right in the name of other rights which are considered more important.’

“ ‘The Declaration, signed by the relevant European countries, guarantees the right to freely choose and practice one’s religion. This judgment is of great concern since it disregards the right to observe a day of worship according to one’s conscience. We are strong supporters of education, but cannot accept a legal prohibition on the right to worship,’ concludes Verfaillie.”

[Jonathan Gallagher]
Adventist News Network, June 17, 1999.

Prophetic Perspective:

Here is a plain example of our people meeting a test of their loyalty to Christ. Will they stand true to their faith? We pray that they will.

As the servant of the Lord has said, “Be sure the Sabbath is a test question and how you treat this question places you either on God’s side or Satan’s side. The mark of the beast is to be presented in some shape to every institution and every individual.” *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 3, 189.

As we know, some may feel that attending school on Sabbath is not a serious problem, however, we find some emphatic counsel to the contrary written by Ellen White on this very subject:

“Some of our people have sent their children to school on the Sabbath. They were not compelled to do this, but the school authorities objected to receiving the children unless they should attend six days. In some of these schools, pupils are not only instructed in the usual branches of study, but are taught to do various kinds of work; and here the children of professed commandment-keepers have been sent upon the Sabbath. Some parents have tried to justify their course by quoting the words of Christ, that it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath day. But the same reasoning would prove that men may labor on the Sabbath because they must earn

bread for their children; and there is no limit, no boundary line, to show what should and what should not be done.

“Had these dear brethren possessed greater spirituality, had they realized the binding claim of God’s law as every one of us should, they would have known their duty, and would not have been walking in

darkness. It was very hard for them to see how they could take any other course. But God does not consult our convenience in regard to His commandments. He expects us to obey them, and to teach them to our children. We have before us the example of Abraham, the father of

the faithful. The God of heaven says, ‘I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD.’ Genesis 18:19. And this was why such great blessings were pronounced upon him and his posterity.

“Our brethren cannot expect the approval of God while they place their children where it is impossible for them to obey the fourth commandment. They should endeavor to make some arrangement with the authorities whereby the children shall be excused from attendance at school upon the seventh day. If this fails, then their duty is plain, to obey God’s requirements at whatever cost. In some places in Central Europe, persons have been fined and imprisoned for not sending their children to school on the Sabbath. In one place, after a brother had plainly stated his faith, an officer of justice came to his door, and compelled the children to go to school. The parents gave them a Bible instead of their usual textbooks, and their time was spent in studying it. But wherever it can be done, our people should establish schools of their own. Where they cannot do this, they should as soon as possible remove to some place where they can be free to keep the commandments of God.

“Some will urge that the Lord is not so particular in His requirements; that it is not their duty to keep the Sabbath strictly at so great loss, or to place themselves where they will be brought in conflict with the laws of the land. But here is just where the test is coming, whether we will honor the law of God above the requirements of men. This is what will distinguish between those who honor God and those who dishonor Him. Here is where we are to prove our loyalty. The history of God’s dealings with His people in all ages shows that He demands exact obedience.” *Historical Sketches*, 216–217.

May we stand true to Jesus, upholding the law of Jehovah. ❄





Is the blood on the lintel?

Ellen G. White

The directions that Moses gave concerning the Passover Feast are full of significance, and have an application to parents and children in this age of the world. "Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover. And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is

LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you." Exodus 12: 21-23.

The father was to act as the priest of the household, and if the father was dead, the eldest son living was to perform this solemn act of sprinkling the doorpost with blood. This is a symbol of the work to be done in every family. Parents are to gather their children into the home and to present Christ before them as

This peril is well illustrated by an incident that is related concerning a Hebrew family on the night of the Passover. The legend goes that the eldest daughter was sick; but that she was acquainted with the fact that a lamb was to be chosen for every family, and that its blood was to be sprinkled upon the lintel and side posts of the door so that the Lord might behold the mark of the blood, and not suffer the destroyer to enter in to smite the firstborn. With what anxiety she saw the evening approach when the destroying angel was to pass by! She became very restless. She called her father to her side, and asked, "Have you marked the doorpost with blood?" He answered, "Yes; I have given directions in regard to the matter. Do not be troubled; for the destroying angel will not enter here." The night came on, and again and again the child called her father, still asking, "Are you sure that the doorpost is marked with blood?" Again and again the father assured her that she need have no fear; that a command which involved such

The father is to dedicate every inmate of his home to God, and to do a work that is represented by the Feast of the Passover. It is perilous to leave this solemn duty in the hands of others.

in the basin; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning. For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the

their Passover. The father is to dedicate every inmate of his home to God, and to do a work that is represented by the Feast of the Passover. It is perilous to leave this solemn duty in the hands of others.

consequences would not be neglected by his trustworthy servants. As midnight approached, her pleading voice was heard saying, "Father, I am not sure. Take me in your arms, and let me see the mark for myself, so that I can rest." The father conceded to the wishes of his child; he took her in his arms and carried her to the door; but there was no blood mark upon the lintel or the posts. He trembled with horror as he realized that his home might have become a house of mourning. With his own hands he seized the hyssop bough, and sprinkled the doorpost with blood. He then showed the sick child that the mark was there.

Are parents placing the mark of God upon their households in this their day of probation and privilege? Are not many fathers and mothers placing their responsibilities into others' hands? Do not many of them think that the minister should take the burden, and see to it that their children are converted, and that the seal of God is placed upon them? They do not restrict their children's desires, referring them to a "thus saith the Lord." Many suppose that the Sabbath school influence will be all sufficient, and that the Sabbath school teacher will instruct and educate their children in such a way as to lead them to Christ. Fathers and mothers place their responsibility in the hands of others, and thus perilously neglect their own households.

"He cried also in mine ears with a loud voice, saying, Cause them that have charge over the city to draw near, even every man with his destroying weapon in his hand. And, behold, six men came from the way of the higher gate, which lieth toward the north, and every man a slaughter weapon in his hand; and one man among them was clothed with linen, with a writer's inkhorn by his side: and they went in, and stood beside the brasen altar. And the glory of the God of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon he was, to the threshold of the house. And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer's inkhorn by his side; and the LORD said unto him, Go through

the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof. And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men [men of responsibility] which were before the house." Ezekiel 9:1-6.

I am much distressed because there is such manifest neglect in the home in the matter of training the children and the youth. Even in

them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon him for? And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day? Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons: and thy sons' sons; specially the day that thou stoodest before the LORD thy God in

Even in professedly Christian homes, . . . there is manifest neglect of following the instruction of the Word, and of bringing up the children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

professedly Christian homes, where fathers and mothers would be supposed to be diligent students of the Scriptures, in order that they might know every specification and restriction in the Word of God, there is manifest neglect of following the instruction of the Word, and of bringing up the children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Professedly Christian parents fail to practice piety at home. How can fathers and mothers represent Christ's character in the home life when they are content to reach a cheap, low standard? The seal of the living God will be placed upon those only who bear a likeness to Christ in character.

If parents would fulfill the conditions upon which God has promised to be their strength, they would not fail of receiving His blessing in their households. "Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it. Keep therefore and do

Horeb, when the LORD said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children." Deuteronomy 4:5-10.

"Thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates." Deuteronomy 6:5-9. "And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet

the works which he had done for Israel. And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim: and they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to anger. And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtaroth. And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the hands of their enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies.” Judges 2:10–14.

true to their trust, the children would have seen the mercy and goodness of the Lord Jesus Christ; but the parents neglected the very work that the Lord had charged them to do, and failed to instruct them in regard to God’s purpose toward His chosen people. They did not keep before them the fact that idolatry was sin, and that to worship other gods meant to forsake Jehovah. If parents had fulfilled their duty, we should never have the record of the generation that knew not God, and were therefore given into the hands of the spoilers.

In the New Testament we are exhorted to be warned by the example of the Hebrews in neglecting their duty and in departing from

days. The reason we do not have more of the blessing of the Lord is that the professed people of God serve Him with divided hearts, as verily as did ancient Israel. They profess to be worshipers of God, but many as verily worship idols as did the Hebrews.

With every generation increased light has shone, and we are responsible for the use that we make of this light. Those who pretend to serve God, and yet cherish selfishness, who seek to fulfill ambitious projects, are lovers of pleasures, lovers of self, and are as much more sinful than was ancient Israel as the light is greater which shines upon their pathway. They have the past experience in the history of the disobedience of Israel, and they know the result of their neglect of duty. They have heard warnings from God as to how to avoid the mistakes and errors of His ancient people, in order that they may escape the results of their own course of action, and they are more inexcusable in their course of sin than was ancient Israel. Many feel astonished that the Israelites should have manifested such ingratitude when God had manifested such love and care for them. They think that they would not be guilty of taking such a course; but let the question be turned upon ourselves. How much gratitude do we render to God for His loving kindness and tender mercy? How easy it is for us to forget God and Jesus Christ whom He has sent! We each come under the condemnation that rests upon ancient Israel, when we neglect to give thanksgiving to God for His daily mercies to us. When the leper returned to give glory to God, Christ asked, “Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?” Luke 17:17. Is there only one in ten who returns to give glory to God? Is this the proportion who return with overflowing hearts to render praise and thanksgiving for the mercy and loving kindness of our Heavenly Father? ❀

Review and Herald, May 21, 1895.

The reason we do not have more of the blessing of the Lord is that the professed people of God serve Him with divided hearts, as verily as did ancient Israel.

The reason why the children of Israel forsook Jehovah was that the generation rose up that had not been instructed concerning the great deliverance from Egypt by the hand of Jesus Christ. Their fathers had not rehearsed to them the history of the divine guardianship that had been over the children of Israel through all their travels in the wilderness. The Lord Jesus had given special instruction from the pillar of cloud, bringing before parents the responsibility of teaching their children the statutes and the commandments of God. They were to present to their children tokens of the power of God, and to perform ceremonies that would provoke inquiry, and give them an opportunity of repeating the works of God in dealing with His people. But the parents failed to act the part that God had assigned them in diligently teaching their children, so that they might have been intelligent in regard to the works of God in leading His people through the wilderness. Had the parents been

the living God. “Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.”

1 Corinthians 10:11. The failures and mistakes of ancient Israel are not as grievous in the sight of God as are the sins of the people of God in this age. Light has been increasing from age to age, and the generations that follow have the example of the generations that went before. The Lord does not change, and a sin which He condemned in former generations should be avoided by us. We should heed the admonition that has been given in the past, and lay hold of the promises that are made for the encouragement of the obedient. If we are learning lessons in obedience, following the path of faith and virtue, we have a living connection with God, and He will be our strength and support, our front guard, and our rearward. The same conditions must be fulfilled by us now as were by those who received rich blessings in former

The Short Cold Bath

There are hydrotherapeutic measures which, because of their ease and effectiveness, are very useful in the treatment of many different types of disorders. Everyone should become acquainted with the effective and simple uses of moist hot and cold applications. The short cold bath is one such treatment. It is easy to perform and has a wide application in a number of disorders. Some of these disorders are as follows:

Colds (both prevention and treatment), influenza, bronchitis, fevers, skin rashes, constipation, overweight, to treat excessive menstrual flow, to prevent too many menstrual periods, to treat a number of chronic diseases such as lupus, psoriasis, muscle disorders, reduced circulation, anemia, constipation, sluggish digestion, and for diuresis.

The technique for applying the short cold bath is very simple. An ordinary bathtub filled with tap water which will vary from 35 to 70 degrees depending on the climate and the time of year. The length of time the patient stays in the water will be determined to some degree by the water temperature. The colder the water the shorter the time spent in the water. The length of time should vary from 30 seconds to 3 minutes. Some people find it easier to have their first cold bath at a higher temperature, perhaps from 80 to 88 degrees.

Then each succeeding bath could be five degrees cooler until a bath temperature of around 50 degrees is achieved. Others find it easier to start each bath at about 80 degrees and quickly reduce the temperature of the water while applying active friction to the skin with a luffa sponge, a brush, or a coarse washcloth, or even a scratching motion of the fingernails. The friction greatly increases the ability to tolerate the cold. Therefore, if one can get settled in the cool tub

and finish the treatment with a coarse dry towel rubdown.

Length of treatment is determined more by the ability to endure it than by any other consideration. Since the treatment time should be progressive, time needs to be monitored to insure that there is indeed progress. There could be a real tendency to make each treatment progressively shorter. Timing will keep you honest.

After the treatment, one

should immediately wrap in a robe, go promptly to bed and allow the treatment to "react" for about 30 minutes. After the reaction time there will be an increase in the circulation to the skin, and a

Timing is important in this treatment, not so much because you might spend too much time enjoying your arctic plunge, but because a minute in a cold tub of water may seem like a much longer time.

of water, turn on the cold tap, or add ice to the water while applying vigorous friction to the skin, toleration of the cold can be expected. If a brush is used with a circular stroking to apply the cold water to the skin, it can usually be well tolerated.

Timing is important in this treatment, not so much because you might spend too much time enjoying your arctic plunge, but because a minute in a cold tub of water may seem like a much longer time. As mentioned, length of treatment should be from 30 seconds to three minutes. Use an ordinary kitchen timer or a stopwatch to keep yourself honest. Set it for the appointed length of time

hastening of the blood flow through the internal organs. With the beginning of the bath there is a momentary congestion of the internal organs with blood, and at the time the bath is finished, there is an increase in blood flow, somewhat similar to damming up a small stream and then breaking the dam. The water then rushes forth, carrying with it debris, and so forth, that may have accumulated for some time upstream. A similar reaction can be expected in the short cold bath.

Another benefit of the short cold bath is an enhancement of the immune system. The short exposure to cold in a treatment, in contrast to long exposure to cold

when working or sitting in a cold room, actually increases the activity of the immune system. Complement, opsonin, interferon, and other blood and tissue immunity weapons are made more ready to fight germs with the use of the short cold bath. The number of white blood cells in the blood stream is also increased, thereby increasing the body's ability to destroy germs.

The metabolic rate is increased by the short cold bath which can be understood to "burn" toxic products of metabolism along with foodstuffs. The digestion is at first slowed and after an hour or so will be increased. For this reason, the bath should not be taken immediately before or after a meal.

One should not take a cold bath if there is acute, high blood pressure. One should never take a cold bath when the body is cold or when one is tired. Shock and collapse are nicely treated by bathing the extremities with cold water, but the trunk should not be bathed. Many skin diseases can be best treated by the short cold bath, as it is one of the best ways to improve circulation to the skin. In hyperthyroidism [overactive thyroid] avoid cold exposure as the

thyroid may be stimulated by cold; but in hypothyroidism [underactive thyroid] cold baths are treatments of choice.

A Case History of Sorts by Don Miller

Years ago I felt the desire to do some real outdoor work. An opportunity to plant trees in the Upper Peninsula in September opened up so I signed on. Some quick map work showed me the Upper Peninsula was held in the chilly pinch of Lakes Superior and Michigan.

Planting trees is backbreaking, dirt grubbing, hoedad swinging, sweat-inducing physical labor of the first order. Each evening we would be brought back to camp tired, hungry, and exquisitely dirty. Now, I always go to bed tired, sometimes even hungry, but dirty? I left that behind in my Marine Corps field maneuvers days.

My tent was a simple dome tent, thus no shower or tub. Our campsite was just a corner of the area we were planting in, thus no public facilities. But I was dirty and could not go to sleep that way. Someone told me about an old stone quarry not far away which had become a small lake. To me it

would become a big bathtub.

The lake was cold, very cold. I probed an area just off shore with a stick to make sure this tub had a bottom and found a reasonably large area in sufficiently deep water to do the job. Now all I needed was enough reckless abandon to get in and stay in long enough to get clean.

I can say right now that working up the courage to get into that "tub" each evening was not easy. But the desire to be clean won out. Throwing my hastily discarded work clothes next to my neat pile of clean, dry clothing, I would plunge in. Soap never flew over a body so fast. I am sure not one of my baths ever lasted over five minutes. But after each bath, a miracle seemed to happen.

Clambering out, I would dry quickly and put on my clean clothing. And then it would begin, this delicious glow all over my body. Like a warm breeze I would drift through the woods to my tent. In my weeks of bathing in the cold water, I had no aches or pains, never even a snuffle, and I was at perfect peace. Cold will warm your heart! ❀

Emphasis Your Health, vol. 14, no. 4, 18-19.

How Can I Prevent and Treat Disease?

Here is how you can do it—and obey the eight laws of health.

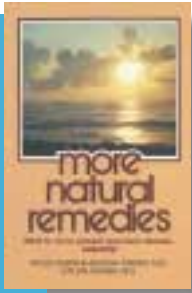
Hope International is pleased to share with you these health publications, especially focused on the prevention and treatment of disease. As we approach more difficult times ahead, it is most important that we understand how our bodies work and how to keep them healthy. A proper knowledge of the eight laws of health will also help us distinguish God's true remedies from the many popular counterfeits that the world offers. Last, but not least, we need to be well equipped to help our neighbors, whether they are looking for a better way of living, or they simply cannot afford or get access to traditional health care.



Natural Remedies — \$5.75 each

Natural Remedies (142 pages) discusses over fifty specific diseases, from acne to varicose veins and warts. Along with a description of each disease is an outline of simple home treatments. Very helpful in the home setting. By Phylis Austin with Drs. Agatha and Calvin Thrash, M.D.





More Natural Remedies — \$5.75 each

More Natural Remedies (110 pages) discusses forty-seven additional diseases to those discussed in the companion book, *Natural Remedies*. Along with a description of each disease is an outline of simple home treatments. Very helpful in the home setting. By Phylis Austin with Drs. Agatha and Calvin Thrash, M.D.



The Final Work — \$4.50 each

Medical missionary work—Christ’s end-time work—is discussed in sixteen chapters, covering subjects such as diet and spirituality, reasons for reform, agriculture, and each of the eight laws of health. This book is largely a Spirit-of-Prophecy study, containing over 500 inspired references regarding this important work.

78 pages; by Vernon Sparks, M.D.



Hydrotherapy — \$8.95 each

Why go to the medicine cabinet for every ailment? Hydrotherapy can often be the solution of choice as it helps your body effectively overcome common diseases by using simple treatments that do not leave undesirable side effects behind. 160 pages; by Clarence Dail, M.D. and Charles Thomas, Ph.D.



Heaven’s Health Service — \$5.00

This 69-page book presents inspired counsels in discussing such topics as acute care, health reform, simple remedies, and medical missionary work. Counsels regarding types, locations, and sizes of health institutions, type of health workers, and their remuneration are presented. Since each member is to work in medical missionary lines as did Christ, this book is a must for every church member as well as for church administrators and health workers. 69 pages; by Vernon Sparks, M.D.



Get Well at Home — \$19.95 each

Get Well at Home is a detailed handbook for true preventive medicine, treatment of disease, and natural lifestyle changes. It contains how-to instructions on the use of herbs, hydrotherapy, nutrition, exercise, and much more. This home medical reference will help you understand the most common illnesses and what to do for them right in your own home. Shared is the very successful experience of Dr. Richard Hansen, recent director of Poland Spring Health Institute, with his emphasis on simple remedies for the sick. 464 pages; by Richard Hansen, M.D.



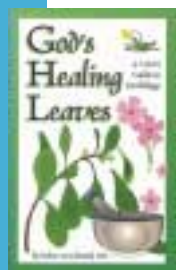
Home Remedies — \$10.00 each

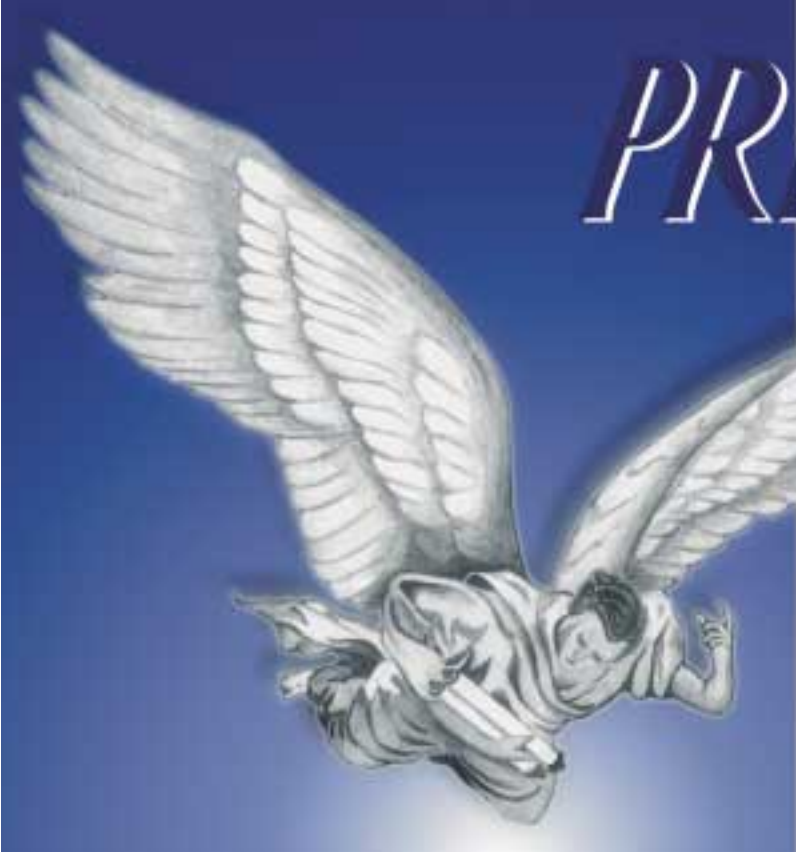
This book is a must for home care of the sick. It explains how the simple remedies work and how to apply them. Very practical. 176 pages; by Drs. Agatha and Calvin Thrash, M.D.



God’s Healing Leaves — \$9.95 each

Robert McClintock, a Naturopathic Doctor, has published this easy-to-use guide to herbology. Perhaps you have noticed how often the books that are available regarding herbs contain New-Age and spiritualistic theories. This book is written from a Christian perspective and is based on science, not old wives’ tales. Contains practical tips regarding making your own decoctions, infusions, and salves, as well as harvesting, storing, combining, and using safe dosages of herbs. By Robert McClintock, N.D.





PREPARING

for the

GREATEST REVIVAL

Ralph Larson

REVIVAL—stirring, hope-filled word! What inspiring and encouraging pictures it brings to the mind! The memory of the Christian pilgrims lingers fondly over the momentous revival of New Testament times, the history-changing revival of the Reformation, the Wesleyan revival in England, and the worldwide great Advent revival that gave birth to our own movement.

There have, of course, been revivals of smaller dimensions and of more local importance, but the great revivals in which the people of entire nations have been affected stand out as great and definitive landmarks on the horizon of religious history. They were occasions in which the truth of God was proclaimed in the Spirit's power, and the hearts of the hearers instinctively yielded to the holy influence. The course of history in towns, cities, and even countries, was changed. There are some historians who credit the Wesleyan revival in England for saving that country from such a bloody revolution as occurred in France.

Great, grand revivals—epochal demonstrations of God's saving power! Are they things of the past?

Are there no more revivals in store for us? We hear many appeals for revival. Are these to be in vain?—Certainly not!

The greatest revival of all time is yet to come!

The Lord Himself has promised it!

It is to be a revival that will surpass all others in scope, in numbers of people affected, and in demonstrations of God's saving power that produces eternal results. It is the revival that will accompany the loud cry of the third angel's message of Revelation 14:9–12, combined with the mighty voice of the fourth angel of Revelation 18:1–3. Truly the earth will be "lightened with his glory."

How will this revival compare with earlier revivals?

"Before the final visitation of God's judgments upon the earth there will be among the people of the Lord *such a revival of primitive godliness as has not been witnessed since apostolic times.*" *The Great Controversy*, 464. (All emphasis supplied unless otherwise noted.)

"A work of *worldwide extent and unwooned power* is here foretold." *Ibid.*, 611.

"The great work of the gospel is not to close with less manifestation of the power of God than marked its opening." *Ibid.*

Not since apostolic times: This revival will surpass the greatest days of the Reformation, bring mightier results than the Wesleyan revival in England, and be more far-reaching than the revival of the great Advent movement:

"The Advent movement of 1840–44 was a glorious manifestation of the power of God; the first angel's message was carried to every missionary station in the world, and in some countries there was the greatest religious interest which has been witnessed in any land since the Reformation of the sixteenth century; but these are to be exceeded by the mighty movement under the last warning of the third angel." *Ibid.*

What will be the characteristics of this the greatest of all revivals? They will include, but not be limited to, the following:

A Humble, Spirit-endowed Ministry

"As the time comes for it [the third angel's message] to be given

with greatest power, the Lord will work through humble instruments, leading the minds of those who consecrate themselves to His service. The laborers will be qualified rather by the unction of His Spirit than by the training of literary institutions." *Ibid.*, 606.

A Massive Lay-movement

"By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given." *Ibid.*, 612.

"Hundreds and thousands were seen [in vision] visiting families and opening before them the Word of God." *Testimonies*, vol. 9, 126.

Many "Eleventh-hour" Workers

"At the eleventh hour the Lord will gather a large company out of the world to serve Him." *Manuscript Release*, vol. 20, 320.

"At the eleventh hour the Lord will call into His service many faithful workers. Self-sacrificing men and women will step into the places made vacant by apostasy and death." *Youth's Instructor*, February 13, 1902.

"When the crisis is upon us, when the season of calamity shall come, they [the eleventh-hour workers] will come to the front." *Selected Messages*, book 3, 387.

"The one-hour laborers will be brought in at the eleventh hour, and will consecrate their ability and all their entrusted means to advance the work." *Review and Herald*, June 15, 1897.

The Corruptions of Babylon Exposed

"This scripture [Revelation 18:1-4] points forward to a time when the announcement of the fall of Babylon, as made by the second angel of Revelation 14 [verse 8], is to be repeated, with the additional mention of the corruptions which have been entering the various organizations that constitute Babylon, since that message was first given, in the summer of 1844. . . .

"These announcements, uniting with the third angel's message, constitute the final warning to be given to the inhabitants of the earth." *The Great Controversy*, 603-604.

No Church the Bible's Interpreter

"Though the Reformation gave the Scriptures to all, yet the selfsame principle which was maintained by Rome prevents multitudes in Protestant churches from searching the Bible for themselves. They are taught to accept its teachings as interpreted by the church." *Ibid.*, 596.

second coming." *Ibid.*, 464. They will be accompanied by some of the *leading men of the world* through whom the Lord is now working (see *Ibid.*, 611), and "*tribe after tribe* from the ranks of the enemy united [will unite] with the commandment-keeping people of God." *Testimonies*, vol. 8, 41.

Our hearts thrill and our spirits soar at the sight of these

The faithful preaching of God's Word in this great revival will bring deep conviction to minds and hearts and will result in the visible transformation of lives.

"But God will have a people upon the earth to maintain the Bible, and the Bible only, as the standard of all doctrines and the basis of all reforms." *Ibid.*, 595.

Exaltation of God's Holy Law

"It is only as the law of God is restored to its rightful position that there can be a revival of primitive faith and godliness among His professed people." *Ibid.*, 478.

The faithful preaching of God's Word in this great revival will bring deep conviction to minds and hearts and will result in the visible transformation of lives—the forsaking of the world, having little ecstatic emotionalism, but with deep and unutterable joy! This spiritual joy will be enhanced by the sight of huge numbers of accessions to the church!

According to the inspired description, "*thousands upon thousands* will listen who have never heard words like these." *Ibid.*, 606. The timid will become bold enough to sever all family connections or church relations which have restrained them, and "*a large number* [will] take their stand on the Lord's side." *Ibid.*, 612. "*Many, both of ministers and people*, will gladly accept those great truths which God has caused to be proclaimed at this time to prepare a people for the Lord's

promises and predictions! The grand climax of God's work on earth, and indeed of earth's history, are before us, and world events are testifying to the accuracy of the inspired prediction that "the final movements will be rapid ones." *Testimonies*, vol. 9, 11. Surely the stage is now being set for the final acts in the drama!

However, the story has not all been told. There is one who has studied all of these predictions with care, and has cunningly laid out his counterstrategy. Satan knows that he cannot prevent these prophecies from being fulfilled, and he has, therefore, chosen to try to defeat their purpose by means of a device that he has used before—the introduction of a counterfeit before the genuine appears. Let us look again at *The Great Controversy*, 464, "Before the final visitation of God's judgments upon the earth there will be among the people of the Lord such a revival of primitive godliness as has not been witnessed since apostolic times."

But look carefully a few lines further:

"The enemy of souls desires to hinder this work; and *before the time for such a movement shall come*, he will endeavor to prevent it, by introducing a counterfeit."

A counterfeit revival? Why not? Has not Satan set up a counterfeit

church, a counterfeit priesthood, and even a counterfeit Sabbath? Working through minds that are under his influence and agencies under his control, he will arrange for a counterfeit revival to appear before the true revival, just as he caused counterfeit messiahs to appear before the arrival of the true Messiah. A counterfeit is, of course, more effective if it is the first on the scene, and by a careful study of the

power of God in the revivals of our time." Ibid., 465.

A Turning Away From Self-denial

"Wherever men neglect the testimony of the Bible, turning away from those plain, soul-testing truths which require self-denial and renunciation of the world, there we may be sure that God's blessing is not bestowed." Ibid., 464.

Satan . . . will arrange for a counterfeit revival to appear before the true revival, just as he caused counterfeit messiahs to appear before the arrival of the true Messiah.

prophecies Satan is able to accomplish this. He will apply to it his utmost efforts, for he knows it will be the final struggle.

"The last great delusion is soon to open before us. Antichrist is to perform his marvelous works in our sight. So closely will the counterfeit resemble the true, that it will be impossible to distinguish between them except by the Holy Scriptures. By their testimony every statement and every miracle must be tested." Ibid., 593.

How then may we recognize the false revival and distinguish it from the true? As we have noted some of the characteristics of the true revival, let us give attention to some of the characteristics of the false:

Feelings Emphasized Above Truth

"There is an emotional excitement, a mingling of the true with the false, that is well adapted to mislead." Ibid., 464.

Lowered Standards of Piety

"A wrong conception of the character, the perpetuity, and the obligation of the divine law has led to errors in relation to conversion and sanctification, and has resulted in lowering the standard of piety in the church. Here is to be found the secret of the lack of the Spirit and

Use of Music to Excite the Emotions

"The things you have described . . . the Lord has shown me would take place just before the close of probation. . . . There will be shouting, with drums, music, and dancing. The senses of rational beings will become so confused that they cannot be trusted to make right decisions. And this is called the moving of the Holy Spirit. . . .

"The powers of satanic agencies blend with the din and noise, to have a carnival, and this is termed the Holy Spirit's working." *Selected Messages*, book 2, 36.

"Satan works amid the din and confusion of such music, which, properly conducted, would be a praise and glory to God. He makes its effect like the poison sting of the serpent." Ibid., 37.

A Downgrading of the Divine Law

"Without the law, men have no just conception of the purity and holiness of God or of their own guilt and uncleanness. They have no true conviction of sin and feel no need of repentance. Not seeing their lost condition as violators of God's law, they do not realize their need of the atoning blood of Christ. The hope of salvation is accepted without a radical change of heart or reforma-

tion of life. Thus superficial conversions abound, and multitudes are joined to the church who have never been united to Christ." *The Great Controversy*, 468.

Shallow and Superficial Conversions

"Converts thus gained [by exciting the emotions] have little desire to listen to Bible truth, little interest in the testimony of prophets and apostles. Unless a religious service has something of a sensational character, it has no attractions for them. A message which appeals to unimpassioned reason awakens no response." Ibid., 463.

A Mass Exodus From the True Church

"As the storm approaches, a large class who have professed faith in the third angel's message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side." Ibid., 608

"When the testing time shall come, those who have made God's Word their rule of life will be revealed. In summer there is no noticeable difference between evergreens and other trees; but when the blasts of winter come, the evergreens remain unchanged, while other trees are stripped of their foliage. So the falsehearted professor may not now be distinguished from the real Christian, but the time is just upon us when the difference will be apparent. Let opposition arise, let bigotry and intolerance again bear sway, let persecution be kindled, and the halfhearted and hypocritical will waver and yield the faith; but the true Christian will stand firm as a rock, his faith stronger, his hope brighter, than in days of prosperity." Ibid., 602.

In vision the Lord's messenger saw: "Standard after standard was left to trail in the dust as company

(continued on page 30)

Where Are the Dead?

How to mark your Bible and know God's Word better

We present this study with the desire that it will encourage you, our readers, to pursue a deeper examination of God's Word. The warning has been given us that "none but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict." The Great Controversy, 593–594. It is our suggestion that you use this study personally, in group settings, or with your family. We also encourage you to add other Scriptural references to this study as you proceed in your own personal, attentive scrutiny of God's Word.

Bible Marking Directions

1. In this month's study our Bible marking key letters are WD, which represent "Where are the dead?"
2. On the blank flyleaf at either the beginning or end of your Bible, write in the key letters followed by the first Scriptural text. This month's beginning entry would appear as follows: *WD Ecclesiastes 12:7*
3. Turn to the first reference and in the margin near it write the second reference. Then turn to the second reference and in the margin near it write the third reference, and so on to the end of the lesson. When you come to the last reference write "End WD."

1WD Ecclesiastes 12:7.

At death the body returns back to dust; the spirit returns to God who gave it. This spirit which returns to God is not some entity which is capable of a conscious existence apart from the body, but it is the breath of life (see James 2:26, margin), which God gave to man to make him a living, conscious personality. See Genesis 2:7. So at death the spirit, which is the breath of life, simply returns to God who is the great Originator of life.

2WD Acts 2:34.

One thousand years after David had died, Peter, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, declared that David was not in heaven. This text emphatically proves that the righteous do not go to heaven when they die.

3WD Psalm 17:15.

David expected to go to heaven only after he would awaken from the sleep of death, on the resurrection morning, at the second coming of Christ.

4WD 1Thessalonians 4:16–17.

The righteous living and the dead saints do not go to heaven until the second coming of Jesus Christ. See 1 Thessalonians 2:19; John 14:3. All life after death depends upon one thing—the fact of the resurrection.

5WD 1Corinthians 15:16–18.

Without the resurrection, all of the good people who have died are perished. This could not be true if

they went to heaven when they died. If the righteous went to heaven when they died, there would be no need of a resurrection. There could be no reason for Christ to come back to this earth the second time to gather His saints (see John 14:3) if they had already gone to heaven at death. If the wicked go into hell-fire at death, and the righteous to heaven at death, what need would there be for a judgment day at the end of time, or for Christ to reward every man exactly according to his works? Yet that is what we read in Matthew 16:27; Revelation 22:12. This idea of a person going to hell or heaven at death destroys the Bible doctrine of the resurrection, the second coming of Christ, and the judgment at the last day. There is no text in the Bible which, when rightly understood, teaches that anybody goes to hell or heaven at death, because the Bible simply does not contradict itself!

6WD Ecclesiastes 3:20.

All go to one place at death, and that one place is the grave, where all turn to dust again. See Job 30:23; John 5:28–29. The Bible never speaks of the soul or spirit going out of the body at death to maintain, or to become capable of maintaining, a conscious existence somewhere else. Eight times in the Bible the soul is spoken of as going into the grave at death. See Acts 2:31; Job 33:18, 22, 28, 30; Psalm 30:3; 89:48; Isaiah 38:18.

7WD Psalm 146:3–4.

When a man dies, his mind ceases to function; his brain waves

stop, and he remains unconscious until the resurrection.

8WD Psalm 115:17.

If the righteous went to heaven when they died, they certainly would be praising God now, but this text says plainly that the dead praise not the Lord.

9WD Job 14:21.

The dead do not know anything about what takes place on earth after they die, because they are unconscious. In the Bible, death is called a sleep many times. Thus we

understand that the dead are unconscious—just as a person is unconscious who is in a deep sleep. The breath of life from God made Adam a living soul, a conscious being, and when that breath of life was taken away at his death, it would necessarily leave him to be a dead soul (see Ezekiel 18:20), an unconscious being, until the resurrection, when the breath of life, or spirit, is put back into him again.

10WD Ecclesiastes 9:5–6.

The dead do not know anything. When a Christian dies, the

next moment, as far as his knowledge is concerned, he will be with Christ. The lapse of time between a Christian's death and Jesus' second coming, the glorious resurrection day, will seem to him like an instant. To him it will seem as if the next moment after he closes his eyes in death, he will awaken to be with his blessed Saviour forever. The first righteous man who died will awaken and stand in Christ's presence at the same time as the last man who died. To each, the elapsed time between death and the resurrection will seem to be only for a moment. ✚

IMMORTALITY & SPIRITUALISM

Much of the professed Christian world today believes that man has an immortal soul, and that when he dies his soul goes to heaven—or perhaps hell. This belief was handed down to us from paganism, and, as with most heathen beliefs, there is no truth in it.

While the belief in the immortality of the soul seems to many to be an innocent philosophy, it lays the foundation for a whole false religion—spiritualism. It opens an unobstructed line of communication through which Satan, with his confederate evil angels, can communicate soul-destroying errors to the unsuspecting. The following inexpensive books are excellent to share personally or door-to-door with friends, family, or neighbors, or by bulk mail to your whole Zip code area:



***Is the Virgin Mary Dead or Alive?* — \$1.00 each**

What is it about Mary? Why have thousands of billboards appeared throughout this country, urging you to call for a message from the Virgin Mary? And what about all the reported miracles, visions, appearances, messages, predictions, weeping statues, and bleeding icons? Is it really Mary? What does the Bible say? Over 580 Scriptural references. 92 pages; by Danny Vierra

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11–299: **55¢ each**

1–7 cases (300 books in each case): **40¢ each**

8 cases or more: **30¢ each**

Please see page 3 for shipping and sales tax information.



The Path to Pentecost

Marshall Grosball

WHEN JESUS TAUGHT His disciples to pray, He said, “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. . . . If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? . . . If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!” Luke 11:9–13.¹

The most precious thing Jesus could tell the disciples to ask for was the Holy Spirit. And He assured them that the Father was more than anxious to give this gift to them if they would ask for it, seek for it, and keep on knocking for it.

Our Greatest Need

As individuals and as a church, our greatest need is for more of the Holy Spirit. It is this Gift that will “bring all other blessings in its train.” *Testimonies*, vol. 8, 21. “For the daily baptism of the Spirit every worker should offer his petition to God.” *The Acts of the Apostles*, 50.

“It is the absence of the Spirit that makes the gospel ministry so powerless. . . . Without the presence of the Spirit of God, no heart will be

touched, no sinner won to Christ.” *Testimonies*, vol. 8, 21. People may be baptized (see *Evangelism*, 309, 313), but no true conversion takes place without the influence of the Holy Spirit.

Thus Ellen White asks the question: “Why do we not hunger and thirst for the Gift of the Spirit, since this is the means by which we are to receive power? . . . Is not the Spirit of God to come today, in answer to earnest, persevering prayer, and fill men with power for service? Why, then, is the church so weak and spiritless?” *Testimonies*, vol. 8, 22.

Jesus recognized this paramount need. That is why He talked about the Holy Spirit more than any other topic:

“Christ, the Great Teacher, had an infinite variety of subjects from which to choose, but the one upon which He dwelt most largely was the endowment of the Holy Spirit. What great things He predicted for the church because of this endowment! Yet what subject is less dwelt upon now? What promise is less fulfilled? An occasional discourse is given upon the Holy Spirit, and then the subject is left for after consideration.” *Selected Messages*, book 1, 156–157.

The blessings of the Holy Spirit should not be confused with mere feeling. Nor should the evidences of the Holy Spirit be confused with good public relations, nor a fair outward appearance. When the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the church it will bring humility, a Pentecostal revival, and a shaking. The result will be the true conversion of many souls. These souls will not be mere encumbrances upon the church books, but true disciples of the Lord.

Let us face the fact that we have not yet received this precious Gift. While the Holy Spirit works upon the hearts of all men, the special outpouring of the Spirit has not yet taken place. The reason is that we have not met the conditions necessary. The Father longs to pour out this Gift upon us, but we have refused it. Therefore, He sorrowfully waits for a receptive people.

Conditions for the Holy Spirit

There are conditions for the reception of the Holy Spirit. Each of these conditions must be met, both by us individually and by us as a church. Eventually, all of us are either going to fully meet the conditions and be filled with the

Holy Spirit and sealed in righteousness, or we are going to irrevocably reject the conditions and forfeit God's protection. Thus we will be left to the deceptive influences of Satan and will become followers of the beast. When Jesus comes, all will be either filled with God's Spirit and sealed in holiness, or filled with Satan's spirit and sealed in sin. The conditions for receiving the Holy Spirit are as follows:

promise is not seen as it might be, it is because the promise is not appreciated as it should be. If all were willing, all would be filled with the Spirit." *The Acts of the Apostles*, 50.

"Christ declared that the divine influence of the Spirit was to be with His followers unto the end. But the promise is not appreciated. . . . [It] is a matter little thought of; and the result is only what might be expected—spiritual drought, spiritual

and we need earnest corporate prayer as a church.

"Do not rest satisfied that in the ordinary course of the season, rain will fall. Ask for it. . . . God's work for us demands the action of our mind, the exercise of our faith. . . . We should improve every opportunity of placing ourselves in the channel of blessing. Christ has said, 'Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst. Matthew 18:20.' The convocations of the church, as in camp meetings, the assemblies of the home church, and all occasions where there is personal labor for souls, are God's appointed opportunities for giving the early and the latter rain." *Testimonies to Ministers*, 508.

"Why do we not hunger and thirst for the gift of the Spirit? Why do we not talk of it, pray for it, and preach concerning it? . . . Companies of Christian workers should gather to ask for special help, for heavenly wisdom, that they may know how to plan and execute wisely. Especially should they pray that God will baptize His chosen ambassadors in mission fields with a rich measure of His Spirit. The presence of the Spirit with God's workers will give the proclamation of truth a power that not all the honor or glory of the world could give." *The Acts of the Apostles*, 50–51.

3. We Must Overcome Sin

Again, like all other conditions, this too applies to us—both as individuals and as a church body. Before we can individually be filled with the Spirit, we must overcome sin. And before our church can be filled with the Spirit, we must have a pure church. This condition is emphasized over and over in the Bible and in the Spirit of Prophecy. Scholars and men of eloquence may argue against this until the day they are lost, but the condition still stands, and the Holy Spirit will never be poured out upon us until this condition is met.

"The heart must be emptied of every defilement, and cleansed for the indwelling of the Spirit. It was by the confession and forsaking of sin, by earnest prayer and consecration of themselves to God, that the early

If asked, most of us would readily admit that we want the Holy Spirit. But the question is, How much do we want Him?. . . How much do we plan for Him?

1. We Must Want the Holy Spirit

After Jesus was baptized, "Immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness. And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts." Mark 1:12–13.

The Spirit led Him into the wilderness and there left Him, without food or shelter. Day by day He grew more and more hungry. The devil reminded Him that not far away, Mary had a place set for Him at His regular place at the table. She had His bed waiting for Him to return.

He was tempted to think that He had misunderstood the Holy Spirit's leading. Surely, if the Holy Spirit had led Him there, He would provide for Him.

The test was: Would He remain where the Holy Spirit put Him, or would He choose His own way? What did He want more—to be where the Holy Spirit put Him, or to have food and shelter? Eventually, He got so hungry that He was ready to die. Then it was that Jesus showed that He would rather have the Holy Spirit by being where the Holy Spirit put Him, than to have life itself. Jesus had to pass this test before He worked His first miracle.

Anyone who wants the Holy Spirit this much, will have Him.

"If the fulfillment of the

darkness, spiritual declension and death. Minor matters occupy the attention, and the divine power which is necessary for the growth and prosperity of the church . . . is lacking, though offered in its infinite plenitude." *Testimonies*, vol. 8, 21.

If asked, most of us would readily admit that we want the Holy Spirit. But the question is, How much do we want Him? How much do we talk of Him? How much do we pray for Him? How much do we plan for Him?

On the church board, how much time do we spend talking about and preparing for the Holy Spirit—compared to the time we spend on who is going to clean the church and how we are going to fix the church lawn mower? Our priorities are measured by what occupies our attention. Ellen White says that "minor matters occupy the attention"; therefore the Holy Spirit is not given.

2. We Must Pray for the Spirit

"Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain; so the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain." Zechariah 10:1, KJV. One of the specific conditions for receiving the Holy Spirit is that we ask for Him. This, like all other conditions, applies to us individually, as well as to us corporately as a church. We need daily, private prayer for the Spirit,

disciples prepared for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. The same work, *only in greater degree*, must be done now. . . . *Only* those who are living up to the light they have will receive greater light. Unless we are daily advancing in the exemplification of the active Christian virtues, we shall not recognize the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain. It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it." *Testimonies to Ministers*, 507. (All emphasis supplied unless otherwise noted.)

"Today you are to have your vessel purified, that it may be ready for the heavenly dew, ready for the showers of the latter rain; for the latter rain will come, and the blessing of God will fill every soul that is *purified from every defilement*. It is our work today to yield our souls to Christ, that we may be fitted for the time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord—fitted for the baptism of the Holy Spirit." *Evangelism*, 702.

The Holy Spirit will not dwell in a divided heart or a divided church. We must put away sin and selfishness so that the Holy Spirit can reign within.

"There is no limit to the usefulness of one who, putting self aside, makes room for the working of the Holy Spirit." *The Ministry of Healing*, 159.

David fully recognized his need of the Holy Spirit in order to win souls, and that in order to have this Spirit, he must put away sin. Thus he prayed, "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. . . . Create in me a clean heart, O God. . . . *Do not take Your Holy Spirit from me*. . . . Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You." Psalm 51:7-13.

4. We Must Be Interested in Souls

If we want the Holy Spirit, we must ask ourselves why we want Him. The Jews in Jesus' day wanted the Messiah to come, but why? They did not want Him to come so that souls could be saved, but so that they could be exalted. Thus the Messiah was not manifested to them.

"God will today endow men and women with power from above, as He endowed those who on the Day of Pentecost heard the word of salvation. At this very hour His Spirit and His grace are for all who need them and will take Him at His Word.

"Notice that it was after the disciples had come into perfect unity, when they were no longer striving for the highest place, that the Spirit was poured out. . . . The disciples did not ask for a blessing for themselves. They were weighted with the burden of souls. The gospel

was to be carried to the ends of the earth, and they claimed the endowment of power that Christ had promised. Then it was that the Holy Spirit was poured out, and thousands were converted in a day.

"So it may be now. Let Christians put away all dissension and give themselves to God for the saving of the lost. Let them ask in faith for the promised blessing, and it will come. The outpouring of the Spirit in the days of the apostles was 'the former rain,' and glorious was the result. But the latter rain will be more abundant." *Testimonies*, vol. 8, 20-21.

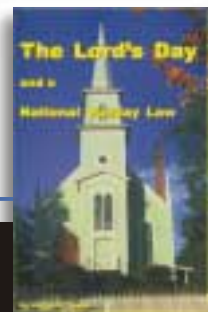
Now Is the Time

"The descent of the Holy Spirit upon the church is looked forward to as in the future; but it is the privilege of the church to have it *now*. Seek for it, pray for it, believe for it. We must have it, and Heaven is waiting to bestow it." *Evangelism*, 701.

What glorious promises are ours! Many are waiting for some time in the future for these promises to be fulfilled. However, we are not waiting for God; He is waiting for us! The promises are for today—as soon as we meet the conditions. ✚

¹ Unless noted otherwise, Scripture texts in this article are from the New King James Version.

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STRIKING EXAMPLES OF PRAYER

Ellen G. White

Prayer has been made the means of obtaining blessings that would not otherwise be received. The patriarchs were men of prayer, and God did great things for them. When Jacob left his father's house for a strange land, he prayed in humble contrition, and in the night season the Lord answered him through vision. He saw a ladder, bright and shining, its base resting on earth, and its topmost round reaching to the highest Heaven. At its top stood the God of Heaven in His glory, and angels were ascending and descending upon the mystic ladder. The Lord comforted the lonely wanderer with precious promises; and protecting angels were represented as stationed on each side of his path. Afterward, while on his return to his father's house, he wrestled with the Son of God all night, even till break of day, and prevailed. The assurance was given him, "Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel:

for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men." Genesis 32:28.

Joseph prayed, and he was preserved from sin amid influences that were calculated to lead him away from God. When tempted to leave the path of purity and uprightness, he said, "How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?" Genesis 39:9.

Moses, who was much in prayer, was known as the meekest man on the face of the earth. For his meekness and humility he was honored of God, and he discharged with fidelity the high, noble, and sacred responsibilities intrusted to him. While leading the children of Israel through the wilderness, again and again it seemed that they must be exterminated on account of their murmuring and rebellion. But Moses went to the true Source of power; he laid the case before the Lord. He knew that Israel had provoked

divine wrath, and were deserving of punishment; but he could not bear the thought of their being rejected of God.

Moses pleaded the words of God with an earnestness and sincerity which mortals have never equaled: "And now, I beseech thee, let the power of my LORD be great, according as thou hast spoken, saying, The LORD is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty. . . . Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy, and as thou hast forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now." And the Lord said, "I have pardoned according to thy word." Numbers 14:17-20.

Here is an example of intelligent prayer—an appeal to the reason and the sympathy of Jehovah; and Moses' prayer was answered, because God is reasonable and compassionate. The sorrows of His people touch His heart of love; and will He not hear our prevailing prayer? Will not our very urgency be regarded? His loving-kindness faileth not. As a kind Father, He does not mock the miseries of His children. And will He not avenge His own, who cry day and night unto Him?

Daniel was a man of prayer; and God gave him wisdom and firmness to resist every influence that conspired to draw him into the snare of intemperance. Even in his youth he was a moral giant in the strength of the Mighty One. Afterward, when a decree

was made that if for thirty days anyone should ask a petition of any God or man, save of the king, he should be cast into a den of lions, Daniel, with firm, undaunted step, made his way to his chamber, and with his windows open prayed aloud three times a day, as he had done before. He was cast into the lions' den; but God sent holy angels to guard His servant.

In the prison at Philippi, while suffering from the cruel stripes they had received, their feet fast in the stocks, Paul and Silas prayed and sang praise to God; and angels were sent from Heaven to deliver them. The earth shook under the tread of these heavenly messengers, and the prison doors flew open, setting the prisoners free.

There are two kinds of prayer—the prayer of form and the prayer of faith. The repetition of set, customary phrases when the heart feels no need of God, is formal prayer. “When ye pray,” says Christ, “use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.” Matthew 6:7. We should be extremely careful in all our prayers to speak the wants of the heart, and to say only what we mean. All the flowery words at our command are not equivalent to one holy desire. The most eloquent prayers are but vain repetitions, if they do not express the true sentiments of the heart. But the prayer that comes from an earnest heart, when the simple wants of the soul are expressed just as we would ask an earthly friend for a favor, expecting that it would be granted—this is the prayer of faith. The publican who went up to the temple to pray is a good example of a sincere, devoted worshiper. He felt that he was a sinner, and his great need led to an outburst of passionate desire, “God be merciful to me a sinner.” Luke 18:13.

In order to have spiritual life and energy, we must have actual intercourse with God. Our minds may be drawn out toward Him; we may meditate upon His works, His

mercies, His blessings; but this is not communing with Him. To commune with God we must have something to say to him concerning our actual life. The long, black catalog of our delinquencies is before the eye of the Infinite. The register is complete; none of our offenses are forgotten. But He who wrought wonderfully for His servants of old will listen to the prayer of faith and pardon our transgressions. He has promised, and He will fulfill His Word. Then why should not the desires of our hearts go out after Him, and the attitude of our souls ever be that of supplication?

prayed together in the place where they assembled for worship; they also resorted to the temple at the hour of prayer. Paul exhorted the Ephesians to pray “always with all prayer.” Ephesians 6:18. He who loves to pray alone, as did Daniel, may be assured that in public prayer his motive is not to be heard of men.

Oh that we could impress on the minds of all, the great willingness of God to help and strengthen every one who looks to Him in trusting prayer! The oil and wine of consolation will be given to those who seek for it; the importunate soul will know Him

We cannot be borne up by the prayers of others when we ourselves neglect to pray, for God has made no such provision for us.

“If ye abide in me,” says Christ, “and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.” John 15:7. There are some who do not abide in Jesus, and His words do not abide in them, and these make little of prayer. They talk of praying in secret, but not in public nor in the family; but such ones seldom pray at all. Our Saviour taught His disciples: “But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.” Matthew 6:6. This was not said to forbid public prayer, but to warn the disciples against praying as the Pharisees did, in the corners of the streets and in the market places to be seen of men. Jesus prayed, sometimes alone, sometimes in the presence of His most intimate disciples, sometimes in the presence of the twelve, and sometimes in the presence of the Jews.

Jesus promised a special blessing on united prayer. After His death, the disciples often

as the One who hears and answers prayer, the One who “comforteth those that are cast down.” 2 Corinthians 7:6. He is a God over all the earth, exercising over the whole human family an unwearied and solicitous watchcare which nothing can escape. Every moment He grants audience to those who lay their wants and desires before Him; and every moment He is ministering to the necessities of thousands who live upon His bounties, yet yield Him no tribute of grateful praise, give no token that they realize their dependence upon Him.

After we have offered our petitions, we are to answer them ourselves as far as possible, and not wait for God to do for us what we can do for ourselves. The help of God is held in reserve for all who demand it. Divine help is to be combined with human effort, aspiration, and energy. But we cannot reach the battlements of Heaven without climbing for ourselves. We cannot be borne up by the prayers of others when we ourselves neglect to pray, for God

(continued from page 22)

has made no such provision for us. Not even divine power can lift one soul to Heaven that is unwilling to put forth efforts in his own behalf. The unlovely traits in our characters are not removed, and replaced by traits that are pure and lovely, without some effort on our part.

As thus step by step we ascend the shining ladder that leads to the city of God, oh how many times we shall be discouraged, and come to weep at the feet of Jesus over our failures and our defeats! In our efforts to follow the copy set us by our Lord, we shall make crooked lines, and leave many a page blotted and blistered by our tears of repentance. Yet, let us not cease our efforts. Heaven can be attained by every one of us if we will strive lawfully, doing the will of Jesus and growing into His image. Temporary failure should make us lean more heavily on Christ, and we should press on with brave heart, determined will, and unfaltering purpose.

We should be continually loosening our hold upon earth, and fastening it upon Heaven. Soon we must render an account to God for all the deeds done in the body. This accountability extends to our minutest acts, words, and thoughts, and even reaches to the unconscious influence that breathes out from our life like the fragrance from a flower. We must give an account, not only for what we have done both of evil and of good, but for what we might have done, but have neglected. Viewed in this light, life is a sacred trust. It is not mere play. Every moment of it is intensely real, fraught with eternal interests. Let us, then, realize our great need of Christ and our dependence upon Him; and let us thank God that help has been laid upon One who is mighty to save. ✠

Signs of the Times, August 14, 1884.



after company from the Lord's army joined the foe." *Testimonies*, vol. 8, 41.

Elder H. M. S. Richards, Sr., founder of the Voice of Prophecy radio program, read the above statement to the delegates assembled at the General Conference session in Dallas, Texas. He then asked the question, "What is a company? Is it a church, a Local Conference, a Union Conference, or even a Division?" We had better recognize that it might be any or all of these, and determine to have our faith so firmly fixed that we will neither go out with the apostates, who might number in the millions, nor suffer discouragement from seeing them go. It will be a time to remember the words of the apostle John:

"They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us; but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us." 1 John 2:19.

It is important to recognize that the difference between the first, false revival, and the later, true revival, is not to be ascertained by counting the numbers of persons who are involved. One of the major reasons for the rapid spread of the false revival will be its appeal to the unconsecrated—with the resulting large numbers of superficial conversions.

Of this false revival we read:

"There will be manifest what is thought to be great religious interest. *Multitudes* will exult that God is working marvelously for them, when the work is that of another spirit." *The Great Controversy*, 464.

Well may we wonder when we observe programs that have some or all of the characteristics of the false revival shown above, accompanied by advertising concerning methods of gaining the power of the Holy Spirit:

"The Holy Spirit has nothing to do with such a confusion of noise and multitude of sounds." *Selected Messages*, book 2, 37.

Two revivals—two results!

One is a savor of life unto life; the other of death unto death. Those who are allured by anything that "makes them feel good about themselves," by the secular spirit and worldly, emotional appeal of the false revival, are not likely to see anything desirable in the later, true revival. The uncompromising appeal for true repentance will leave them unmoved, as will the call for a higher and holier life.

But "deep calleth unto deep." Psalm 42:7. *There will be a people* who will be undeceived, a people whose faith and practice will be based solidly upon the eternal Word of God, a people whose spiritual discernment will be so sharpened by the study of the Scriptures that they will spurn the shallow and the superficial and accept only the pure gold of God's eternal plan of salvation.

There will be a people who will go through the dangers of the false revival, but who will share in the thrilling victories of the true.

There will be a people who will stand on the sea of glass, singing the triumphant song of victory!

Will we be among that people? The choice is ours. Ample provision has been made for us in light, in guidance, in instruction, in cautions, in forewarnings, and in the fully adequate, sustaining power of our Redeemer. None need be confused. None need be discouraged. None need be carried away in the deceptions of the false revival. We may share in the glorious experiences of the greatest of all revivals if we wish.

Let us make that our firm purpose and our goal by the power of Christ! ✠



I have been reading *Our Firm Foundation* for seven years now and have been greatly blessed for it. Your publication has done much to help me in my studies, and to help me develop a closer relationship with our Saviour. Over the years as I have read and studied the Bible, I would always have questions about one thing or the other that I did not understand. Your magazine covers the teachings of our church so well and truthfully that I could most always find my answers there.

I am handicapped and do not get to go out much and you have been sending me complementary subscriptions for several years now. All I can do is thank you for your kindness and compassion. If it were not for organizations like yours, I don't think our message would be preached at all.

I thank you for your help and your time. May God continue to bless Hope International and the wonderful work that you do for Him.

RB, New York

I have just read Clark Floyd's article "The Loud Cry of the Fourth Angel," and I have to say I was very much touched by what he wrote. I am so attached to this magazine and what it is saying to me that I can't put it down. I take it to work now and read it at lunch time and soon I will be through it. Do you have more? I will gladly pay you for them! Also, I just read the letter to the editor of Mr. AM, Zambia of the June issue. It was so inspiring to read that letter he wrote. I want that kind of purpose in my life also. I need more of what you are sharing.

JA, Washington

From Overseas

It gives me great pleasure to write to you again to express my very sincere thanks to you for sending me three copies of *Our Firm Foundation*. We are studying them repeatedly and daily in my school where I teach the gospel and in my evening Bible class.

The magazines have stimulated and attracted many Sunday-worshippers, and they are seriously planning to join the SDA church, which keeps the true and correct Sabbath of God—Saturday. I will let you know how many people have joined the SDA church as a result of reading your magazine and the books you sent me last year.

We have at least known the true God by standing on your shoulders. We now have salvation at the baby stage, and we are growing daily by reading what material you send us. It's "spiritual food" that you mail to us. We pray that you will continue to feed us spiritually in this crisis hour of the world's history.

EM, Tanzania

I write to apply for *Testimonies*, volumes 1–9 and *Counsels for the Church* volume 1 and 2. I am a Seventh-day Adventist Sabbath School teacher. Most of the time the lessons refer us to such books (indicated above) to read more for additional information.

Could you please help us to get them so we can learn more of the prophecies concerning the end of times?

SS, Ghana

I am a young man within the independent ministry here in the Solomons. The Lord has blessed us here in these isles. The work is going ahead, and God is richly blessing souls that have been reached through His three angels' messages. The ministry has been active in conducting series of meetings in areas with Honiara town, the capital. Currently, due to an ethnic tension sweeping through the island, the work has spread to other islands within the Solomons, as others leave for their various islands. We have been receiving your magazines, and they have been a real blessing to us here.

DP, Solomon Islands

We want to thank you for the perceptive literature you sent us—

Earth's Final Warning, Behold He Cometh and The Lord's Day and a National Sunday Law. Our free lending mobile library ministry is expanding and the above material is being distributed. Now after Seventh-day Adventists have read and grasped the word of God, they return the literature and we give it to non-Seventh-day Adventists.

As the number of library users increases, we want to kindly request for more literature—*Earth's Final Warning, Rome's Arraignment of Sabbathbreakers, Is the Virgin Mary Dead or Alive? Bibles, Prophets and Kings, Acts of the Apostles*, and others.

RM, Zimbabwe

We are blessed with your articles in *Our Firm Foundation*. I am also happy that I want to spread this precious heritage. My only problem is that I do not have the Spirit of Prophecy books, especially those which deal with health reform, for here in Zimbabwe people are ignorant on the subject.

If you could also help me with health tracts, that will help a lot. People are dying, without being warned of their fate. The latter rain is about to be poured out. The tracts containing present truth need to be scattered like the leaves of autumn. May God bless you in your efforts to reach the whole world with this God-given truth.

OT, Zimbabwe

I am so thankful to have received the wonderful gift. The books are always interesting and informative. On top of that, it has been difficult to stop reading them because they are making the Bible understandable.

Furthermore, I appreciate being led from darkness to light! No longer do I feel like an outsider looking in, but a part of God's great plan! Through reading the Spirit of Prophecy (Revelation 19:10), the Bible says, "Blessed is the hand that giveth, more than the one that taketh."

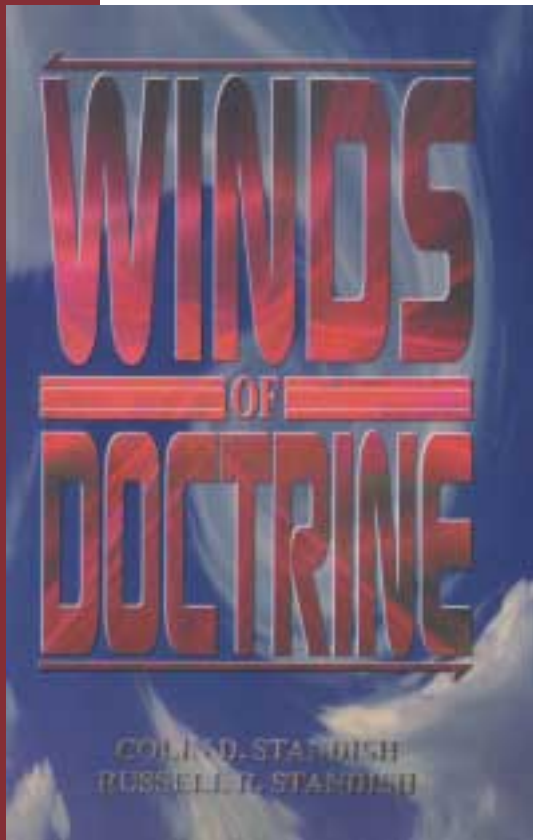
FM, Zambia

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Winds of Doctrine

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by Colin D. Standish and
Russell R. Standish

Over a decade ago, the authors presented a book entitled *Keepers of the Faith*. In that book, twenty-two deadly errors that had invaded the Seventh-day Adventist Church were examined and exposed. Many men and women have been protected from error by the warnings in that book. But in the years that have passed since then, the prophetic statement of the servant of the Lord that “confederacies shall increase until the end of time” [see *Review and Herald* Articles, August 5, 1909] has been fulfilled as numerous additional errors have invaded the Seventh-day Adventist faith.

The authors have discovered that, like those dealt with in *Keepers of the Faith*, most of these additional errors have their foundation in the fallen churches of Babylon. But unlike most of the older errors, which originated in mainly denominational institutions of learning, most of the present errors have come from those claiming to be faithful to the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, many of whom are in self-supporting work.

This is the greatest evidence that Satan has not confined his attacks to denominational workers and leaders, but has also attacked those in the self-supporting work. The tragedy is that some have accepted the nefarious subtleties of Satan and have led many, who are not stabilized in the faith, away from truth and righteousness. The ultimate and sad result will be that many souls will be lost for the kingdom of heaven.

This book is essential reading for all earnest Seventh-day Adventists. It takes up issues as central to the apostasy as: the Name of God, the Godhead, the Person of the Holy Spirit, the eternal existence of Christ, the Wednesday crucifixion, the correct Sabbath hours, and God’s destructive judgment.

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