# Our Firm Lation

The Seventh-day Sabbath | Christ Our Righteousness | The Immutable Law of God

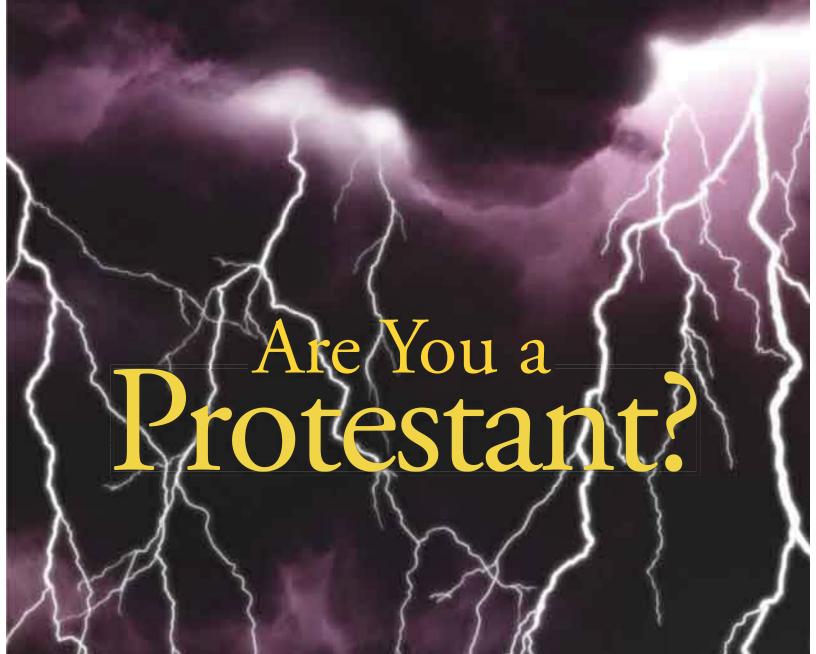
The Non-Immortality of the Soul

The Three Angels' Messages

**The Sanctuary** 

Volume 19, Number 10

October 2004





Joe Olson

# "Be Ye Also Patient . . . "

"Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh." James 5:8. As I cross-referenced this verse, I was struck with how many times the word "patience," or some derivation thereof, was used in Scripture.

God's people throughout the ages have had to be patient. Adam and Eve hoped that Cain would be the Redeemer. "The Saviour's coming was foretold in Eden. When Adam and Eve first heard the promise, they looked for its speedy fulfillment. They joyfully welcomed their first-born son, hoping that he might be the Deliverer. But the fulfillment of the promise tarried." *The Desire of Ages*, 31.

Noah waited for 120 *years* for God to fulfill His promise of impending destruction, and after that, waited seven *more* days aboard the ark for the rain to fall. See Genesis 7:4, 10. "Seven days were the family of Noah in the ark before the rain began to descend upon the earth." *The Story of Redemption*, 65.

Joseph waited in prison for two years for the cupbearer to remember Joseph and speak of him favorably to Pharaoh.

"Yet did not the chief butler remember Joseph, but forgat him." Genesis 40:23.

"And it came to pass at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh dreamed: . . . Then spake the chief butler unto Pharaoh, saying, I do remember my faults this day: Pharaoh was wroth with his servants, and put me in ward in the captain of the guard's house, both me and the chief baker: And we dreamed a dream in one night, I and he; we dreamed each man according to the interpretation of his dream. And there was there

with us a young man, an Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard; and we told him, and he interpreted to us our dreams; to each man according to his dream he did interpret." Genesis 41:1, 9–12.

The Israelites waited years and years and years for deliverance. Moses had to wait 80 years to be used of God to deliver the chosen race from Pharaoh. Moses waited upon God for six days to reveal Himself *after* he was called to the mount.

"For six days the cloud covered the mountain as a token of God's special presence; yet there was no revelation of Himself or communication of His will. During this time Moses remained in waiting for a summons to the presence chamber of the Most High.... Even this favored servant of God could not at once approach into His presence and endure the exhibitions of His glory. Six days must be employed in devoting himself to God by searching of heart, meditation, and prayer before he could be prepared for direct communication with his Maker." Patriarchs and Prophets, 313.

Jesus Himself waited for thirty years to begin His ministry. Waiting is an obvious part of God's plan. Patience is a character attribute that we are to develop: "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness. . . ." 2 Peter 1:5–6.

But there *is* something to be *done* while we wait, according to God through James, we are to "stablish" our "hearts." The Greek word is *sterizo*, which also means to "set fast, confirm, steadfastly set and strengthen." in this time we are given to be

patient, we are to prepare ourselves by confirming and strengthening our hearts! Jesus is coming! Just as sure and more sure than the mountains and the heavens, is God's Word. It will not, it cannot fail. The arm of flesh will fail, but never *God's* arm.

"Our safety is to lean not on human power, on the arm of flesh, but upon the divine arm." *The Upward Look*, 149.

God *will* bring to pass His promises. We have divine assurance that His Word can *never* fail!

"We need have no fear that He will not fulfill His promises. He is eternal truth. Never will He change the covenant that He has made with those that love Him. His promises to His church stand fast forever." *Testimonies*, vol. 8, 39.

So, what to do in the meantime? Start by praising God for His continued mercy, His provided opportunities and His work as our High Priest in the heavenly Sanctuary. Work while it is yet day, for the night cometh in which no man can work. See John 9:4.

"Let us work while it is day. Let us devote our time and our means to the service of God, that we may have His approbation, and receive His reward." *Testimonies*, vol. 4, 83.

Let us work *for* the Master, pray *to* the Master, be *faithfully doing* His will, and when He does return, we will hear those glorious words, "Well done, good and faithful servant; . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Matthew 25:23.



Joe Olson is the executive director and chairman of the board of Hope International.



#### Our Mission

It is the mission of Hope International and the editors of Our Firm Foundation to clearly present Christ and His truth. The days remaining for this world are few, and we must work 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

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**About Hope International** 

Hope International is a lay ministry founded, supported, and operated by Seventhday Adventists to assist the Seventh-day Adventist church in the proclamation of the Everlasting Gospel in every way that is consistent with the principles of God as revealed in Inspiration.

#### **Invitation to Writers**

We are accepting article-length manuscripts (750 to 3000 words) for possible publication in Our Firm Foundation. We prefer that submissions be neatly typed, submitted either as a computer file or on paper. Please address all correspondence to Editors, Our Firm Foundation, PO Box 220, Knoxville, IL 61448, or by email to editorial@hopeint.org.

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| Are | You | a | Protestant |
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|     |     |   |            |

Ron Spear

Have we lost our ability to discern between protest and criticism?

# One Lord and One Faith (Part 2)

Vernon Sparks

How is our understanding regarding the humanity of Christ related to other doctrines?

### Principle Never to Be Sacrificed for Peace

Ellen G. White

Why did Jesus say, "I came not to send peace, but a sword," and "Peace I leave with you"?

## The World's Need

Ellen G. White

"The world today is in crying need of...." Can you finish the sentence?

## Our Church Standards—Shall We Abandon or Enforce Them? (Part 2)

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"This is no time, dear brethren, to drift away from God, to depart from the faith, to waver in our loyalty."

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Hope International does not solicit tithes, however we are a tithe-worthy organization and accept tithes. We use the tithe only for the gospel ministry. Donations designated "Gospel Ministry" will be considered tithe.

# Are You a Protestant?

The history of God's church through the ages is a history of apostasy. There are very few experiences that encourage us that God's present truth for those past generations was accepted in full by the church's obedience to God's sacred law—His plans for His beloved church. Insubordination is the historical record for most of the church's history. What a tragedy!

Who is responsible for this rebellion against God's leadership? The Scriptures and the Spirit of Prophecy reveal the answer:

"The leaders of this people cause them to err; and they that are led of them are destroyed." Isaiah 9:16.

"The watchmen are responsible for the condition of the people." *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 235.

Spiritual blindness of Laodicea is the great sin of the church, its laity, pastors, and leaders.

"These men [who seek counsel of unbelieving lawyers] cast aside the counsel God has given, and do the very things He has bidden them not to do. They show that they have chosen the world as their judge,

and in heaven their names are registered as one with unbelievers. Christ is crucified afresh, and put to open shame." *Selected Messages*, book 3, 299.

Spear

R o n

"The Lord has shown me that men in responsible positions are standing directly in the way of His work because they think the work must be done and the blessing must come in a certain way, and they will not recognize that which comes in any other way. . . . God has His appointed channels of light, but these are not necessarily the minds of any particular set of men. When all shall take their appointed place in God's work, earnestly seeking wisdom and guidance from Him, then a great advance will have been made toward letting light shine upon the world. When men shall cease to place themselves in the way, God will work among us as never before." Testimonies, vol. 5, 726.

#### **No Longer Protestants**

Many who have protested the rebellion and apostasy in the church have done so in the face of perse-

cution and martyrdom. Jeremiah protested, and the church leadership cast him in an abandoned well. Isaiah protested, and he was sawn in two. Jesus protested, and the church's leadership crucified Him. The morning star of the reformation, Wycliffe, protested against pope and church corruption and he paid the price. So did Huss, Jerome, Tyndale—and more than 50 million protestants who were imprisoned and killed during the prophesied 1260-year period of papal persecution.

Now, most Protestant churches are no longer protesting. The World Council of Churches, the Evangelical Movement, and the Catholic churches are seemingly in harmony—not in doctrine, but in apostasy to God's sacred law. The reformers all called the Catholic Church and the pope the antichrist; however, Protestant America is well on the way to becoming Catholic America. Revelation 13 will soon be fulfilled and America will enforce the image to the beast.

We refer the reader to an excellent history of the papacy and

the pope, written by Russell and Colin Standish: *Two Beasts, Three Deadly Wounds and Fourteen Popes.*This book should be read by every Seventh-day Adventist leader, pastor, and lay member. The book presents abundant evidence that the papacy has never changed.

Today, the world is fighting terrorism. What the world will not see is that the papacy—evidenced by its 1260-year reign of terror—is the greatest terrorist the world has ever known. When the deadly wound is healed and America—the only super power in the world—enforces the image to the first beast of Revelation chapter 13, there will be a reign of terror that the world has never seen:

"And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book." Daniel 12:1.

Yet, in light of all this inspired prophecy, few Adventist pulpits are giving the warning found in the three angels' messages.

"Let it be remembered, it is the boast of Rome that she never changes. The principles of Gregory VII and Innocent III are still the principles of the Roman Catholic Church. And had she but the power, she would put them in practice with as much vigor now as in past centuries. . . . Let the principle once be established in the United States that the church may employ or control the power of the state; that religious observances may be enforced by secular laws; in short, that the authority of church and state is to dominate the conscience, and the triumph of Rome in this country is assured." The Great Controversy, 581.

Now let me ask you a very important question, Where do *you* stand in relationship to the Evangelical Movement and the

Catholic Church in this very critical hour? Are we—the Seventh-day Adventist Church—protesting, warning the world of the great events now in the healing of the deadly wound of Revelation chapter 13? Fellow ministers, are you proclaiming the warning from our pulpits on Sabbath morning? Listen again to these important prophetic words found in Revelation 14:9–12:

"And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his power. Doubt, and even disbelief of the Testimonies of the Spirit of God, is leavening our churches everywhere. Satan would have it thus. Ministers who preach self instead of Christ would have it thus. The Testimonies are unread and unappreciated. God has spoken to you. Light has been shining from His Word and from the Testimonies, and both have been slighted and disregarded. The result is apparent in the lack of purity and devotion and earnest faith among us." *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 217.

# We are no longer protesting. We have become Evangelicals keeping Saturday instead of Sunday. What a tragedy!

forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."

We are no longer protesting. We have become Evangelicals keeping Saturday instead of Sunday. What a tragedy! We are repeating the apostasy of the church in the Old Testament and the New.

#### "Retreating Toward Egypt"

"The church has turned back from following Christ her Leader and is steadily retreating toward Egypt. Yet few are alarmed or astonished at their want of spiritual

"The same disobedience and failure which were seen in the Jewish church have characterized in a greater degree the people who have had this great light from heaven in the last messages of warning. Shall we, like them, squander our opportunities and privileges until God shall permit oppression and persecution to come upon us? Will the work which might be performed in peace and comparative prosperity be left undone until it must be performed in days of darkness, under the pressure of trial and persecution?" Ibid., 456–457.

Dear friend, you and I are doomed for destruction unless we soon repent of our terrible apostasy—the Omega.

#### **Lowering the Standard**

"Those who engage in the solemn work of bearing the third angel's message must move out decidedly, and in the Spirit and power of God fearlessly preach the truth and let it cut. They should **elevate** the standard of truth and urge the

people to come up to it. It has too frequently been lowered to meet the people in their condition of darkness and sin. It is the pointed testimony that will bring them up to decide. A peaceful testimony will not do this. The people have the privilege of listening to this kind of teaching from popular pulpits; but those servants to whom God has entrusted the solemn, fearful message which is to bring out and fit up a people for the coming of Christ should bear a plain, pointed testimony." Testimonies, vol. 1, 248–249. All emphasis supplied.

obedience to God while in open rebellion to His directives;

6. Neglecting the Sanctuary message and its importance to the three angels' messages—perfection of character in God's final generation as an essential part of the cleansing of the heavenly Sanctuary.

These are just six areas among many that could be mentioned in which we have largely divorced ourselves from the directions God has given through His testimony to the remnant church.

Yes, in surveying the overwhelming evidence that we are in the true light and will realize how offensive it is in the sight of God." *Testimonies*, vol. 3, 324. See *Testimonies*, vol. 3, 260, 265–267, 269.

The straight testimony must now be given. It is long overdue. Sadly, as in every age, leaders, pastors, and lay leaders are rising up against the straight testimony. Those who are standing for truth are many times removed from their church positions, and in hundreds of cases are disfellowshiped.

It seems to many that almost everything is now tolerated in the church—except present truth, the straight testimony.

Criticism is motivated by Satan, but to be true *Protestant* Seventhday Adventists, **we must protest** against this horrible apostasy—the Omega. We must teach and preach the three angels' messages and the cleansing of the Sanctuary message, and the precise keeping of the seventh-day Sabbath according to Isaiah 58:13–14.

The straight testimony will be given by the faithful obedient Seventh-day Adventists, and the shaking will leave a very small remnant. See Isaiah 1:9; Revelation 12:17. What a tragedy!

The church now seems about to fall, but it will not fall. God will take the reigns into His nailed scared hands. The church will triumph over the beast and the image. May you and I be found among the faithful, the true remnant of God, who have kept the commandments of God and heeded the counsel of the Spirit of Prophecy. \$



Ron Spear has served the Seventh-day Adventist Church for over 50 years in various capacities in both denominational and self-supporting lines. A

minister, author, and revivalist, he is the executive editor of Our Firm Foundation.

#### Note:

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"Spiritual discernment to see sin as it exists, and then to put it out of the camp, is decreasing among God's people; and spiritual blindness is fast coming upon them."

We have lowered the standards to meet the practices and demands of our people in virtually every aspect of ministry and lifestyle.

Our retreat toward Egypt is demonstrated by our disobedience to Christ's plans in:

- 1. Our educational system—promoting competitive sports, drama, the literature of the world, immodest dress, and so on;
- 2. Our health care system—including the neglect of medical missionary work, simple remedies, sanitariums, treatment rooms, vegetarian restaurants, and so on;
- 3. Publishing houses—including the promotion of a plethora of story books and non-Adventist authors and musicians, in comparison to serious message and Spirit of Prophecy publications;
- 4. Evangelism to the world—baptizing without a proper preparation nor a regard to the conversion experience;
- 5. The three angels' messages of Revelation 14:6–12 preaching

in the Omega of apostasy, we ask the question, **Are we protesting or are we criticizing?** What is God's charge now to all leaders, pastors, and laity in this crisis hour? The Spirit of Prophecy answers this important question:

"According to the light that God has given me in vision, wickedness and deception are increasing among God's people who profess to keep His commandments. Spiritual discernment to see sin as it exists, and then to put it out of the camp, is decreasing among God's people; and spiritual blindness is fast coming upon them. The straight testimony must be revived, and it will separate those from Israel who have ever been at war with the means that God has ordained to keep corruptions out of the church. Wrongs must be called wrongs. Grievous sins must be called by their right name. All of God's people should come nearer to Him and wash their robes of character in the blood of the Lamb. Then will they see sin



# One Lord and One Faith (Part 2)

Vernon Sparks

human nature (sinful flesh) whose higher powers are fully and constantly surrendered to and united with divinity, does not sin. Once fallen man is born again, he then has the mind of Christ, and with his will surrendered constantly to the will of God, and enabled by the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit, he too can live without willful sin: "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for His seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God."

1 John 3:9. See verses 7–10.

3. The gospel consists of both pardon or justification, and transformation or sanctification. There is no pardon for sin until we are willing to be rescued from the power of sin. We are not counted righteous until we are willing to be made righteous. Once justification is obtained, it can be retained only through continual obedience. "No man can cover his soul with the garments of Christ's righteousness while practicing known sins, or neglecting known duties. God requires the entire surrender of the heart before justification can take place; and in order for man to retain justification, there must be continual obedience, through active, living faith that works by love and purifies the soul." Selected Messages,

Last month we noted the vital importance of the subject of the human nature of Christ and the rewards that come from studying this subject. We also noted that our beliefs are not independent from each other.

This month we will see how our views regarding the fallen (or unfallen) human nature of Christ are related to many other doctrines.—Editors

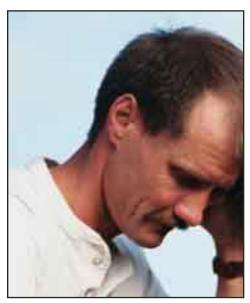
The truth that Christ took man's fallen nature and through His Father's enabling power lived a life of full obedience, thus becoming the Pattern Man, is irreversibly linked with other essential, interrelated truths of the great controversy and the gospel chain:

1. Sin is an act of the higher powers of man. The inherited fallen

nature of man-the flesh-with all of its evil, as well as good, tendencies, appetites and propensities can tempt the best of men, but cannot of itself sin: "The lower passions have their seat in the body and work through it. The words 'flesh' or 'fleshly' or 'carnal lusts' embrace the lower, corrupt nature; the flesh of itself cannot act contrary to the will of God." Adventist Home, 127. It is only as the human will cherishes or acts in harmony with the temptations from the flesh within, and/or the devil from without, that sin occurs. Thus, sin is the act of the will in transgressing God's explicit command, and not the presence of the fallen nature.

2. Christ's life on earth demonstrated that a person with a fallen





book 1, 366. See also ibid., book 3, 190. "The Word of God gives us no encouragement that a sinner is pardoned in order that he may continue in sin. He is pardoned on condition that he receives Christ, confessing and repenting of his sin and becoming renewed." Loma Linda Messages, 103.

4. The regenerating work of the Holy Spirit makes effective Christ's sacrifice and heavenly ministry: "The Spirit was to be given as a regenerating agent, and without this the sacrifice of Christ would have been of no avail. . . . Sin could be resisted and overcome only through the mighty agency of the Third Person of the Godhead, who would come with no modified energy, but in the fullness of divine power. It is the Spirit that makes effectual what has been wrought out by the world's Redeemer. It is by the Spirit that the heart is made pure. Through the Spirit the believer becomes a partaker of the divine nature. Christ has given His Spirit as a divine power to overcome all hereditary and cultivated tendencies to evil, and to impress His own character upon His church." Desire of Ages, 671.

5. Christ's heavenly ministry, in which He administers pardoning, enabling, and transforming grace, is just as essential for our salvation as was His death on the cross: "The in-

tercession of Christ in man's behalf in the Sanctuary above is as essential to the plan of salvation as was His death upon the cross. By His death He began that work which after His resurrection He ascended to complete in heaven." *The Great Controversy*, 489.

6. Christ's essential, substitutionary death on Calvary's cross began the atonement process by which repentant, fallen man is restored to at-one-ment with the Father. Although the sacrifice was complete at the cross, the atonement process is not completed until the heavenly Sanctuary is cleansed by the blotting out of sins at the end of the antitypical Day of Atonement. See *The Great Controversy*, 420–422.

7. Pardoned sins are not canceled but are transferred to the heavenly Sanctuary. Prior to their being blotted out of the Sanctuary, there is an investigative work to determine who are entitled to the benefit of Christ's atonement. Those who are entitled to salvation are those who have been transformed as well as pardoned. The title to heaven and fitness for heaven are inseparable: "Righteousness within is testified to by righteousness without. He who is righteous within ... grows into the image of Christ, going on from strength to strength. He who is being sanctified by the truth will . . . follow in the footsteps of Christ until grace is lost in glory. The righteousness by which we are justified is imputed; the righteousness by which we are sanctified is imparted. The first is our title to heaven, the second is our fitness for heaven." Review and Herald, June 4, 1895. See The Great Controversy, 420.

8. On October 22, 1844, at the end of the 2300 day/year time prophecy of Daniel 8:14, the great antitypical Day of Atonement began with its investigative phase. At its completion, the Sanctuary will be cleansed and Christ will then return. See Ibid., 420–422.

9. Christ's ability to cleanse the heavenly Sanctuary and return in

victory for His saints is dependent upon His being able to cleanse His people *from* their sins. The honor of God—the vindication of His character—is involved in the perfection of the characters of His people: "The very image of God is to be reproduced in humanity. The honor of God, the honor of Christ, is involved in the perfection of the character of His people." *The Desire of Ages*, 671.

10. Christ cannot cease His pardoning and transforming ministry in the heavenly Sanctuary until He has a fully transformed final generation of saints. This final generation will be fully surrendered to Christ living out His life within them. They will be living by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. They will be so settled into the truth that they cannot be moved. They will receive the seal of God; then the latter rain will be poured out upon them, and they will give the loud cry of the three angels' messages to the whole world. Thus, the gospel commission will be completed. By allowing Christ's character and life of victory to be reproduced in them, this final generation will vindicate God's law and character before the whole universe:

"The fact that the law is holy, just, and good is to be testified before all nations, tongues, and peoples, to worlds unfallen, to angels, seraphim, and cherubim. The principles of the law of God were wrought out in the character of Jesus Christ, and he who cooperates with Christ, becoming a partaker of the divine nature, will develop the divine character, and become an illustration of the divine law. Christ in the heart will bring the whole man, soul, body, and spirit into captivity to the obedience of righteousness. Christ's true followers will be in conformity to the mind and will and character of God, and the farreaching principles of the law will be demonstrated in humanity." Review

and Herald, March 9, 1897. All emphasis supplied.

11. When probation closes, Christ ceases His intercessory ministry and the remnant of the victorious-over-sin generation will go through the time of trouble without yielding to the Mark of the Beast or his image. They will be the 144,000, who will allow Christ to live His life of victory in them during the time of Jacob's trouble when the dragon will roar the loudest. This final generation will have followed the example of the Pattern Man the closest while on this earth. They will stand as the first fruits from this earth upon the sea of glass without guile. Through the ceaseless ages they will continue their following of the Pattern Man as His special companions. See Revelation 14:1–5.

These marvelous truths are inseparably linked. If one is removed the gospel chain is broken. If error is introduced, the whole is destroyed. These glorious truths are all consistent with and dependent upon Christ having taken fallen humanity's nature and with His Father's enabling power living a life of victory over all temptation as our Example. Only as He was able to demonstrate that man with a fallen nature but with his higher powers-will, reason, conscience-surrendered to the Holy Spirit could live a life of victory could Christ invite a repentant sinner to "take up his cross, and follow me." Matthew 16:24. Only because He is the Pattern Man can He command repentant sinners to "go, and sin no more." John 8:11.

Christ's life demonstrated that the inherited flesh of fallen man, united with "the mind of Christ" can resist every wile of the devil. He demonstrated that fallen humanity united with divinity is victorious over sin and Satan:

"Through the provision made when God and the Son of God made a covenant to rescue man from the bondage of Satan, every facility was provided that human nature should come into union with His divine nature. In such a nature was our Lord tempted." *Selected Messages*, book 3, 130.

"Jesus revealed no qualities, and exercised no powers, that men may not have through faith in Him. His perfect humanity is that which all His followers may possess, if they will be in subjection to God as He was." *Desire of Ages*, 664.

"Christ's life represents a perfect manhood. Just that which you may be, He was in human nature." *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 5, 1124.

Yes, Christ's humanity means every thing to us. Remove the truth of His fallen nature—"the flesh"— and the whole of truth is destroyed. Seventh-day Adventists must not allow Christ to be divided. There is only one true Christ—the Pattern Man. There is only "One Lord" and "One Faith."

Elijah still cries "How long halt ye between two opinions?" 1 Kings 18:21.

"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." 1 Thessalonians 5:21. \$

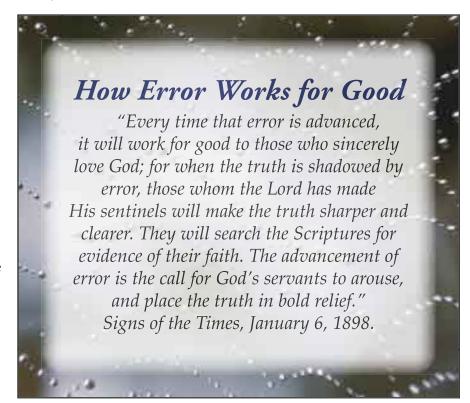
Note: For in-depth studies on man's higher and lower powers and how seemingly contradictory statements regarding Christ's human nature can be harmonized, see *Golden Links of Truth*, by Vernon Sparks (available from Hope International), and "The Lower and Higher Natures," by Kevin D. Paulson, downloadable from www.greatcontroversy.org.

For an overall presentation of the controversy in Adventism since the 1950s regarding Christ's human nature, see *Touched With Our Feelings*, by J. R. Zurcher (available from Hope International).

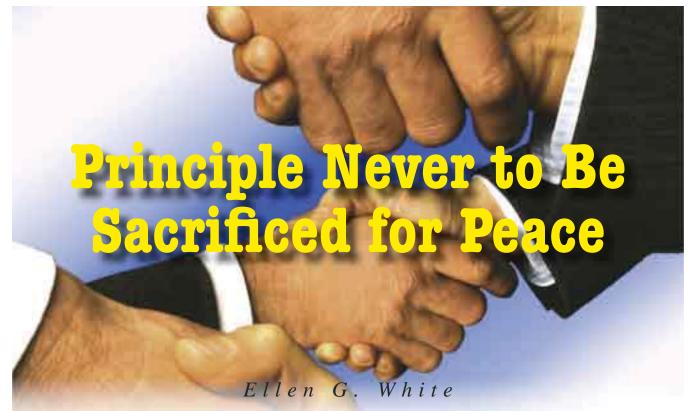
An edition of *Bible Readings for the Home Circle* which contains the chapter "A Sinless Life" as it appeared in the 1914 edition is also available from Hope International.



Vernon Sparks resides in Rapidan, Virginia, where he serves as the medical director of the Hartland Wellness Center.



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There always have been and always will be two classes on the earth to the end of time the believers in Jesus, and those who reject Him. Sinners, however wicked, abominable, and corrupt, by faith in Him will be purified, made clean, through the doing of His Word. The truth will be a savor of life unto life to those who believe. but the same truth will be to the unbeliever a savor of death unto death. Those who reject Christ and refuse to believe the truth, will be filled with bitterness against those who accept Jesus as a personal Saviour. But those who receive Christ are melted and subdued by the manifestation of His love in His humiliation, suffering, and death in their behalf. They behold Him as their substitute and surety, as pledging Himself to accomplish their full salvation through a plan that is consistent with the justice of God, and which vindicates the honor of His law.

The presentation of the love of God has a convincing power above that of argument, controversy, and debate, and drops the seed of gospel truth in the heart. The fact that Jesus, innocent and pure, should suffer, that God should lay all His wrath upon the head of His dear Son, that the guiltless should

bear the punishment of the guilty, the just endure the penalty of sin for the unjust, breaks the heart; and as Jesus is lifted up, conviction strikes to the soul, and the love that prompted the bestowal of the infinite gift of Christ, constrains the sinner to surrender all to God.

But how different is the case of him who refuses to receive the salvation purchased for him at infinite cost. He refuses to look upon the humiliation and love of Jesus. He plainly says, "I will not have this Man to reign over me." (See Luke 19:14.) To all who take this attitude, Jesus says, "I came not to send peace, but a sword." Matthew 10:34. Families must be divided in order that all who call upon the name of the Lord may be saved.

All who refuse His infinite love will find Christianity a sword, a disturber of their peace. The light of Christ will cut away the darkness that covers their evil doings, and their corruption, their fraud, and cruelty, will be exposed. Christianity unmasks the hypocrisies of Satan, and it is this unmasking of his designs that stirs his bitter hatred against Christ and his followers.

It is impossible for any one to become a true follower of Jesus

Christ, without distinguishing himself from the worldly mass of unbelievers. If the world would accept of Jesus, then there would be no sword of dissension; for all would be disciples of Christ and in fellowship one with another, and their unity would be unbroken. But this is not the case.

Here and there an individual member of a family is true to the convictions of his conscience, and is compelled to stand alone in his family or in the church to which he belongs, and is finally compelled, because of the course of those with whom he associates, to separate himself from their companionship. The line of demarcation is made distinct. One stands upon the Word of God, the others upon the traditions and sayings of men.

In one of His confidential talks with His disciples, a short time before His crucifixion, Jesus bequeathed to His followers His legacy of peace. He said: "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." The peace that Christ gave to His disciples, and for which we pray, is the peace that is born of truth, a peace that is not to be quenched because of

division. Without may be wars and fightings, jealousies, envies, hatred, strife; but the peace of Christ is not that which the world giveth or taketh away. It could endure amid the hunting of spies and the fiercest opposition of His enemies. His peace was that which was born of love toward those who were plotting for His death.

His deep love did not lead Him to cry, Peace and safety, when there was no peace for the sinner. Christ did not for an instant seek to purchase peace by a betrayal of sacred trusts. Peace could not be made by a compromise of principles; and His followers must often proclaim a message that is directly in opposition to the people's sins, prejudices, and customs. They will be called upon to "reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all long-suffering and doctrine. " 2 Timothy 4:2.

The heart of Jesus was over-flowing with love to every human being that He had made, and this love should have been discerned by those He came to save, inasmuch as He became poor, that we through His poverty might be rich. Christ understands the strength of Satan's temptations; for He was tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin. But He never lessened the guilt of sin. He was the Saviour, the Redeemer, and came to save His people from their sins.

#### **Jesus Hates Sin**

Jesus could have been at peace with the world only by leaving the transgressors of the law unreproved, unrebuked. This He could not do; for He was to take away the sins of the world. Those who are faithful sentinels will be charged by the world as being the disturbers of its peace, they will be charged with stirring up strife and with creating divisions. But they will only be bearing the reproach that fell on Christ.

Christ denounced unrighteousness, and His very presence was a rebuke to sin. The atmosphere that surrounded His soul was so pure, so

elevated, that it placed the hypocritical rabbis, priests, and rulers in their true position, and revealed them in their true character as claiming sanctity, and at the same time misrepresenting God and His truth.

In the rich loveliness of the character of Christ, zeal for God was always apparent. His righteousness went before Him, and the glory of the Lord was rearward. He hated

God to seek to bridge the gulf that separates the children of light from the children of darkness by yielding principle, by compromising the truth. It would be surrendering the peace of Christ in order to make peace or fraternize with the world. The sacrifice is too costly to be made by the children of God to make peace with the world by giving up the principles of truth.

Those who are faithful sentinels will be charged by the world as being the disturbers of its peace, they will be charged with stirring up strife and with creating divisions.

one thing only, and that was sin. But the world loved sin and hated righteousness, and this was the cause of the hostility of the world to Jesus. If Christ had given license to men to exercise their evil passions, they would have hailed this great miracle-worker with shouts of applause; but when He reproved sin, made open war upon selfishness, oppression, hypocrisy, pride, covetousness, and lust, they said, Away with this fellow, and give us Barabbas.

#### **No Unity With Darkness**

Jesus has said: "The servant is not greater than his Lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also." John 15:20. There will never be any true unity between or with those who stand under the banner of Satan. The followers of Christ may follow the things that make for peace, they may earnestly desire to overcome the spirit of discord with the spirit of kindness and love, but the enemy will stir up his agents to bring about strife and division.

It is a grave mistake on the part of those who are children of

Those who have the mind of Christ will let that light shine forth to the world in good works, but that light will bring about a division. Shall the light, therefore, be hid under a bed or under a bushel, because it will mark a distinction between the followers of Christ and the world?

It was the purity of the character of Christ that stirred up the enmity of a profligate world. His spotless righteousness was a continual rebuke to their sin and uncleanness; but no principle of truth was compromised by Christ to win the favor of the world. Then let the followers of Christ settle it in their minds that they will never compromise truth, never yield one iota of principle for the favor of the world. Let them hold to the peace of Christ. \$

Review and Herald, July 24, 1894.



Ellen G. White, 1827-1915, received the spiritual gift of prophecy, and the fruits of her life and work accord with the biblical tests of a true messenger of God. To

this day, her counsels are an incalculable blessing to God's people around the world.



Ellen G. White

n this age of boasted enlightenment, the Christian church is confronted with a world lying in midnight darkness, almost wholly given over to idolatry. A well-nigh universal disregard of the law of Jehovah is rapidly making the world like the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. As in the days before the flood, violence is filling the land. Gambling and robbery are coming to be common evils. The use of intoxicating liquors is on the increase. Many who have followed their own unsanctified will, seek to end their unprofitable lives by suicide. Iniquity and crime of every order are found in the high places of the earth, and those who assent to these wrongs are seeking to shield the guilty ones from punishment. Not one hundredth part of the corruptions that exist is being made plain to the world. Little of the cruelty that is carried on is known. The wickedness of men has almost reached its limit.

In many ways Satan is revealing that he rules the world. He is influencing the hearts of men, and corrupting their minds. Men in high places are giving evidence that their

thoughts are evil continually. Many are seeking after riches, and scruple not to add to their wealth through fraudulent transactions. The Lord is permitting these men to expose one another in their evil deeds. Some of their iniquitous practices are being laid open before the world, that thinking men who still have a desire in their hearts to be honest and just with their fellow men, may understand why God is beginning to send His judgments on the earth. The Lord will surely punish the world for its iniquity; "the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain." Isaiah 26:21.

This age presents a sad picture to those whose eyes have been opened to discern the evils that prevail on every hand. The fear and love of God have almost left the world. This is the time prophesied of by Isaiah, when "darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people." Isaiah 60:2. Multitudes are led away by the delusions of a faithless generation, and are living in the darkness of error. The prevailing spirit of our time is that of infidelity and apostasy—a spirit of

pretended illumination because of a supposed knowledge of truth, but in reality of the blindest presumption. There is a spirit of opposition to the plain Word of God, and to the testimony of His Spirit. There is a spirit of idolatrous exaltation of mere human reason above the revealed wisdom of God.

The baleful spirit of unbelief is found in every land, and is permeating all ranks of society. It is taught freely in many of the universities, colleges, and high schools, and it comes even into the lessons taught in the common schools and the nurseries. Thousands who profess to be Christians give heed to lying spirits. Everywhere the spirit of darkness in the garb of religion confronts the seeker after truth.

#### **Arise and Shine**

The Lord in compassion is seeking to enlighten the understanding of those who are now groping in the darkness of error. He is delaying His judgments upon an impenitent world, in order that His light-bearers may seek and save that which is lost. He is now calling upon His church on the earth to awake from

the lethargy that Satan has sought to bring upon them, and fulfill their heaven-appointed work of enlightening the world. His message to His church at this time is, "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee." Isaiah 60:1.

To meet the conditions existing at the time when darkness covers the earth, and gross darkness the people, the church of God has been commissioned to cooperate with God in shedding abroad the light of Bible truth. To those who seek to do their part faithfully as bearers of precious light, is given the assurance: "The Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." Verses 2–3.

The world today is in crying need of a revelation of Christ Jesus in the person of His saints. God desires that His people shall stand before the world a holy people. Why?—Because there is a world to be saved by the light of gospel truth; and as the message of truth that is to call men out of darkness into God's marvelous light, is given by the church, the lives of its members, sanctified by the Spirit of truth, are to bear witness to the verity of the messages proclaimed.

God desires His people to place themselves in right relation to Him, that they may understand what He requires of them above all things else. They are to reveal to every struggling soul in the world what it means "to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly" with their God. Micah 6:8. Wherever they are, at home or abroad, they are to be His commandment-keeping people. They are to have the assurance that their sins are forgiven, and that they are accepted as children of the Most High.

The world is in need of a demonstration of practical Christianity. In view of the fact that those who claim to be followers of Christ are a spectacle to an unbelieving world,

it behooves them to make sure that they are in right relation with God. They cannot afford to let one day pass in which they do not lay hold by living faith on the God of Israel. In order to stand as lights in the world, they need to have the clear light of the Sun of Righteousness constantly shining upon them. Ever are they to remember that all about them is a world lying in darkness, and perishing for lack of knowledge.

with God are to labor with unflagging zeal, and shed abroad in the world the light of precious truth. As they enter the highways and the by-ways, as they labor in the waste places of the earth, at home and in the regions beyond, they will see the salvation of God revealed in a remarkable manner.

God's faithful messengers are to seek to carry forward the Lord's work in His appointed way. They

The world today is in crying need of a revelation of Christ Jesus in the person of His saints. God desires that His people shall stand before the world a holy people.

#### **Conversion of the Gentiles**

When God's people so fully separate themselves from evil that He can let the light of heaven rest upon them in rich measure, and shine forth from them to the world, then there will be fulfilled, more fully than it has ever been fulfilled in the past, the prophecy of Isaiah, in which the servant of God declared of the remnant church in the last days: "The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. Lift up thine eves round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side. Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee." Isaiah 60:3-5.

The world is in need of the saving truth that God has entrusted to His people. The world will perish unless it be given a knowledge of God through His chosen agencies. In the power of the Holy Spirit, those who are laborers together

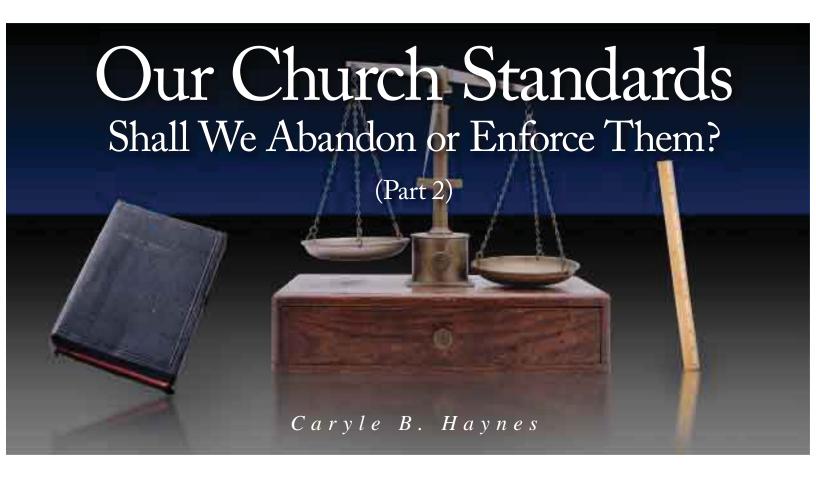
are to place themselves in close connection with the Great Teacher, that they may be daily taught of God. They are to wrestle with God in earnest prayer for a baptism of the Holy Spirit, that they may meet the needs of a world perishing in sin. All power is promised those who go forth in faith to proclaim the everlasting gospel. As the servants of God bear to the world a living message fresh from the throne of glory, the light of truth will shine forth as a lamp that burneth, reaching to all parts of the world. Thus the darkness of error and unbelief will be dispelled from the minds of the honest in heart in all lands, who are now seeking after God, if haply they may "feel after him, and find him." Acts 17:27. 🕏

Review and Herald, March 31, 1910.



Ellen G. White, 1827-1915, received the spiritual gift of prophecy, and the fruits of her life and work accord with the biblical tests of a true messenger of God. To

this day, her counsels are an incalculable blessing to God's people around the world.



This is the second part of an article which originally appeared in the Advent Review and Sabbath Herald, April 26, 1934. It was taken from a sermon preached at the Battle Creek Tabernacle on March 31, 1934.

In part 1, the author appealed for God's people to separate from the world and stand nobly for the right. Now the author addresses the practical application of Christian principles. — The Editors.

The drift worldward is almost imperceptible while in progress. But comparing its effects over a period of years brings out the difference it makes. So, as we compare church standards now with those of a former generation, we are enabled to discern how far the drift has carried us. Border lines between us and the world seem to be rapidly disappearing. They will disappear altogether unless we plainly mark them again.

Some of our people have become careless about Sabbath observance. Perhaps some are uninstructed.

I cannot fail to observe that in some homes the radio is on during Sabbath hours, secular papers are read, business is talked if it is not transacted, pleasure rides are taken, social engagements are arranged for and sometimes consummated, many entirely unnecessary household duties are performed, and altogether there is a sad departure from the earlier faithfulness and devotion and loyalty to God's holy command. These things should be changed. The Sabbath is God's day. All the hours belong to Him. He has prescribed how they are to be used. There is a wonderful renewal of strength and building up of spiritual experience in using them as He has appointed.

In our home, our minds are fixed that the day shall be God's. We will not read secular papers, no matter how important or world-shattering the news may be. The radio is quiet during all its sacred hours. No entrance is left here for Satan to take our minds from God and heavenly matters. But it

is God's day, and He shall have it. The artistry and fascination and enjoyment of the world's greatest musicians must not encroach on this holy time. No announcement, no message, no entertainment, no news the world has to give, is important enough to be allowed to interfere with, or interrupt, or affect, or cancel the weekly appointment the God of heaven has with His waiting and struggling people on earth.

Turn off your radios, dear friends, on God's holy day. Keep them off during the sacred hours. Put away your secular papers. Let this day be wholly God's. Prepare for the Sabbath on the day before. Guard your lips from speaking your own words. Guard your feet from running on your own ways. Guard your mind from finding its own pleasure. Guard your heart from departure from God. Make His day "a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable" (Isaiah 58:13), and you will find it a wonderful builder of strength, a restorer of

spiritual life, a renewer of vigor and faith. It was intended to do far more for us than we are permitting it to do. We are losing much by our carelessness.

# Plainness and Simplicity in Dress

Simplicity and plainness in dress are not so noticeable among us today as they were years ago. I am putting it mildly, as you all know. As I look over the twelve hundred people who are here today—well, to discern the difference between this and any other congregation requires a close and prolonged search. We have become careless regarding our standards of dress. Personal adornment is quite conspicuous. There is much ornamentation of the person. Necklaces are in evidence. Rings are quite plentiful; chains and bracelets are not unknown. All of this is a lowering of standards. We profess to be a people who follow the instruction of the Bible, and refrain from the wearing of gold and jewels for display. I plead with you to heed God's command, "Put off thy ornaments from thee." Exodus 33:5.

This matter of dress, however, affects far more than ornamentation. A marked characteristic of this time is immodest exposure of the person, a display of physical charms, an accentuation of every bodily part which is calculated to create—what shall I say? admiration?—on the part of the beholder. O dear friends, if the desire to create admiration in this matter stopped with admiration, it would be going too far. But it is more than that. I do not need to tell you. Your flesh is as my flesh. The impulses and cravings inherent in fallen human nature are not unknown to you. No one can dress in such a way as to call attention to and accentuate the sensual, the fleshly, the physical, and then look with apparent innocence into my eyes and tell me he does not know what he is doing. He does know what he is doing. No one is as dumb as that. He is cultivating and encouraging and ministering to the earthly, the passionate, the sensual, the lower nature. And the masculinity of the pronoun I use need not be considered as limiting my application to one sex.

O people of the church of God, let us return in practice to the time when modesty and chastity and God forgives, of course. He receives to Himself those who have failed and gone astray. There is no question here regarding God's acceptance of a divorced person into fellowship with Himself, whether that person be the sinner or the sinned against. But the participant in a divorce should realize that any prominence given him by the church is bound to make him a target for criticism, and that the

O people of the church of God, let us return in practice to the time when modesty and chastity and sweet simplicity were more than words, and carry out in our lives what the principles of the gospel demand

sweet simplicity were more than words, and carry out in our lives what the principles of the gospel demand—separation from the world and its fashions, abandonment of its evil practices, and entire following of our Lord in all matters pertaining to life and godliness and our walk as Christians among men.

#### **The Question of Divorce**

Time was when we looked with uneasiness upon a divorced person. That has changed. Divorce has become common. It is all about us. Indeed, it is decidedly among us. And we display our newly acquired breadth of mind and modernity by smiling indulgently about it. And we indifferently put divorced persons into places of prominence and influence in church work, thus endorsing them as models for our members—especially our youth. I do not mean to imply that a divorced person is thereby disqualified for church work. That is not true. That would be an injustice to an innocent party.

church itself suffers in reputation and standing as well as himself.

#### **Vainglorious Display**

Let me return to the principle of simplicity and plainness, and apply it now to our proceedings as well as to our dress and conduct. I notice that when we have social gatherings, dinners, banquets, entertainments, celebrations, the tendency is to be very elaborate and extravagant. Simple pleasures, plain to modest expenditure, reasonable entertainment, normal recreation, these belong to a former time. They no longer are sufficient. Everything must be done to excess. It must surpass everything of the kind attempted before. Simplicity and plainness are too tame. There is no thrill in them. The unusual, the exciting, the daring, the risky, the untried, the very limit—these are what we must have today in the practice of some.

We see this in many things connected with the church. It flowers into its most extravagant fruitage

# Announcing These Upcoming Meetings

Hope International speakers and board members will be conducting or participating in the following events. We invite you to attend and become acquainted with us, and we hope you will receive a rich spiritual blessing.

#### November 2004

6 — Fairview, North Carolina

• Speakers: Clark Floyd

20 — Fairview, North Carolina

• Speaker: Clark Floyd

#### December 2004

4 — Orland Park, Illinois

• Speakers: Joe Olson, Ron Spear

11 — Walnut, North Carolina

• Speaker: Clark Floyd

For more information on locations, schedules, meals, or lodging for any of the above meetings, write or call Hope International: (800) 468-7884.



#### Medical Missionary Training Course for Families

October 25–28, 2004 Knoxville, Illinois

#### **Classes Offered:**

- 8 Laws of Health Hydrotherapy
- Massage Therapy
   Cooking School
- Patient Assessment Herbs

Classes for ages 5 thru adult.

<u>To register, or for more information</u> contact Debbie Fine: (423) 236-5352

E-Mail: thefines6@msn.com

and positive silliness in weddings and graduating exercises. But it touches everything else, musical programs, thirteenth Sabbath exercises, children's exercises, holiday gatherings, and every social event. I have seen people work themselves to the point of complete exhaustion, financially as well as nervously, to

put on a bigger, better, and more elaborate wedding than anything known before, until it ceased to be a sacred, solemn, divine ordinance, and became only a gaudy, cheap tinsel show. And it does not stop even at funerals. I have seen people strive to make a funeral service into a great display, until it ceased to be a simple, dig-

dresses, and suits, and flowers, and gifts, and class pins, and photographs, and class "Annual," and social gatherings. And my groaning is altogether unalloyed when I consider how wide a departure all this is from what this denomination and message stand for. We teach our children that this message is essentially one of simplicity and plainness and meekness and humility, and then we permit them to go contrary to all the message stands

I groan within me every time graduation time comes, when I am compelled to witness the display, the extravagance, the pageantry, the pomposity, connected with these exercises.

nified tribute of honor and respect to the dead and the exaltation of the Word of God and became only a means to attract attention to the living.

#### **Our Schools**

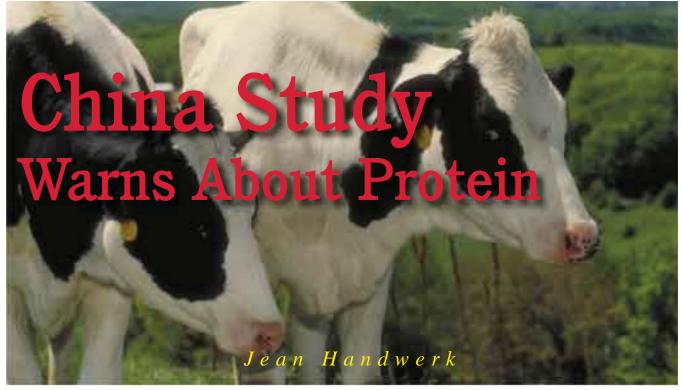
The thing affects our schools as well. I groan within me every time graduation time comes, when I am compelled to witness the display, the extravagance, the pageantry, the pomposity, connected with these exercises. My groaning struggles with mirth as I watch the class striving to master the intricacies of the ridiculous

"goose step" which has become as much a part of these affairs as the granting of diplomas. It settles into genuine groaning again as I realize how much heartache, jealousy, envy, hard feelings, anxiety, and perplexity have been experienced by parents in order to make possible this show, with its special for, by allowing these elaborate affairs in our churches and schools.

I appeal to you, dear friends, let us get back to our original standards, and set our faces against their violation. When we plan for weddings, let us make them simple, dignified, godly, impressive ordinances of God, leaving off all man-made embellishments. When we plan for funerals, let them be occasions when the Word of God can impress its eternal truths upon awed and susceptible hearts. When we plan for graduating exercises, let them be for the glorification of the divine, not the human. And in all our social activities, I appeal for arrangements and proceedings which will build us up as men and women of God. 3

To be concluded.

Carlyle B. Haynes (1882–1958) served in the Lord's work as an evangelist and conference president in various conferences in North and South America. The 45 religious books he authored made him one of the better-known SDA writers on Bible doctrines for lay readers.



ust short of one hundred years ago, the Lord gave us this plain instruction regarding diet: "It is a mistake to suppose that muscular strength depends on the use of animal food. The needs of the system can be better supplied, and more vigorous health can be enjoyed, without its use. The grains, with fruits, nuts, and vegetables, contain all the nutritive properties necessary to make good blood. These elements are not so well or so fully supplied by a flesh diet. Had the use of flesh been essential to health and strength, animal food would have been included in the diet appointed man in the beginning." The Ministry of Healing, 316.

Now we see that science is catching up with Inspiration. In 1983 Dr. T. Colin Campbell surveyed 6,500 adults who were living in rural Chinese villages. In this survey he collected 367 items of information regarding each person's diet, lifestyle, and cause of death.1 This "China Study," along with the follow-up study in 1989–1990, is probably the most comprehensive, large-scale human study ever done of the connections between diet, lifestyle, and disease. In the United States, cancer and heart disease are common throughout the country. In China, some areas have no

cancer or heart disease; in other areas, they reflect up to a 100-fold increase. Most Americans eat an animal-based diet, whereas diets in China range from animal-based to entirely plant-based, depending on the location. China's wide localized variations in diet and disease provide an ideal study basis leading to very reliable data and conclusions.

About 48 different diseases were analyzed in the study, including 12 different cancers and 4 different types of heart disease. Two questions drove the data analysis: Why did chronic degenerative diseases occur in some parts of the country but not in others? What are the multiple relationships between diet and disease? A few of the findings of this massive international study (sponsored by organizations in America, England, China, and Taiwan) are summarized and sometimes quoted below in the words of chairperson T. Colin Campbell, PhD.

- 1: In China, cancer is a local disease, confined to specific areas.
- 2: People tend to get the diseases of the regions to which they move because they adopt the diets of the culture around them. Not more than 2–3% of disease can be attributed to genetics. When diseases run

in families, the causes tend to be the families' diets rather than genes.

3: As consumption of animal-based foods increases, so does disease. "On average, the concentration of animal protein in their [Chinese people's] diet is one-tenth of what it is here [in the U.S.]. We found that as people approach a 100 percent plant-based diet, they get continuous improvement in health. Even having as much as ten to twenty percent animal protein in the diet could be a problem."<sup>2</sup>

By "animal protein," Dr. Campbell meant both meat and dairy. "In fact, the higher the dairy intake, the higher the risk of osteoporosis, not the other way around. And prostate cancer is pretty tightly coupled with the consumption of milk. Skim milk, even."<sup>3</sup>

4: Americans get 36 percent of their calories from fat; the Chinese, 14 percent. Americans eat ten times more animal-flesh protein than do the Chinese—a major difference. The Chinese eat three times more fiber than Americans. The Chinese diet is rich in plant foods; the American diet, in animalbased foods. The Chinese "high" blood cholesterol level is near the American "low" blood cholesterol level. In China, the average cholesterol level is 127. Heart disease

is virtually unknown in regions where it's under 150. There's almost no obesity; the Chinese have 25–30 percent less body mass than Americans, although they consume 30 percent more calories. This study, by the way, compared similar physical exertion levels in the two countries. A plant-based diet plus moderate exercise resulted in rare obesity—unless the individual was loading up on poor calorie sources such as pastas and sugar-laden sweets.

5: "The richer the diet is in the kinds and amounts of nutrients provided by foods of plant origin, it lowers the risk of chronic degenerative diseases."

6: Breast cancer is related to age of menarche (age of first menstrual period). The average age of menarche in China is 17. In the U.S., the average is now 10–11 years old. Many studies show that the earlier the menarche, the higher the risk of breast cancer. The age of menarche has dropped in this country because growth rates are speeded up by making sure children get plenty of protein for healthy bodies and milk for strong bones. These are false ideas, and bigger is not necessarily better. Vegan children (vegetarian without even milk or cheese or eggs) grow almost as fast. If the growth rate is slowed, there will be later menarche and less breast

7: The higher the level of antioxidants in the blood (obtainable only from plants), the less disease there was

8: Not only is a plant-based diet effective for heart disease, but for cancer, too.

9: China Study's leader, Dr. Colin Campbell, Ph.D., of Cornell University, researched a plant-based diet's effect on athletic ability. From present studies to literature going back to Plato, Socrates, and Pythagorus, it was written that if competitors wanted to be in top condition, they should eat plant-



based diets. Many world-class athletes are vegetarian: Dave Scott, Iron Man triathalon champion for several years; Chris Campbell, 4-year world champion wrestler; and Martina Navratilova multiple times world champion women's tennis player.

11: Dr. Campbell recommends a rethinking of the medical paradigm, specifically, a need to switch from disease cure (emphasizing pharmaceuticals and surgery) to disease prevention (emphasizing diet and lifestyle). He calls the present system a "system gone wrong."

He quoted from an article by Barbara Starfield, MD, MPH of the Department of Health Policy and Management, Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health, in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. He stated that by printing the article, the American Medical Association is admitting that "American medicine is the third leading cause of death in the United States." "They're not even counting the diseases that could have been prevented if, in fact, the doctors

told them [their patients] how to do it. If we included those diseases [which could have been prevented], it [American medicine] is the *leading* cause of death."

Dr. Campbell's conclusion: "Is it not possible that nutrition, if properly investigated, interpreted, and practiced, could be, should be, and will be the premier biological science for the future? Because if we do it that way and stop being so concerned about genes—just do for ourselves what we can . . . without spending a lot of money, ... and figuring out basically how to cook these kinds of foods, I think ... we could actually prevent ... somewhere in the neighborhood of 90% or more of all the cancers, heart disease, and diabetes in this country. ... The scientific evidence is very impressive, is almost overwhelming." "If we look at the whole picture instead of each individual piece of it, that's when we get the evidence that really counts."

According to Dr. Campbell, "In the next ten to fifteen years, . . . [what] you're bound to hear is that

animal protein . . . is one of the most toxic nutrients of all that can be considered. Risk for disease goes up drastically when even a little animal protein is added to the diet."

In an interview in 2000, he agreed we need some protein in our diets, but states we eat too much of it, primarily because most Americans eat animal-based foods. As we increase the percentage of animal-based foods we eat, we decrease plant-based foods we eat. We "decrease the very foods that repress the disease process. Animal-based foods have *no* nutrients that are not better obtained from plant-based foods [including protein]."

Even if we choose skim milk, low fat cheeses, and lean cuts of meat, Campbell considers such actions an "almost meaningless thing to do." Although the fat intake decreases, we still eat too much protein! In the 1970s, it was found that as animal fat intake increases, so does breast cancer and heart disease. The conclusion drawn was that fat was the problem, but the conclusion focused too narrowly on fats alone. The role of protein was completely overlooked. The China Study<sup>6</sup> shows that breast cancer and heart disease are virtually nonexistent in parts of the world where animal-based foods are not in the diet. Necessary protein can come entirely from plants.

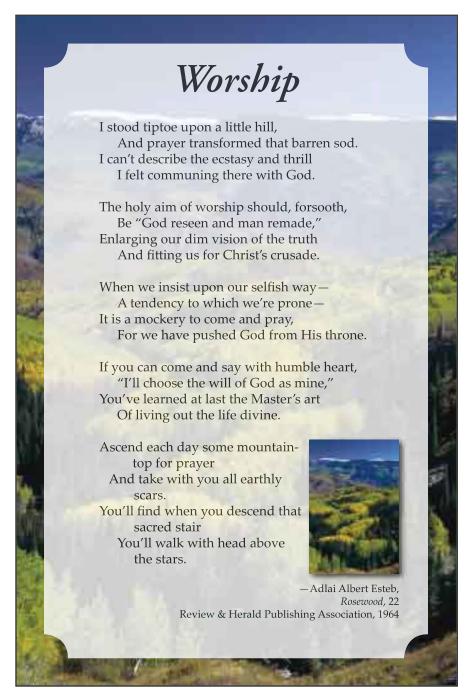
Why does this research seem to be new news to the world? Where have Seventh-day Adventists been hiding the health message? We've known this for a hundred years and now that the world is catching up, we are starting to take notice of what we should have been teaching all this time. It is high time that we "awake out of sleep" (Romans 13:11), study the health message, practice it, and preach it, "for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh." James 5:8. \$

Jean Handwerk is a former teacher who now spends much of her time giving Bible studies and writing about biblical topics. She loves the outdoors.

#### **Notes:**

- Information for this article was gleaned from www.mcspotlight.org/media/reports/ Campbell\_china1.html and tapes of Dr. T. Colin Campbell's lectures at PCRM's Summit on the Dietary Guidelines 2000. Copies of the tapes are available at http:// www.pcrm.org/magazine/ GM99Winter/ GM99Winter2.html.
- 2 "Chinese diet study has lessons for us all," by Vance Lehmkuhl, *Philadelphia Daily News*, www.philly.com, November 14, 2001, 70.
- <sup>3</sup> Ibid.
- http://www.pcrm.org/magazine/ GM99Winter/ GM99Winter2.html.

- <sup>5</sup> "Is U.S. Health Really the Best in the World?" *JAMA*, July 26, 2000, vol. 284, no. 4, 483–485.
- <sup>6</sup> For more information on the China Study, see Dr. Campbell's upcoming book, *The China Study: The Most Comprehensive Study of Nutrition Ever Conducted and the Startling Implications for Diet, Weight Loss and Long-Term Health, Benbella Books, 2005.* Pre-release orders are now being taken by www.amazon.com.
- <sup>7</sup> For more information on the health message, study *The Ministry of Healing* and other books by Ellen G. White available from Hope International and contact various health ministries such as www.modernmanna.org.





Then the great day of the Lord is near and hasteth greatly, even the meek of the earth are commanded to seek meekness and righteousness that they may be hid in the day of the Lord's fierce anger. Zephaniah 1:14; 2:3. Their past attainments in holiness will not suffice them. They must seek to be more meek and more righteous, more Christ-like, more holy.

The coming of the Lord is a highly practical subject, and as it is especially connected with the sanction of the last church, we may expect that it will be heralded for the benefit of the last generation. This has been done in this generation under the proclamation of the first two messages of Revelation 14 (see verses 6–8), and it is now being done under the proclamation of the third message of the same chapter (verses 9–13), which we understand to be the last message of mercy, and through which a people will be prepared to meet the Lord at his coming....

#### The Third Angel's Message

We say that the third message is the last message of mercy, because it is followed by the appearing of one like unto the Son of man on the white cloud to gather the harvest of the earth. Verses 14, 15. Again, the unmixed wrath of God, which is the same as the seven last plagues, (compare Revelation 14:9–10; 15:1; 16:1–2,) follows, upon all those who do not heed it, hence there can be no later message by which men can be saved.

It is evident from the language of this message that it will develop a holy people, a people of whom it can be said, "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:12. The same class are brought to view in Revelation 12:17, as the remnant (or last end) of the woman's (or church's) seed, which keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

The burden of this message is the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. These are kept in opposition to the worship of the beast (papacy). By the commandments of God, we understand is meant those commandments which God proclaimed in person, and wrote with His own finger on stone. These are emphatically God's commandments. When the commandments of God are spoken of in distinction from the faith of Jesus, they must refer to the Ten Commandments exclusively.

The faith of Jesus is something that is *kept* or obeyed in connection with the commandments of God. It cannot simply mean the confidence of Jesus, neither can it really mean the confidence we should have in Jesus. It must denote the form of doctrine taught by Jesus, which embraces the means of salvation from sin and its curse, and all the healing and restoring ordinances, precepts, and doctrines of Christ as recorded in the New Testament. This faith can be kept or obeyed. See Acts 6:7; Romans 1:5; 2 Timothy 4:7; Jude 3; Revelation 2:13.

hoto: © PhotoDisc

It needs but a moment's reflection to see that this message is very comprehensive, and that it is sufficient to sanctify a people in the strictest sense of the word. Here we have the moral law of Ten Commandments, which is based in the nature of God and in the nature of man, and bears those divine characteristics which constitute a perfect and holy character. This law embodies all the principles of right, prescribes the way of holiness, and condemns every sin. Anciently God told His people that if they kept this law, they should be a holy people. Exodus 19:5–6; Deuteronomy 4:12–13. This would be but a natural consequence. In keeping this law, they would bear its holy perfections. This law is from its very nature immutable. To change this law would be to change the nature and character of God which is impossible. Now the law remaining the same, those who keep it must be perfect and holy.

But we cannot by our own strength keep the holy law of God; neither can we cleanse ourselves from our transgressions of God's law. Therefore God in mercy provides the faith of Jesus, which presents to our view the fountain opened for uncleanness, and all those helps and means of grace that cluster around the death of the blessed and adorable Son of God, and by which the humble penitent can obtain strength to bring all the powers of his being in subjection to the law of God.

The result of this message in developing a people who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, proves that previously, the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus had not all been kept. The little horn, spoken of by Daniel, and symbolizing the Papacy, had trodden the truth to the ground and practiced and prospered during its dark reign. Daniel 7:25; 8:12.

A great amount of truth pertaining to the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, had



been restored under the glorious reformation, and by God's people since the reformation. Yet there remained other important truths to be fully brought to light under the last merciful message to man. the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Thessalonians 5:23.

We cannot by our own strength keep the holy law of God; neither can we cleanse ourselves from our transgressions of God's law. Therefore God in mercy provides the faith of Jesus.

Among these is found the truth of the Sabbath. Under this message all the commandments are kept; hence the fourth commandment is kept; and this commandment enjoins the observance of the "Sabbath-day," or "Sabbath of the Lord," which is the day on which God rested in the beginning, and which He blessed and sanctified because that in it He had rested from all His work. Exodus 20:9–11; Genesis 2:1–3.

The third message is not a contracted platform as some have supposed. It is as broad as the commandments of God and the teachings of Christ and His apostles. In it centers all the sanctifying truths of God's Word.

# Your Whole Spirit, Soul, and Body

We will now further develop this subject by examining the following text from Paul: "And

The language of this text shows that it applies to the last church, to those who would reach "unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." Read also the first part of this chapter and the latter part of the previous chapter. From this text we see that Paul desired that the church should be wholly sanctified, and that their whole spirit and soul and body, should be preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord. This confirms what we have said to show that sanctification is a progressive work, and that a special preparation will be required of the last church. A partial sanctification is not sufficient for the church living under the blazing light of the last message of mercy. They must be "wholly" sanctified. They must receive and live out the whole truth.

Again, those parts which should be preserved blameless, are the very parts that must first be sanctified. Hence when Paul desired the sanctification of the church, he desired that their whole spirit and soul and body should be sanctified.

The spirit and soul are here spoken of as two distinct parts. The word spirit, in this text is translated from the Greek *pneuma*, which may here be rendered mind. It is here put for the mind. See Robinson's Greek Lexicon to the New Testament.<sup>1</sup> See also Romans 2:29: 1 Corinthians 6:20; 7:34; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Colossians 2:5.

The term soul is variously used in the Scriptures. But we understand that in this text it denotes the life. The Greek word psuche, from which it is translated, is rendered life forty times in the New Testament, such being the primary signification of the word; and it would be proper to so render it in this text.

All are agreed as to the meaning of the word body.

We understand that the mind. the life and the body constitute the whole man, and when a person is sanctified in a Bible sense, these parts are set apart to the glory of God, and employed in the service of the Creator. 3

Sanctification or Living Holiness, Steam Press, Battle Creek, Michigan, 1864, 15-20.



Elder Daniel T. Bordeau was ordained to the ministry in 1858 and served the Lord in Canada. the United States, and Europe as a minister, evangelist, missionary, and writer.

#### Notes:

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<sup>1</sup> Robinson, Edward, A Greek and English Lexicon of the New Testament, Harper & Brothers, New York, 1850; or see Strong's #4151 in Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament, by Joseph H. Thayer, Hendrickson Publishers, Peabody, Mass.,

# Historica

"We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history."—E. G. White, *Life sketches*, 196.

Many today have neglected to study the history and people that made up the early days of the Advent movement. To help encourage interest in Adventist history, we have put together questions about people and events of our past. Our goal is to spark faith, and further study into "the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in

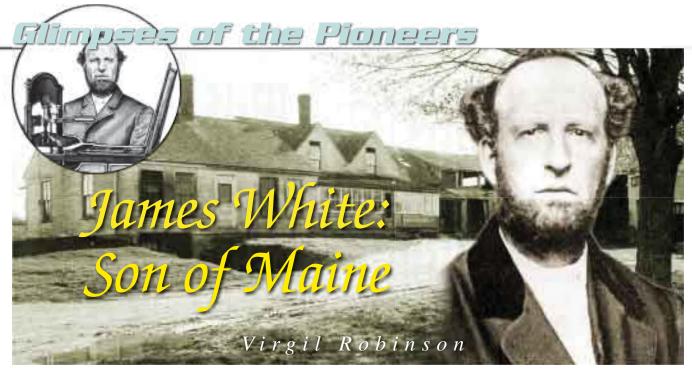
our past history."

- 1. Whom did Ellen White's sister Sarah marry?
  - a. Uriah Smith
  - b. Stephen Belden
  - c. J. N. Andrews
  - d. J.N.Loughborough
- 2. The White's horse in the early days was named ...
  - a. Hiram
  - b. Ezekiel
  - c. Charlie
  - d. Lightning
- 3. The paper James White started for young people in August, 1852 was called ...
  - a. The Youth's Instructor
  - b. Young Disciple
  - c. Guide
  - d. Insight
- 4. In 1852–53, who acted as editor of the Review when James White was away from the office?
  - a. Uriah Smith
  - b. Annie Smith
  - c. George Amadon
  - d. Willie White
- 5. Who wrote to James White in 1853 stating that he would prefer receiving the *Review* once in two weeks containing worthwhile material rather than weekly with inferior articles?
  - a. R.F.Cottrell
  - b. D. A. Robinson
  - c. J. N. Andrews
  - d. Uriah Smith

7:c, 8:a, 9:d, 10:b. Answers: 1:b, 2:c, 3:a, 4:b, 5:a, 6:d,

- 6. Who is credited with introducing modern spiritualism?
  - a. Joseph Smith
  - b. Mary Baker Eddy
  - c. J.H.Kellogg
  - d. The Fox Sisters
- 7. What activity did James White feel was beneath his wife's dignity?
  - a. Knitting
  - b. Gardening
  - c. Making rag carpets
  - d. House cleaning
- 8. The White family lived in their house on Wood Street for how long?
  - a. Six years
  - b. Twenty years
  - c. Sixty Years
  - d. Two years
- 9. Which of the White children was referred to as their "sweet singer"?
  - a. Edson
  - b. Willie
  - c. Herbert
  - d. Henry
- 10. In 1872 both Willie and Edson White earned a diploma in what
  - a. Engineering
  - b. Medicine
  - c. Printing
  - d. Agriculture

Source: James White, by Virgil Robinson, Review and Herald Publishing Assoc., 1976. For specific references to any answer, please contact George Gomoll at Hope International.



eacon John White had much for which to be thankful that sunny August morning. His wife had just been safely delivered of a son, their fifth child. A fixed believer in the promises of Scripture, the deacon agreed fully with the psalmist when he observed: "Children are an heritage of the Lord," and, "Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them." Psalm 127:3, 5.

It was just as well that the deacon had no way of knowing that eventually there would be a total of nine children. Besides the tiny newborn, there would later be added to the family young Benjamin, the adventurous one, doomed to be killed by Indians as he was returning from a gold-seeking expedition to the far West; Anna and Nathaniel, neither of whom would live to be 30; and a last-born, Joseph, who would be carried, to the family burial ground at the age of 3, felled by one of the childhood diseases so prevalent in the early 1800's. Of the entire family, only Joseph would find a final resting place in the family plot near White's Pond in the township of Palmyra, Maine.1

But the present was cheerful. When the deacon entered his house he saw around the breakfast table the smiling faces of Mary, John, Elizabeth, and Samuel—his and Betsy's children. From the bedroom came a small wail, indicating that the newest arrival was already making his wants known. Deacon John recorded the baby's name in the family Bible: "James Springer White, August 4, 1821." on the farm, and each child was expected to do his share of the work. The girls no doubt helped their mother with the numerous household tasks essential in New England homes a century and a half ago. The boys slept in a room directly over their father's bedroom.

The boys slept in a room directly over their father's bedroom. Even in winter, long before daylight, it was the duty of the boys to take care of the animals.

A devout Christian, Father John first joined the local Congregational church. An earnest seeker for truth, as well as a Bible student, he established the first Sunday school in the entire State of Maine.<sup>2</sup> When he became convinced that immersion was the only proper form of baptism he joined the Baptist Church and remained a member for ten years, after which he again changed his religious affiliation, joining the Christian Church, where he now served as a deacon.<sup>3</sup>

We can be sure that, except on Sunday, everyone was kept busy

Even in winter, long before daylight, it was the duty of the boys to take care of the animals.

We can imagine Father White going to the foot of the stairs and calling out vigorously, "Time to get up, boys." If he heard no movement he would probably pound on the low ceiling, shouting at the same time, "Boys, boys, let me hear your feet on the floor." They were wise to heed that request; for father's word was law, and woe betide the child who forgot or ignored that fact.

Work on the farm was seasonal, but the deacon was determined

that his sons should be kept busy the whole year. The problem was, What could he find for them to do, especially during the long winter evenings? He solved the problem by learning the shoemaker's trade himself, then teaching it to each of his boys. The boots and shoes they made were sturdy, and there was never any trouble selling them.<sup>5</sup>

But the children were doubtless allowed some time for wholesome recreation. In winter there probably was skating on White's Pond, and sleigh rides over the glistening that somehow he might learn to read. It was hard enough for the best student in those days.

All efforts made by James White to learn to read were fruitless. The letters ran together, making word recognition impossible. It seemed he would be forced to accept the bleak prospect that he would probably have to go through life as an illiterate

Though James's mental growth was hindered, his physical development was remarkable. He became his father's right-hand man

So devotedly did the young man apply himself to his studies that when the term closed, the schoolmaster handed him a certificate stating that the bearer was qualified to teach the common branches.

snow, ranging far over the white, sparkling roadways. There were also merry times in the farmhouse. On the cold, dark winter evenings we can imagine the family gathering around a roaring fire, roasting chestnuts, or cracking nuts while Father White told stories of the long ago. Sometimes, perhaps, he would read to them from Washington Irving's or James Fennimore Cooper's latest books.

In contrast to his sturdy brothers and sisters, Baby James was a sickly child. Betsy White often wondered whether he would live to reach manhood. Before he was 3 he fell ill with what doctors called worm fever, which resulted in severe fits. After weeks of sickness he recovered, but his eyes remained badly crossed. This condition continued for many years.

"I am reported to have been . . . a feeble, nervous, partially blind boy," wrote James in later years, recalling his childhood. When he was 7 he went with his brothers and sisters to the local school, hoping

on the farm. By the time he was 18 years old he was six feet tall and exceptionally strong physically.

Then, in his late teens, something akin to a miracle happened to James. His eyes became normal, and he found the letters of the alphabet clear and understandable. With determination he enrolled as a student in the local academy at St. Albans. When this 19-year-old six-footer presented himself to the teacher he was told he would have to take his place among the beginning pupils.

Many of his friends laughed at him and advised him to stick to farming for the rest of his life. But, like a thirsty animal suddenly discovering a spring of water in a desert, James threw himself into his studies. The school term was only twelve weeks long. So devotedly did the young man apply himself to his studies that when the term closed, the schoolmaster handed him a certificate stating that the bearer was qualified to teach the common branches. With this in

hand he secured a position and taught school the following winter. He soon discovered it was necessary for him to study long hours each day to keep ahead of his pupils, but nothing daunted him.

Deacon White, though sorry to lose James' help on the farm, did what he could to aid his son in obtaining an education. When James was ready to resume his studies his father gave him a suit of clothing, three dollars for his tuition, and a ration of bread enough to last a week. Each Monday for three months James walked five miles to the academy, returning home the following Saturday evening to get his weekly supply of bread.

Determined to gain his education independent of parental aid, James began looking for employment when school closed. Hearing of an opening at a sawmill on the Penobscot River, he walked the forty miles and was hired by the mill owners.

The work was new to him. Shortly after starting, he cut his ankle severely and was forced to quit work for a while. This cost him several weeks' wages and also resulted in crippling his foot, so that for many years he walked with a limp. At the end of that summer, with thirty dollars he had managed to save at the sawmill, he returned home, collected his books and clothing, and enrolled at the Methodist school at Reedfield.

During the three months he spent at this school his diet consisted of cornmeal pudding, which he cooked himself, and raw apples. He studied so faithfully that, when the term was over, the headmaster told him that with one more semester of schooling he could qualify to enter college. James returned home, delighted with this prospect and determined that nothing should interfere with his plan to gain a college education.

What James did not know was that his school days were over. The twelve weeks he had spent in primary school and the twenty nine weeks he had spent in various

higher schools of learning were all the formal education he would ever enjoy. That winter he taught a large school and saved his money, hoping with the money to further his education.

At the age of 15, James had been baptized and had joined the Christian Church, of which his parents were members. But his religious experience had been formal. As he plunged into his schoolwork as scholar and teacher, he laid aside the cross and fixed his heart on worldly goals. James was never wicked. He never swore, used liquor or tobacco, or committed any criminal acts. There was just no time, he thought, for religious things in his life.

James had not been long at home when his mother brought up a subject that was to interest many people profoundly in the early 1840's.

"Do you know, James," she said, "that Brother Oakes from Boston has been holding meetings in the schoolhouse, proving from the Bible that Jesus will return to earth about 1843? Many people in this neighborhood believe that what he says is true, and they have been converted."

James frowned. He had heard of this doctrine and rejected it as wild and fanciful.

"Do you mean he is a Millerite?"
"I suppose you might call him that," his mother replied, "although his teachings come from the Bible, and not from any man."

"But, Mother," James protested,
"William Miller is simply a fanatic
on this subject. He claims to know
more than Jesus Himself, who said
He did not know the day nor the
hour of His return."

But the young student was soon to discover that his mother was more than a match for him. She had the answer to every objection he advanced. To please her, James attended the meetings to see for himself whether the message was based on Scripture. Night after night, as he listened to powerful sermons and heard the testimonies

of his school friends, he became convinced that God was leading in the Advent movement. Thus James was brought face to face with some weighty decisions. The conviction that it was his duty to help warn the world of impending destruction swept over him.

Five minutes later he was back in his room, packing his books and clothing, getting ready to leave for Newport Academy. He borrowed one of his father's horses, packed a few necessities in saddlebags, mounted, and rode out of the yard. James White had set his course. He

"But, Mother," James protested, "William Miller is simply a fanatic on this subject. He claims to know more than Jesus Himself, who said He did not know the day nor the hour of His return."

But this feeling brought him unhappiness. What would happen to his former ambitions? Was he to give up all plans to gain an education and amount to something in the world?<sup>8</sup>

Painful as it was, the conviction that it was his duty to help warn the world of Christ's soon return continued to strengthen. If He was coming in three years, nothing else was really of much importance. James was gripped by the impression that it was his duty to return to the community where he had taught the previous winter, visit and pray with his former pupils, and thus bear witness for Christ.

The struggle was severe. At first he felt it was an impossible call. He wept and prayed, begging the Lord to remove the burden. He thought of his unsatisfied thirst for an education. He tramped the fields, hoping that the impression might pass. But the conviction became stronger than ever. Visit your scholars! Visit your scholars!

There he stood, under the open sky. As the thought of all his former hopes and plans swept over him, he decided that the sacrifice would be too great. Stamping his foot on the ground, he looked up and almost shouted his answer.

"I will not go!"

was going to get an education, and nothing could turn him from his goal.

So he thought! 9 \$

To be continued.

This article was adapted from James White, Review and Herald, Washington, DC, 1976, 13-20. The author was the great-grandson of James and Ellen White on his mother's side and the great-grandson of William Farnsworth (one of the first Seventh-day Adventists) on his father's side. He authored several excellent biographies of SDA pioneers which are available through www.lnfbooks.com.

#### Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> James White, *Life Incidents* (Battle Creek, Mich.; 1868), 9–19. Much of the material in this chapter is based on the first part of *Life Incidents*.
- <sup>2</sup> James White, "Sabbath-Schools," *Review and Herald*, August 22, 1878, 68.
- <sup>3</sup> Life Incidents, 10, 11.
- Occasionally in this book, conversation and descriptive material of a minor nature have been supplied to add human interest. However, in each case the material comports with known facts.
- Letter written by James White's nephew, son of Samuel White (Boston, Massachusetts), July 28, 1927.
- <sup>7</sup> Life Incidents, 15.
- William C. White, "Sketches and Memories of James and Ellen White," *Review and Herald*, February 28, 1935, 9.
- <sup>9</sup> Life Incidents, 18, 19.





#### **A Pivotal Election Year**

**News Item:** Headline: "A Pivotal Election Year: The Church's Last Chance to Make a Difference?"

"The 2004 election campaign season is underway. Some believe this election may offer the last opportunity for Americans to reverse the nation's moral course and to turn away God's hand of judgment. Our continued acceptance of the evils of abortion and sodomy may otherwise have sealed our doom. ... Faithful preaching and leadership by America's pastors is the key to victory in this election. . . . Godfearing Americans, through prayer, faithful pastoral preaching & the wise use of our votes, hold the keys to the 2004 Elections and America's future!"—Capitol Hill Prayer Alert, Washington Insider Report, September 2003. (See http://prayeralert.org/wir/ archives/sept2003WIR.html.) All emphasis supplied.

News Item: "Religion: The Polarizing Effect" — *Time* June 21, 2004. In a poll of more than 800 American voters, Time magazine asked at least 10 questions related to religion. Of those voters who said they would vote for Bush, here is how they responded to two of the questions: Do you think the President should allow his personal religious faith to guide him in making decisions as President? 67% said Yes. Do you think President Bush's

religious faith makes him a strong leader? 85% said Yes. (See also http://www.religionandsocialpolicy.org/news/article.cfm?id=1605.)

Comment: In *The Great*Controversy, page 590, written over 100 years ago, Mrs. E. G. White foretold that what we see today is a taste of what is to come:

"The great deceiver will persuade men that those who serve God are causing these evils. The class that have provoked the displeasure of Heaven will charge all their troubles upon those whose obedience to God's commandments is a perpetual reproof to transgressors. It will be declared that men are offending God by the violation of the Sunday sabbath; that this sin has brought calamities which will not cease until Sunday observance shall be strictly enforced; and that those who present the claims of the fourth commandment, thus destroying reverence for Sunday, are troublers of the people, preventing their restoration to divine favor and temporal prosperity."



# Alternative Medicine Going Mainstream?

News Item: "A new government report says 62 percent of U.S. adults surveyed use yoga, massage, or some other nonconventional treatment—including prayer—to cure what ails them." U.S. News & World Report, June 7, 2004, 15.

Comments: "When you make the people intelligent on the question of health reform, you have prepared the way for them to give attention to the present truth for these last days. Said my guide, 'Educate, educate, educate.' The mind must be enlightened; for the understanding is darkened just as Satan would have it to be, because he can find access through perverted appetite, to debase the soul. . . .

"I am informed by my guide, 'All who believe and proclaim the truth should not only practice health reform, but teach it diligently to others.' This will be a strong agency in calling the attention of the unbelieving to consider that if we are intelligent upon this subject in regard to healthful diet and practices, we would be sound on the subjects of Bible doctrine." *Colporteur Ministry*, 133.

God is giving us wonderful opportunities here for evangelism! If we will educate ourselves as to proper, natural ways to care for the body, the people will listen to us regarding spiritual things!



#### **Sports and Competition**

**News Item:** "A survey of 3,300 parents published in the January/ February issue of SportingKid magazine last year found that 84 percent had witnessed 'violent parental behavior' toward children, coaches, or officials at kids' sports events; 80 percent said they had been victims of such behavior. A survey in South Florida in 1999 of 500 adults found 82 percent saying parents were too aggressive in youth sports, and 56 percent said they had personally witnessed overly aggressive behavior. An informal survey of youngsters by the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission found 45 percent saying they had been called names, yelled at, or insulted while playing. Twenty-two percent said they had been pressured to play while injured, and an additional 18 percent said they had been

hit, kicked, or slapped while participating." Peter Cary, "Rescuing Children's Games from Crazed Coaches and Parents," *U.S. News & World Report*, June 7, 2004, 46.

One man was actually videoed telling his young baseball player, "I'm gonna get you tonight because you let me down, buddy." Ibid., 44.

Comments: "Some of the most popular amusements, such as football and boxing, have become schools of brutality. They are developing the same characteristics as did the games of ancient Rome. The love of domination, the pride in mere brute force, the reckless disregard of life, are exerting upon the youth a power to demoralize that is appalling.

"Other athletic games, though not so brutalizing, are scarcely less objectionable because of the excess to which they are carried." *The Adventist Home*, 500–501.

"How much time is spent by intelligent human beings in horse racing, cricket matches, and ball playing! But will indulgence in these sports give men a desire to know truth and righteousness? Will it keep God in their thoughts? Will it lead them to inquire, How is it with my soul?

"All the powers of Satan are set in operation to hold the attention to frivolous amusements, and he is gaining his object. He is interposing his devisings between God and the soul. He will manufacture diversions to keep men from thinking about God. The world, filled with sport and pleasure loving, is always thirsting for some new interest; but how little time and thought are given to the Creator of the heavens and the earth!" Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students, 456.

There is so much more that could be quoted, but suffice it to say that God has mercifully forwarned us from such activity, and has shown us what will be the result of disregarding His counsel. Almost the very words are now being printed in the news journals of today!



#### **Economic News**

News Item: "New jobs are being generated in large numbers, income is growing at twice the rate of last year, and the acceleration is such that we will probably see 5 percent growth in the domestic product. The jobs reports of the past few months have changed market sentiment. Sixty-one percent of private industries surveyed have added additional workers. That's the highest in four years. Business confidence has surged to a 20-year high, and business spending is exploding, with even American manufacturing joining the party. Companies that once saved every nickel are laying out more and more money on capital equipment to meet orders growing at double-digit rates. . . .

"Record profits are pushing corporations to start new projects. In fact, corporate profits have surged over 25 percent this year, on top of last year, when they exceeded \$1 trillion for the first time ever. . . .

"Household wealth has passed the \$45 trillion mark, a new peak, surpassing the previous high of early 2000." Mortimer B. Zuckerman, "Numbers that Just Plain Sing," U.S. News & World Report, June 7, 2004, 64.

Comment: "The Bible declares that in the last days men will be absorbed in worldly pursuits, in pleasure and money-getting. They will be blind to eternal realities. Christ says, 'As the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and

knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.' Matthew 24:37–39.

"So it is today. Men are rushing on in the chase for gain and selfish indulgence as if there were no God, no heaven, and no hereafter." Christ's Object Lessons, 228



#### **Faith of our Fathers**

"'Atheism is unknown there; infidelity rare and secret; so that persons may live to a great age in that country, without having their piety shocked by meeting with either an Atheist or an Infidel.' Thus wrote Benjamin Franklin in his 1782 pamphlet, 'Information to Those Who Would Remove to America.' At least one thing hasn't changed since Franklin penned those words: America remains a godly nation. Among advanced industrialized countries, it is easily the most religious. . . . Some 90 percent say they believe in God—94 percent if you add those who revere a 'universal spirit'— while less than 1 percent call themselves atheists or agnostics." Jay Tolson, "The Faith of Our Fathers," U. S. News & World Report, June 28 / July 5, 2004, 54.

Comments: It is hard to imagine that this is the same country Ben Franklin was referring to! Religion is important to Americans there is no doubt, but whom are they worshipping? Which God? Our gracious Lord has blessed this country with so many opportunities. But the day of accountability is coming. Will each of us be prepared to give an account?

Contributors: Joe Olson, Ralph Moss

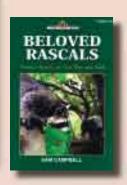
# CALCEING COMPRONISE

# New Publications

available from the

# Hope International Bookstore

Here are some of the new items that we have added to our book store since our 2004 catalog was published. If you would like a free 2004 catalog, please give us a call or drop us a line, and we will be happy to send you one. You may also browse online at <a href="https://www.hopeint.org">www.hopeint.org</a>. Please see page 30 for shipping and sales tax information.



# **General Books**

#### Crews, Joe

#### Creeping Compromise

This classic work made its mark 25 years ago and has been stirring Laodicean Christians to revival ever since. Covers subjects related to Christian standards including worldliness, modesty, marriage, and diet.

Paperback, 128 pages, 2002, Regular price: \$10.95
BECJ-CCOM \$7.99



#### Lighter of Gospel Fires

John N. Loughborough lived at a time when men went forth fearlessly to proclaim the three angels' messages, often traveling from place to place on foot or by borrowed conveyance, not knowing where they were to sleep at night or how they or their families would be fed and clothed.

Paperback, 169 pages, 2002

BERE-LOGF \$9.75



#### J.N. Andrews: Flame for the Lord

This book tells the story of a young man who became an Adventist, spurned a life of publicity and fame, became an itinerant preacher, clarified points of doctrine on the Sabbath for the new church, and ended his life sacrificially while bringing the three angel's message to Europe.

Paperback, 109 pages, 2004

BERV-FFLO \$7.49

# **Children and Youth**

#### Campbell, Sam

#### **Beloved Rascals**

Sam will make you gasp at the ornery ways of the more cantankerous members of his wilderness neighborhood. At the same time, you will be touched with Sam's love for Midnight the crow, Carcajou the wolverine, Cominsky the raccoon, and many other players in Sanctuary Lake's wildlife theater.

Paperback, 244 pages, 1957

BECS-BRAS \$6.1

#### Calamity Jane

Come and watch as *Calamity Jane*, a large raccoon, is captured by hunters, wins their affection, and is finally set free to rejoin her little ones.

Paperback, 126 pages, 1962

**BECS-CJAN** 

\$6.19

#### Eeny, Meeny, Miney, Mo . . . and Still-Mo

Red squirrels are by nature inquisitive and rambunctious, reason enough to think twice before adopting one—not to mention five! But this is just what happens to Sam and Giny Campbell at their wilderness island home.

Paperback, 237 pages, 1945

**BECS-EMMM** 

\$6.19

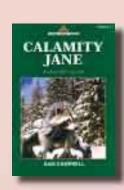
#### How's Inky?

Join Sam and his peculiar pet for a grand mixture of troubles and pleasures. You'll discover why it takes a lot of quill power to put down *How's Inky?* 

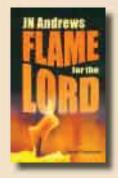
Paperback, 127 pages, 1943

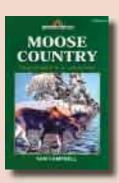
**BECS-HINK** 

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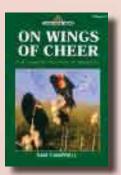


#### Moose Country

Hi-Bub, a young inquisitive boy, joins the Campbells for a journey to Sanctuary Lake in Canada's North Country, where a wonderful world of animals and adventure awaits. Take this wilderness walk and discover with Hi-Bub the intrigue of animal (and sometimes human) behavior.

Paperback, 235 pages, 1950

**BECS-MCOU** \$6.19



#### On Wings of Cheer

Meet Cheer, the remarkable friendly red-winged blackbird, who has delayed his migratory flight to enjoy Sanctuary hospitality. Follow the Campbell's adventures through a full year, from Old Charley (a five hundred pound bear), to a grand Christmas in the woods.

Paperback 236 pages, 1948

**BECS-OWOC** \$6.19



#### Sweet Sue's Adventures

Sweet Sue's Adventures is for children who love animals and the outdoors. Find out why a skunk behaves as he does, how he reacts to other forest animals and more. This book is written for the young reader.

Paperback, 119 pages, 1959

**BECS-SUAD** \$6.19



#### Tippy Canoe and Canada Too, A

A Tippy canoe and Canada Too will delight you with the wildlife friendships and revelations of the north woods land of distant shores where there are no roads, no towns, no manmade intrusions - a land where peace lives on.

Paperback, 250 pages, 1946

**BECS-TCCT** \$6.19

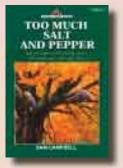


#### Too Much Salt and Pepper

Share the joys, adventures and hilarious mischief these little porcupines and other forest friends create at the author's island home.

Paperback, 258 pages, 1944

**BECS-TMSP** \$6.19



#### Living Forest

This is a set of all 12 of Sam Campbell's books.

Paperback, 12 books, 1943-1972

**BECS-LFOR** \$65.95

# **Spirit of Prophecy**

#### White, Ellen G.

#### Acts of the Apostles

This book is a magnificent revelation of the disciples' ministry after the ascension of Jesus to heaven. Discover what can happen when the church connects to the ultimate source of power!

Paperback, 482 pages, 2001

**BEWE-AAHA** \$1.25

#### Christian Education

The book is designed not only for teachers but also for parents, who should be prepared to direct intelligently the education of their children. The whole subject of Christian education is treated from the broadest standpoint, with valuable principles and suggestions applicable to every stage of child development, and it is confidently believed that this little work will prove a blessing.

Paperback, 248 pages, 1893

**BEWE-CEDU** \$2.95

#### Patriarchs and Prophets

If God is good, why doesn't He prevent sadness and heartbreak? And if He is allpowerful, why doesn't He do something about evil and sickness? These questions and many more are answered in this remarkable book, which has brought peace and hope to millions throughout the world.

Paperback, 797 pages

**BEWE-PPHA** \$1.89

#### **Prophets and Kings**

The second in a five-volume set of books that covers all of human history from the beginning of our time, to the end of time. It begins with the reign of King Solomon and ends just prior to the First Advent of Jesus. You will be shown more details to stories about Elijah, Daniel and more.

Paperback, 550 pages, 2000

**BEWE-PKHA** \$1.25

#### Steps to Christ

One of the great spiritual classics of all time, this book is a meaningful guide to Christian living.

Paperback, 121 pages, 2000

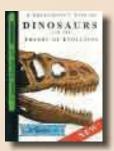
**BEWE-SCHT** \$0.30











## **Outreach**

#### Pinkoski, Jim

# Creationist's View of Dinosaurs and the Theory of Evolution, A

An illustrated view of dinosaurs from a Creationist point of view. Discusses the theory of evolution and why creationism is so much more believable.

Paperback, 56 pages, 1997

BEPJ-CVOD \$2.99



#### **Grave Errors About Death**

Many people are asking, "What really happens when we die?" This highly illustrated book provides answers in a format that appeals to all age groups.

Paperback, 56 pages, 1989

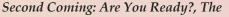
BEPJ-GEAD

#### Prophecies of Daniel and Revelation, The

A neatly organized and concise review of major biblical prophecies—yet simple and straightforward, easy to read, highly illustrated, and important to understand.

Paperback, 56 pages, 1997

BEPJ-PODR \$2.99



This captivating large-format book with full-page illustrations presents the biblical facts of the Second Coming. When will it occur? How will Jesus come? Who will go to heaven? Will I be ready? Find out the answers to these questions and more!

Paperback, 56 pages, 1999

BEPJ-TSCA

#### Truth About the Sabbath, The

Learn about the story of Sunday observance and how it came to replace the seventh-day Sabbath. Each page of this captivating booklet is fully illustrated with drawings that grab the reader's attention and bring the narrative to life. Easy to read, and easy to understand.

Paperback, Illustrated, 56 pages, 1988

BEPJ-TASA

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#### Davis, Rudy

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These soothing harp melodies will bring your thoughts heavenward as the ambiance of God's love envelops you.

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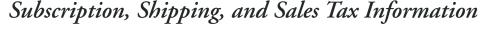
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The article "Dead Languages or Eternal Truths" (Kevin Paulson, July, 2004) is timely and apt; a mustread for all Adventists. I know I can count on your magazines to bring God's Word, pure, unadulterated, and—although bitter at times—just what we need in these last days. May God continue to richly bless your ministry!

——, United Kingdom

I am writing first of all to tell you once more how truly blessed we are to have "men who aren't afraid to stand up and call sin by its right name."

We can't tell you enough how grateful we are for Our Firm Foundation. It has brought us closer to our Heavenly Father and also to know His Beloved Son, our Lord and Saviour Iesus Christ.

We pray for all who are involved in the work at Hope International. I firmly believe this ministry was called by God to sound the alarm and to give the correct three angels' messages. I know and believe that God will continue to bless His faithful workers, no matter what low tactics some in the church may employ. God will be our refuge and our strength; nothing will prevail against His remnant followers.

We pray for the leadership in the structure churches and conferences. The devil is surely covering wolves in sheep's clothing, but Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice and know me. . . . "

AK, California

How did I hear about Hope International? Well, I received a magazine. I don't know who sent my name and address to you, though. But I am sure happy that whoever did thought that much of me, for I sure enjoy reading every one of them.

JW, Utah

Thank you so much for the Spring 2004 camp meeting videos. We have a TV, VCR, and DVD that were given to us by different people. We have never hooked the TV to our antenna because we don't want to watch the regular channels. Now we have some good tapes to show our friends. Thank you!

DB, Oregon

I received your trial issues and was compelled to subscribe. Your whole journal is enlightening and encouraging. Everything I read confirms what I have been experiencing in my walk with the Lord and in serving Him where He has placed

This past week I was reading Prophets and Kings again, and as I read page 716 I realized that I am right now living what is described on that page. Truly, we are now in the very last days, in the shaking/sealing time just prior to the fulness of the promised Latter Rain.

Some months ago the Lord prompted me to pray daily for the protection and happiness of those who will stand as the 144,000 through the time of trouble. I have always valued the writings of Ellen White, and now more than ever I treasure every word the Lord gave to her for us. Truly He sent her for such a time as this to those of us who are living just before His glorious coming!

Thank you for your faithful witness, and may God bless your efforts to reach those who are longing for the fulness of His presence.

AI, Hawaii

I received the January through April 2004 issues of Our Firm Foundation. Thank you very much for sending them to me. I had a spiritual feast as usual when I read them.

Every morning I thank God for what I learn from Our Firm Foundation, and I ask God to help me to obey. I know the Holy Spirit is with you there, and I want Him to be with me, too.

IH, Wisconsin

The book you sent me entitled Tithes and Offerings: Trampling the Conscience has been very informative, and it thoroughly provided answers to my questions. In my appreciation, I would like to send you a donation.

I believe your ministry is legitimately doing God's work in propagating the gospel, and my wife and I do not mind sharing our monetary support. I just have one request at this point: please send me three more copies of the same book, which I will be happy to pay

Thank you again, and may the Lord bless your whole staff as you continue to fulfill God's commission.

DR, Ohio

Sabbath evening I picked up volume 19, number 7, and read articles by Kevin Paulson, Arthur Whitefield Spalding, Clark Floyd, Ellen White, and Robert Pierson. I really enjoyed reading them all and agreed with them.

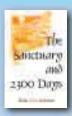
I believe in the S.O.P.—that Sister White is our prophet. I have seven of her books, which I read every day along with my Bible.

Thank you for giving us the truth as it is in Jesus. We need that, so we can go home; it's been too long already!

MG, Washington

# Studying the Book of Daniel

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Paperback, 96 pages, 1997 BEAJ-SA2D

\$6.15



#### Story of Daniel the Prophet

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#### Daniel and the Revelation

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783 pages, 1972

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