

# Our Firm Foundation

Volume 21, Number 3

March 2006

## Gospel Gimmicks

*The Foolishness  
of Preaching*

OR

*The Preaching  
of Foolishness*



The Seventh-day Sabbath

Christ Our Righteousness

The Immutable Law of God

The Non-Immortality of the Soul

The Three Angels' Messages

The Sanctuary



Joe Olson

## God's Witness or Man's Witness?

Scripture tells us in 1 John 5:9 that “if we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which He hath testified of His Son.”

We *all* receive the “witness” of men. In other words, we believe men; we take them at their word. We believe doctors, pastors, dentists, bosses, teachers, builders, people who give us directions, newscasters, etc. We believe “men” all the time!

Our proneness to believing man is most astounding. It must be a scandal to the unfallen worlds.

God, in His marvelous mercy, uses analogies and warnings to wean us from our evil propensity of placing our confidence and belief in man. He says to us through His servant John, “If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater.” We so easily trust in human beings and yet God’s “witness” is greater.

How quickly we trust in man, often to our own detriment, and yet belief in God is replete with evidence of abundant blessings! How senseless it is to trust man, and at the same time distrust the God who made man. The prophet Jeremiah warns us: “Thus saith the LORD; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the LORD.” Jeremiah 17:5.

God’s witness is greater. Man continually fails us and lies to us. God cannot lie to us; Numbers

23:19; neither does He trifle with our feelings. He has pledged to love us with an everlasting love. Jeremiah 31:3. God has *never* failed us. What is the matter with us? What is the matter with me? It can only be that I trust the voice of man more than the voice of God. Could it be that we are prone to trusting in man because of our own selfish desires? In believing man, self is gratified.

I want to hear what I want to hear and I will go and listen to whoever will give what I want. Then I convince myself that what I just heard was the truth. What is even more incredible is that sometimes, we gravitate toward those who thrive in giving us negative input about ourselves, or even abuse us. In addition, we often won’t even believe the truth about ourselves. Some are smart who won’t believe it; some are pretty who won’t believe it; some are thin who won’t believe it.

Satan has got us in a mental and spiritual grasp that can only be broken by the power of God Himself. “Freedom” begins with trusting in God because His witness is greater than man’s. Will you join me in trusting Him even more, until that day dawns?

“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your

hearts.” 2 Peter 1:19.

We can trust that “more sure Word!”

Sister White had this testimony for a dear sister in the faith:

“Now, my sister, we have a right to take the Lord at His Word. I have never asked God to reveal to me whether I should be saved, or whether my husband will be saved. I believe that if I live in obedience to all the commandments of God, and do not become discouraged, but walk in the light as Christ is in the light, I shall at last meet my Saviour and see His face. For this I am striving, I will not trust in man or make flesh my arm. I have the promise that if I am faithful in bearing the messages God gives me, I shall receive the crown of life. My gaining this crown depends on my believing the message of truth, and holding by faith the promise of God that I shall have His grace to sustain me in discharging the duties He requires of me.” *Daughters of God*, 274–275.

May that be my testimony as well, is my prayer. 📖



Joe Olson serves as the executive director and chairman of the board of Hope International. He also travels as an international speaker.



**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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# Gospel Gimmicks: The Foolishness of Preaching OR The Preaching of Foolishness



The prevalence of worldly methods of teaching and preaching attests to spiritual poverty.

*Samuel Koranteng-Pipim, PhD*



*"For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water. . . . And now what hast thou to do in the way of Egypt, to drink the waters of Sihor? or what hast thou to do in the way of Assyria, to drink the waters of the river?" Jeremiah 2:13, 18.*

Throughout Bible times, and ever since, the clear and persuasive proclamation of God's Word has been the most effective medium to communicate God's truth. The apostle Paul refers to this method as "the foolishness of preaching." 1 Corinthians 1:21. (All emphasis supplied).

Today, however, we seem to be moving away from simple Bible-based preaching to some rather ridiculous and sometimes bizarre gimmicks from the secular world. We may convince ourselves that there is nothing wrong with these gimmicks. But perceptive unbelievers, observing the way we are blindly mimicking worldly methods, may justifiably dismiss our message as the *preaching of foolishness*. Let me explain.

## Gospel Magician?

Recently I received an urgent e-mail from a graduate student at a public university in the United States. He urged me to share my

views with him on "a troubling issue" that had arisen in the church he attends. The issue relates to the plan of the church to invite a "gospel magician" to be guest speaker for a week of prayer. The student expressed his concerns this way:

"I fear that in engaging in practices of magical tricks (that are also done by many secular magicians) we are blurring the line between what is good and what is not. Even though I do not necessarily believe that those engaged in sleight of hand are using any supernatural powers, I fear that the use of illusion to pass across some gospel truth is missing the point and only putting temptation before our children.

"These brethren in the church do not believe that this is a matter of black and white. They believe that those of us who are opposing this practice in the church (for children's story) and in the church school (for both entertainment and now week of prayer) are 'ultra conservatives' and that we are looking for evil where there is none. I do not know if there is a very clear distinction between black and white in this case. For now (I am still hoping to do further study on this matter), I see it as 'black' because of the potential for evil and because it blurs the line between the good and

the bad. (These brethren even argue that the Bible is really not opposed to 'magic.') I feel that if the line we are dealing with is gray then we, as a church, need to keep away from it. We should shun 'all appearance of evil.' 1 Thessalonians 5:22."

We have had gospel rock and praise dancing in worship services, gospel puppets, gospel clowns, gospel cafés / discos and gospel theatrics / dramas for our outreach to youth, young adults, and the "unchurched." Now, it seems, we must have gospel magicians for our church services and weeks of prayer. By resorting to these "gospel gimmicks," are we not in danger of turning away from the *foolishness of preaching* to the *preaching of foolishness*?

In this article I will argue that in so far as gospel gimmicks accommodate the biblical religion to the tastes of unrenewed hearts, such contemporary methods evidence our welcoming of worldliness into the church. Even more, a reliance upon such worldly methods of communicating the gospel is misguided and contrary to biblical teaching.

## Worldliness in the Church

The former Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev reportedly told the following story to teach the need for



vigilance.

At a time when there was a wave of petty theft in the USSR, the story goes, the Soviet authorities put guards at many of the state-owned factories. At one of the timber works in Leningrad the guard knew the workers well. The first evening, Pyotr Petrovich came out with a wheelbarrow and, on the wheelbarrow, a great bulky sack with a suspicious-looking object inside.

Guard: "Come on, Petrovich. What have you got there?"

Petrovich: "Just sawdust and shavings."

Guard: "Come on, I wasn't born yesterday. Tip it out."

Petrovich did, and out came nothing but sawdust and shavings. So he was allowed to put it all back again and go home. The same thing happened every night all week, and the guard was getting extremely frustrated. Finally his curiosity overcame his frustration.

Guard: "Petrovich, I know you. Tell me what you're smuggling out of here, and I'll let you go."

Petrovich: "Wheelbarrows."

While we may laugh at this story, we may also need to remember that in the arena of contemporary worship and outreach methods the laugh is on us as Bible-believing Christians. We have set up patrols to check for worldliness around us by developing our own schools, seminaries, radio and TV stations, publishing houses, book centers, etc. But the devil has wheeled worldliness and paganism right past our eyes into some of these institutions of the church. And many don't see it, let alone see anything wrong with it. They fail to recognize that when we fundamentally change

our method of proclaiming spiritual truth, we change the message itself. And when we change the message

to do in the way of Assyria, to drink the waters of the river?" Jeremiah 2:13, 18.

*A new order of things has come into the ministry. . . a desire to pattern after the world, and simplicity and humility are almost unknown.*



of God, we change the God of the message.

### Broken Cisterns

Centuries ago, the prophet Jeremiah spoke out against this tendency on the part of God's people to mimic the gimmicks found in other faiths:

"My people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water. . . . And now what hast thou to do in the way of Egypt, to drink the waters of Sihor? or what hast thou

We are in danger of making blunders in our missionary effort, in danger of failing to realize how essential is the work of the Holy Spirit upon the heart. A new order of things has come into the ministry. There is a desire to pattern after the world, and simplicity and humility are almost unknown.

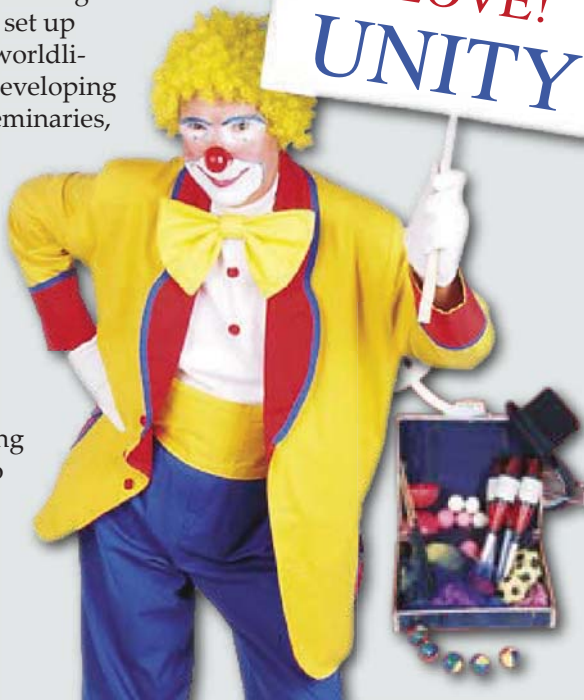
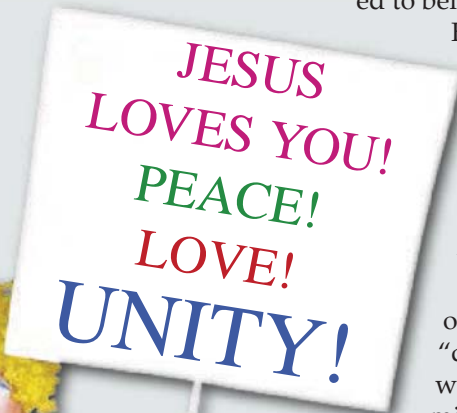
Young ministers who desire to be original introduce new ideas and new plans for labor. They open revival meetings and call large numbers into the church. But when the excitement is over, where are the converted ones? Repentance for sin is not felt. The sinner is entreated to believe in Christ and accept

Him without any regard for his past life of sin and rebellion, and the heart is not broken. There is no contrition of soul. The professedly converted ones have not fallen upon the Rock, Christ Jesus.

A growing number of our members and leaders "don't see anything wrong" with today's gospel gimmicks. They are adopting and actively promoting these worldly entertainment methods for worship and evangelistic services. Regrettably, those who raise concerns are mislabeled "ultra-conservatives." Why is this so?

### Why We "Don't See Anything Wrong"

Granted, many within the church who are resorting to the various types



Photos: © Hemera Photo Objects CD



of gospel gimmicks—gospel rock, gospel clowns, gospel cafes, gospel magicians, etc.—sincerely desire to see spiritual renewal in the church and

want to attract new souls to Christ. Many who advocate such things are persuaded that God will use these modified forms of entertainment to win and retain young people in our own church. Without judging their motives and sincerity, I'd like to suggest a few other reasons why some don't see anything wrong with these contemporary innovations.

### 1 *Desperation*

There are those of us whose witness and example as parents and teachers have been unconvincing to our young people. The youth have observed that while we rightly affirm "the Bible and the Bible only," many of us do not have a living experience with the Bible's divine Author. Baptism seems more a graduation ceremony than the start of a new life in Christ.

Our identity as God's people makes us complacent instead of inspiring us to fulfill our divine mission to the world. Our preaching, teaching and evangelism may cram the mind with information without bringing about the deep soul searching and humility of heart that results in transforming the character. Our ethical positions on social issues reflect pragmatic concerns rather than fidelity to Scripture.

And instead of our worship being reverently vibrant, it tends to be either dull and sterile or emotional and superficial.

Having observed the above incon-

sistencies and hypocrisies, many of our young people are restless to sever all links with what they perceive as hypocritical faith. Their parents and teachers, in sheer desperation to hold them in the fold, encourage every worldly fad, even if it means importing "gospel rock," "gospel clowns," or "gospel magicians" into the church.

Although some of us who fit this description may sense that these new forms of worship and outreach are incompatible with biblical Christianity, we find ourselves unable to oppose the methods because, in fact, we share the same worldly values and do practically nothing for the Lord. On the other hand, our children and students want to be active in the church. But the only way they know how is through different forms of worldly idolatry.

### 2 *Weak Church Leaders*

Unfortunately, some of us pastors and church leaders are sometimes to blame for the introduction of gospel gimmicks into the church. We appear to put popularity, job security, position, and the illusion of outward success above our duty to the Chief Shepherd. We seem to fear that if we were to take a stand against these forms of worldliness in our churches, we would create enemies and threaten our support among our constituencies.

In some instances, we have done less than we might have to lead our congregation in the direction of revival and meaningful evangelism. We seldom preach Bible-based messages. With hazy preaching and teaching paralyzed by uncertainty, our churches are dying. Consequently, when something *wrong* comes along in the name of evangelism and worship innovation, we have already forfeited our moral right to challenge it. We find it easier to jump on the bandwagon of what is *new* instead of courageously holding on to what is true.


### 3 *Denial of Faith*

Another reason why we may not see anything wrong with gospel

gimmicks is that some of us have embraced liberal higher criticism. Consequently we do not really believe in the efficacy of God's Word to draw souls to Christ and keep them in the faith. In the honesty of our hearts we do not see the uniqueness of our message, the distinctiveness of our identity, the end-time dimension of our hope, and the urgency of our mission.

### 4 *Lack of Conversion*

There is another reason why some of us who advocate gospel gimmicks don't see anything wrong with them. Perhaps, unknown even to ourselves, we have never been fully converted. Our tastes and affections are still in the world. We are honest when we say that we see nothing wrong with these biblical-questionable innovations. This is because spiritual things "are spiritually discerned." 1 Corinthians 2:14.

Thus when the sanctuaries which were dedicated to the worship of a holy God are transformed into auditoriums to worship the god of entertainment, we do not see anything wrong. We may congratulate ourselves for finally coming up with "a contemporary church program that meets the needs of our generation." We don't realize that the god of this world has blinded us (see 2 Corinthians 4:4). Without a true conversion, there is no hope of changing our minds against the use of worldly methods in worship or evangelism. 

*To be Continued.*



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# Appearances

AND

# Reality

Ellen G. White

***Spiritual façades deceive the perpetrators more than the audience for who they are intended.***

## **P**eople of God

“Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.” Isaiah 58:1. The people described in this message are called the people of God, yet the prophet is directed to lift up his voice like a trumpet, to show them their transgressions and sin. The Lord sees that those who claim to be His children are deceived, but it is not His purpose to leave them to their deception. He mercifully sends them a message that they may discern their duty and return unto the Lord. By obedience they are to ward off everything that has a tendency to debase and corrupt character and misinterpret their faith before the world.

The Lord God is a jealous God, and He will not be silent when His glory is tarnished, His worship corrupted before the world, and His character misrepresented to men. He has regard unto His honor and the glory of His name before all nations. He expects those who claim to be His worshipers to be loyal to the principles of righteousness, not only for their own soul's interest, but for the good of those with whom they are associating. He would have them represent the

principles of the government whose subjects they claim to be and whose King they profess to serve.

### **True Reproof**

If one professing to be under the rule of the King of kings is dishonest in his dealings, trifling in his character, actuated by a hard, selfish spirit which leads him to look out for his own interest irrespective of the interests of others, then let those who love the right, who would honor God and represent the principles of His government, lift up their voices and show the professed people of God their sins, and the house of Jacob their transgression.

Let not the contagious spirit of selfishness be permitted to leaven others by its influence. Let there be no conniving or deception in the service of God. Let those who love God faithfully present to others what constitutes true service, that men may be doers of the Word of God. There must be individual training and culture, that those who profess to be worshipers may understand and be controlled by the high and noble principles of righteousness.

### **Unacceptable Worship**

The Lord describes those to

whom the prophet is sent with the messages of reproof as those who “seek Me daily, and delight to know My ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of Me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God. Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not? wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge?” Verses 2–3.

The Lord answers their questioning and reproach, saying, “Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labors. Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high. Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD?” Verses 3–5.

### **Need for Humility**

It is possible to manifest apparent zeal in the service of God, to offer prayers and observe fasts, and yet not be acknowledged of the Lord. When our prayers are offered in self-confidence, when we fail to



watch, and bring our actions into harmony with our prayers, we are not accounted worshipers in the sight of heaven. We are destitute of the faith that works by love and purifies the soul; for genuine faith will lead the possessor to mortify the deeds of the flesh, and crucify

will break down the family altar, and stir up strife and contention in the home, and there will be dearth of holy and beneficent actions that flow from faith in Christ.

The most convincing evidence of the power of the gospel to the world is its effect on the lives of

proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered." Malachi 3:13–15.

But is murmuring, complaining, and rebellion the fruit of the Christian tree? O no; it is the fruit of the heart unsanctified and unsubdued, that is swayed by impulse, the language of one has no regard for the feelings of those about him. By murmuring and complaint it is made manifest that his soul is not under the discipline of the Holy Spirit.

Those who are full of murmuring and complaint against God and their fellow-men will have to be converted and transformed before they can enter the kingdom of heaven. It may be necessary that the furnace of trial be kindled and heated sevenfold to purge away the dross from the character, that the gold may come forth purified, refined, and stamped with the image of the Refiner.

Those who are merely surface Christians are no blessing to themselves or others, although they fast and spread sackcloth and ashes under them. The old habits return; quick temper, suspicion, jealousy, judgment of others—all manifest that they are not controlled by the grace of Christ. Their habits of evil have become a yoke of bondage to themselves and to others.

They may observe fasts, practice voluntary humility, and manifest apparent devotion; but as they do not have real humility, they do not find rest and peace and joy. Their

*Those who complain at the providences of God manifest weakness of faith, and show that they lack the knowledge of the character of God and of Jesus Christ whom he has sent.*

selfishness, self-love, impatience, and self-righteousness. Those who would truly follow Christ must daily learn lessons in meekness and lowliness of heart, that they may speak guardedly, manifest courtesy and kindness, have tender hearts, and bring sympathy and sunshine into the home. All strife, all debate, all smiting with the tongue and the fist of wickedness, must be put away. The overbearing will must be subdued, and gentleness and a disposition to be easily entreated must be cultivated. Let no one think that to bow the head as a bulrush will take the place of true humility. Such humility is a sham; for where meekness does not exist in the heart, it will not be manifested in the life. Those who are merely professors of truth and not doers of the word,

those who believe it. He who is a true Christian will represent Christ, and will cease from all murmuring or complaining of God, or of his fellow-men. Those who complain at the providences of God manifest weakness of faith, and show that they lack the knowledge of the character of God and of Jesus Christ whom He has sent.

### **Murmuring and Complaining**

Of these half-hearted professors the Lord says, "Your words have been stout against Me, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against Thee? Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept His ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts? And now we call the





accustomed habits control them; and when they fail to manifest a Christlike action, they throw the blame and responsibility upon the circumstances which surround them or the people with whom they are brought in contact. Instead of examining themselves to see wherein their inconsistency lies, they bemoan their case, and think that their difficulties are the results of others' misdeeds. As long as they hold to this opinion, they cannot see their faults, repent of their evil, and confess their wrong-doing.

All heaven is looking upon the inhabitants of the earth. The angels and the God of heaven are looking upon those who claim to be Christians, and weighing their devotional exercises. The light of God's truth has come to the world, and though many have assented that it is truth, but few have been transformed by its power. The grace of God has not been received into the heart to regenerate and renew.

### Outside Appearances

This is an age of profession and pretension. On all sides we see beautiful houses erected, splendidly furnished, adorned with pictures and equipped with everything to delight the eye and gratify the taste. Looking upon outside




appearances we might say, Surely here are happy homes. Yet within these mansions lust and evil passions hold sway. Husbands are killing their wives that they may gratify their unholy lust, killing them with neglect, with harshness, with overbearing and self-importance. Those who were once made in the image of God, by indulgence in evil are blotting out every semblance of the divine nature.

Not only is evil prevalent in the world, in both the lower and the higher classes, but wickedness is practiced even in the church by those who profess to be worshippers. The names of men are registered on the church records who indulge in card-playing, who visit questionable places of amusement, and frequent gambling hells. Under the semblance of prosperity and peace among the higher classes, there is a state of degradation which is hid from all eyes but God's.

In beautiful homes, in elegant mansions, cruelty is practiced such as pen can feebly picture. Yet men and women who are written down as cruel in the books of heaven among this class, presume to sing

the praises of God in beautiful hymns and songs. Many preserve the appearance of innocence, while they are planning how to commit theft and practice

robbery in their positions of trust. By men and women who appear to delight in religious exercises, who profess to be followers of Christ, whose names are on the church record, there are embezzlements, fraud, licentiousness, adultery, and all kinds of wickedness.

At such a time as this the Lord has commanded, "Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in My holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand." "For the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it? Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to Me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: and rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth Him of the evil." "Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to a reproach." Joel 2:1, 11-13, 17. 

*Review and Herald*, June 5, 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.*

# DECEPTION

David Herbert

Part 2

*“Let no man deceive you by any means.”*

*In part one the author emphasized watching and praying as the only safeguard against the intense deception of the last days—Editors.*

Satan well knows that all whom he can lead to neglect prayer and the searching of the Scriptures, will be overcome by his attacks. Therefore, he invents every possible device to engross the mind.

“The position that it is of no consequence what men believe is one of Satan’s most successful deceptions. He knows that the truth, received in the love of it, sanctifies the soul of the receiver; therefore he is constantly seeking to substitute false theories, fables, another gospel.” *The Great Controversy*, 520.

“There never was a time when it was so important that the followers of Christ should study the Bible as now. Deceptive influences are upon all sides, and it is essential that you counsel with Jesus, your best friend. . . .

“We are living in perilous times, and as we draw near the close of earth’s history, there will be no safety for those who do not become familiar with the Word of God. . . .

“The children of God have reached the most critical part of their pilgrimage; for the nets and pitfalls of the enemy are on every side.” *The Youth’s Instructor*, May 18, 1893.

Jesus says, “strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life.” Matthew 7:14. How is a man to find the strait gate and the narrow road that leads to eternal life?

“Only those who have been diligent students of the Scriptures and who have received the love of the truth will be shielded from the powerful delusion that takes the world captive.” *The Great Controversy*, 625.

“God will have a people upon the earth to maintain the Bible, and the Bible only, as the standard of all doctrines and the basis of all reforms. The opinions of learned men, the deductions of science, the creeds or decisions of ecclesiastical councils, as numerous and discordant as are the churches which they represent, the voice of the majority—not one nor all of these should be regarded as evidence for or against any point of religious faith. Before accepting any doctrine or precept, we should demand a plain ‘Thus saith the

Lord’ in its support.” *Ibid.*, 595.

## Deception’s Final End

“That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. . . .

“For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of His coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” 2 Thessalonians 2:3–4, 7–12.

“And I beheld another beast

Photos © Paul Williams

coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

“And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

“And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.” Revelation 13:11–17.

“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy name have cast out devils? and in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity.” Matthew 7:21–23.

### Prophets and Law Rejected

“The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God. ‘Where there is no vision, the people perish.’ Proverbs 29:18. Satan will work ingeniously, in different ways and through different agencies, to unsettle the confidence of

God’s remnant people in the true testimony. He will bring in spurious visions to mislead, and will mingle the false with the true.”

*Selected Messages*, book 2, 78.

“There will be a hatred kindled against the testimonies which is satanic. The workings of Satan will be to unsettle the faith of the churches in them, for this reason: Satan cannot have so clear a track to bring in his deceptions and bind up souls in his delusions if the warnings and reproofs and counsels of the Spirit of God are heeded.” Ibid., book 1, 48.

Why are the testimonies and their counsels so necessary?

“I know your danger. If you lose confidence in the testimonies you will drift away from Bible truth.” *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 98.

“Christ declared that not one jot or tittle of the law should fail until heaven and earth should pass away. The very work that He came to do was to exalt the law, and show to the created worlds and to heaven that God is just, and that His law need not be changed.” *Review and Herald*, March 9, 1886.

“There is one pointed out in prophecy as the man of sin. He is the representative of Satan. Taking the suggestions of Satan concerning the law of God, which is as unchangeable as His throne, this man of sin comes in and represents to the world that he has changed that law, and that the first day of the week instead of the seventh is now the Sabbath. Professing infallibility he claims the right to change the law of God to suit his own purposes.” Ibid. See Revelation 19:20.

“Then there will be a law against the Sabbath of God’s creation, and then it is that God will do a strange work in the earth. See Isaiah 28:21. He has borne long with the perversity of the race; He has tried to win them to Himself. But the time will come when they shall have filled their measure of iniquity; and then it is that God will work. This time is

almost reached.” Ibid.

### Self-deceived

“The time is at hand when Satan will work miracles to confirm minds in the belief that he is God. All the people of God are now to stand on the platform of truth as it has been given in the third angel’s message. All the pleasant pictures, all the miracles wrought, will be presented in order that, if possible, the very elect shall be deceived. The only hope for any one is to hold fast the evidences that have confirmed the truth in righteousness.” Ibid., August 9, 1906.

“Many are Laodiceans, living in a spiritual self-deception. They clothe themselves in the garments of their own righteousness, imagining themselves to be rich and increased with goods and in need of nothing, when they need daily to learn of Jesus, His meekness and lowliness, else they find themselves bankrupt, their whole life being a lie.” *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 7, 962.

I for one do not wish to be self-deceived, living a lie and hear my Lord say, “I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.” We need to buy from Christ truth, faith and love. The faith that works by love, purifying the soul. Without Jesus’ righteousness, we will find ourselves deceived and naked in the day of our judgment. 📖



*To be continued.*



David writes from Florida where he lives with his wife, Ruth. He has a passion for the Lord’s work. His interests include farming, country living and medical missionary work.

# Habits

# and

# Character

Randy Floyd

Part 2

Through the wrong habits formed, Satan will assail you again and again.

*In Part 1, the author laid the foundation for the development of habits and character, and exhorted the reader to eschew evil habits detrimental to spiritual growth — Editors.*

This is how habits are formed: More boutons (because of the same thoughts or actions repeated) equal more electrical current to say “no” or “yes” at the proper times. The more boutons there are producing a certain habitual pattern, the more spontaneous, habitual, and natural will be the ability to make the right decisions in the future. That is how right decisions form habits that form right characters. The eminent Harvard psychologist, William James observed:

“Could the young but realize how soon they will become mere walking bundles of habits, they would give more heed to their con-

duct while in the plastic state. We are spinning our own fates, good or evil, and never to be undone. Every smallest stroke of virtue or of vice leaves its never so little scar. The drunken Rip Van Winkle, in Jefferson’s play, excuses himself for every fresh dereliction by saying “I won’t count this time.” Well! he may not count it, and a kind heaven may not count it, but it is counted none the less. Down among his nerve cells and fibers the molecules are counting it, registering and storing it up to be used against him when the next temptation comes. Nothing we ever do is, in strict scientific literalness, wiped out. “Of course, this has its good side as well as its bad one. As we become permanent drunkards by so many separate drinks, so we become saints in the moral, and authorities and experts in the practical and scientific spheres, by so many separate acts and hours of work.”<sup>1</sup>

Christians, of all people should be realists. Negative habits are there in the shadows, because all boutons remain in place.

“We should never be slow in breaking up a sinful habit. Unless evil habits are conquered, they will conquer us, and destroy our happiness.” *Testimonies*, vol. 4, 654. We may repent and set our feet in right paths, but the familiarity with the former temptation is a crease in the paper that cannot be completely unfolded.

“What the child sees and hears is drawing deep lines upon the tender mind, which no after circumstances in life can entirely efface. The intellect is now taking shape, and the affections receiving direction and strength. Repeated acts in a given course become habits. These may be modified by severe training, in afterlife, but are seldom changed.” *Child Guidance*, 199–200. That is why wise Paul could say, “Let him

that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." 1 Corinthians 10:12.

### Will Power Not Enough

At this crucial knife edge point in each person's future on which all else balances, we must be very clear and honest with ourselves. Will power alone, no matter how strong a person is, will never be sufficient to build enough boutons so that we will be above temptation. We live in a dynamic universe and forces beyond the human are impressing us constantly. See Ephesians 6:12-13.

Only by the empowering of the personal intervention of the Holy Spirit can any of us be prompted even to begin wanting to make the right boutons along the right axons. Even God will not make the right boutons for us—if we do not choose His way. This choosing, this response to the prompting of the Spirit, is the first step to making new boutons. God does not choose for us any more than He does our breathing for us.

"To make God's grace our own, we must act our part. The Lord does not propose to perform for us either the willing or the doing. His grace is given to work in us to will and to do, but never as a substitute for our effort. Our souls are to be aroused to cooperate. The Holy Spirit works in us; that way we may work out our own salvation." *SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 4, 1167.

The good news is that He has wired us to succeed with a neural system that defies human imagination or duplication. All He wants from us is our choice exercised in willing and doing. Each right choice becomes another bouton, until the "weight" of boutons forms a strong and good habit.

### Caring for Our Brain Cells

Our brain cells can make all this happen. You would think that caring for our brain cells then would be our highest priority. How can we make healthy brain cells every day? First, we should make sure that

we are feeding them through rich, pure, blood by keeping health laws including the following:

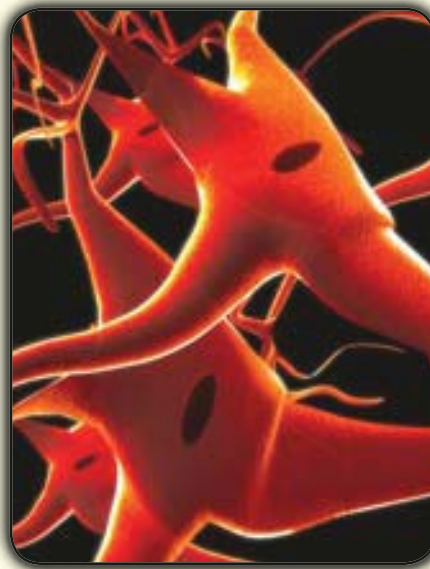
1) Eating food that is healthful, such as fruit, nuts, vegetables, and

be kept healthy because they are the only place in our bodies where the Holy Spirit connects with us.

"The brain nerves that connect with the whole system are the

*"The brain nerves that connect with the whole system are the medium through which heaven communicates with man and affects the inmost life."*

grains, 2) Avoiding animal products that send cholesterol and other undesirable elements zinging through



our bloodstream, 3) Drinking plenty of water daily, 4) Breathing in deeply of fresh air 5) Exercising daily so that all that water, food nutrients, and fresh oxygen is hurried through the blood stream, feeding those brain cells minute by minute.

When brain cells are not fed properly, we doze at the wheel of our cars, in class lectures, or even in church; we make poor decisions and judgments; we become lazy, grouchy, impatient, and miserable.

But the function of brain cells is not only to help us think clearly or quickly. They are not only where habits are formed. Brain cells must

medium through which heaven communicates with man and affects the inmost life. Whatever hinders the circulation of the electric current in the nervous system, thus weakening the vital powers and lessening moral susceptibility, makes it more difficult to arouse the moral nature." *Education*, 209.

Think about it! Anything we do to improve our general health makes it easier to hear the Holy Spirit. Think about the words of the apostle Paul concerning the care and stewardship of our bodies as the temples of the Holy Spirit now that you have learned how what we feed our body directly affects our moral center and the formation of a godly character!

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." 1 Corinthians 3:16-17.

"What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.

When I discovered that principle some years ago, I surely paid more attention to what I ate, how I exercised, and when I rested. The thought also occurred to me that



when I violated simple health rules, I was turning down the Holy Spirit and thus not getting the confirming voice of assurance, which I want to live with day by day. The words “grieve not the Holy Spirit of God” (Ephesians 4:30), and “quench not the Spirit” (1 Thessalonians 5:19), took on a whole new meaning.

Imagine that! How I treat my physical body directly affects my moral sensibilities and thus my character development.

### God’s Faithfulness

Through it all, God holds before us day after day, the reasons why we should choose His way. He never gets weary. “My Father worked hitherto, and I work.” John 5:17. He is always ready to provide the electrical energy that jump-starts our electrical system whenever we choose to plug into His power. Even if we fail again and again in the self-correcting process of reaching our goals, He is still there to jump-start us again with more energy to make more boutons of the right kind. That is what the apostle Paul meant when he said, “God worketh in you both to will and to do of His good

pleasure.” Philippians 2:13.

Paul understood all of this. Note his counsel to the Galatians: “This I say then, walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.” Galatians 5:16.

The good news is that the more we permit the Holy Spirit to help us say “yes” to His plans for us, the easier it becomes to keep adding boutons on the right axons. That is why we must daily make a habit of focusing on those things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely and of good report, as the apostle put it so eloquently. Philippians 4:8. Each act of focusing becomes a new bouton until what one focuses on becomes a fixed habit and is reflected in the Christian character.

One added thought: Some very nice people still honestly believe that it is impossible for sinful human beings to overcome sinful attitudes, actions, or feelings. Contrary to the golden thread throughout the Bible that overcomers will occupy the new earth, they hope that in some way all their sinful habits for which they keep asking for forgiveness will be erased from their frontal lobes in the resurrection. This

is perilously close to thinking like the presumptuous “believers” who can not understand why the Lord does not know them. See Matthew 7:21–23.

The good standard, the rock of truth, is that the Holy Spirit’s awesome task is to redirect our neural patterns so that it becomes a habit to think righteously. Whether we want to believe it or not, the day is coming when those prepared for the Lord will have settled “into the truth, both intellectually and spiritually, so they can not be moved.” *SDA Bible Commentary*, vol. 4, 1161. See also 2 Peter 1:10. Or they will become more settled into selfishness, envy, lust, and hate, so that they too cannot be moved! Revelation 22:11. 📖

*Concluded.*

*Randy Floyd writes from prison in California where he has become a Bible teacher and a strong witness for the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> *Principles of Psychology*, 1890, vol. 1, 127; <http://psychclassics.yorku.ca/James/Principles/prin4.htm>.



Photos © Paul Williams



## *The Papacy Under John Paul II - Part 3*

*Colin Standish*

It is evident that at the end of this world's history every inhabitant will be under a death decree.

It is not the goal in this series to pass judgment upon the deceased pope. Only God knows the intent of his heart or the heart of any human being. However, there is no question that a study of the words of Holy Scripture plainly testifies to the fact that the papacy is not God's agency upon earth. It does not fulfill the biblical requirements for true unity as uttered by Jesus in His prayer for unity. This can be achieved only when the pure truth of Scripture is followed and the life is sanctified by that truth.

"Sanctify them through Thy truth: Thy Word is truth."  
John 17:17.

Paul emphasized the same principle in his second letter to the Thessalonian believers. "God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth."  
2 Thessalonians 2:13.

God will have His faithful people who will follow "every word that proceedeth out of the mouth

of God." Matthew 4:4. The evidence is clear. Those whose names are in God's Book of Life will receive eternal life upon the return of Jesus.

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." 1 Corinthians 15:52-53.

By contrast, all those faithful ones will face terrible persecution and even death under laws of enforcement enacted by the United States to punish all who will not worship the papacy or receive its signature mark of Sunday worship:

"And [the United States] deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast [the papacy]; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed."  
Revelation 13:14-15.

However, those who do worship at the behest of the papacy will come under the wrath of God:

"When the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power."  
2 Thessalonians 1:7-9.

"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 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." Revelation 14:9–10.

Lord." 1 Thessalonians 4:17.

However, those who comprise the multitudes who will worship the beast and his image will lose eternal life:

*All false religions, including Roman Catholicism, will be destroyed along with those who have been followers of false religions.*

It is evident that at the end of this world's history every inhabitant will be under a death decree—either the death decree of man or the death decree of God. Not all who are under man's death decree will lose their lives, for many faithful will be alive when Christ returns:

"We which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them [the resurrected righteous] in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the


"But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men." 2 Peter 3:7.

"For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end is destruction." Philippians 3:18–19.

All false religions, including Roman Catholicism, will be de-

stroyed along with those who have been followers of false religions. However, should there be those of the readers who are martyred for Christ's sake, their eternal life is assured at the resurrection.

Now is the time for Christians to fortify their minds daily by the study of God's Word and to stand unwaveringly in the strength of Christ so that we can stand in the day of test and trial soon to come. All God's faithful saints will fulfill the prophecy of John the Revelator:

"And they overcame him [Satan] by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death." Revelation 12:11. 

*Concluded.*



*Colin Standish, speaker and author, writes from Rapidan, Virginia, where he serves as president of Hartland Institute.*



Photo: © iStockPhoto.com





Tony Morais, ND



## The Healing Properties of *Clay!*



### The Healing Properties of Clay

The healing properties of clay are an amazing phenomenon. One of the greatest properties of clay is its extraordinary absorption capacity. To make it even more astounding, clay has a great capacity to attract impurities and toxins out of the human body! Its electronegative properties naturally attract the electropositive properties of toxins and impurities. At the same time, clay provides the body with trace minerals that go through the skin into the blood stream, especially during the external application of a poultice. When it is ingested, clay immediately directs its healing properties to areas needing healing as if acting on the directions of an inherent program. "God made man of the dust of the ground. . . ."Genesis2:7. Clay is an example of a simple, effective and harmless remedy given to mankind by the Creator to recover not to destroy. It is a bit of us.

" Nothing should be put into the human system that will leave a baleful influence behind." Letter 59, 1898, Ellen G. White.

Because of its absorption capacity, clay is even employed by oil industries to purify their oils.

### External and Internal Application Guidelines

When it is used externally, clay may be applied in several different forms such as poultices, compresses, cataplasms, powder (sprinkled) and clay baths. In all these applica-

tions, clay works as an antiseptic (preventing decay or putrefactions), cicatrizing agent (promoting cicatrization), anti-inflammatory (relieves and prevents inflammation), anti carcinogen (cleans cancer cells), emollient (softens and soothes the skin), refrigerant (cools and reduces body heat), and cosmetic (improves the skin texture).

When ingested, clay works as a powerful detoxifier, especially the Bentonite clay, which can absorb heavy metals such as mercury, arsenic, lead and tin. Clay also has colloidal properties that eliminate toxins and harmful substances from the body.

### Choosing the Right Clay

There are many varieties of clay with different colors depending on the type of soil (chemical composition) they have been extracted from. For instance, we have green, white, gray, yellow, red, blue, black and pink types of clay. These are the most common on the market. All clay is good for both external and internal purposes. But we mostly use the French green clay for external applications while the white and Bentonite clay is used mainly for internal purposes. The red clay works better as a facial purifying mask, depending on the type of skin it is applied on.

You can mix any kind of clay with herbs, fruit and vegetable extracts, and olive oil to improve the performance and action of clay. 📖

*To be continued.*

If you have any questions regarding the information presented, please contact:

**Tony Morais, ND**

*Hope for Health*

**(309) 343-5853**



### Disclaimer:

*These series from Dr. Tony's desk are for educational purposes only and are not intended or implied to be a substitute for professional medical advice. Hope International does not offer medical advice or prescribe the use of diet as a form of treatment for sickness without the approval of a healthcare professional.*



Ellen G. White Scrapbook Stories

## Bertha's Unique Graveyard Part 1

**B**ertha Dickinson was a decided enemy of tobacco. She used to say she hated it. Now hate is a strong word, I know. My mother has often said to me, "My dear, you must hate nothing but sin;" and I never use the word without thinking of her advice. But I think, as Bertha did, that it is quite proper to say hate in speaking of tobacco, for it is a poison, and it injures more people than most folks are willing to believe. And then it is so nasty! There, that is another word my mother never liked to hear me use. She said it isn't a "pretty word." But I think it fits tobacco; and Bertha always thought so, too.

Bertha was a unique child. She never acted like other children, but had a way all her own, which sometimes made folks laugh, and sometimes cry, and always made them shake their heads, and say: "What an odd little girl Bertha Dickinson is!"

She took a notion into her head one day that she would have a little graveyard all her own. There was a piece of ground in the garden behind the house where nothing was planted. A long row of blackberry bushes hid this corner from the house, and she used to go down there to play. It was one day after she had been to visit Thomas Hill, the village undertaker, that she got the idea of having the graveyard. She went straight off to the woods, and brought home four pretty little trees, which she planted in the four corners of the lot she had chosen;

and then, thinking it best to get permission to use the ground, she went to find her father.

"Daddy! Daddy!" she called aloud, as he and several men were threshing grain in the barn. "Will you give me the northwest corner of the garden?"

"The what, child?"

"The northwest corner of the old garden. It is bounded on the north by the old apple tree, east by the walk, south by the blackberry bushes, and west by the sweet-corn field."

There was a general laugh at the conclusion of this speech. Mother and Hapsey came out to see what was the matter.

"You needn't make fun of me," exclaimed Bertha. "I tried to be particular, so I could save you the trouble of going to see the spot."

"Bertha wants me to deed her the northwest corner of the garden, mother," said Mr. Dickinson. "Are you ready to sign the papers?"

"What do you want it for, my dear?" asked mother. "Are you going to build a dollhouse?" Her mother knew that that particular spot was her little girl's favorite resort. She was quite unprepared for the answer, and for the roar of laughter, which was repeated as the child looked up and replied:

"I want it for a graveyard, mother."

When father had recovered the power of speech, he pursued his inquiries further. "What are you going to bury, dear?"

Quick as a flash of light, Bertha

picked up her father's pipe, which lay on the wooden bench by the door. "This first," said she, and off she ran.

So quick was her motion and the words that accompanied it, no one saw what she had done. But when the day's work was finished, and the farmer was ready for his evening smoke, the pipe was missing and could not be found.

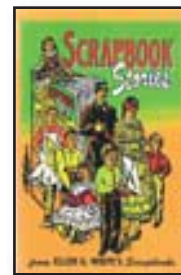
"Where is my pipe? Who has seen my pipe?" shouted father in no very pleasant tones.

"I buried it, daddy, in my new graveyard," said the child coolly.

"Come and see." 

*To be continued.*

*Find out exactly what happened to her dad's pipe in next month's story!—Editors*



*This article was taken from Ellen G. White Scrapbooks. The book is available from Hope International for \$8.99 plus shipping and sales tax (see page 30 for details).*

Photos: © Hemera Photo Objects CD



# Questions & Answers

## **Question:**

What is the Reaping?

## **Answer:**

"Therefore said He [Jesus] unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth labourers into His harvest." Luke 10:2.

According to Samuel the harvest and the reaping are one and the same: "They of Bethshemesh were reaping their wheat harvest in the valley." 1 Samuel 6:13. Reaping is basically the action of taking in the harvest. So when does the harvest take place? Some would say at the second coming. But does it? Notice what Jesus said about the wheat and the tares: "Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into My barn." Matthew 13:30.

Do the righteous and the wicked "grow" together until the second coming? The answer to that would be, no. So when are the two separated?

"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 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." Revelation 14:9-12.

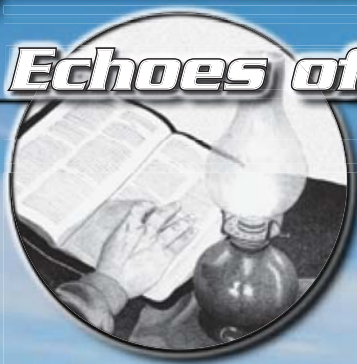
At the time of the mark of the beast when probation is closed and there is no longer opportunity for the unregenerate heart to repent, then will the reaping begin. Then the eternal destiny of all will have been determined and the universe will have seen the results of the complete withdrawal of the Spirit of God. May we all be among those who keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus!

### **Note to our readers:**

Hope International welcomes questions that lead into a deeper understanding of scripture and Spirit of Prophecy from our readers for our question and answer column.

We would also like to let our readers know that the answers we provide are not exhaustive. They are synopses and mind prompters that are intended to whet the readers' desire to study the Word more under the tutelage of the Holy Spirit.

Hope International



# Beginning Labors

**John N. Loughborough**



**P**enniless, I returned to my mother's home in my native village [from a blacksmith apprenticeship by the Erie Canal]. There I soon began to reap the results of my summer's exposure to the malarial atmosphere on the canal and frog pond. I began chills every alternate day, and soon they came every day, and finally twice a day. After being afflicted this way for two months, I thought my life was doomed.

When the chills began upon me, I was solemnly impressed that it was my duty to go out and preach to others the precious truths I had learned from the Scriptures. I tried to throw off this conviction with the thought that a boy not yet seventeen was too young to preach. Then again, I had not a penny of money and my clothing was about ready to discard. When the chill was on, it would be vividly impressed upon me to go out and preach, and my chill would stop. So on the day I had two chills in one day, I said, "Lord, break these chills and fever and I will go out and preach as soon as I can recover

enough strength to do so." The chills ceased that very day.

After the close of nine weeks of malaria, I was weak physically, but fully determined, as soon as possible, to go out in ministerial work. I hired out to dig a field of potatoes, but had to stop for lack of strength. Then I was given a job of cutting wood. In a few weeks I had saved one dollar above expenses. That would get me where I wanted to go, but what about clothing?

The neighbor for whom I was working gave me a vest and a pair of trousers, partly worn; but as he was a man much taller than I, these garments, after cutting seven inches off the trousers, were far from being a nice fit. As a substitute for a dress coat, my brother had given me a double-breasted overcoat, the skirt of which had been cut off. With this curious outfit and the \$1.00, I decided to go into some area where I was unknown and try to preach. If I failed, my friends would not know it; if I succeeded, I would take that as evidence it was my duty to preach.

One day Caleb Broughton came

to me and asked what I thought of doing that winter. I had longed for some way to open to let my feelings be known, but I did not dare say anything for fear I was mistaken. I replied, "I have thought the Lord wanted me to preach, but perhaps I'm mistaken."

"Thank the Lord, Brother John!" he exclaimed. "I've been watching you for a long time, and it seems to me that it is your duty to preach. I'll do anything I can to help you." He then gave me a \$3.00 bill, my first gift for such a purpose. This opened the matter to other Adventists, most of whom agreed with the idea of my preaching.

Just after Christmas, 1848, I went by train to Rochester, walked 12 miles to Adams Basin, spent the night at my brother's, then walked to Kendall Corners where I knew not a soul in the place. With \$5.00 worth of books which had been given me to sell and use the proceeds, I neared the place, lifting my heart to God that He would open the way.

"Can you tell me where any Adventists live in this village?" I asked a man standing

beside a house.

"Yes," he replied. "There are Millerites in this house by the name of Thompson."

When I introduced myself as an Adventist preacher, they welcomed me heartily but eyed me curiously. I feared they would ask how long I had been preaching, but they did not. They embarrassed me, however, when they asked me to take off my overcoat, for I had to tell them it was the only coat I had on.

I went to the Baptist preacher and to the trustees of the Baptist church and secured it for three evenings, then gave my appointment for January 2, 1849 in the school and in the post office. Soon it was going around that a little boy was going to preach.

In the evening I found the church filled to capacity. I sang, prayed, and sang again. I spoke on the subject of the fall of man. Instead of being embarrassed as I feared I would be, the blessing of God came upon me and I spoke freely. The next morning I was told that there were seven ministers present the night before.

The next evening the place was crowded again. I suppose what drew them was curiosity to hear a beardless boy preach, for I was not quite seventeen. At the close of my sermon the Baptist preacher arose and stated that on the next evening a series of singing classes would begin, so my meetings would have to close. Then a Mr. Thompson (son of the man with whom I lodged) stood and said, "Mr. Loughborough, this singing school has been planned for the purpose of closing your meetings. I live in a school district five miles south of here. We have a large schoolhouse, and I am one of the trustees. We have consulted over the matter, and invite you to come and hold meetings there as long as you wish. My house is nearby, and you are welcome to stay with me." I thanked him heartily and said, "Please circulate my appointment to speak in your schoolhouse

tomorrow evening."

The next day the Baptist minister called at the home of a family who were interested in my lectures. About a score of neighbors had come in to ask what he thought of the meetings. He replied, "Get that boy to come here and I will use him up in two minutes." So the head of the house sent his boy for me saying, "Come over to our house for dinner right away."

As soon as I was seated in the room where the neighbors had gathered, the door opened from the cabinet shop in the front of the building, and in came the Baptist minister. I had been fearing to meet ministers, so I secretly lifted my heart to God.

The minister began, "Well, you had quite a hearing last evening."

"Yes, and they seemed much interested," I said.

He replied, "They were probably curious to hear a boy preach, but did I understand you to say last night that the soul is not immortal?"

I answered, "I said so. I don't know how you understood me."

He then asked, "But what do you do with the text that says 'These go into everlasting punishment, the death that never dies.?'"

I was surprised and said, "I don't know of any such scripture. Half of your quotation is in the Bible, and the other half from the Methodist hymnal."

With much earnestness he insisted, "I tell you what I quoted is in the Bible! It's in the 25th chapter of Revelation." I replied, "I guess you mean the 25th chapter of Matthew. Half of your text is there. It says of the wicked that they will go into everlasting punishment."

"Oh yes," he agreed. "That's alright, but the text I quoted is in the 25th chapter of Revelation."

"Then it is about three chapters outside of the Bible," I said, "for there are only twenty-two chapters in Revelation."

"Let me take your Bible and

I will show it to you," he said.


To the astonishment of all, he began paging through the Old Testament, then inquired, "Where is Revelation?"

I answered, "Look near the last cover of the Bible. It is the last book, but there are only twenty-two chapters in that book."

He returned my Bible and said, "Well, I would like to talk with you sometime, but I have another engagement I must meet right now," and in confusion he left the room.

Those present were greatly astonished. One lady commented, "I thought he was a learned man."

I explained, "He has a large library and is learned in those books, but he has failed to study his Bible."

The family told me that they were much interested in what I preached the night before, and had met there to talk it over, but the minister came and asked them to send for me, and he would show them the fallacy of my teaching. After a good visit with them, I left with my fear of ministers greatly diminished. 



*John N. Loughborough, 1832–1924, pioneer evangelist and administrator also served the Lord as a literature evangelist, conference president*

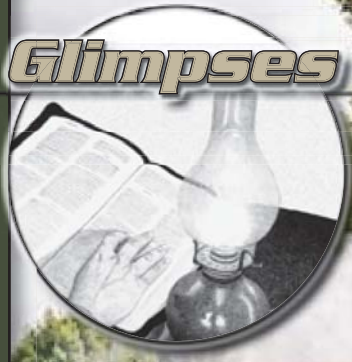
*in several states, foreign missionary, editor of the Pacific Health Journal, and treasurer of the General Conference. He also authored several books and many articles for denominational papers. He was closely associated with Elder and Mrs. White for over 40 years.*



Taken from *Miracles in My Life*, 10–13. This book is available from Hope International for \$5.99. Please see page 30 for shipping and sales

tax information.

## Glimpses of the Pioneers



# James White: Travels And Toils

*The setbacks and trials of this life will pale into insignificance  
in the light of the glory awaiting the redeemed.*

During their three years in Rochester, James and Ellen White developed a yearly routine. The spring usually found them setting out on a "western tour," which would keep James from the office for several weeks. They usually reserved the autumn for their "eastern tour," when they could return to New England and revisit the field of their earliest labors.

During the winter, James followed a program that was different, but no less strenuous. Nearby churches often requested his services on the Sabbath. This meant closing his work early on Friday and driving perhaps thirty to fifty miles to spend the Sabbath with a group of believers. Sometimes Ellen went with him. At other times she remained with the children.

James usually conducted more

than one service at these weekend meetings. On many Sabbaths he preached two or three times. In a descriptive letter to Brother Lyon, written in 1855, he wrote: "I am in hopes that I am improving [in health], but my lungs are not free from disease and pain. I preach loud and long, and am satisfied that it hurts me. I mean to be more temperate."<sup>1</sup>

He made similar resolutions many times throughout his life.

In his travels James labored early and late, robbing himself of suitable rest and sleep by riding the trains at night, and by attending long evening meetings. Most of his *Review* editorials were written during the hours between 9:00 and 12:00 P.M.

When he returned home from those trips, his desk was piled high with business matters demand-

ing attention, and he spent days in the office handling a multitude of details. He also read proof sheets and examined materials submitted for the paper. It was frequently midnight before he could leave his desk.

During James's travels the editorial duties of the *Review* were placed in the hands of Annie Smith. But eventually she became too ill to do the work, for she developed tuberculosis and was forced to leave Rochester. She returned to her home in West Wilton, New Hampshire, where she spent her last days, being tenderly cared for by her mother. After her sad departure her brother, Uriah, took her place. Without the help of these two, James would have been confined to his desk.

The back page of the *Review* carried an ever-lengthening list of

available Adventists publications. Some were written specifically for church members; others were prepared for missionary work among non-Sabbath keepers. The hymnbook was 30 cents a copy. Twenty-five cents paid for a yearly subscription to the *Youth's Instructor*. Other tracts cost two, three, or four cents each. Thousands of copies of the little pamphlet *Elihu on the Sabbath* were sent out. After reading this well-nigh unanswerable tract a young man, S. N. Haskell, who later became a powerful preacher, joined the ranks of Sabbath keepers.<sup>2</sup> Another pioneer, D. A. Robinson, became a Sabbath keeper after reading the same tract.

By 1853 readers of the *Review* were requesting that it be published weekly. R. F. Cottrell, a leading Adventist minister, wrote a letter to James in which he stated he would prefer receiving the paper once in two weeks containing worthwhile material rather than weekly with inferior articles.

This was a point well taken, James admitted. He expressed the desire that Adventists who could write would use their talents more frequently for the *Review*.<sup>3</sup>

In the spring of 1854, James and Ellen returned to Michigan. During this visit they ministered to the church at Jackson, as well as



other churches. While at Jackson they were both impressed that it was God's will for them to carry their testimony to the believers in

Wisconsin. They decided to travel there by train. Inquiry revealed that one would leave Jackson at ten o'clock in the evening.

Before James and Ellen left for the train they had a season of prayer, asking for God's protec-

and carried her until he was able to set her down on the road. Along this road they walked toward Jackson until they came to a farmhouse.

"Our train has met with an accident," James explained to the man

*For some unexplained reason, Ellen did not remove her bonnet or put down her carpetbag, but sat holding it, as if expecting something to happen.*

tion, which they somehow felt they especially needed. At the station James saw the trunk containing his precious store of Bibles, books, and papers placed in the baggage car. Then he and Ellen boarded the train. They walked through the forward car, hoping to find a place to rest, but that coach was full. They moved back through the train until they found two empty seats. Soon afterward the whistle blew, the bell rang, and the train moved out of the station. For some unexplained reason, Ellen did not remove her bonnet or put down her carpetbag, but sat holding it, as if expecting something to happen.

They had gone only three or four miles when the car in which the Whites were riding began to jerk back and forth. Then it stopped. They opened a window and in the darkness saw one of the cars ahead of them standing almost on end. Agonizing cries were coming from the forward section of the train. Later they were to learn that an ox had chosen to lie down on the track. The engine struck the animal and was derailed. Several of the cars were shattered.

Since the train would go no farther that night, James was anxious to return to Jackson. In the darkness, he and Ellen started for a road which they knew ran near the tracks. When they came to a swamp, James picked up his wife

who answered their knock, "and there are many people injured."

They were invited in. Just then a man came along on his way to Jackson to find doctors to help the injured. James went along with him. At Jackson, James found an Adventist brother who, having heard his story, hastily found a team of horses, and he and James drove to the farmhouse where Ellen was staying. With Ellen with them they arrived back at Jackson at two o'clock in the morning.

After breakfast the next morning James borrowed a wagon and, with Ellen, drove out to the site of the wreck. They were very solemn as they looked at the last two cars, in one of which they had been riding, standing on the tracks more than 100 feet from the coach ahead of them. The coupling pin was not





even broken but was lying on the platform of the intact car. Ellen was later shown that an angel removed the pin, thus saving the last cars from being wrecked.

Four persons died in the accident that night and many more were seriously injured. James retrieved his undamaged trunk full of books, and the next day they left by another train.<sup>4</sup>

After a fruitful visit to Wisconsin where they met many of the believers for the first time, the Whites returned to Rochester weary in body but rejoicing because of the rapid progress of the message in the West.

For Ellen White the trip had been a venture of faith. Her third child was due to arrive in August. He was born on August 29.<sup>5</sup> He was named William Clarence. But to the thousands of Adventists whom he met and to whom he ministered during his long life of 83 years, he was affectionately known as Willie White.

No sooner was James back in Rochester than he plunged into a conference. The meetings lasted from morning till night. If it was a strenuous time for James, it was more so for Ellen. Wives and children of workers came with the men to Rochester and to the house on Mount Hope Road. There seemed to be no end to the meals prepared and served to the guests.

“Oh, Ellen! If only we could have some quiet Sabbaths!” James lamented. She agreed, but could see no tactful way to bring their endless entertaining to a more normal level.

It was not only during general meetings that the Whites were overwhelmed with guests. Whenever workers became ill, they too fled to the Whites’ home in Rochester to recuperate.<sup>6</sup> One of these, Elder J. N. Andrews, arrived during the summer of 1854, completely worn out by his incessant labors. Long weeks passed before he was well enough to enter the field again.


After the death of her brother, Nathaniel, Anna White pondered her future. She did not wish to return to Maine. It might be difficult for her to return to Palmyra and be among Sundaykeepers. Both she and Nathaniel had accepted the Sabbath after joining the group in the big home. She had learned to love the girls working there, and wanted to stay with them. Although helping with the housework, she asked whether there was anything more she could do.

One day James asked his sister if she thought she could edit the *Youth’s Instructor*. For Anna this seemed a most happy solution to her problem, and she gladly accepted. For the next year she cared for the little monthly paper.<sup>7</sup>

As winter drew on, it became apparent to Ellen and James that Anna was losing strength. Sadly they realized that she would probably follow her brother to Mount Hope Cemetery.

Realizing that his sister was failing rapidly, James invited his parents to come to Rochester to see her. They accepted his invitation and spent some weeks at the home in the spring of 1854. Anna repeatedly urged them to accept and keep God’s true Sabbath. After they returned to Palmyra, Anna remarked that she would die happy if only she could know her parents were keeping the Sabbath.<sup>8</sup>

In the November, 1854, issue of the *Youth’s Instructor* Anna wrote to her readers telling them that she was very sick, and admonishing them, “Try, dear young friends, to meet me in the eternal home of the redeemed. Keep the commandments of God, and seek to be washed from sin by the blood of Jesus.”<sup>9</sup> A few weeks later she was laid to rest beside Nathaniel.

Some time before Anna’s death James’s big family on Mount Hope Road had lost another valuable member to tuberculosis. Luman Masten, the foreman who had been healed of cholera, contracted the dread killer and died after a lingering illness.<sup>10</sup> 



This article was taken from Virgil Robinson, *James White*, 100–104. This book is available from Hope International for \$11.99 plus shipping and sales tax (see page 30).

#### Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> James White letter to Brother Lyon, July 18, 1855.
- <sup>2</sup> *Footprints of the Pioneers*, 12.
- <sup>3</sup> *Review and Herald*, July 7, 1853.
- <sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, July 18, 1935.
- <sup>5</sup> *Life Sketches*, (1888), 310.
- <sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, 309.
- <sup>7</sup> *Review and Herald*, July 11, 1935.
- <sup>8</sup> *Life Sketches*, (1888), 310–311.
- <sup>9</sup> *The Youth’s Instructor*, November, 1854.
- <sup>10</sup> *Review and Herald*, July 11, 1935.



# Historical Footnotes

“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.”

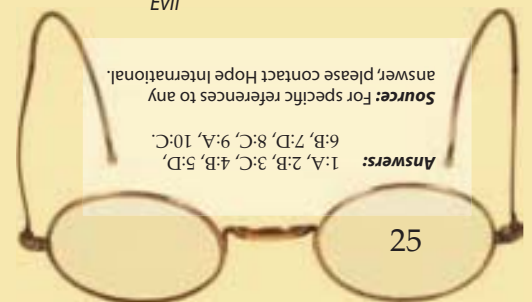
# Footnotes



Photos © Paul Williams

1. Daniel T. Bourdeau held his hand over Ellen White’s mouth and held her nose shut for ten minutes for what reason?
  - a. Because he was an unbeliever in her visions.
  - b. To show unbelievers that her visions were supernatural.
  - c. Because Ellen White asked him to for the benefit of others.
  - d. He was asked by skeptics in the room, where the vision took place.
2. Ellen White had “The Shaking” vision in what year?
  - a. 1844
  - b. 1848
  - c. 1857
  - d. 1888
3. Who wrote the 28 part series “Synopsis of the Present Truth” for the Review?
  - a. James White
  - b. J. N. Andrews
  - c. Uriah Smith
  - d. Joseph Bates
4. What is particularly significant about the “Lovett’s Grove” vision Ellen White had?
  - a. It was the “health message” vision.
  - b. It was the “great controversy” vision.
  - c. It was the “open door—closed door” vision.
  - d. It was the “sanctuary” vision.
5. This vision took place in the middle of what?
  - a. A prayer meeting
  - b. A church service
  - c. A wedding
  - d. A funeral
6. How long did the vision last?
  - a. 1 hour
  - b. 2 hours
  - c. 3 hours
  - d. 20 minutes
7. Ellen White wrote in 2SG that, “if your companions and children will not come, if you cannot win them to yield to the claims of truth,” you should:
  - a. “treat them as unbelievers.”
  - b. “pray for them.”
  - c. “never give up on them.”
  - d. “make their lives here as pleasant as possible.”
8. Ellen White was shown that she would have to contend with the powers of darkness. What happened shortly thereafter?
  - a. James White died.
  - b. Their son Herbert dies.
  - c. She suffered a stroke.
  - d. James suffered a stroke.
9. When *The Great Controversy* was first being written, how many pages a day did Ellen White write?
  - a. 1
  - b. 5
  - c. 25
  - d. 50
10. What was the title of the first “Great Controversy” book?
  - a. *The Great Controversy*
  - b. *The Great Controversy Between Christ and Satan*
  - c. *The Great Controversy Between Christ and His Angels, and Satan and His Angels*
  - d. *The Great Controversy Between Good and Evil*

**Answers:** 1:A, 2:B, 3:C, 4:B, 5:D, 6:B, 7:D, 8:C, 9:A, 10:C  
**Source:** For specific references to any answer, please contact Hope International.





## Left Behind Narnia Purpose Driven Life

### Religious Books Very Popular Today

**News Item:** "Since Bruce Wilkinson's *The Prayer of Jabez* (Multnomah) was published in 2000, it has sold 9.3 million copies. The 12 *Left Behind* books by Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins (Tyndale House) have sold 62 million copies over the last decade. Rick Warren's *The Purpose Driven Life* (Zondervan) has sold a million copies a month since it was published in 2002, making it, according to *Publishers Weekly*, 'the best selling hardback in American history.'

"Such numbers have caught the attention of even secular publishers and booksellers. 'Evangelical publishers have managed to turn out a steady stream of blockbusters in recent years,' observes *Business Week*, 'making religion the hottest category in books.'" "Out of the Ghetto," by Gene Edward Veith and Lynn Vincent, *World*, July 2/9, 2005, 38.

**End time Perspective:** Religion is the hottest category. I hope we are all awake to what is going on. Our nation and world will be more and more "religious" as time goes on, but, unfortunately, not more "Christlike." Every day it seems we are hearing more about how "religious" people are becoming, yet the

Bible tells us the world is going to get worse before the coming of the Lord. Are we witnessing a foretaste of a "form" of godliness?

We should heed the counsel of the apostle Paul: "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away." 2 Timothy 3:1-5.



## The Chronicles of Narnia

### More "spiritual" but less "godly"?

**News Item:** "Brett Venable, who runs Mustard Seed bookstore in Milford, Delaware, defends Christian bookstores. . . . But he notes a deeper problem throughout the Christian bookselling industry. 'I am nowhere near as concerned about the effect of fewer Christian books being sold in Christian bookstores as I am about the poor theology being taught in the best-selling Christian books,' . . .

It appears to me that the worst thing to happen is not the closing of Christian stores as a result of unfair business practices by publishers, but rather the propagation of loose theology making Christians more 'spiritual' but less godly." *Ibid.*, 40-41.

**End time Perspective:** This is

coming from a non-Seventh-day Adventist! O that all our people felt the same way, and "sighed and cried" for the "loose theology" that is being propagated in the so-called Christian books of today. Sadly, way too many Seventh-day Adventists purchase and push these very books! God will find someone to stand up, even if we won't!

"Standard after standard was left to trail in the dust as company after company from the Lord's army joined the foe and tribe after tribe from the ranks of the enemy united with the commandment-keeping people of God." *Testimonies*, vol. 8, 41.

Revelation 3:11 "Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown."



### Bombay, India

**News Item:** "Bombay residents know monsoons, but no one ever saw rain like this. In less than 24 hours on July 26 over 37 inches of rain fell on the financial hub, also known as Mumbai. It was the largest rainfall ever recorded in India." "The Buzz," *World*, August 6, 2005, 6.

**End-time Perspective:** "Everything in the world is in agitation. The signs of the times are ominous. Coming events cast their shadows before. The Spirit of God is withdrawing from the earth, and calamity follows calamity by sea and by land. There are tempests, earthquakes, fires, floods, murders of every grade." *The Desire of Ages*, 636.

"Satan works through the elements also to garner his harvest of unprepared souls. He has studied the secrets of the laboratories of nature, and he uses all his power to control the elements as far as God allows." *Counsels on Health*, 460.

"Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?" Luke 12:56.

Do we "discern" the times we are living in? O may the Lord in His mercy open our eyes that we might see what He sees!



### What is the Gospel?

**News Item:** "The question: 'What do you think the gospel is?' . . . Answers clustered around a few types: . . .

" 'The Word of God. Look at creation.' . . .

" 'The gospel? Just live by it.' . . .

" 'Oh, I don't know. And I go to Mass every Sunday. To me it would be the sermon.' "

" 'Peace, love, loving everybody.' "

" 'All depends on your belief.' "

" 'Right now I'm reading Revelation . . . all about wars. . . . The gospel? I'm a little fuzzy on that.' "

" 'Tough one . . . the Word of God.' "

" 'A way of life or a guide for a way of life. Just like the Ten Commandments.' "

" 'That's a long story.' "

" 'I have no idea.' " —Survey conducted at a Wal-Mart shopping center in Philadelphia.

By Andree Seu, "Good News, Bad News,"

*World*, August 6, 2005, 39.

**End-time Perspective:** The world is literally ignorant of what the "gospel" is. And this survey was taken here in America, where people are supposedly becoming more "religious!" No wonder Satan will be able to deceive almost the whole world into wondering after the beast!

Please notice that there was not one mention of sin, unrighteousness, wickedness, repentance, etc. I wonder how well Seventh-day Adventists would fare on this question. Try it on your children, grandchildren and/or church friends.



### Generic Christianity

**News Item:** "Clint Rainey, a journalism student interning at The Dallas Morning News, is put off by the 'seeker-friendly' approach to church that—he contends—does a good job filling up massive church buildings but leaves many feeling spiritually empty. . . .

"Part of the problem is what sociologist and megachurch pastor Leith Anderson calls 'generic Christianity.' He points out that today, one can go into a church (especially a megachurch) of nearly any denomination—Baptist, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Wesleyan, Lutheran—and be unable to notice any difference among them. They are all likely to use the same praise songs and contemporary worship style. The sermons will tend to

be about practical biblical tips for successful living, and go light on doctrine and sin. Also, all of these different denominations tend to use Sunday-school curriculum and other material from the same nondenominational publishers. These companies purposefully avoid all controversial issues and doctrinal distinctives, which would limit their market share.

"As a result, 'generic Christianity' is erasing denominational differences. . . . Whereas the ecumenical movement among liberal mainline churches tried but largely failed to unify churches from the top down, the church-growth movement has succeeded, unifying the different denominations on a grassroots level.

"And yet, this unity comes at a cost. Both liberal theologians and church-growth theologians downplay historic doctrines, seeing them as divisive and irrelevant." Gene Edward Veith, "Packed, But Still Empty," *World*, August 20, 2005, 24.

**End-time Perspective:** "When the leading churches of the United States, uniting upon such points of doctrine as are held by them in common, shall influence the State to enforce their decrees and to sustain their institutions, then Protestant America will have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy, and the infliction of civil penalties upon dissenters will inevitably result." *The Great Controversy*, 1888 edition, 445.

First, the leading churches must unite, then they shall influence the state! I had chills as I read this. We are so close, so very close! One question we might want to ask ourselves the next time we go to church: "Could the message I heard today have been given in a Baptist, Presbyterian or Pentecostal church? Is my church preaching 'present' truth?" 📖

Contributor - Joe Olson



# Books & Supplements

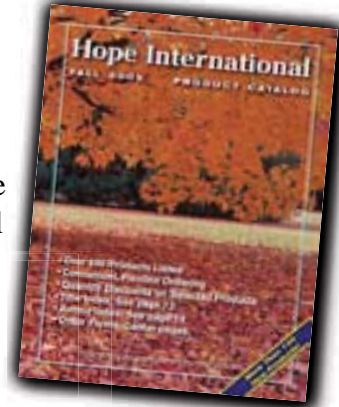
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## Children and Youth

### Hare, Eric, B.

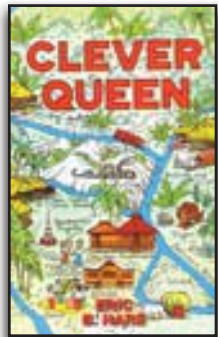
#### *Eric B. Hare Stories*

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Paperback, 96 pages, 2001

**BEHE-CQUE \$7.99**

Published by:  
Teach Services



### Kreye and Youngberg

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This story was experienced by Eric Kreye as a child in Germany during World War II and has captured the hearts of many boys and girls and their parents.

Paperback, 120 pages, 2003

**BEKY-UBBA \$8.99**

Published by:  
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### White, J. Edson

#### *Gospel Primer, One, Two, and Three*

What a wonderful way to help your child learn to read, through the use of bible stories.

Paperback, 95 pages, 1900, 1906, 1910

**BEWJ-GPRI \$10.99**

Published by:  
AB Publishing



## General Books

### God's Word

#### *New! Giant Print Bible*

Giant print King James Version reference Bible, with promises, miracles, prophecies of the Messiah, prophecies of the Second Coming of Christ and end-of-verse references.

Leather-bound

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### Kramer, Helmut, H.

#### *The Seventh-day Adventist Reform Movement*

In these pages pastor Kramer recounts his pilgrimage of faith which eventually led him and his family to leave the church of his childhood and active labors to become a Seventh-day Adventist. In telling his experience he examines in a kind and



honest manner the basic doctrines which separate the Reform Movement from the Seventh-day Adventist.

Paperback, 89 pages, 2000

**BEIB-SARM** \$4.99

Published by  
Review and Herald Publishing  
Association

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### Rees, Mel

#### *Principles to Live By*

God ordained that man should live by principles, not by rules. To obey a rule doesn't require any great degree of intelligence, all that is required is to do what the rule says, and my dog can do that. He comes when I call, sits at my command. But to apply a principle requires intelligence of a higher order as well as mental and moral courage. Principles to Live By teaches us these principles that are very vital to our Christian walk.

Paperback, 85 pages, 1993

**BERM-PTLB** \$3.99

Published by  
Teach Services

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### Barrett, Dr. E. Boyd

#### *Rome Stoops to Conquer*

The subtle aroma of Catholicism is permeating the national thought. Here, there and everywhere, propaganda is busy "making America Catholic." This insightful observation is made by the author, an ex-Jesuit, who knows what he is talking about! There is an ongoing campaign to win America. The church is well aware that it can never hope again to dominate the civilized world until American kneels, beaten and penitent, at her feet. This book discusses many aspects of the church's plans for and influences on American life that are coming to pass before our very eyes.

Paperback, 267 pages, 2004

**BEBE-RSTC** \$12.99

Published by  
Orion Publishing

## Outreach

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### Veith, Walter J

#### *Genesis Conflict, The*

Walter Veith was once an evolutionist himself, and he answers many of the common arguments we hear today. In these six powerful presentations you will see how the rocks and fossils reveal evidence of the Genesis flood.

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### Andrews, J. N.

#### *History of the Sabbath*

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Paperback

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### Batchelor, Doug

#### *Book of Amazing Facts, Vol. 1, The*

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Volume 1, 2002

**BEBD-BOAF** \$7.99

Volume 2, 2005

**BEBD-BAF 2** \$8.99

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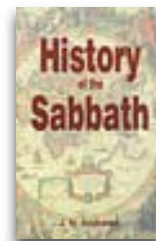
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✉ *Our Firm Foundation* is a wonderful magazine with Bible-filled messages. I will tell my friends how they can pay for their own subscriptions.

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God bless you all, daily.

DL; New South Wales, Australia

✉ I received your current issue of *Our Firm Foundation* yesterday. As always, I look forward to receiving it and enjoy reading all the articles. The articles by Sister White tell me you are in harmony with her writings. You continue to tell it like the Bible teaches and as I have always understood it to be. Thank you for having the courage to publish the truth.

The October issue of *Our Firm Foundation* was especially good. My prayers are for you to continue publishing the truth for those of us who love it and love Jesus Christ.

LHM; North Carolina

✉ Thank you for the work you do to help others.

Anonymous

✉ I really enjoy reading *Our Firm Foundation*. It is just the message we need for this day and time in earth's history. May God bless you, dear brothers and sisters, in the work you do.

LOF; Oklahoma

✉ I just love *Our Firm Foundation* magazine. I received a sample copy

several months ago and began a subscription and have been reading the magazine from cover to cover ever since. I believe your ministry has been raised by God to give the messages that need to be heard to prepare people to meet their God. I keep these magazines even after I have read them so that I can refresh myself with previous articles from time to time. However, I make copies for people who need them.

I praise the Lord for your ministry and pray for you every day. It is so encouraging to have a magazine that preaches the truth. Do not get discouraged. Don't give the enemy an inch. Keep fighting on the Lord's side.

DW; Washington

✉ I receive your publications all the time and appreciate them. I share them with friends because I enjoy them. It is so discouraging to see all the winds of doctrine blowing around us and even in our midst. The Lord is coming soon and I am afraid for our people. How many are really ready? Thank you for holding the standard high and for promoting purity of life, heart and soul. You are in my daily prayers.

AN; Minnesota

✉ I thoroughly enjoy *Our Firm Foundation*. I read it cover to cover. I await every issue. It means a lot to me that there is a publication out there still promoting our beliefs and standards. Please keep up the good work. I know the Lord is coming soon and I want to be ready. I know that *Our Firm Foundation* is trying to help us all to be ready for the events that are soon to take place. I pray for you all every day. God bless.

DR; California

✉ I am an ordained minister of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. I have retired after serving the church for 42 years. I read *Our Firm Foundation* magazine from cover to cover and my faith is strengthened by its contents. After I have read the magazine, I pass it on to my family.

Please continue sending me the magazine so that I can share it with more individuals. Thank you for the copies you have sent so far.

May God bless you all.

AIJ; Maryland

✉ We appreciate *Our Firm Foundation* magazine. We would like you to send complimentary copies to our church members. They want to read it. We enjoy reading the truth filled articles and the current events very much. We are all pleased to see you starting a wellness program as well and can not tell you what a pleasure it is to see how the Lord is using you all and how He has blessed you with these facilities, and how you are being blessed in their use. May He continue to guide you all and provide you with what you need to carry on your mission there.

RJH; Wisconsin

✉ I am impressed with the magazine, *Our Firm Foundation*. I enjoy the articles by Ellen G. White and other authors, too. I especially enjoy the articles exhorting us to live a Christlike life and exhibit the character revealed in the Bible and Spirit of Prophecy. We all need the encouragement you offer in our walk with the Lord.

DT; Maine

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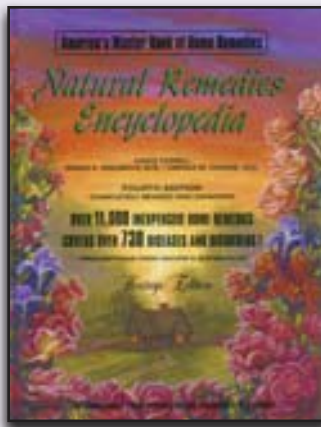
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This encyclopedia offers you over 11,000 inexpensive home remedies and covers over 730 diseases and disorders with prescriptions from nature's

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Upcoming Events 2006		
Date	Location	Event/Speaker(s)
March 4	Mesquite, TX Calvary Full Gospel Church	Dr. Tony Morais; Joe Olson
March 18	Turner, Oregon Oregon Conference Center	Dr. Tony Morais; Ron Spear; Joe Olson
April 1	Oak Park, IL Good Shepherd Lutheran Church	Ron Spear; Dr. Tony Morais; Samuel Simuzoshya; Joe Olson
April 8	Las Cruces, NM Marriott-Spring Hill Suites Hotel	Dr. Tony Morais; Joe Olson
April 10-24	Hope International Campus	Medical Missionary Training – Dr. Tony Morais; Heather Olson R.N.; Lilliana Shultz Certified in Massage Therapy and Hydrotherapy
April 29	Boise, Idaho Community of Christ Church	Joe Olson; Dr. Tony Morais
May 19-21	Hope International Campus	Campmeeting – John Grosball; Domingo Nunez; Ron Spear; Clark Floyd; Lee Forbes; Joe Olson; Samuel Simuzoshya
June 10	Albert Lea, Minnesota Albert Lea Civic Theatre	Ron Spear; Dr. Tony Morais; Joe Olson
June 30 - July 8	Derby, KS Steps to Life	Steps to Life Campmeeting – Ron Spear; Joe Olson
Sept. 9	Flat Rock, NC Bonclarken Conference Facility	Dr. Tony Morais; Joe Olson; Clark Floyd

## EXPERTS' OPINIONS

"For health-care reform to succeed at reducing costs. . .disease prevention must be the ultimate focus of the primary health-care system, rather than disease treatment."

*National Institutes of Health 1994 Report*

"The solution to the health problems of the world today is to be found in natural remedies, not in poisoning the system with chemicals. Although they may appear to bring temporary relief, they add a debt of debilitating poison which will later result in serious problems."

John Harvey Kellogg, M.D.

## Disclaimer:

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