

# Our Firm Foundation

Volume 21, Number 12

December 2006

The Seventh-day Sabbath

Christ Our Righteousness

The Immutable Law of God

The Non-Immortality of the Soul

The Three Angels' Messages

The Sanctuary



THE  
GATHERING





Joe Olson

# Why Glossy Paper? Extra Report!

Many of you have let me know that you have been reading the editorials about our change to glossy paper. I have even had some humorous responses from our dear saints who wanted all the information at once and did not want to have to wait each month for the next installment. As we have gone all over the United States holding meetings, I have been “accosted” and told to sit down and give them the rest of the story because they couldn’t wait any longer! This has been what has prompted me to write another report on this wonderful encounter with God’s people—to give you the rest of the story, at least as it has played out thus far.

Stewart and Vinnie have been in contact with us throughout our time working together on the magazine. Vinnie has emailed to ask us to pray for certain situations in her family regarding health. They are busier than you might imagine and yet are always gracious and kind. They have been such a witness to each one of us.

As you may remember, I had a long talk with Stewart, and he asked all sorts of questions about our faith, the Bible, Sister White, etc. Stewart also shared with me that he believed the Bible taught that God’s people should return an honest tithe to Him. I responded that we believed the same thing and that we further believed it was on the gross and not on the net income. (For farmers and business owners, it is after deducting the costs associated with making the money.) He said he understood it the same way. It was such a joy to get to talk with him! Not because

we agreed on everything, but because of the warm, Christlike attitude from both of them!

Anyway, Stewart went on to say that they use their tithe to help out different ministries from time to time, as the Lord directs. I told him that I thought that was wonderful and that I know the Lord would continue to lead them both in their endeavors. He made no offer to help us and I made no request. What they were already doing for us was more than I would have ever even dreamed of, much less have asked for.

I have already mentioned in a previous editorial how they had printed our DVD covers for free, and our health brochures for free, as well. Each month they print our *Our Firm Foundation* magazine and every other month they print our “Good News” newsletter for us. They printed our June 2006 issue of the magazine, but did not yet send us a bill. Then they printed our July/August “Good News” newsletter. We did not receive a bill for that printing, either. Please remember that we are talking about thousands and thousands of pieces of printed materials! Then they printed the July issue of *Our Firm Foundation*, the August issue, the September issue, and the September/October issue of the “Good News” newsletter, all with no bill!

Do you realize how much money that is?? Praise the Lord! What a huge, huge blessing! We are certainly very thankful for Stewart and Vinnie for their marvelous generosity, and for all the folks at the printing company, but we know without a shadow of a doubt that we owe all our praise and honor and glory to

our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! We can’t thank Him too much!

And because He has blessed us so tremendously, we are able to send out so much more free literature and Bibles and DVD’s. The opportunity to serve our Lord and His people has improved exponentially! All of the savings in printing costs have gone to reach more and more people. I have no doubt but that there will be many, many more souls in the kingdom because of our friends’ generosity.

We have actually received emails from people who were chiding us for spending the money to “dress up” the truth, when the truth is all that is needed to reach the soul. In reality, we have never spent less money on printing since this ministry has been in existence! In defense of those who have questioned what has happened, we, too, could not imagine that *this* is how things would turn out. God has blessed us more than we could have imagined.

“God wants to bless. . . . Those who would receive the blessing of the Lord, must themselves prepare the way, by confession of sin, by humiliation before God, with true penitence and with faith in the merits of the blood of Christ.”  
RH, July 24, 1883.

Please pray for us that we *ever* prepare the way to receive God’s blessing! Thank you! 📖



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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#### ABOUT HOPE INTERNATIONAL

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

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We are accepting article-length manuscripts (1850 to 2250 words) for possible publication in *Our Firm Foundation*. We prefer that submissions be submitted in Word (.doc) as a computer file or on letter size paper neatly typed. Include a digital picture and a short bio. Please address all correspondence to Editors, *Our Firm Foundation*, PO Box 220, Knoxville, IL 61448, or by email to [editorial@hopeint.org](mailto:editorial@hopeint.org).

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# THE GATHERING

**Clark Floyd**

Satan seeks to prevent God's final gathering of His people by destroying the influence of His gathering prophet.

God would "have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." 1 Timothy 2:4. But salvation has always ultimately been conditional on man's willing obedience to God. In speaking to the Israelites through Isaiah the prophet, God said: "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it." Isaiah 1:19-20.

God, throughout biblical history, has always done all in His power to bring man into a saving relationship with Himself. God's plea has been, "What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it?" Isaiah 5:4.

"The plan of redemption contemplates our complete recovery from the power of Satan. Christ always separates the contrite soul from sin. He came to destroy the works of the devil, and He has made provision that the Holy Spirit shall be imparted to every repentant soul, to keep him from



sinning." *The Desire of Ages*, 311.

As the antediluvians drifted further and further away from God's plan for their lives, God sought through Noah to awaken them to the direction in which they were heading. "God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Genesis 6:5.

"God bestowed upon these antediluvians many and rich gifts, but they used His bounties to glorify themselves, and turned them into

a curse by fixing their affections upon the gifts instead of the Giver. They employed the gold and silver, the precious stones and the choice wood, in the construction of habitations for themselves, and endeavored to excel one another in beautifying their dwellings with the most skillful workmanship. They sought only to gratify the desires of their own proud hearts, and reveled in scenes of pleasure and wickedness. Not desiring to retain God in their knowledge, they soon came to deny His existence. They adored nature in place of the God of nature. They glorified human genius, worshiped the works of their own hands, and taught their children to bow down to graven images." *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 90-91.

But "Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with God." Genesis 6:9. Therefore God chose Noah to carry a message to the wicked world of that day. Noah was to build an ark, and while building that ark, he was to proclaim the destruction of the world by a flood. He was to deliver



this message for “an hundred and twenty years” (Genesis 6:3), the first prophetic time period in the Bible.

“Amid the prevailing corruption, Methuselah, Noah, and many others labored to keep alive the knowledge of the true God and to stay the tide of moral evil. A hundred and twenty years before the Flood, the Lord by a holy angel declared to Noah His purpose, and directed him to build an ark. While building the ark he was to preach that God would bring a flood of water upon the earth to destroy the wicked. Those who would believe the message, and would prepare for that event by repentance and reformation, should find pardon and be saved.” *Ibid.*, 92.

Therefore, Noah was not only to proclaim God’s message of destruction, but at the same time he was to seek to gather aboard the ark those who would turn to God for salvation. God thereby established a principle very early in the Bible that is found throughout the Scriptures. Whenever there is a prophetic time period dealing directly with His people, He has a prophet who proclaims the beginning of that time period, and at the end He has a prophet who gathers God’s people for His purpose.

Noah was both the proclaiming prophet and the gathering prophet in this first, comparatively short, prophetic period. He warned the people regarding the flood, but he also sought to gather them aboard the ark, that they might be saved from the destruction that was to come. “Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.” Genesis 6:22.

The second prophetic time period dealing with God’s people occurs in Genesis 15. The Lord “came unto Abram in a vision,” showing him that he would have offspring more numerous than he could count. God then informs Abram (the proclaiming prophet, see Genesis 20:7) that His people would be in a strange land for a

period of four hundred years, but afterward they would “come out with great substance.” And Abram, whose name was changed by God to Abraham, “believed in the Lord; and He counted it to him for righteousness.” Genesis 15:1, 6, 13-14.

As this remarkable time period draws to its climax, God prepares His gathering prophet. “You remember Moses went into the wilderness and stayed forty years, during which time he put away self, and that made room so that he could have the presence of God with him.” *The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials*, 83. “Shut in by the bulwarks of the mountains, Moses was alone with God. The magnificent temples of Egypt no longer impressed his mind with their superstition and falsehood. In the solemn grandeur of the everlasting hills

“I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.... Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people ...out of Egypt.” Exodus 3:1, 7-8, 10. “And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.” Exodus 12:41.

Again the biblical principle is seen: Abraham, the proclaiming prophet, appears at the beginning of the prophetic period, while

*God provides a proclaiming prophet at the beginning of every prophetic time period and a gathering prophet at its end.*

he beheld the majesty of the Most High, and in contrast realized how powerless and insignificant were the gods of Egypt. Everywhere the Creator’s name was written. Moses seemed to stand in His presence and to be over-shadowed by His power. Here his pride and self-sufficiency were swept away. In the stern simplicity of his wilderness life, the results of the ease and luxury of Egypt disappeared. Moses became patient, reverent, and humble, ‘very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth’ (Numbers 12:3), yet strong in faith in the mighty God of Jacob.” *Patriarchs and Prophets*, 250-251.

As Moses led the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, he was contacted by the angel of the Lord from a fiery bush. He was asked to gather “the children of Israel out of Egypt.”

Moses, the gathering prophet, appears at the end.

From the beginning of Israel’s existence as a nation, the people were often scattered as a consequence of their disobedience to God. Notice the very strong statement given to the Israelites after their departure from Egypt: “But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee: ... The LORD shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other.” Deuteronomy 28:15, 64. But when the Israelites would repent and return unto the Lord in obedience to all He commanded with all their hearts, He would again gather



them together as His people. See Deuteronomy 30:1-3.

In the book of Jeremiah, the prophet proclaims for the Israelites a captivity of seventy years to take

Bible student, refers to this time period in Daniel 9 as he seeks, through prayer and supplication, to have his people brought out of captivity in accordance with the prophecy of this

Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying, ...Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem." Ezra 1:1, 3. And note in Nehemiah 1:8-9, the references to the scattering and gathering promises of Deuteronomy 28: "Remember, I beseech thee, the word that thou commandedst thy servant Moses, saying, If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations: But if ye turn unto Me, and keep My commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set My name there."

Jeremiah is the proclaiming prophet while Daniel is the initial gathering prophet. Daniel also serves as a proclaiming prophet in Daniel 9:24-27, where the prophecy of the Messiah, as well as the prophecy of the probation of God's people, is set forth. Four hundred ninety years

*Satan will work ingeniously to unsettle the confidence of God's remnant people in the true testimony.*

place in Babylon. See Jeremiah 29:10. This is the third time period affecting God's people. "When men's hearts are softened and subdued by the constraining influence of the Holy Spirit, they will give heed to counsel; but when they turn from admonition until their hearts become hardened, the Lord permits them to be led by other influences. Refusing the truth, they accept falsehood, which becomes a snare to their own destruction.

"God had pleaded with Judah not to provoke Him to anger, but they had hearkened not. Finally sentence was pronounced against them. They

prophetic period. "The deliverance of Daniel from the den of lions had been used of God to create a favorable impression upon the mind of Cyrus the Great. The sterling qualities of the man of God as a statesman of farseeing ability led the Persian ruler to show him marked respect and to honor his judgment. And now, just at the time God had said He would cause His temple at Jerusalem to be rebuilt, He moved upon Cyrus as His agent to discern the prophecies concerning himself, with which Daniel was so familiar, and to grant the Jewish people their

were to be led away captive to Babylon." *Prophets and Kings*, 425-426. But there were also "promises of deliverance [which] fell like sweetest music upon the ears of those who were steadfast in their worship of Jehovah." *Ibid.*, 427.

Daniel, apparently an ardent

liberty." *Prophets and Kings*, 557.

In the book Ezra and Nehemiah we see the beginning of the regathering of God's people: "Now in the first year of Cyrus king of

are given to His people "to make an end of sins ...and to anoint the most Holy." During that time the Messiah would come and then



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“cause the sacrifice and oblation to cease” through His own death on the cross.

Right on time Jesus came to begin His ministry of gathering the people to Himself. John the Baptist actually initiated this gathering process through his message of repentance and the announcement “the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Matthew 3:1–3.

Notice the Lord’s gathering statement in Matthew 23:37: “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!” And in John 12:32, Jesus says, “And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw [gather] all men unto me.” In these verses Jesus is the gathering prophet.

In 1844 another time period came to its fulfillment. Daniel had prophesied this great time period of 2300 days. “And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.” Daniel 8:14. This proclamation had as its object the beginning of a new ministry for Jesus in the Most Holy of the heavenly sanctuary—the judgment of God’s people, a very important and solemn event. See Daniel 7:13. At that time the three angels’ messages of Revelation 14 were to be proclaimed, bringing a revival of interest in the gospel and the second coming of Jesus. This revival of primitive godliness was to be seen in all parts of the world.

“Those who are living upon the earth when the intercession of Christ shall cease in the sanctuary above are to stand in the sight of a Holy God without a mediator. Their robes must be spotless, their characters must be purified from sin by the blood of sprinkling. Through the grace of God and their own diligent effort they must be conquerors in the battle with evil. While the investigative judgment is

going forward in heaven, while the sins of penitent believers are being removed from the sanctuary, there is to be a special work of purification, of putting away of sin, among God’s people upon earth. This work is more clearly presented in the messages of Revelation 14.

“When this work shall have been accomplished, the followers of Christ will be ready for His appearing.” *The Great Controversy*, 425.

In accordance with His principle of always following a proclaiming prophet at the beginning of a time period with a gathering prophet at the end, God called upon Ellen G. White to gather His people under this last great declaration of truth before the coming of Jesus, so that as many as will might be saved. “Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth His secret unto His servants the prophets.” Amos 3:7. And Satan seeks to prevent His gathering by doing away with the gathering prophet, for he knows that “where there is no vision, the people perish.” Proverbs 29:18.

“The very last deception of Satan will be to make of none effect the testimony of the Spirit of God.... Satan will work ingeniously ...to unsettle the confidence of God’s remnant people in the true testimony.... The workings of Satan will be to unsettle the faith of the churches in them.” *Selected Messages*, Book 1, 48.

“Many are going directly contrary to the light which God has given to His people, because they do not read the books which contain the light and knowledge in cautions, reproofs, and warnings.” *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 681. Without the prophet to give direction that is so badly needed in these last days, God’s people will flounder and drift and be moved in one direction and then another with all the winds of doctrine that blow around us. We must recognize God’s prophet and be diligent to heed her counsel to us.

A time is coming when “shall appear the sign of the Son of man



in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.” Matthew 24:30–31.

May God help us now to gather up and live by every word of instruction, reproof, and encouragement which He has spoken to us, that when the angels of heaven shall appear, we may be among the multitude of the redeemed gathered up by them to live with Jesus evermore. 📖



Clark Floyd resides in Leicester, North Carolina. He is a board member and a speaker for Hope International.



# Words of Warning - No. 1



Ellen G. White

Today the world is repeating Jerusalem's refusal to acknowledge the truth revealed in God's Word.

**"O** Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord."

This was the most solemn denunciation ever uttered against Jerusalem. After denouncing the hypocrisy of the Jewish leaders, who, while they worshiped the temple, were working with a hatred inspired by Satan to destroy the only One who made the temple sacred, Christ bade adieu to the once hallowed courts. He quitted the temple forever, declaring, "Your house is left unto you desolate."

Henceforth a cloud blacker than sackcloth hung over the once favored nation. Looking into the future, Christ saw the gates of Jerusalem burst open by the Roman legions. He saw the walls broken, and the beautiful stones, which had been laid with artistic skill one upon another, torn down, so that not one was left standing. The

Arm strong to save had become strong to smite.

Solemn judgments had been pronounced against Jerusalem by the prophets. Its iniquity and crime had once caused it to be destroyed, and its people carried captive to Babylon. In their humiliation, many sought the Lord with repentance and confession; and when they returned from captivity, they seemed for a time to reform. In his mercy, God forgave them, and gave them his blessing. "I will not contend forever," he declares, "neither will I be always wroth: for the spirit should fail before me, and the souls which I have made. For the iniquity of his covetousness was I wroth, and smote him: I hid me, and was wroth, and he went on frowardly in the way of his heart. I have seen his ways, and will heal him: I will lead him also, and restore comforts unto him and to his mourners. I create the fruit of the lips. Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near, saith the Lord; and I will heal him."

But the leaders of the people did not remain converted. They did not, as faithful sentinels, keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment. Again and again the word of

the Lord through his prophets was rejected. Then God sent his only begotten Son with a message of mercy; but they refused to receive him, and said, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance shall be ours." Christ "came unto his own, and his own received him not."

The time of the greatest responsibility for the Jewish people was when Christ was among them. And had they but known it, this was also the time of their greatest privilege and blessing. But they refused every overture of mercy, and rejected the Son of God, and thus made themselves guilty of the greatest of all sins.

Christ charged the whole nation with this sin. In rejecting my servants and prophets, he said, you have not only rejected them, but the Son of God, whose you are by creation and by redemption. You would none of my counsel, you despised all my reproof. If you are destroyed, you yourselves will be responsible. I have offered you help because I loved you, but you would not come unto me, that you might have life.

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" You have refused to see in me a merciful Saviour, offering your redemption. When God's heavy judgments fall upon you, you will still refuse to see in me a sin-pardoning



Saviour. But you will one day long for the Deliverer who was once among you, and whom you would not receive.

Thus with power and authority our Lord reproved the Jewish nation. "Ye shall not see me henceforth," he continued, "till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." When the Jewish people see Christ again, they will ask no sign. That day will not be to them a day of joy, although, as they see the One they rejected, the acknowledgment will come from their lips, with overwhelming power, "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." When Christ comes in the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory, they will praise him whom they once cursed; but it will then be too late.

Jerusalem was lost because of its obstinate refusal to acknowledge the truth. This the world is doing today. Men refuse to see the truth that is plainly revealed in the word of God. A "Thus saith the Lord" is regarded as of no account, while the words of men are given great authority. And as the inhabitants of Jerusalem were punished, so will those be punished who refuse to receive truth. God would have us realize that by the city of Jerusalem a world is represented. Christ's utterances regarding the destruction of Jerusalem are ever to be connected with the more terrible destruction of the world.

The disciples were unable to understand Christ's words with reference to the temple. They called his attention to its massive stones, saying, "Master, see what manner of stones and what buildings are here." The stones of the temple were of the purest marble, of perfect whiteness, and the pillars supporting the porches were of massive dimensions. How such stones could be overthrown, the disciples could not comprehend. They could not understand words which doomed to destruction the walls that had withstood the devastation of

armies. Their ideas were vague, and it was difficult for the Lord to make his lessons intelligible to them.

As the attention of the rejected One was called to the magnificence of the temple, what must have been his thoughts! The view before him was indeed beautiful; but he said, sadly: I see it all, and the buildings are indeed wonderful. You point to these stones as apparently indestructible, but listen to my words. I tell you solemnly that the day will come when there shall not be left one stone upon another that shall not be thrown down. Forty years after Christ uttered this prediction, his words were fulfilled to the letter. In the siege of Jerusalem it is stated that more than a million people perished, and that many were led into captivity.


Christ's words had been spoken in the hearing of a large number of people; but when he was again alone, Peter, James, John, and Andrew came to him, saying, "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?"

In his answer, Jesus did not take up separately the destruction of Jerusalem and the last great day of his coming. He mingled the description of these two events. When he spoke of the destruction of Jerusalem, his words referred also to the final destruction that will take place when the Lord rises out of his place to punish the world for its iniquity. The entire chapter in which are recorded Christ's words regarding this, is a warning to all who shall live during the last scenes of this earth's history.

Turning to his disciples, Christ said, "Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many." Many false Messiahs will appear, claiming to work miracles, and declaring that the time for the deliverance of the Jewish nation has come. These will mislead many.

These words were fulfilled.

Between the death of Christ and the siege of Jerusalem, many false Christs appeared. But this warning is given also to those who live in this age of the world. The same deceptions practised prior to the destruction of Jerusalem will again be practised. The same events that took place at the overthrow of Jerusalem will take place again.

"And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet." Prior to the destruction of Jerusalem, men wrestled for the supremacy. Emperors were murdered. Those standing next to the throne were slain. "All these things must come to pass, but the end [of the Jewish nation as a nation] is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows." As the rabbis see these signs, Christ said, they will declare that they are God's judgments on the nations for holding his chosen people in bondage. They will say that these signs are the tokens of the advent of the Messiah. Be not deceived; they are the beginning of his judgments. The Jewish people have looked to themselves. They have not repented and been converted, that I should heal them. The signs that they argue as tokens of their release from bondage are signs of their destruction. 

Review & Herald  
December 13, 1898



*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.*





# Cry, the Beloved Church Part One



Br. Wellington Chabala

In Africa, leadership's push for Women's Ministries and ordination of women has created suspicion among the laity and division within the church.

Many readers, especially those from Africa and those who followed the then-infamous apartheid regime of South Africa, will find the heading of this article sounding familiar. Yes, you are right; it is similar to the title of the famous anti-apartheid novel by one great and gallant white son of Africa, Alan Paton. His book, *Cry, the Beloved Country*, was published in 1948. In fact, I read the same novel for my high school English literature course no more than a decade ago.

In his book, Alan Paton lamented how divided and suspicious the South African society had become. During those years of apartheid, colour became the dividing mark among the people of one nation. Colour also made some people consider themselves more "human" than others. Terrible atrocities were committed in the name of this evil and inhuman system. Thousands, especially black people, lost their lives for merely claiming their God-given right of equal existence.

My own title reflects a similar lament, occasioned by a few issues

in my beloved church in Zambia, the Seventh-day Adventist church. I remember joining the church at the tender age of about 13. That was more than a decade and half ago. Before then, I had quite a number of relatives and acquaintances who were members of the Seventh-day Adventist church. At that time, though, due to my youth, I hadn't had much opportunity to learn much about this peculiar church.

It is important to note that even in those days, my country was approximately ninety-six percent Christian. In fact, today Zambia is the only legally-declared Christian nation in the entire world. This simply shows that, generally, Zambians are a God-fearing people. However, even back then, I could easily tell how different this church and its members were from other Christian churches.

The Adventists appeared to be peculiar in almost everything about them. Easily notable differences, even to my young eyes, were: these people had a special day, which they called *sabata*, on which they worshiped, while the rest of Christian

churches worshiped on Sunday. On this same *sabata* these people spent the entire day at their churches, and they appeared to have immense respect for this same *sabata*, such that we sarcastically called them the *sabatas*. The zeal and commitment with which these people conducted their programmes was also highly admirable. Talk of their ever-smiling graceful faces! They seemed to have no cares.

What attracted my curiosity about these people most, however, was their music. How I loved those choruses they so wonderfully sang. My family at that time belonged to the Christian Brethren Church (CMML), part of the Christian Brethren, and consequently I found myself attending the same church. Further, I should state that the CMML was and still is widely respected for their conservative nature and for singing highly spiritual and uplifting unaccompanied music. But even then my heart always jumped inside me whenever I heard the *sabatas* sing with their highly-pitched but melodious voices.

The young people of this same

sect appeared to be extremely intelligent and purposeful. I envied them whenever I saw them performing their drills while clad in their neat khaki and forest green uniforms, with orange scarves smartly hanging from their shoulders and green sashes crossing their chests. They looked like true soldiers of the cross! These and many other qualities caused the *sabatas* to be highly admired and respected in any community of Zambia. In fact, we generally considered them to be an upright people. Little did I know then that a few years later, I was to pledge allegiance to the twenty-seven (or are they now twenty-eight?) fundamental beliefs which made these people who they were.

I joined the Seventh-day Adventist church in the late eighties. At the time the church was on fire with evangelism and growth, at least in this part of the world. This was the period of the Harvest 90 campaign. I am proud to say that I am a fruit of that same great harvest. During that time, both the leadership and laity seemed to be pulling the same line. Of course, minor differences obviously existed within that church militant, but in a broader sense I can safely claim that at least unity of purpose and mutual trust were visible and attainable.

I still vividly remember those spirit-filled youth camps, not to mention those warm and exciting camp meetings. Many weeks of prayer were organized and hugely attended by both youth and old. How I long for those heavenly songs which we used to sing during those fully-packed Bible studies. I want never to forget those spirited end-time sermons which the children of God used to deliver. And what about those union-wide fasting days! At that time every member of the church was preoccupied with preparing souls for the soon-returning King. The return of our Master seemed so imminent. In fact, I remember the then-famous slogan among us youth,

which went like this: (call) "A.Y.!" (response) "Win one!"

After Harvest 90, the church came up with another goal, Penetration 95. This campaign also brought a lot of precious jewels into the Saviour's treasury. Hundreds of thousands were brought to Christ. The church at this time was somewhat fulfilling the great commission of Matthew 28:29, given to it by the Master of the harvest, the Lord Jesus Christ.

It should be pointed out here that Zambia Union Conference has half a million baptized members (anticipating to hit the one-million mark within the next four years) and more than one million Sabbath school members, giving it one of the highest ratios of Adventists to nationals in the world at 1:21, out of a population of 10.5 million people.<sup>1</sup> In fact, we are one of the four union conferences on the entire continent of Africa. Simply said, the church is very much developed, having celebrated a centenary last year in 2005.

Unfortunately, things appeared to take a wrong turn towards the close of the twentieth century. Immediately after Penetration 95, the church seemed to go to slumber in terms of evangelism. Though another evangelistic thrust, Saturation 2000, was promoted, it achieved nothing much to write home about. In fact, at this time the church went into a serious spiritual slumber. This evangelistic lukewarmness brought about a lot of leadership and organizational malaise and general loss of favour. Suspicions and witch hunting became the order of the day.

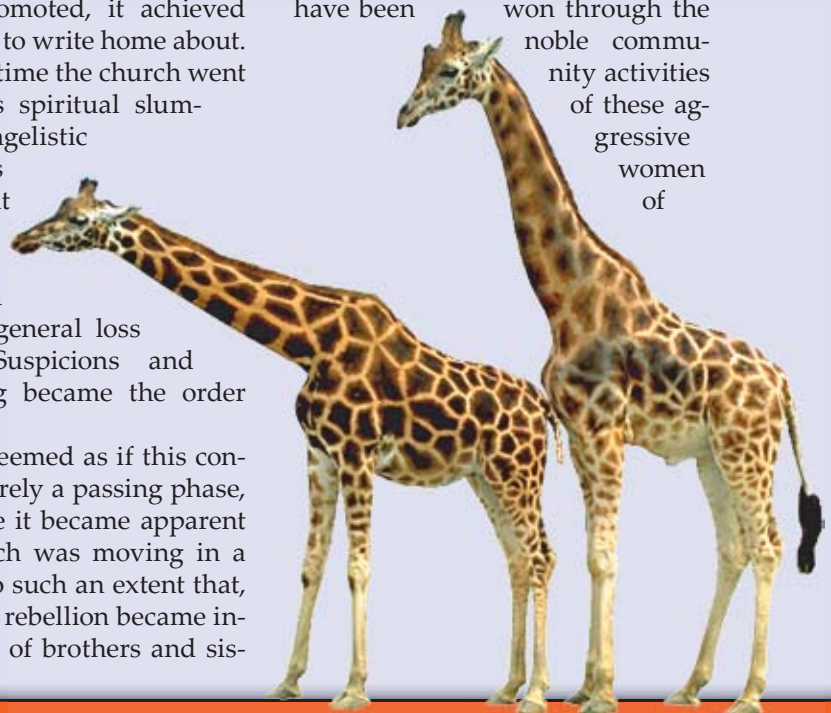
At first it seemed as if this condition was merely a passing phase, but in no time it became apparent that the church was moving in a wrong gear, to such an extent that, in some cases, rebellion became inevitable. A lot of brothers and sis-

ters separated from the church they once loved so much, and instead became its most bitter opponents. Some of them went into utter darkness and lost view of the precious truth they once propounded.

Somewhere around 1999, the leadership introduced a new department they called Women's Ministries. This brought more problems than benefits to the entire church. The leadership gave it all its best to promote this new department. A lot of promises were made concerning the goodies which were to accompany Women's Ministries. A lot of incentives, including monetary ones, were promised to all women and men who would take an active part in promoting the same. This brought serious suspicions among the laity regarding the sources of those funds. The laity actually accused the leadership of having "sold" the beloved church to the world.

It is important to note that for decades in this part of the world, we have had a community service organization called Dorcas Workers, in remembrance of Tabitha of Acts 9:36-43. This Adventist women's organization has been a great and important vehicle through which many souls have found the love of Christ. Many thousands of souls have been won through the

noble community activities of these aggressive women of









God. In fact, one can safely say that in Zambia no Adventist church can fully function without the Dorcas Workers. They are such a vital component of our evangelism drives.

Now, when Women's Ministries was being urged upon us, the promoters never elaborated extensively on the works that the new ministry was to perform which the Dorcas Workers were not already doing, except to say that it was a new church initiative for evangelism among our women. It clearly appeared to the laity that the leadership had no answers, or else did not want to give satisfactory ones, for reasons better known to themselves.

During this same time we started hearing and reading how the church in other parts of the world, especially in North America, was ordaining women into ministry. That, according to most laypeople in this part of the world, was considered as a total falling away and unacceptable, if not unchristian. The leadership tried to summon all the strategies at its disposal to enforce the same policy here, to the extent that, at one time, a district pastor in charge of Mufulira Mission District was beaten by the church members for trying to force them to accept something they regarded as unbiblical. Of course, many church members ended up in police custody. What a shameful occurrence! And the reader should be aware that such things were happening not only in Zambia, but also in most neighbouring unions like Zimbabwe, Malawi and other African countries.

Regarding Women's Ministries, the leadership began using some unorthodox ways of enforcing, if not forcing, the acceptance of Women's Ministries by the people. In their sermons they would rebuke "backward," "unprogressive" Christians for not towing the same line as the entire church and for questioning church policies. Camp meetings and youth camps became their favourite venues for promoting the unpopular ministry.

Cracks in the laity-leadership relationship became significantly deeper—in certain instances, to the degree where some laypeople took matters personally by contemplating the stoning of "fallen pastors." The cases in mind are Lusaka West Mission District 2003 camp meeting and the Kitwe South Mission District camp meeting. In both cases speakers were almost stoned. At the most recent camp meeting in 2005, at Kanyama Mission District camp meeting in the heart of Lusaka, the capital city of the Republic of Zambia, the camp meeting actually ended prematurely because the leadership wanted to force women preachers on the people. The laity could not stomach this, and they decided to pack up and go back home on Thursday, three days before the official closing date. The three pastors also left for their homes. 

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To be continued.



*Br. Wellington Chabala is a layman in the city of Kitwe, Copperbelt Province, Republic of Zambia.*

Notes:  
1 *Exploits*, 001, No. 004, 2006, official Zambia Union tabloid.

# WALK IN HIS STEPS



Photos: © Hemera Photo Objects CD (Map); iStockPhoto.com (footsteps)





# *Redemptive Discipline*

## *Part II*

Alane Waters

### **Cultivate**

**T**he third part of the solution of redemptive discipline is cultivation of the good. We parents too often leave this out and don't give our children enough encouragement. We want to give them the desire to continue to put forth effort to go against self.

I have failed in this point far too often. We can become so concerned that our children are acting the way they should act that we focus on the negative. We do need to correct every bent toward evil. But we can become so tunnel-visioned on one aspect of redemptive discipline that we do not have the proper blend in the solution to bring healing. If we were to put only sodium in the IV solution, what about their potassium level?

We parents must maintain a vital connection to Jesus Christ to know just how to balance the solution for our children. We cannot go on an old experience of victory in Christ two days ago. It must be constantly fresh. If at any point I sever my yielding of self, leave the Lord behind, and insist on my own will and way, no redemptive discipline can happen in our home.

*Train up a child in the way he  
should go and when he is old,  
he will not depart from it.*



## Encourage Obedience, Not Pride

We must understand that there is an important difference between cultivating and encouraging right things and pumping up pride and self in our child. Let me illustrate.

*All during the day as we intensive-care parents pray for our children, we watch the situations that test their hearts.*

“Honey, I see that you yielded yourself and swept the floor very nicely today to the best of your ability. Thank you for taking time to shake those carpets well.”

“I see that you have really learned the phonics lesson well today. You can read those words better today than you did yesterday. By repetition and perseverance and doing it again and again, you are learning to read better.”

Now that is positive encouragement. It is not the same as the type of encouragement we have often been trained to give. “Oh, you are just the smartest six-year-old I have ever known.”

One goes to the heart; the other goes to the head. One helps to give children a desire to continue in what they know is right to do. The other makes them think, “I’m pretty good.” Then self begins to rise up and we have to add more of another component of the redemptive discipline solution—correction.

### Correct

“We must watch well the indications that tell of the state of the heart, and as faithful sentinels, check the first tendency toward evil” *Review and Herald*, July 18, 1893. That means that I do not close my eyes and ignore evil tendencies in my children when it is not convenient to deal with them. It is one

thing to correct my children in the home, where no one is around. It is another thing when we are in public. *What will those people think?* I am tempted to consider.

Unless your children are very different than mine, I have found

that even though they know how to sweep the floor, there are times when self doesn’t want to do it. Then it requires a deeper submission of my will to Christ. Do I love my child enough that I will oversee and correct them and give them more of this aspect of the redemptive discipline solution? I just might have to call my child and ask, “What do you think of the floor today?” The Spirit can convict the heart and without any more words, he or she may quietly go and get the broom and begin again. The



most ideal situation is that they choose to do it right the first time. But that does not always happen. We need to work with them—not to ignore those crumbs on the floor or the sloppy penmanship—but to entreat them.

If they are more resisting, they

may need a firmer correction: “Because you have chosen not to do your work right today, I am going to give you another opportunity to show me that you understand what we have been talking about this morning in yielding your will and doing all your work as unto the Lord. Please help me fold the load of clothes that is in the dryer.”

The aspect of correction in redemptive discipline is vitally important. But if it goes into your child unmixed with teaching, training, and cultivation of the good, it would actually do damage—just as if you poured a straight antibiotic or certain type of medication into a patient’s vein without diluting it. You will burn or hurt the patient very badly. We must know how the solution is to be mixed.

### Govern

The governing aspect of redemptive discipline can only come as we parents are willing to submit to God. Are we willing to govern our children in Christ to know when we need to be firmer in correction, when to be more gentle in entreaty, and when to spend more time teaching or training? I must be willing to give of myself to oversee their entire day.

One day during home school, my two girls had a math lesson in simple addition. The girls had been taught to write the first number on the first line, the second number on the second line, and the answer below. When the math assignment was done, I looked over the papers to grade them. I noticed that one daughter’s entire page of work was written in a small section of the top corner of the paper. All three numbers were written on one line. The Holy Spirit spoke to my heart, “You need to address that, Mother.”

I looked at my daughter and said, “Honey, what do you think

about this math assignment?" She said, "Mother, it is done all right. I have all the answers right." True, all the answers were right. But the lesson was not done according to instructions.

I prayed, "Lord, what would you have me do next?" *Since she wants to defend herself, ask about the penmanship.* "Dear, your penmanship is really quite small. I think you need to do the lesson over. But I'll tell you what, honey, it is not going to take you as long because you have all the right answers. You can just recopy your work and you don't have to think it through again." I don't remember if she has ever had to do another math assignment again for that reason.

Through our connection to Christ, we learn what will best reach our children's hearts to transform them. Every aspect of redemptive discipline is important, but it must be governed through Jesus Christ.

### Parents Need Discipline, Too

In the morning, we parents may have an earnest desire to lead our children through the entire day. But somehow, many other things push and shove the priorities aside. This requires more submission on our part as parents, I believe, than for our children to yield themselves.

In Proverbs 23:26 God calls to us, "My son, give Me thine heart." God often calls for our hearts; we need to call often for our children's hearts through the day. If I let my children have an hour of non-directed time when they can pursue their own pleasures, and then I become preoccupied with what I want to accomplish and let the

time keep going, it is much more difficult for my children to want to stop what they are doing and help me. Too much time allows opportunity for self to take rulership of the heart. But if I often call to my children's hearts for submission throughout the day in little things, it is much easier for them to stay in tune with Jesus. The younger they




are, the more often we may have to call them because a young child has difficulty governing himself. I may call, "Josiah, would you help mother fold a load of clothes right now, please?" Then maybe half an hour or twenty minutes later I may call to him again. That is the same way God keeps our hearts in tune with His.

### First Things First

We can have a real burden for our children to act and be the way we know is right. But somehow, we lose the import of that through the day. We want our children to be in heaven, but we are not really willing to give what it takes to help them become what they need to be to be welcome there. I want to challenge you, parents. If it is your desire to see Christ open heaven's gates, welcome your child, place His robe of righteousness on him and the crown of life on his head,

then everything else must take second place. All of our good outreach, our great crafts, our work, our sewing, our hobbies, and our telephone conversations must take second place, or we will not have time to redemptively discipline our children. This is the greatest battle with self I have ever dealt with.

I thank God that He gave me three children with their three different personalities and strengths. It has taken all of these to help me see my need to be governed in Christ so that I can redemptively discipline them. That is my greatest goal in life and I pray that He will ever keep it before me.

Christ is not only our physician to govern the components of the redemptive discipline solution, but He is our Shepherd. Isaiah 40:11. He has brought me so much courage and hope. "He shall feed His flock like a shepherd: He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young." Isn't that a tremendous promise? We don't have to do it on our own. In fact, we cannot. But our Shepherd will lead us step-by-step, gently. And He will bear our young in His arms. 



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# The **IMAGE** of a **Man** - Part II

If the heart of man is deceitful  
above all things, why do we still  
trust so much in him?

## Our Own Crisis

**I**n our day we are living in an age of crisis in the church. For over 150 years we have been in the Laodicean sleep. While we have slept, the enemy has sown tares. According to Inspiration, do we realize what is one of the greatest sins that has characterized us as a people and hindered the finishing of the work? "For years the church has been looking to man and expecting much from man, but not looking to Jesus, in whom our hopes of eternal life are centered" TM 93. How long had this been going on, even in Sister White's day? "For years." Almost all of the book *Testimonies to Ministers* is about "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." On page 363, the heading reads "In the Track of Romanism." She is writing about us. It's the same old story of six thousand years, for human nature is the same today as it has al-

maketh flesh his arm . . . For he shall not see when good cometh." Jer 17:5, 6. For years the church has been looking to man. Unless we as a people are cured of this problem, what must be the end of this system? The mark of the beast. We can feel so secure from receiving the mark of the beast and never understand the great principles revealed to us by the Word of God. "The great danger with our people has been that of depending upon men and making flesh their arm. Those who have not been in the habit of searching the Bible for themselves or weighing evidence, have confidence in the leading men and accept the decisions they make and thus many will reject the very messages God sends to His people if these leading brethren do not accept them. Even if all our leading men should refuse



John Staines

*Many will reject the very messages  
God sends to His people if these  
leading brethren do not accept them.*

ways been. And often in this book is repeated this Scripture: "Cursed be man that trusteth in Man and

light and truth, that door will still remain open. The Lord will raise up men who will give the people

the message for this time" TM 106.

Why does the Lord send such a message for today? The *Testimonies* and other books have page upon page of the same warning. How is it that we as a people of God can look back on 6,000 years of human history and it looks as if we have hardly learned anything? We can see what has happened in almost every age and to every generation of God's people for 6,000 years and yet with all the lessons of history before us, we say it can't happen to us.

In *Testimonies*, volume five, page 728, Sister White writes of the experience of the Jews and how they acted in the time of Jesus. She warned that the danger of Seventh-day Adventists is that they would act in the same way that the Jews

acted in relation to the Lord Jesus Christ. We would repeat the history of the Jews unless we awoke to the deception of the human heart.

### Headed for the Beast's Mark

When we understand the principles in Daniel and Revelation, we truly will have less to say about the Roman power. The papacy is only a revelation of human nature in its collective capacity. All history is a revelation of man and the heart of a man. It is not only Romanism and apostate Protestantism that is the cage of every unclean and hateful bird. It is the human heart itself. Unless we as a people are cured by the gospel of Jesus Christ of the age-old problem, we are headed straight for the mark of the beast.

If we examine the principles of the conflict that are involved in the church at the present time, we should be able to discern that which is truth and that which is error. In the present agitation, "when a view of Scripture is presented, many do not ask, Is it true--in harmony with God's word? But, By whom is it advocated? and unless it comes through the very channel that pleases them, they do not accept it" TM 106. What must be the end of following that system? The mark of the beast. You can call it anything you like--Catholicism, Methodism, Adventism; it makes no difference what name you attach to it. In fact, it is more deceptive when it is delivered with the livery of heaven.

There are men among us who honestly take the position that if certain men examine the Scriptures and decide upon a certain question, then whatever position they come up with, the entire community of God's people ought to take it for granted, without question. But the end of that

system is the mark of the beast.

### Submit to God, not Man

Sister White quotes Martin Luther, saying this, "But when eternal interests are concerned, God wills not that man should submit unto man. For such submission in spiritual matters is a real worship



Protestant churches and he says, "I must get into the Advent Movement" (this is a correct move; that is where he belongs), has he fully escaped the problem? No. If he joins the Advent Movement, here is Laodiceanism. We have that great sin which has increased in the passing of years. We must see that the problem comes down to the human heart. There is only one way of escape and that is where the third angel points us--to the Most Holy Place in heaven.

### Safety Only With Jesus

The ministry of Jesus in the Most Holy Place offers to us the complete fulfillment of the New Covenant promise. The New Covenant promise is that the Lord will write the law in our hearts and in our minds, and having done that, "they shall not teach every man his neighbor and every man his brother saying, Know the Lord; for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest" Heb. 8:11. "But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and

and ought to be rendered solely to the Creator" GC 167. Perhaps he understood the principles of Daniel and Revelation better than we do. These principles today are at the very foundation of the crisis in the

*When eternal interests are concerned, God wills not that man should submit to man.*

church of God and will not cease until two parties are fully developed from among God's people.

### Is Adventism a Safe Harbor?

But let us not be secure in ourselves that we somehow recognize intellectually a problem here and that one must escape from Catholicism and get into Protestantism. Is this secure? Or if one is in the fallen

ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teaches you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him" 1 John 2:27.

The ministry of Jesus in the Most Holy Place is to bring us into such a complete fellowship with Him that we shall know Him, "from the least to the greatest." The only protection from the mark of the beast is that we



enter into the fullness of the New Covenant relationship with Jesus Christ, which is a relationship that we may have with Him, so full and so complete as if there was not another being upon this earth. That we may know Him, whom to know is life eternal. That we may know what it is to abide under the shadow of the Almighty and to be taught of Him; to learn of God and to sit at the feet of Jesus and to know His voice; to live every word that comes from the mouth of God.

### **The Seal of God**

What is the seal of God? In Volume 3 of *Testimonies*, p. 267, the seal of God is called the pure mark of truth. Do we have the seal of God upon us? The seal is in the forehead, meaning that it has to do with our thoughts. We do not have the seal because we do not have the pure mark of truth. Why do we not have the pure mark of truth? One reason is because we have too much of man in our thoughts. This is what the ministry

of Jesus is to bring to us: that experience of entering in with Jesus into



that complete fellowship with the One who is our Father, whose sons and daughters we become.

The only protection from the mark of the beast is to enter into the sanctuary. We do not have to do a thing to get the mark of the beast. If we neglect to get the seal of God, we are left to receive the mark of the beast. If we fail to enter in the sanctuary with Jesus, there is noth-

ing left but the mark of the beast.

In the sanctuary there was bread in the first apartment and bread in the second apartment. God provided both but there was a difference: the bread in the first apartment came to God's people through the ministration of man. God gives us teachers and prophets. But God sent directly to us the manna from heaven, for He wants us to learn directly from Him, untainted by the hands of man. For the Lord says, "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna . . ." Rev 2:17. This is the experience that we are to diligently seek--the pure mark of truth. Only that which comes from God will lead to God.

### **Our Primary Weakness**

The Lord is sending us a message to awaken us from our Laodicean sleep, a sleep which has been largely caused by the idolatry of human instrumentality. For years God's people have been looking to man and expecting much from man, but not looking to Jesus in whom our hope of eternal life is centered. God gives us this message (This is the loud cry of Rev 18): ". . . Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God . . . and the glory of our Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.


Photos: © Photos.com (collection); iStockPhoto.com (snowflakes)



. . . The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field; the grass withereth, the flower fadeth: . . . but the word of our God shall stand forever. O Zion, that bringeth good tidings; get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem that bringeth good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid, say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God" Isa 40:3-9. Here is an urgent appeal for God's people. "All flesh is grass." "Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils . . ." Isa 2:22. But ". . . Say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God."

### Where is Your Strength?

We are coming to a mighty crisis which is to try every man's foundation. When the great storm comes, we do not want to be found leaning upon any "grass." ". . . Say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God." The Lord, our great judge in the heavenly temple who invites His people in, is waiting to give to them the seal of the living God, the pure mark of truth, and to feed them with the hidden manna, to give them an experience with Him.

As the psalmist says, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress; my god; in him will I trust. . . . He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust; his truth shall be thy shield and buckler" Ps 91:1,2, 4. This is the seal of God and the covering of the Almighty. As this psalm goes on, it describes the plagues that fall, but it says that "There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling" Ps 91:10. The promise is for those who enter in with Jesus under His mediatorial wing, that they might say of the Lord, ". . . His truth shall be thy shield and buckler" Ps. 91:4. 





# DAMAGE MINDS

## IMPAIRED DISCERNMENT

**T**he enemy of souls tempts us with “fleshly” attractions involving our five senses, including taste. The Holy Spirit communicates with us via our minds—our brains. It is known that certain food ingredients kill brain cells. Eating those foods will inevitably result in decreased ability to receive communication from the Holy Spirit. The issue of food, therefore, is a most serious one, with eternal consequences.

In this article, the harmful food ingredients referred to are actually a group of ingredients known as neurotoxins; they are toxic to the nervous system. They’re also called excitotoxins, because they destroy brain cells by overstimulating them to the point of cell death. **The most common ones are monosodium glutamate (MSG or glutamic acid), aspartame (aspartic acid), and autolyzed yeast.** Dr. Russell Blaylock, a neurosurgeon and author of *Excitotoxins: The Taste That Kills*, includes hydrolyzed protein of any type and yeast extract in this group, as well as some others.<sup>1</sup> They can also be hidden in general terms of ingredients such as “spices,” “natural flavors,” or “artificial flavors.” *At least one excitotoxin is found in most prepared foods, including soups, and particularly in prepared vegetarian foods such as meat substitutes.*

A mountain of evidence connects neurotoxins with an alarming array of symptoms and diseases: insomnia, depression, slurred speech, fatigue, irritability, vision

loss, hearing loss, anxiety attacks, asthma, vertigo, joint pain, Parkinson’s, ALS, seizures, leukemia, other cancers, rheumatoid arthritis, migraines, Alzheimer’s, tinnitus, retinal damage,<sup>2</sup> to name just a few. People have lost lives or livelihoods due to aspartame poisoning, which mimics many of the diseases just mentioned but is so often misdiagnosed.<sup>3</sup> MSG and autolyzed yeast—prevalent in restaurant and bakery foods as well as low-fat and no-fat foods, packaged foods, fast-food chain-restaurant meals, and instant meals such as soups and noodles—are no less dangerous. Significantly, drugs that block the effects of MSG are being used to treat Alzheimer’s. Even baby food and infant formulas may contain both MSG and processed free aspartic acid (aspartame).<sup>4</sup> (Aspartame is the technical name for commercial artificial sweeteners such as Spoonful, NutraSweet, Equal, EqualMeasure, and others.)

The health risks are documented and significant. “By the early 1980’s, evidence of monosodium glutamate-induced brain lesions was ...well established....”<sup>5</sup>

Diet sodas contain aspartame. “We also know liquid forms of excitotoxins are significantly more toxic because of rapid absorption and higher blood levels.”<sup>6</sup> And at least one brand of regular soda has “natural flavors” in its ingredients. Before drinking that brand, one would be wise to ask some pointed

### *Jean Handwerk*

questions of the manufacturer.

Consider the physical and mental harm done to many millions of unsuspecting consumers drinking a diet soda along with their fast food meal. “When aspartate (as aspartame) is combined in the diet with monosodium glutamate (MSG), blood levels are several-fold higher than normal. With the blood brain barrier damaged, as in MS, these excitotoxins can freely enter the site of injury, greatly magnifying the damage.”<sup>7</sup>

“Recent studies have also shown that even single exposures to these food-based excitotoxins can produce prolonged worsening of neurological lesions. In addition, it has been demonstrated that autoimmune reactions (as occur with MS) greatly magnify the toxicity of aspartame and glutamate (the excitotoxins).”<sup>8</sup>

“As far back as 1996 it was shown that the lesions produced in the myelin sheath of axons in cases of multiple sclerosis were related to excitatory receptors on the primary cells involved.... The loss of myelin sheath on the nerve fibers characteristic of the disease is due to the death of these ...cells at the site of the lesions (called plaques). Further, these studies have shown that the death of these important cells is a result of excessive exposure to excitotoxins at the site of the lesions.”<sup>9</sup>

“In the US, incidence and severity of human adverse reactions following ingestion of processed free

**Aspartame**

**MSG**

**Yeast Extract**

**Autolyzed Yeast**

**Hydrolyzed Protein**

Photo: © iStockPhoto.com





glutamic acid (MSG) is increasing at an alarming rate. Yet both the United States government and many in the medical community have: (1) ignored the literature that reports adverse reactions following ingestion of processed free glutamic acid (MSG), (2) ignored consumer reports of adverse reactions filed with the FDA, (3) ignored incontrovertible evidence that glutamic acid kills brain cells and causes neuroendocrine disorders in laboratory animals, and (4) ignored a growing body of evidence that suggests a role between elevated brain glutamate levels and neurological diseases such as Alzheimer's and ALS.<sup>10</sup>

"The glutamic acid in monosodium glutamate and the aspartic acid found in aspartame ...are known to cause gross obesity in laboratory animals. ...There can be no question that processed free glutamic acid (MSG) causes brain damage and subsequent neuroendocrine disorders.... Moreover, the blood brain barrier is easily damaged by ...ingestion of processed free glutamic acid.... It is generally accepted that, given the greater permeability of their blood-brain barriers, the young are particularly at risk for ingestion of MSG."<sup>11</sup>

MSG's connection to gross obe-

sity is an interesting one. In order to get obese mice and rats to use in research on diets or diabetes, scientists have to "create" them—by injecting them at birth with MSG. The MSG greatly increases the amount of insulin the pancreas secretes, causing the expected obesity. They have created insulin-resistant rodents.<sup>12</sup> Given the pervasiveness of neurotoxins in our food supply, it is no wonder that insulin resistance in humans is increasing rapidly, greatly multiplying the rate of diabetes, obesity, and all the other ills associated with those two conditions. Ironically, "diet" sodas actually cause weight gain, just as the MSG did in the infant rats.

Textured vegetable protein (TVP) and soy protein isolate are used by vegetarians as ground meat substitutes in chilis, meatloaves, fillers, stuffings, and wherever else hamburger might have been used. Individually or together, TVP and soy protein isolate are also the primary ingredients in meat analogs. In addition to the dangers of MSG in those foods, it is difficult to purchase more highly processed foods than those two. Remember, our God-given counsel is "Simple foods, simply prepared."<sup>13</sup> More nutritious, more digestible, less concentrated protein alternatives exist which do not stress the liver and digestive organs—foods such as grains and legumes. In addition, cofactors God designed to complement the soy protein and make it nutritionally available to the body—cofactors such as vitamins, minerals, fats, and enzymes—have been removed in processing. What's left is essentially a synthetic food which the body can neither recognize nor utilize.

The same applies to meat substitutes whose main ingredient is concentrated wheat gluten. While those foods *might* not contain excitotoxins (read the labels!), the liver is greatly burdened as it works to rid the body of this manufactured protein. The body can get sufficient bio-available protein from a vari-

ety of grains, legumes, vegetables and nuts. It does not thrive on altered foodstuffs.

One man recorded his observations after putting TVP on his outdoor scrap pile for scavenging wild animals and birds. Normally the scraps are gone in a couple of hours. The TVP remained untouched for three days, at the end of which it finally disappeared.

With the precious health message we Seventh-day Adventists have from the Bible and prophetic counsel, we should be among the healthiest people on earth. The divine directives have been so plain that no one need be confused on the matter. "Simple foods," "simply prepared."<sup>14</sup> "Grains, fruits, nuts, and vegetables constitute the diet chosen for us by our Creator. These foods, prepared in as simple and natural a manner as possible, are the most healthful and nourishing."<sup>15</sup> "Simple combinations of nuts and grains and fruits, manufactured with taste and skill, will commend themselves to unbelievers."<sup>16</sup> Yet disease increases among us as much as in the general population. Excitotoxins are partly to blame.

During visits to several local churches' "health food" stores, the main commodity seen on the shelves and in the freezers was meat analogs—vegetarian meat replacements, usually soy-based—and various broths and gravies to accompany them. They are sold to support transitions from flesh-based diets to vegetarian diets. However, each analog's list of ingredients, *without exception*, contained neurotoxins.

In addition to various other harmful ingredients such as refined sugars and propylene glycol (also found in antifreeze), MSG was sometimes the fifth ingredient listed, sometimes the second, and once, even the first! Autolyzed yeast was found second and fourth, in the samples checked. One packaged broth mix proclaimed "No MSG," but its claim was deceptive because the MSG had been replaced by another excitotoxin, autolyzed yeast.

The claim of "No MSG" essentially acknowledges consumer wariness concerning MSG. To maintain profits, the company simply replaced one neurotoxic "flavor-enhancer" with another equally harmful but perhaps less well-known one. Only informed label-readers would be aware of the misleading nature of the label's claim; those who'd take the label at face value would be at risk for cell death. One broth mix had both MSG *and* autolyzed yeast. Several forms of MSG may be in a single food. One analog contained TVP, hydrolyzed soy protein, *and* MSG, as well as three different forms of refined sugar *and* propylene glycol!

It is significant that none of the brands consistently offered in our denominational stores can be found in quality secular health food stores. They refuse to sell them because of the excitotoxins in them.

Timely warnings and health education of our members and the public are plainly called for. It is imperative that we stop eating, serving and selling harmful products and start speaking up to protect those we know and those we hope to know. Those leaving the dangers of a flesh-based diet should be earnestly encouraged to avoid the alternate pitfall of harmful meat substitutes. Also, it is much easier *not to start* using those products than to break a dependency on them, for the cell-destroying excitotoxins in them not only stimulate appetite but are associated with food addiction.<sup>17</sup>

Instruction in wholesome cooking is divinely mandated. "In every place where there is a church, instruction should be given in regard to the preparation of simple, wholesome foods...."<sup>18</sup> "Cooking schools should be established, and house-to-house instruction should be given in the


art of cooking wholesome food. Old and young should learn how to cook more simply."<sup>19</sup>

"One reason why many have become discouraged in practicing health reform is that they have not learned how to cook so that *proper food, simply prepared*, would supply the place of the diet to which they have been accustomed. They become disgusted with the poorly prepared dishes, and next we hear them say that they have tried the health reform and cannot live in that way. Many attempt to follow out meager instructions in health reform and make such sad work that it results in injury to digestion, and in discouragement to all concerned in the attempt. You profess to be health reformers, and for this very reason you should become good cooks. Those who can avail themselves of the advantages of properly conducted hygienic cooking schools will find it a great benefit both in their own practice and in teaching others."<sup>20</sup>

It is essential that we learn to eat whole foods prepared at home, to read labels "religiously" (with our spiritual as well as our physical health in mind), to educate others. Knowing now about brain cell destruction caused by neurotoxins, who dares to buy foods without reading the labels and rejecting items with harmful ingredients? Given the spiritual challenges we face, who among us can risk not hearing even one word the Holy Spirit speaks to us?

Knowing we are the temples of the Holy Spirit, who dares to eat--and serve to others--those temple-defiling excitotoxins in meat substitutes, packaged foods, fast foods, and artificially sweetened,

"sugar-free" anything? At judgment, who among us wants to face the spiritual consequences of causing ill health and stunted minds in those God loves?

Share this knowledge widely, that disease and suffering be avoided, that the voice of the Holy Spirit be not limited in our lives, and that we may honor our Lord by our faithfulness to the health message He's so graciously given us. 



Jean writes from  
Wilmington, DE.

Notes:

- i A list of MSG-containing foods can be found in his book (*Excitotoxins: The Taste That Kills*, Health Press, Sante Fe: 1997) or at [creativehealth.farvista.net/poison/MSG\\_poison.shtml](http://creativehealth.farvista.net/poison/MSG_poison.shtml)
- ii Saleh, Huda Majeed. "MSG found to injure retina; Damage eyesight." [Vaccinetruth.org/msg.htm](http://Vaccinetruth.org/msg.htm) 6/7/06
- iii For information about aspartame poisoning, which is often mistaken for other diseases, see *Aspartame Disease: An Ignored Epidemic* by H. J. Roberts, M.D., Sunshine Sentinel Press, W. Palm Beach: 2001.
- iv [vaccinetruth.org/msg.htm](http://vaccinetruth.org/msg.htm) 6/7/06
- v [vaccinetruth.org/msg.htm](http://vaccinetruth.org/msg.htm) 6/7/06
- vi Blaylock, Russell L. "The Connection Between MS and Aspartame." 6/7/2004 [www.truthinlabeling.org](http://www.truthinlabeling.org), link "Aspartame and Multiple Sclerosis: A Neurosurgeon's Warning"
- vii Ibid.
- viii Ibid.
- ix Ibid.
- x [vaccinetruth.org/msg.htm](http://vaccinetruth.org/msg.htm) 6/7/06
- xi Ibid.
- xii [www.advancedhealthplan.com/msg.html](http://www.advancedhealthplan.com/msg.html)
- xiii *Gospel Workers*, 362; *Testimonies Vol. 9*, 161
- xiv *Gospel Workers*, 362; *Testimonies Vol. 9*, 161
- xv *Ministry of Healing*, 295-296
- xvi *Counsels on Diet*, 268
- xvii [www.msgtruth.org/addiction.htm](http://www.msgtruth.org/addiction.htm)
- xviii *Gospel Workers*, 362
- xix *Testimonies Vol. 9*, 161
- xx *Counsels on Health*, 450, italics added







## Kevin's Science Project (true story) by Jean Handwerk



Kevin didn't understand why his mother wouldn't let him play team sports or watch them on TV like all the other boys in his neighborhood. For quite a while, he was pretty unhappy with her, but then God helped him understand his mother's decision. It happened like this:

Kevin's science teacher explained a big project. "Mom, my teacher said anyone living at home could help me with it. I have to keep exact records and follow exact rules. Will you help me?" Kevin also told her everyone's project would be displayed for others to see, so he especially wanted to do a good job. It sounded like a lot of work, but very interesting work, too!

Kevin's mother agreed to be his partner on the experiment. After deciding on a project, they gathered all the equipment and items they'd need. Kevin learned to measure and set timers and record data on a form. He inspected and photographed and weighed things. Every day after school for an entire week they talked and laughed while they worked on the project. He even forgot about football.

"Mom, this is fun, isn't it?"

Mom agreed with a smile. "I'm learning some interesting things, aren't you?"

"Yes, and I'm glad you're helping me, because it's more complicated than I thought!"

"Do you know what it's called when people work together like you and I have been?" Mom asked. Kevin shook his head. "It's called cooperation."

"Well, I like cooperation," said Kevin, "because I like it when you help me on projects."

Mom smiled again and poked him in stomach, "And I like it when you help me around the house, too. See how it works both ways?" Now Kevin was smiling, because he understood what she meant. Lately Mom wasn't upset with him as much since he was trying harder to keep his clothes and games picked up.

Although Kevin didn't realize it, God's lesson for him continued a few days later. It was the night all the projects would be displayed at the school for everyone to come and see. The best one would get a blue ribbon.

Kevin had made a big poster with color photos and several charts. Even Mom said it was very good. On their way to school, he asked, "Mom, do you think I'll win?"

"I don't know, Sweetie. You did an excellent job, but I'm sure all the students worked hard on their projects, so probably they're all good. I don't know how the judges will be able to decide."

As soon as they walked in the display room, Kevin could see the blue ribbon was on someone else's project. He was so disappointed. On the way home, the tears flowed. "My project was as good as the winner's. How come the judge picked his over mine?"

"Well, son, unfortunately you're learning what competition means. Cooperation is fun for both sides, because both sides help each other. God approves of cooperation. But competition means winners and losers. It's only fun for the ones who win, not for those who lose."

"I don't like losing," Kevin sniffed.

"Think about this, then. If you


won tonight, your classmates might be the ones crying. Would you like someone to be upset so you could be happy?"

"No, but couldn't we both be happy?"

"In cooperation, yes, but not in competition. Competition means if you win, someone else has to lose. People who compete want to win. They want the other side to lose. See how unfriendly and selfish competition is? And sometimes people even hurt one another. God can't approve of it."

"Now I understand why you don't want me to play football or baseball or soccer at school. Cooperation has a good ending for both sides, but when people compete in sports, they don't care how the other side feels. I can see why God doesn't like sports."

"So do you still want to play on those teams?" Mom asked.

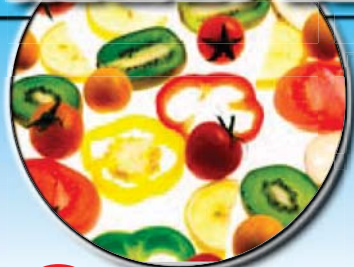
"Yes, but now I don't mind not playing as much. I think God's right!" 



Jean writes from  
Wilmington, DE.

Photos: © Hemera Photo Objects CD





## Another View of Microwave Cooking

October's *Health Gem* article titled "Microwaved Food Dangerous to Mind and Body" (p. 21) summarized research findings published by the Christian Law Institute. I wrote that summary, and I write again because *Our Firm Foundation* has heard from two readers with scientific information which disagrees with the article's research conclusions—conclusions which, I've found, are widely accepted in the natural health field! Lest readers unnecessarily discontinue use of a very convenient appliance, their letters are here summarized.

Donald Casebolt, MD, recommends PubMed to readers. PubMed is an internet service of the National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health. Of 147 relevant articles, Dr. Casebolt reviewed twenty-one abstracts. "Nearly all were favorable as to the use of the microwave [oven]." Two "indicated that microwaves might not be as efficient at killing bacteria in meat as regular cooking." His conclusion: ". . . The overall consensus was clear that there is no significant damage to vitamins or other constituents of food from use of the microwave."

Gordon Simkin is a retired physicist and electronic engineer with extensive experience with different forms and applications of radiation. He said that in addition to the faulty research cited in October's article, "there are many other claims out there about the problems of microwave ovens. I have studied in depth every one I could find and have reported it all in detail" at [www.800-his-love.org](http://www.800-his-love.org). Mr. Simkin's conclusion: "The only genuinely documented

danger from microwave energy is a result of the heat it generates." Temperature is the problem, not the cooking method. He warned about sometimes-dangerous overheating and uneven heating, especially in containers like baby bottles.

However, Dr. Joseph Mercola (of [mercola.com](http://mercola.com)) takes an opposing view. Dr. Mercola's research has been published many times in multiple well-respected professional journals. My naturopathic doctor recommended his website to me. In his archives, one can read October's article in full, plus learn of a study published in *The Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture* (Nov. 2003) which "found that broccoli 'zapped' in the microwave with a little water lost up to 97 percent of the beneficial antioxidant chemicals it contains. By comparison, steamed broccoli lost 11 percent or fewer of its antioxidants." However, as Mr. Simkin might point out, temperature may well be the issue, rather than the cooking method.

That possibility is borne out by the article "The Dangers of Over-Cooking Your Food," by Nancy Appleton, PhD, which is also on Dr. Mercola's website. While microwaving "exposes food up to 200 degrees C., . . . the highest temperatures that foods are exposed to are broiling and barbecuing, which can be 400 degrees C. Frying with a pan or wok normally uses high surface temperature, too," whereas "steaming, boiling, and stewing expose food to heat not exceeding 100 degrees C. On the other hand, baking and roasting expose food to temperatures up to 200 degrees C." Again, temperature is a major factor in nutrient retention or destruction.

Dr. Mercola's "Turbo Ovens"

contains a link to Dr. Hans Hertel's work, which Dr. Mercola called "perhaps the most concrete evidence of the dangers of microwaves." While the findings of Dr. Hertel's exploratory research are very disturbing, Mr. Simkin rightly identifies Dr. Hertel's research as *not "medically significant,"* since only eight people were intensively studied on various diets, one of which included microwaved food. No follow-up study can be found! In other words, Dr. Hertel's findings might be alarmingly accurate, but until the research is repeated on a larger scale, it is not considered reliable information.

One internet site showed the baleful effects of microwaved-till-boiling water on plants versus the beneficial results from conventionally boiled water. However, another site showed no difference!

Finally, the Christian Law Institute is no longer in existence, so the article's authors can't be contacted for questions.

Readers are encouraged to read Mr. Simkin's research. Those without computers can call 800-447-5683. A ten-page condensation is obtainable from him for \$1.50 shipping at P. O. Box 447, Glenoma, WA 98336.

Scientists or not, we must become as informed as possible when it comes to our health, then make our own decisions. My highest concern has been your physical and spiritual health. I regret any confusion my October article caused, and thank the editor for graciously granting this follow-up. 📖

Jean writes from  
Wilmington, DE.







## New World Order?

**News item:** "With international anxiety over the regional flare-up mounting, Israeli officials have publicly insisted that the Lebanese offensive is focused solely on Hezbollah fighters.

"We are fighting back after being attacked," Vice Premier Shimon Peres told Israel's Army Radio. "It is important to emphasize that this is self-defense. We are not trying to create a new world order." Jerusalem, July 23, 2006. *Reuters*, Dan Williams.

**End-time perspective:** That beleaguered Israel should mention the creation of "a new world order" is of great significance. We know Satan works behind the scenes to unite the world. Any conflict can become a pretext to move the world toward the final crisis and the ultimate goal of extinction of those who obey God.

"Satan is marshalling his hosts; and are we individually prepared for the fearful conflict that is just before us? Are we preparing our children for the great crisis?" AH 186. "Instead of becoming weak and irresolute, God's people should be gathering strength and courage for the time of trouble." 4T 251.



## Man Buys Way to Heaven

**News item:** "There is more than one way to get to heaven, but this is a great way." Investor-turned-philanthropist Warren Buffett, on one reason he's enthusiastic about his multi-billion-dollar charitable donations." *World*, July 15, 2006.

**End-time perspective:** Jesus' teaching points out the error in his thinking: "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:7. There is no way of salvation other than through acceptance of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

Trusting to works, he fails to understand the conditions of salvation, and unless he desires that the Lord change his character, "there will surely come "a day of judgment when . . . it [will] be plainly revealed that wealth, position, or titles are powerless to gain for man the favor of God or to deliver him from the results of sin." AA 424.



## Interview with New Head of Episcopal Church of U.S.A.

**News item:** "Rough waters aren't new to Katharine Jefferts Schori, 52, a former oceanographer who is the presiding bishop-elect of

the Episcopal Church of the U.S.A. Bishop Katharine, as she's known, takes over a denomination rocked by controversy at home and abroad for its liberal stance on gay clergy. She talked with *TIME's* Jeff Chu about her mission of social justice, the relationship between science and religion, and whether faith in Jesus is the only path to heaven.

**Q:** "There's much debate about whether science and religion can comfortably coexist. You're a scientist and a pastor. What do you think?

**A:** "Oh, they absolutely can. In the Middle Ages, theology was called the queen of the sciences. It asks a set of questions about human existence, about why we're here and how we should be in relationship with our neighbors and with the divine. And science, in this more traditional understanding, is about looking at creation and trying to understand how it functions.

**Q:** "What is your view on intelligent design?

**A:** "I firmly believe that evolution ought to be taught in the schools as the best witness of what modern science has taught us. To try to read the Bible literalistically about such issues disinvites us from using the best of recent scholarship.

**Q:** "Is belief in Jesus the only way to get to heaven?

**A:** "We who practice the Christian tradition understand Him as our vehicle to the divine. But for us to assume that God could not act in other ways is, I think, to put God in an awfully small box.

**Q:** "What is your prayer for the church today?

**A:** "That we remember the centrality of our mission is to love each other. That means caring for our neighbors. And it does not mean bickering about fine points of doctrine." *TIME*, July 17, 2006.

**End-time perspective:** Is it love to answer earthly needs without

addressing spiritual needs? Where is the feeding of the pure bread of life to the flock?

"The prophet Malachi raises the questions, 'Who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth?' Surely, the arrows of God's wrath will pierce where the arrows of conviction could not. Where will the sinner flee when God pronounces judgment against him? Where are the men in whom he trusted? Where are the false shepherds that led him astray? They can pay no ransom for his soul, for they are pressed under a heavier weight of guilt themselves. The dens and caves of the earth afford no shelter for either deceiver or deceived. There are souls to be saved; but the plan of salvation must be God's plan. He will not lower his law to meet man's standard, neither can man lift himself up to meet God's standard. But through the merits of the blood of a crucified and risen Saviour, all who will may be overcomers." RH, January 5, 1886.



## Nudity on Winning Streak

**News item:** "There's never been a better time to skinny dip, play tennis au naturel, or Jet Ski in the raw. It's 'Nude Recreation Week' and America's fast-growing network of 260 clothing-optional resorts offer an ever-expanding list of outdoor activities for nudists.

"Since 1992, the \$400 million nude vacationing industry has tripled in size. There are now clothing-optional hotels and time-share condos in nearly every major

tourist destination, nude cruises, and in-the-buff charter flights that won't let you fly by the seat of your pants.

"I think Americans are waking up to the peace and serenity that comes with taking off your clothing. For one thing, nobody has a pocket for a cell phone or beeper," says Carolyn Hawkins of the American Association for Nude Recreation, which boasts more than 50,000 dues-paying members.

"The majority of nude resorts actually cater to families. In fact, nudism is hardly a young person's endeavor. More than 80 percent of the AANR's membership is 35 years old or older. 'Older people are more likely to accept the sagging, flabby imperfections . . . in themselves and others,' Hawkins says." By Buck Wolf, *ABC News*, 7KLTV, July 12, 2006.

**End-time perspective:** "A terrible picture of the condition of the world has been presented before me. Immorality abounds everywhere. Licentiousness is the special sin of this age. Never did vice lift its deformed head with such boldness as now. The people seem to be benumbed, and the lovers of virtue and true goodness are nearly discouraged by its boldness, strength, and prevalence." CH 615.

"Constant war against the carnal mind must be maintained; and we must be aided by the refining influence of the grace of God, which will attract the mind upward, and habituate it to meditate upon pure and holy things." CTBH 127. See also Mat. 24:36-39; the prophet is describing gross immorality at the end of time.



## Their Cup Runneth Over

**News item:** "Exxon Mobil Corp., the world's largest public oil company, on


Thursday reported quarterly profits surged 35 percent to top \$10 bil-

lion, driven by yet another quarter of sharply higher oil prices.

"In a surprise move, the company boosted also its capital spending program forecast to \$20 billion this year, citing additional exploration and production opportunities.

"The world's largest company by market capitalization also said it would ramp up its already hefty stock buyback program to \$7 billion in the third quarter. . . . Net income in the second quarter was \$10.36 billion, or \$1.72 a share, compared to \$7.64 billion, or \$1.20 a share, in the year earlier quarter." *Reuters*, July 27, 2006.

**End-time perspective:** Let us hope that men also are diligent to "lay not up for your treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven . . . for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Mat 6:19-21.

"If you invest [money, faith and self] in the cause of God . . . you will reap an eternal reward which is of as much higher value than any common, earthly gains as the immortal is higher than the perishable. 1T 691. 



Compiled by Heidi Heiks

# NEWS



# 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.”

1. Ellen White did not read *The Living Temple* when it first came out, even though she had it in her library, for it was not her custom to read controversial books.

True  
False

2. “When you are tempted to speak of what God is, keep silence, because as surely as you begin to speak of this, you will disparage Him.” Ellen White made this statement in regards to whose apostasy?

- a. Uriah Smith
- b. E. J. Waggoner
- c. Dr. Kellogg
- d. A. T. Jones

3. To whom was Ellen White referring when she quoted this verse: “Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord..., that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them”?

- a. Marian Davis
- b. Dores Robinson
- c. Fanny Bolton
- d. Sara McEnterfer

4. A. T. Jones was an officer in the United States Army when he became a Seventh-day Adventist. At what age did he join the church?

- a. 19
- b. 23
- c. 25
- d. 31

5. In what year did Anna Rice Phillips claim to have the gift of prophecy?

- a. 1888
- b. 1893
- c. 1894
- d. 1897

6. Whom did Ellen White reprove for giving wholehearted support to Anna Rice Phillips’ alleged gift of prophecy?

- a. J. H. Waggoner
- b. A. T. Jones
- c. E. S. Ballenger
- d. E. E. Franke

7. How old was Ellen White when she ventured across the continent from California in late winter to attend the General Conference in 1901 at Battle Creek, Michigan?

- a. 65
- b. 69
- c. 73
- d. 81

8. What year was the boat, the *Morning Star*, built?

- a. 1891
- b. 1894
- c. 1899
- d. 1900

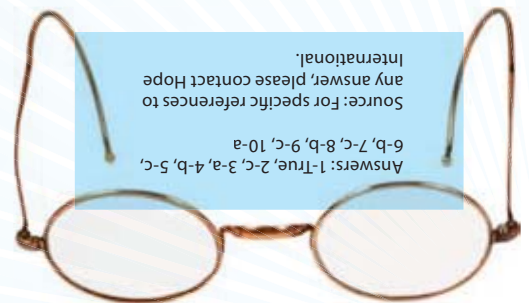
9. How many years was the *Morning Star* in service for the blacks in the American South?

- a. 7
- b. 12
- c. 15
- d. 21

10. On the boat Edson edited and published a monthly journal. It was called the

- a. *Gospel Herald*.
- b. *The Soul Seeker*.
- c. *River Light*.
- d. *Home and Family*.

Answers: 1-True, 2-c, 3-a, 4-b, 5-c, 6-b, 7-c, 8-b, 9-c, 10-a  
Source: For specific references to any answer, please contact Hope International.



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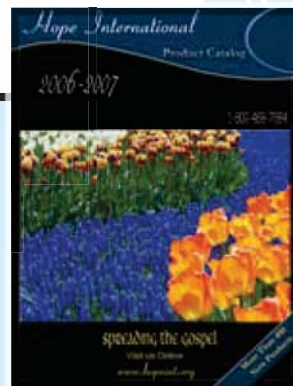
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**NEW BOOKS!** The following books were not included in the Fall 2005 catalog, but can be found in the **NEW 2006/2007 CATALOG!** If you have not received your new catalog, please call the bookstore.

## New Books

**Leslie Hardinge**

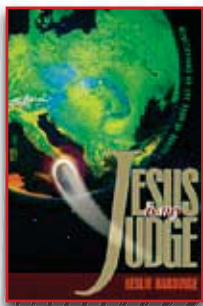
*Jesus is my Judge*

Do you feel that the prophecies in Daniel are incomprehensible mysteries? The purpose of prophecy is to nurture faith and help us live in preparation to meet the Master. In this book, Leslie Hardinge offers not only in-depth, Christ-centered scholarship, but also practical application of prophecy to daily life. The author points out that the main thrust of the book of Daniel is the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Paperback, 284 pages

**BEHL-JIMJ**

**\$12.99**



**Leslie Hardinge**

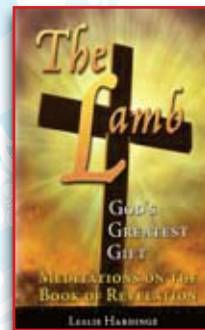
*Lamb, The*

As the author will explain in his meditations on the Book of Revelation, all twenty-two chapters of Revelation focus on the Lamb. He adheres to the maxim, "Every true doctrine makes Christ the center" (6T 54). Robert W. Olson, Th.D., comments, "It is refreshing to have available now a commentary of such high quality – a commentary that is made to order for earth's last generation."

Paperback, 480 pages

**BEHL-LAMB**

**\$16.99**

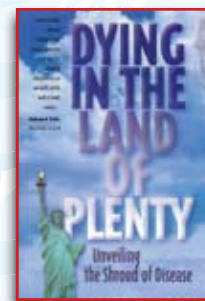


**Brenda O. Brown**

*Dying in the Land of Plenty*

In her book Brenda Brown, while on her own journey from illness to wellness, has provided us a wealth of well-researched information of tremendous benefit to our health. This is a must read!

The symptoms you are experiencing today are signals from your body that all is not well. You are vulnerable. Needless surgeries and prescription drugs are all too often being hailed as the antidotes for





today's illnesses. In reality, however, they do nothing more than mask the symptoms and exacerbate the illnesses. Take action now before you, too, are called to combat in the front lines for your own healthcare. Your body was created to heal itself, given the proper elements. Your battalion lies within these pages. It is time to wage war!

Paperback, 277 pages

**BEBB-DILO** **\$17.99**

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## TEACH Services, Inc

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### *Diet by Design*

Inside this book you will discover the principles of eating and living that will allow you to achieve and maintain health. Learn the keys to permanent weight loss and high-energy foods.

Also included is a *Practical Fruit Guide*, covering everything you need to know to become an expert! You will read hundreds of buying, storing, and serving suggestions. Nutrient contents and classifications are also discussed.

Paperback, 246 pages

**BEAN-DBDE** **\$10.99**

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## DeWitt S. Osgood

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### *Preparing for the Latter Rain*

What do "refreshing," "loud cry," and latter rain" mean to you? Do you know what to expect when God sends the latter

rain? When will the latter rain come? If the latter rain is so vital to the finishing of the work, why don't Christians, under the Spirit's superintendence, more strenuously seek it?

You will learn the answers to these and many more questions that penetrate the spiritual life of every follower of Christ. The author outlines the steps leading up to one of the most exciting last-day events Scripture has predicted.

Paperback, 253 pages

**BEOD-PFLR** **\$12.99**

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## Joe Gresham

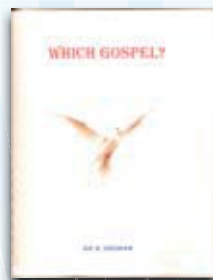
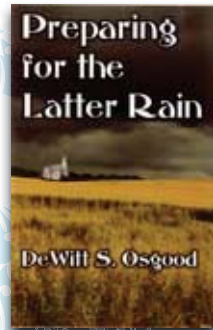
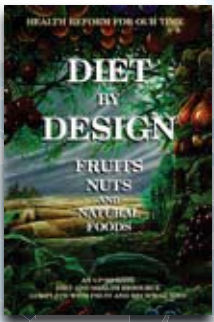
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### *Which Gospel?*

The Word of God makes it clear that the gospel "is the power of God unto salvation." But do we truly understand what the gospel is or the power it has for us today? With the prevailing perversions of the gospel today, can the people of God really discover which gospel contains this life-changing power and how to experience it? This book presents the truths of the gospel in such a way as is seldom seen in the Christian world today, revealing God's purpose in the plan of salvation from the atonement to the reception of the redeemed.

Paperback, 160 pages

**BEGJ-WGOS** **\$9.99**



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## LETTERS

✉ I love the publication *Our Firm Foundation*. My husband and I have grown so much spiritually because of it. You stand up for the pillars of our faith and that means so much to us. You can't imagine what we go through here at our local church.

We wait very impatiently each month for *Our Firm Foundation* to get here. It is food for our hungry souls. We even want to move near Hope International so we can get this spiritual food each week, and fellowship with those of like mind. The Lord has been impressing my husband and me that the hour is late, and we want to help give the last warning message.

We have been getting the magazine for several years now. It has blessed us so much, we give it to our daughter and son-in-law every year as an anniversary gift. They love the magazine as much as we do and are on fire for the Lord!

We plan on coming there to visit as soon as we can. We love you all and pray for you every day!

I am sharing *Our Firm Foundation* with my brother David. I told him that this is the best magazine that I have read. It shows me that Jesus is coming soon. I love *Firm Foundation*.

Thank you so much.  
Mr. & Mrs. TD; Illinois

✉ You are very welcome for the donation; it was my pleasure. I should be thanking you, though, for all your team's hard work on spreading the Word. Honestly, this is the least I can do.

Our donation was part of my

girlfriend's and my plan. You see, we take five percent out of our paychecks and donate it towards all sorts of ministries. Yours just popped up that week. This is in addition to our tithe. We feel that even though we are not out in the field, we still can make a difference. This will probably be our first of many donations.

Here is my address. I would love a copy of the magazine.

Thank you so much and give my regards to the whole Hope ministry.

SM; California

✉ Thanks so much for the DVDs and also for the magazine. I really enjoy them. These are great materials for reading and watching. You are all doing a good job of spreading God's word.

Thanks and God's blessings,  
MW; North Carolina

✉ Happy Sabbath. Thank you very much for *Nuestro Firme Fundamento* in Spanish on your web site. God Bless You.

IV



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