

*our firm*  
**FOUNDATION**

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*The Immutable Law of God • Christ Our Righteousness • The Seventh-day Sabbath  
The Three Angels' Messages • The Non-Immortality of the Soul • The Sanctuary*

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Righteousness

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Who Can We Trust?

Health Gem - Smoking & Brain  
Damage



**THE PRODIGAL SON**  
*The Rebellion*



# Editorial

Clark Floyd



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Brothers and Sisters, three Scriptures have been brought more fully to my attention lately, as I have thought about my relation with Jesus Christ in these last days. The first of these came to me a little after I found myself stopped at a construction site along one of the highways of North Carolina for a thirty-minute delay. I had places I needed to be at certain times, including the Wednesday evening prayer meeting. I realized a discomfort and unhappiness in my spirit. After I was again on my way, I began to think that I had been tested by God and had failed that test. The words came into my mind, “Be anxious about nothing”. When I arrived home that evening, I immediately went to Strong’s Concordance to find where the Scripture might be. I looked under “anxious” and found no such word in Strong’s. After some help from my wife, I went to Philippians 4:6, “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.” Looking up the word ‘careful’, as used in the King James Bible, I found that it means ‘anxious’. God does not want us to be anxious about anything.

The second Scripture that came to me, came as a result of a bill I had received from my phone company having a charge on it that was not my charge. This was the second time this charge had been added, plus there was an additional similar charge. I had been in contact with the phone company the first time, and after much discussion, they had assured me that the mistake would be taken care of.

I found myself becoming somewhat provoked as I again was having to go through a procedure I had already been through with the phone company.

And again I failed the test by allowing myself to become provoked. In the love chapter, 1 Corinthians 13:5, we read that charity, or love “doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked.”

Of course in both of these instances, once I realized what I had done, I asked God for forgiveness. “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9.

The third Scripture that has come strongly into my mind is a result of the other two. “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?” 2 Corinthians 13:5. Reprobate, according to Strong’s, means ‘castaway’ or ‘rejected’. The Clear Word, an expanded paraphrase, puts it like this: “Examine yourselves to see whether you’re holding to the faith and living the life Christ wants you to live.”

In *Desire of Ages* at page 353, we read: “The servants of Christ are not to act out the dictates of the natural heart. They need to have close communion with God, lest under provocation, self rise up, and they pour forth a torrent of words that are unbecoming, that are not as dew or the still showers that refresh the withering plants. This is what Satan wants them to do; for these are his methods. It is the dragon that is roth; it is the spirit of Satan

that is revealed in anger and accusing....

“The spirit that is kept gentle under provocation will speak more effectively in favor of the truth than will any argument, however forcible....

“Let them rest in the love of God, and the spirit will be kept calm, even under personal abuse. The Lord will clothe them with a divine panoply. His Holy Spirit will influence the mind and heart, so that the voices shall not catch the notes of the baying of the wolves.”

I share my experiences with you in the belief that I am not the only one who has these sorts of experiences, and that what I share may be a benefit to each of you as you prepare your lives to meet the Lord. It would be a shame for any of us to end up as castaways.

In 1 Timothy 2:4, we are told by Paul: “God our Saviour...will have all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” But our salvation depends on our relation with Jesus Christ. He wants each of us to be there in the end, but there is not universal salvation even though Jesus makes provision for all. For He says in Matthew 7: 14, “Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”

Brothers and Sisters, examine yourselves daily to see if you be in the faith, and if there is something, an attitude, or a provocation that could stand between you and your Saviour, confess and forsake it, and surrender more fully to Jesus, so that not only will you be one of His, but you will bring others with you.

**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. —Editor

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**Invitation to Writers**

We are accepting article-length manuscripts (1700 to 4000 words) for possible publication in *Our Firm Foundation*. We prefer that submissions be submitted in Word .doc format as a computer file. Include a digital picture and a short bio. Please address all correspondence to Editor, *Our Firm Foundation*, P.O. Box 220, Knoxville, IL 61448, or by email to editorial@hopeint.org.

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# the bible museum opened

By A. L. O. E.  
1883

May the Spirit of Wisdom and Truth assist us in our meditations, and increase our deep reverence for God's sacred Scriptures as we look upon another item of interest from God's Word.

## the trumpet of nehemiah

The trumpet of Nehemiah is one of the objects in what we may call the sacred museum of Scripture, on which the mind rests with pleasure. It tells of earnestness and unanimity in a great work; its sound was a call to God's servants to help one another in a time of difficulty and of danger, when the Jews, after their return from Babylonish captivity, rebuilt the wall of their Zion. What a scene of anxious and yet joyful labour rises before us as connected with that trumpet! We picture to ourselves the brave men of Judah, with the tool in one hand and the weapon in another, toil-drops beading their sun-burnt faces, labouring from the rising of morn till the stars appeared; some, as we know, not even putting off their clothes at night, but throwing themselves down in their garments to snatch needful rest, till dawn should rouse them to fresh exertions. We picture to ourselves not only the men bending their strong backs under the burden, and straining their muscles to lift great weights, but the matrons and maidens of Zion, nay, even the little children, lending what

help they might, trying to make up by zeal for want of physical power, bringing food and water to the workers; bearing, perhaps, the lighter burdens, or carrying rubbish away, and speaking those words of encouragement which would add new strength to the strong, and energy to the active. We hear them repeating one to another the rousing call of their leaders when bidding them prepare for attack from their foes: "Be not afraid of them; remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses."

### *The word of the Lord is their trumpet call.*

At one blast from Nehemiah's trumpet weapons would have flashed from their scabbards, and a rush have been made to the spot whence the warning note proceeded, for thus writes Nehemiah: "He that sounded the trumpet was by me; and I said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, the work is great and large, and we are separated upon the wall, one from another. In what place therefore ye hear the trumpet, resort ye thither unto us: our God shall fight for us!"

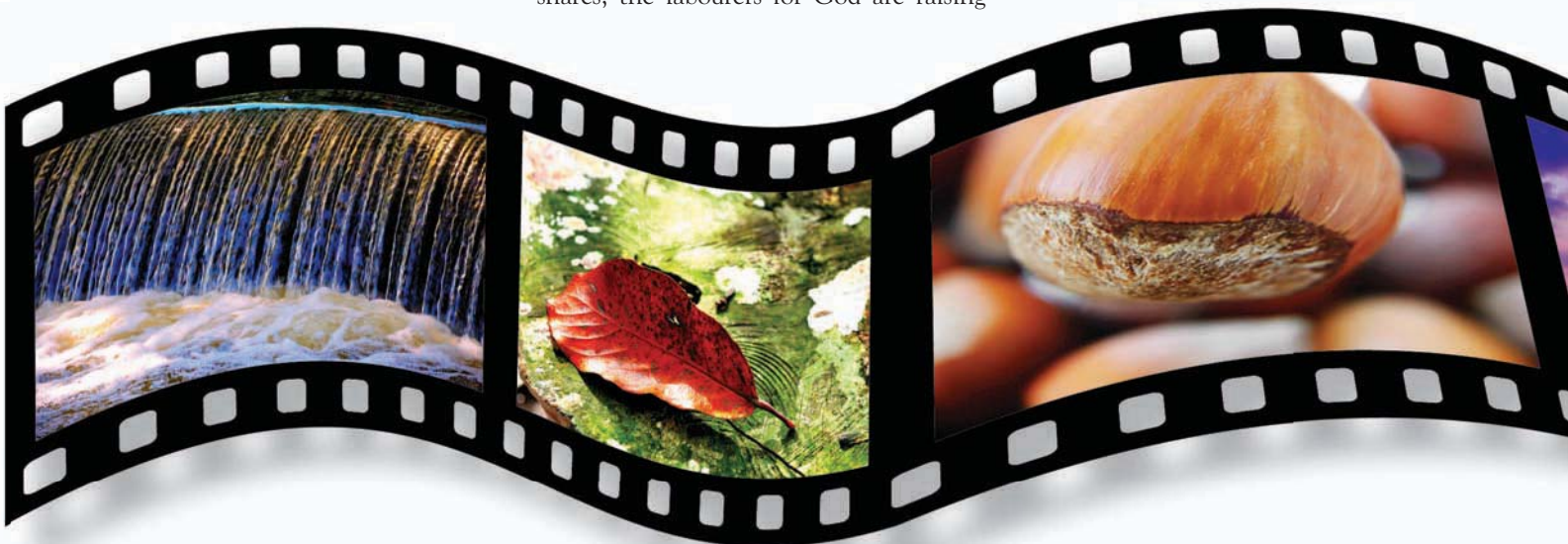
Even such a scene of active, earnest labour is around us now, realized by faith; in the midst of an opposing world, surrounded by difficulties, encompassed by snares, the labourers for God are raising

the walls of the spiritual Zion. The Word of the Lord is their trumpet call, bidding them quit themselves like men and be strong; to fight against their own besetting sins, and at the same time to be ready for every labour of love, and especially such labours for souls as are typified by the building of the wall of Jerusalem, that city of the great King.

### *Not all are fit for the same kind of work.*

There is something delightful and exhilarating in the feeling of working together, combining in efforts for God. The labourers are indeed engaged on different parts of the wall, they may be "one far from another," yet is there a union of purpose between them, and the trumpet at any moment may call them to union in action. Not all are fit for the same kind of work; some are employed but to clear away rubbish, others are laying the strong, deep foundations, those prepare mortar, these hew stones, the work of many shows no visible result, whilst beneath the busy hands of their brethren the wall rises with marvelous rapidity. But all are helping in the building for God, and when the bulwark is completed, the glorious task done, how joyfully may the weakest of the workers exclaim: "I, even I, was a labourer too!"

### *There is something for each to do.*



Yes—on this building there is room for the efforts, not of the pastor alone, but of the people; not of the men alone, but the women; nay, even of the feeble little child. Something will be found for each to do, if all combine together. And how inspiring is the feeling of brotherhood and sisterhood between those engaged in working for God! We may regard the great and successful efforts of some highly distinguished Christian, as a Jewish child, bringing but a few pebbles to add to the wall, may have regarded the giant strength of some Samson, heaving up to its place a huge mass, which the boy's feeble arms could not have stirred. The child would admire and rejoice in the strength of the man; and, if humbled, yet not discouraged, by its contrast with his own weakness, would do the little which he could do with the cheering thought, "I, even I, am a labourer too!"

Oh, how far preferable the humblest kind of spiritual work, to the shame of standing all the day idle, while God's people are anxiously toiling around us for Him!

There are very many ways in which we may help to raise the wall of our Zion. Missionary labour amongst the heathen abroad and heathen at home is the most lofty kind of building work. The earnest clergyman, the ragged-school teacher, the Bible-woman, the Christian visitor to the haunts of poverty and the dens of sin, are those directly engaged in raising stone upon stone. Such need refreshment, encouragement, help; and to give it to them for the sake of the cause is indirectly to forward the building. There is one way in which we can, as it were, bring our little contributions of mortar to fix the stones, which though a way neglected by many, is beyond the strength of but few—by the circulation of religious literature. There is, indeed, judgment required in the choice of

religious works for such distribution. The mortar should in itself be good, and be laid on, not carelessly thrown on; but no great courage is usually required, except by novices in the work. In nineteen cases out of twenty, the book or tract which is courteously offered is civilly received, and sometimes thankfully and eagerly accepted.

*Labour for God, with faith and prayer,  
is not in vain in the Lord.*

A Protestant lady, just before entering a French church to see the interior, gave a tract to an old woman who chanced to be near the door. On the Lady's leaving the church, the woman—who was doubtless a Roman Catholic—returned the tract, which she probably regarded as heretical trash. The lady, whose English companion did not sympathize with her tract-giving, took back the despised paper with a little feeling of embarrassment, which instantly passed away as a man held out his hand for what the woman had rejected, so that the lady had merely to pass the tract from the one to the other. Travelers, while in search of health or amusement, would do well to remember that valuable opportunities may be afforded to them, when thus casually meeting with those whom they never again may see, of helping to build the wall of Zion. They are not likely to behold any effect of their work here; but labour for God, with faith and prayer, is not in vain in the Lord.

*The Jews did not sit quietly in their  
homes while work was going on around  
them.*

Would that reflection on this subject would induce every reader who may glance at this little volume to form a prayerful resolution never to let one day pass without doing something, be it ever so little, towards raising the spiritual wall! How cold is our zeal, how careless our efforts, compared to the Jews under Nehemiah! They did not sit quietly in their homes, buried in studies, or absorbed by business, while the din of earnest work was going on around them, or the blast of the trumpet summoned all true sons of Abraham to do brave battle for the right. The nobles thought it an honour to be engaged in the work; the governor himself set an example of devoted energy in it. It was a day of triumph for Nehemiah and his companions when their glorious work was finished; when, in the words of the leader, "all our enemies heard thereof, and all the heathen that were about us saw these things, and were much cast down in their own eyes, for they perceived that this work was wrought of God." But what will be the joy of those who have toiled for Christ, and in His strength, when they gaze on the jasper wall of the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, wherein those shall dwell who, ransomed and pardoned by the Saviour, have loved, lived and laboured for Him! The trumpet in the hand of the archangel shall sound then no summons to conflict. And when the blessed review the time of their sojourn upon earth, with all its mingled trials and blessings while God's work was slowly rising to completion, will it not be one of their sweetest joys then to be able to say, "Unworthy as I was of a privilege so glorious, I, even I, was a labourer too!"





# The Faith of Jesus

A. T. Jones

JESUS is the Author and he is the Finisher of the faith of all men. It is through Him only that men have the power, or even the privilege, to believe. For the Scripture says that John came to bear witness of Him as the Light that all men through Him might believe; and that is “by Him” that we “do believe in God.” John 1:7; 1 Pet. 1:21.

And yet this faith in Jesus, is not the faith of Jesus. “The faith of Jesus” is the faith of Jesus himself, the faith which he had and which he exercised in this world in the flesh to show to man and to make sure to man the way of salvation. “The faith

of Jesus” is the faith that he had and that he exercised, just as truly as “the faith of our father Abraham” is the faith “which he had” and which he exercised. Rom. 4:12.

This seems to be plain enough on the face of it; yet it is certainly true that Christians almost invariably look upon the phrases “faith in Jesus,” and “the faith of Jesus,” as signifying only faith in Jesus, and as referring always to the believing of men *in* Jesus. But the Scriptures make it too plain to be doubted or misunderstood, that the phrases “faith *in* Jesus” and “the faith *of* Jesus” refer to things that are entirely separate, —“faith in Jesus”

referring to the believing of men in Jesus, as in John 3:16—“whosoever believeth in Him should not perish”—Eph. 1:15, Col. 1:4; 2:5; Acts 26:18, etc., etc.; and “the faith of Jesus” referring to the faith of Jesus himself personally, the faith which he exercised as



man in the flesh.

## THEY MEAN EXACTLY WHAT THEY SAY

This latter part, the real truth as to “the faith of Jesus,” is so important, and is so little apprehended, that we shall quote in full the Scriptures that certainly put it beyond all question. “But the Scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.” Gal. 3:22. It is impossible to have the words “faith of Jesus” in that verse to be equivalent







to faith *in* Jesus. This is forbidden by the structure of the verse itself. For to make the words “faith of Jesus” mean the same as faith in Jesus, would force upon the writer such a meaningless repetition as that “the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to them that have faith in Jesus Christ.” But taken as meaning just what it says, then the verse tells the splendid truth that the promise of God comes to men by the faith *of* Jesus, and that the promise of God which the faith of Jesus Christ brings to men is given and made sure to them that believe in Jesus Christ.

“Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law.” Gal. 2:16. Surely there is here no room for any explication. Both expressions are used in direct connection, and used in a way that makes it impossible that they should be taken as meaning the same thing. And taken for exactly what they say, again there is told the splendid truth that it is “the faith of Jesus” that brings to us and gives to us the justification the righteousness which we receive by believing in Jesus.

This is shown in the same way, and just as plainly in Romans 3:21, 22: “But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested—even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all upon all them that believe” in Jesus Christ. It is the faith of Jesus that has brought

to us, that gives to us, and makes sure unto us and upon us, the righteousness of God, which is promised to all who believe in him, and which is received by faith in him. All this is further witnessed by the statements of Scripture that, “By the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.” “By the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.” “The gift by grace which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.”

### A FREE GIFT TO MEN

By the righteousness of Christ we are justified. That righteousness of Christ was wrought, in this world and in human flesh, by the faith of Jesus Christ. By the obedience of Christ we are made righteous. That obedience of Christ, in this world and in human nature, was accomplished by the faith of Jesus. And that which the faith of Jesus has wrought for us in our flesh which he took, is received by us in our flesh, which we have, through faith in Jesus. Accordingly, “the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me.” And this life by the faith of the Son of God, is received by us through faith in the Son of God.

“In whom [Jesus] we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.” Eph. 3:12. And this boldness and access with confidence which is by the faith of Him, is received by us through faith in Jesus.

We see then that “the faith of Jesus” has been brought to the world, and he has made it a free

gift to men, the fulfillment of all the promises of God, righteousness, justification, sanctification, eternal life, and boldness and access with confidence; and that all this that is accomplished for us and is brought to us by “the faith of Jesus” is received by us through “faith in Jesus;” that is by simply believing in him.

### THE THIRD ANGEL'S MESSAGE

Yet it must not for a moment be thought that even all this is given to us by the faith of Jesus, apart from himself. No: Jesus gives us himself, and all this in himself and with himself. And Jesus himself is received by us through faith in him. But when Jesus gives to us himself, he gives to us all that is in him and of him. And one of the things that is of him is this very “faith of Jesus.” Therefore it is true in this as in all the rest, that by faith in him, we actually receive the faith of Jesus. And this faith of Jesus in us, will accomplish in us, in the flesh for him what it accomplished in him in the flesh for us.

And this is the wonderful blessedness that is proclaimed to all men in the words of the Third Angel's Message. “Here are they that keep the Commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.”





# THE PRODIGAL SON

## *The Rebellion*

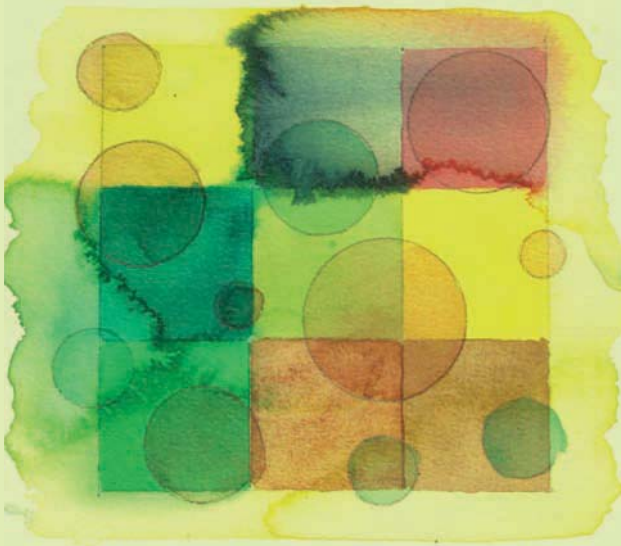
By Joe Olson



*“We are, each one, the prodigal sons and daughters. Don’t let Satan blind you any longer. Come to yourself and see the truth. And the truth will set you free!”*

“And he said, A certain man had two sons: And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father’s have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: For this my son was dead, and is





alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.” Luke 15:11-24.

### *COULD I HAVE YOUR DEATH BENEFITS NOW?*

The Bible simply says that the younger son asked of his father the inheritance that was to fall to him. Of course, as we all know, inheritance is inherited when the person who bequeaths it dies. The father was not dead nor was he dying. This was a very inappropriate request. Why in the world would someone make such a request? Can you imagine asking someone for his or her death benefits? “I know you’re not dead yet, but I really want to have what you plan on giving me when you are dead... now.” Talk about inappropriate! Why would this young

son ask something of his father that was so wrong? Why would he disrespect his father like this? What must he have thought of his father?

He apparently did not care how callous and selfish his request appeared. He must not have minded putting his father in this predicament. He certainly seemed to care more for himself than for

his father. But what was in his mind that he acted the way he did? “This younger son had become weary of the restraint of his father’s house. He thought that his liberty was restricted. His father’s love and care for him were misinterpreted, and he determined to follow the dictates of his own inclination.” COL 198.

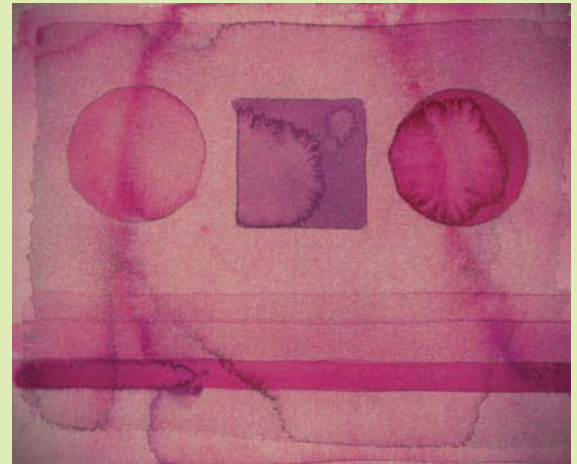
### *THE PLAN OF ESCAPE*

Okay... now things are beginning to become clearer. This younger son was tiring of being told what he could and could not do. Have you ever experienced that? He felt that his freedoms were being repressed. He wanted to do things his way and not his father’s way. And these

rules, restrictions and restraints were seen by this young man as chains and bondage... and he wanted to break free. He wanted no more of his “dictatorial” father, no more, “You can’t do this,” no more, “You can’t go there.” “I want to be free!” he says to himself.

So, he determines to make a break for it. He is going to run away. He is going to fend for himself

in the great big, wide world. He is going to be his own man! Nobody is going to tell him what to do. “I’m going to be in charge now!” he thinks. So... he plans his escape. He thinks and he schemes and he dreams of how good it is going to be. Fun... friends... feasting... the works! He is practically salivating.

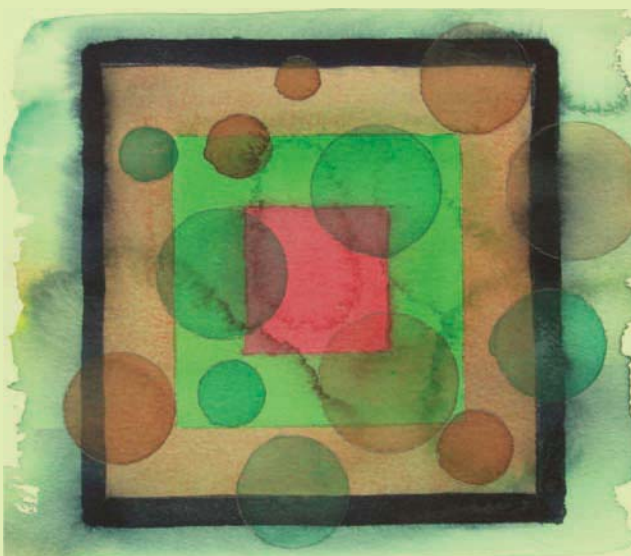


### *WHO’S GOING TO FINANCE THIS TRIP?*

All of a sudden, reality slaps him in the face and he is reminded of a critical part of his plan that he had heretofore not thought of. “How am I going to pay for all of this traveling, this fun, this feasting?” How do all children, bent on having their own way, and wanting what is out of their reaches handle this problem? Go to the Bank of Dad.

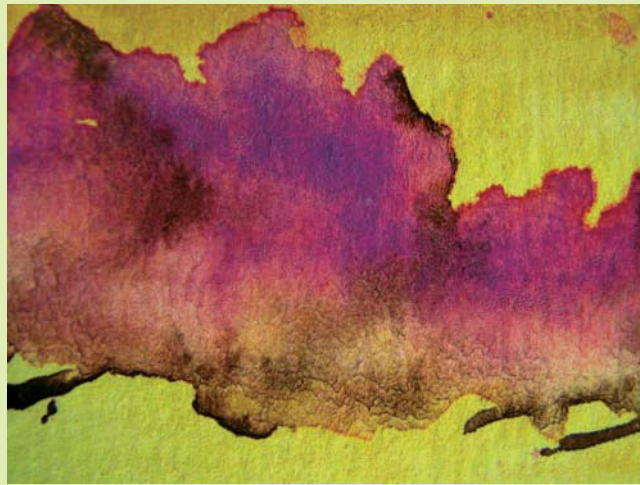
But... I thought he wanted to get away from his father? I thought his father was so mean and selfish and dictatorial that he needed to run away? Here is a huge principle that the younger son completely missed. The very one he is trying to avoid, to get away from, to get out from under... Is the very one that he needs help from to do it.

Do you see the irony here? “I have to get away from you because you are so bad to me,” the son, in essence, is saying. The father says okay. Then the son says, “So... I will need you to give me your money to do it.” Remember, it is not the son’s money until the





father is dead. Right now, it's the father's money. This is how blind this poor young man was. "I am tired of being told what to do," he thinks. "I am going to be the one who makes the rules now." "But Dad... I'll need a little cash to be able to accomplish my desires." Have you ever seen this before? Incredibly, his father grants his request, and gives his son what he craves.



*NOT EVEN A  
"THANK YOU"*

"The youth acknowledges no obligation to his father, and expresses no gratitude; yet he claims the privilege of a child in sharing his father's goods." COL 199. The son gets what he wants from his father, and he admits no obligation, no talk of repayment or even so much as a thank you. Can you imagine?!

"The son thought he should be happy when he could use his portion according to his own pleasure, without being annoyed by advice or restraint. He did not wish to be troubled with mutual obligation. If he shared his father's estate, his father had claims upon him as a son. But he did not feel under any obligation to his generous father, and he braced his selfish, rebellious spirit with the thought that a portion of his father's property

belonged to him. He requested his share, when rightfully he could claim nothing and should have had nothing." 3T 101.

His "selfish, rebellious spirit..." The father's youngest son was a rebel... a selfish, conceited brat. And he should have had nothing. And all of this started because he was convinced that his father was a dictator, trying to keep him from being happy. His father had all these rules, these restraints, these obligations. And so he left, with a pile of money, to go be... free.

"With money in plenty, and liberty to do as he likes, he flatters himself that the desire of his heart is reached. There is no one to say, Do not do this, for it will be an injury to yourself; or, Do this, because it is right." Now he has liberty... now he is truly free. Right? But then, we have the rest of the story. There is always, the rest of the story. CSA 12.

*THE PLACE OF THE  
LOWEST OF SERVANTS*

The child has wasted his money, his youth, his morals and his intellect. And, what was the result of having his own way... of following his own desires? The very thing he ran away to avoid... "And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine." Luke 15:14, 15.

This gets a little more specific... "Starvation stared him in the face, and he joined himself to a citizen of the place. He was sent to do the most menial of work-  
-to feed the swine. Although this to a Jew was the most disreputable of callings, yet he was willing to do anything, so great was his need. Miserable and suffering, he sat in the fields doing his task. Because he had been unwilling to submit to the restraint of home, he



now had the place of the lowest of servants. He had left home for liberty, but his liberty had been turned into the lowest of drudgery." ST, Jan.29, 1894.

This is always what happens when we rebel. The devil convinces us, just like he did with this young man, that our heavenly Father is trying to keep us from being free, from being truly happy. No... our heavenly Father is trying to keep us from the fate of this young man. It always turns out this way. Not occasionally, not half and half, not even generally... it always turns out this way. Every time, all the time.





WE  
CANNOT  
SERVE  
TWO  
MASTERS

Jesus said there are only two masters... As a matter of fact, Jesus made this point shortly after telling this parable. "No servant can serve two masters: for

either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon." Luke 16:13. I like how Sister White says it here... "Christ has brought before us two masters, God and the world, and has plainly presented the fact that it is simply impossible for us to serve both." CC 321.

The prodigal son was rebellious. He served his father, and decided that he did not want to serve him anymore. He felt he was trapped, stifled, restrained from happiness. It was the devil, the first rebel, who put these ideas in his head. He is the one who puts these ideas in our heads, too. The devil says not to serve God,



because he is dictatorial, selfish and a tyrant. He says to do what you want and what you desire, and THEN you will be truly happy. And the devil knows that if you do not serve God, there is only one other to serve... him.

There are only two masters! God knows it, the devil knows it... but, for the most part, we do not know it, or believe it. We think there are more options. We think

we have more choices. We think we know better... just like the prodigal son.

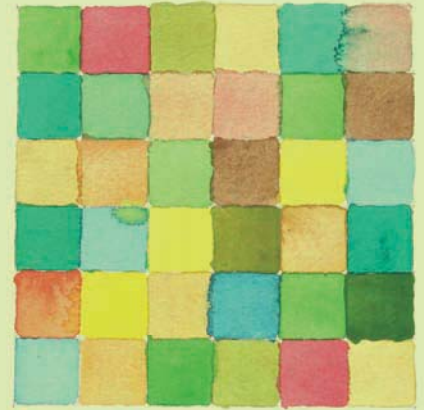
### THE AWAKENING

The Bible says that the rebellious son finally "came" to himself. In other words, he finally began to realize that the choices he had made were the wrong ones. Sometimes, maybe even often, the Lord has to allow us to sit in the pigpen, almost starving to death, to get our attention. We are, for the most part, a stubborn and rebellious lot. We are hardheaded, hard boiled, and determined to have our own way. And God will often allow us to have the results of our choices so that we can see how catastrophic they are.

We do not help things by making it harder for God to get the attention of our children, friends, spouses, etc., by taking them out of the pigpens, by sending them food, by making their lives easier. Sometimes, we have to get to rock bottom before we will wake up. Sometimes, that's what it takes to have people "come to themselves." As a result of this son's misery, he finally woke up. "What am I doing?" he asks himself. "This is crazy," he

thinks. As he is sitting in his pigpen, the light begins to dawn on him that he had made the wrong choices.

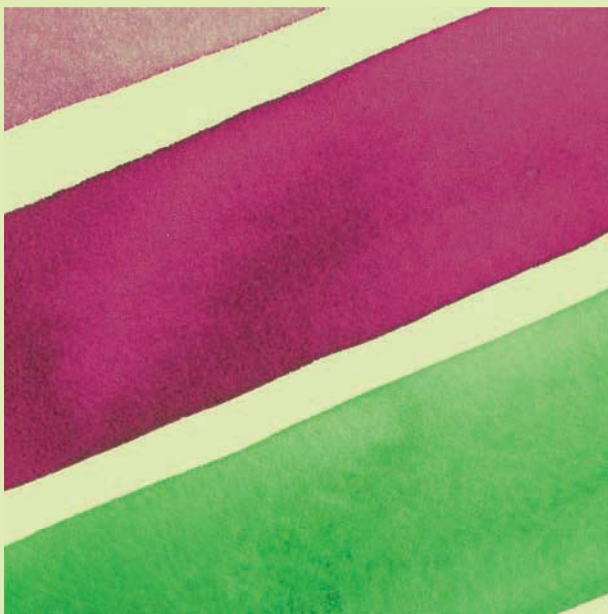
The devil's spell has been broken now. "The deceptive power that Satan had exercised over him was broken. He saw that his suffering was the result of his own folly..." COL 202.



### TASTING THE RESULTS OF SIN

This is another huge point here, that cannot be overemphasized. Often when people choose sin, they have to be allowed to taste the results of the sin, or they will never learn. Do you think the son would have "come to himself" if the father had sent him monthly checks, food packages, a clothing allowance? Sometimes the most loving, compassionate, merciful thing to do... is nothing. Nothing that is, but pray, and hope, and long for a return of the prodigal.

After the devil's spell had been broken, the son began to think about home, and began to think about it in a totally different light now. He thinks about his father's servants and how well they are treated, and all they have, and he begins to see that his ideas of his father being too controlling and dictatorial were all wrong. Now he sees that his father was actually a kind, compassionate and wise man. "In his wild, restless youth, the prodigal looked upon his father as stern and severe; how different his



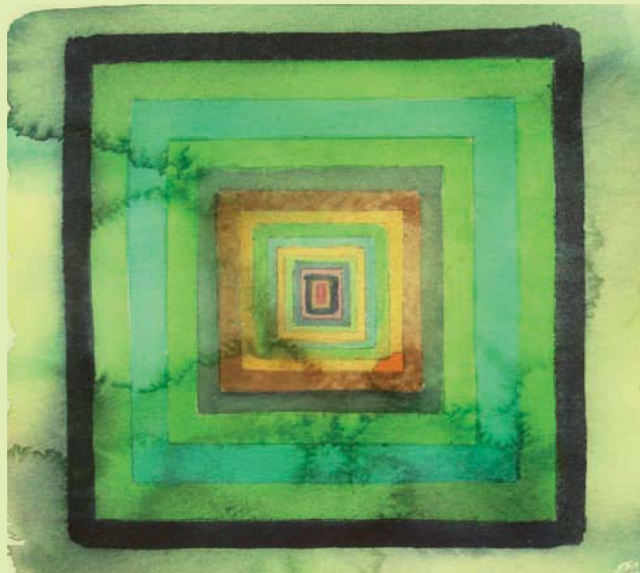




conception of him now! So the heart that is deceived by Satan looks upon God as hard and exacting; his law is regarded as a restriction upon men's happiness, a burdensome yoke, from which they are glad to escape. But he whose eyes have been opened by the love of Christ, will behold God as full of love and compassion. He does not appear as a tyrannical, relentless being, but as a father longing to embrace his repenting son." GCB, Dec. 1, 1895. His eyes have been opened and he sees the truth.

### ARISE AND GO TO YOUR FATHER

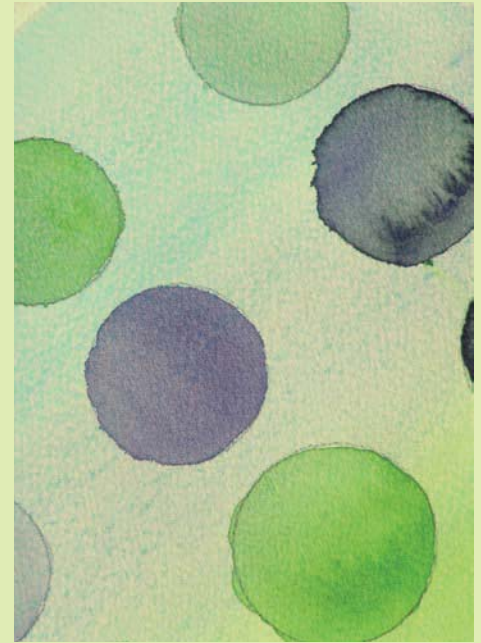
This is what the devil does to us. He convinces us that to follow God, to be God's servant, to follow God's will, would be stifling and make us unhappy. The devil always portrays our heavenly Father as rigid and demanding and desiring to take away our happiness, just as the prodigal thought. But that is far from the truth. It is actually the opposite of the truth. And when, like the prodigal, we come to ourselves... when we decide to come back home... What will our Father's response be? "Arise and go to your Father. He will meet you a great way off. If you take even one step toward Him in repentance, He will hasten to enfold



you in His arms of infinite love. His ear is open to the cry of the contrite soul. The very first reaching out of the heart after God is known to Him. Never a prayer is offered, however faltering, never a tear is shed, however secret, never a sincere desire after God is cherished, however feeble, but the Spirit of

God goes forth to meet it. Even before the prayer is uttered or the yearning of the heart made known, grace from Christ goes forth to meet the grace that is working upon the human soul." COL 206. "One step" she said, taken toward our heavenly Father, and He will hasten to us.

Does that not bring tears to your eyes? Does that not melt your heart and cause you to want to go to Him? Does not the rebellion in your heart seem to melt away under the influence of the Holy Spirit, as the influence of the devil fades away? And when the prodigal came home... what did he experience? "The home looks just as it did when he left it; but what a difference there is in himself. How could he have abused his father's love, and have chosen his own way? The father has no words of upbraiding to offer, and, though the son wept out his repentance, the father thought



only of rejoicing, weeping with joy on the neck of his son. The father does not give him a chance to say, "Make me as one of thy hired servants." The welcome he receives assures him that he is reinstated to the place of son." ST, Jan. 29, 1894.

### SAFE AT HOME

He is home at last, and what a glorious place it appears to him now. Now the restraints are seen as blessings and not curses. Now the boundaries are seen as safety precautions instead of barriers. Now the advice is appreciated instead of scorned. Now he cannot conceive of how he did not see this to begin with. The love, the joy, the peace and happiness... all he ever wanted and dreamed of, was right here all along. And he is finally, happily, eternally content to live in his father's house... forever. We are, each one, the prodigal sons and daughters. Don't let Satan blind you any longer. Come to yourself and see the truth. And the truth will set you free!



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



# The Christian's Motto

*By the late Pastor G. T. Wilson of Australia*

The Christians motto always is,  
We walk by faith and not by sight.  
True happiness doth not consist  
In seeking after feeling's flight.

Faith is the cable to our ship,  
And the petheanc horn the veil.  
Long as our cable does not break,  
No storm can gainst us scanp reveal.

Faith is as hieldu ntothes oul,  
Which quenches every fiery dart;  
When Satan would thys oulas sail,  
Tis faith that's hieldsthytr oubledhear t.

Faith rests upon the Word of God,  
Upon His promises secure;  
And, though the earth may vanish,  
By faith we shall stand sure.

Tis faith that heals the maladies,  
To heal the malady of sin;  
Tis faith that opens the blinded eyes;  
By faith, eternal life we win.

Faith is our anchor in the storm,  
When by some precipice we walk;  
We grasp the rock of our safety here,  
And our feet shall never slip or talk.

In prayer uncoil this blessed cord;  
Thy message will be our God,  
And Christ will be our guide,  
To guide thee in the path of God.

Would you your sins' avocations have?  
Then just unroll the cord each day;  
Its strong rows by sincere prayer,  
And hold the end fast to the arkway.



# *Influence of the Testimonies*

By Ellen G. White

Let the Testimonies be judged by their fruits. What is the spirit of their teaching? What has been the result of their influence? All who desire to do so can acquaint themselves with the fruits of these visions. For seventeen years God has seen fit to let them survive and strengthen against the opposition of Satan's forces and the influence of human agencies that have aided Satan in his work.

God is either teaching His church, reproving their wrongs and strengthening their faith, or He is not. This work is of God, or it is not. God does nothing in partnership with Satan. My work . . . bears the stamp of God or the stamp of the enemy. There is no halfway work in the matter. The Testimonies are of the Spirit of God, or of the devil.

*This work is from God, or it is not.  
This work is from above, or beneath.*

As the Lord has manifested Himself through the spirit of prophecy, past, present, and future have passed before me. I have been shown faces that I had never seen, and years afterward I knew them when I saw them. I have been aroused from my sleep with a vivid sense of subjects previously presented to my mind; and I have written, at midnight, letters that have gone across the continent and, arriving at a crisis, have saved great disaster to the cause of God. This has been my work for many years. A power has impelled me to reprove and rebuke wrongs that I had not thought of. Is this work of the last thirty-six years from

above or from beneath?

Christ warned His disciples: Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. Here is a test, and all can apply it if they will. Those who really desire to know the truth will find sufficient evidence for belief.

## *Preparing themselves for complete deception*

It is Satan's plan to weaken the faith of God's people in the Testimonies. Satan knows how to make his attacks. He works upon minds to excite jealousy and dissatisfaction toward those at the head of the work. The gifts are next questioned; then, of course, they have but little weight, and instruction given through vision is disregarded.

Next follows skepticism in regard to the vital points of our faith, the pillars of our position, then doubt as to the Holy Scriptures, and then the downward







march to perdition. When the Testimonies, which were once believed, are doubted and given up, Satan knows the deceived ones will not stop at this; and he redoubles his efforts

the minds of these newcomers with questionings and doubts in regard to the Testimonies of the Spirit of God. They put false constructions upon the Testimonies; and instead of leading persons to become consecrated to God and to listen to the voice of the church, they teach them to be independent and not to mind the opinions and judgment of others. The influence of this class has been secretly at work. Some are unconscious of the harm they are doing; but, unconsecrated, proud, and rebellious themselves, they lead others in the wrong track. A poisonous atmosphere is inhaled from these unconsecrated ones. The blood of souls is in the garments of such, and Christ will say to them in the day of final settlement: Depart from Me, all ye workers of iniquity. Astonished they will be, but their professedly Christian lives were a deception, a fraud.

till he launches them into open rebellion, which becomes incurable and ends in destruction. By giving place to doubts and unbelief in regard to the work of God, and by cherishing feelings of distrust and cruel jealousies, they are preparing themselves for complete deception. They rise up with bitter feelings against the ones who dare to speak of their errors and reprove their sins.

### *Criticizing the Testimonies*

A testimony for certain young men, first published in 1880, speaks of this point as follows: A prevailing skepticism is continually increasing in reference to the Testimonies of the Spirit of God; and these youth encourage questionings and doubts instead of removing them, because they are ignorant of the spirit and power and force of the Testimonies.

I was shown that many had so little spirituality that they did not understand the value of the Testimonies or their real object. They talked flippantly of the Testimonies given by God for the benefit of His people, and passed judgment upon them, giving their opinion and criticizing this and that, when they would better have placed their hands upon their lips, and prostrated themselves in the dust; for they could not appreciate the spirit of the Testimonies, because they knew so little of the Spirit of God.



### *Unconsecrated, proud, and rebellious*

There are some in ----- who have never fully submitted to reproof. They have taken a course of their own choosing. They have ever, to a greater or less degree, exerted an influence against those who have stood up to defend the right and reprove the wrong. The influence of these persons upon individuals who come here and who are brought in contact with them . . . is very bad. They fill

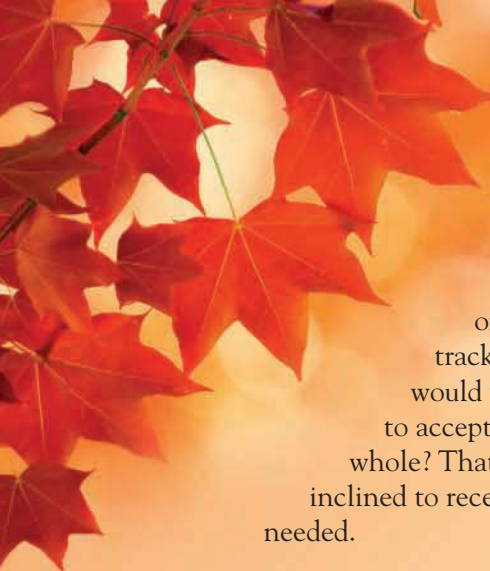
### *Reproofs and warnings have had little effect*

Some express their views that the testimony of Sister White cannot be reliable. This is all that many unconsecrated ones want. The testimonies of reproof have checked their vanity and pride; but if they dared, they would go to almost any length in fashion and pride. God will give all such an opportunity to prove themselves

and to develop their true characters. I saw that the reason why visions had not been more frequent of late is, they have not been appreciated by the church. The church have nearly lost their spirituality and faith, and the reproofs and warnings have had but little effect upon them. Many of those who have professed faith in them have not heeded them. If you lose confidence in the Testimonies you will drift away from Bible truth. I have been fearful that many would take a questioning, doubting position, and in my distress







for your souls I  
would warn you.  
How many will  
heed the warning?  
As you now hold  
the Testimonies, should  
one be given crossing your  
track, correcting your errors,  
would you feel at perfect liberty  
to accept or reject any part or the  
whole? That which you will be least  
inclined to receive is the very part most  
needed.

*Your unbelief does not affect the  
truthfulness of the Testimonies*

My brethren, beware of the evil heart of unbelief. The word of God is plain and close in its restrictions; it interferes with your selfish indulgence; therefore you do not obey it. The Testimonies of His Spirit call your attention to the Scriptures, point out your defects of character, and rebuke your sins; therefore you do not heed them. And to justify your carnal, ease-loving course you begin to doubt whether the Testimonies are from God. If you would obey their teachings you would be assured of their divine origin. Remember, your unbelief does not affect their truthfulness. If they are from God they will stand. I have been shown that unbelief in the testimonies of warning, encouragement, and reproof is shutting away the light from God's people. Unbelief is closing their eyes so that they are ignorant of their true condition. They think the testimony of the Spirit of God in reproof is uncalled for or that it does not mean them. Such are in the greatest need of the grace of God and spiritual discernment, that they may discover their deficiency in spiritual knowledge.

*Those who desire to doubt will  
have plenty of room*

Many who have backslidden from the truth assign as a reason for their course that they do not have faith in the Testimonies. . . . The question now is: Will they yield



their idol  
which God  
condemns,  
or will they  
continue in  
their wrong  
course of  
indulgence  
and reject  
the light



God has given them  
reproving the very  
things in which  
they delight? The  
question to be settled  
with them is: Shall  
I deny myself and  
receive as of God the  
Testimonies which  
reprove my sins, or

shall I reject the Testimonies because they reprove my sins? In many cases the Testimonies are fully received, the sin and indulgence broken off, and reformation at once commences in harmony with the light God has given. In other instances sinful indulgences are cherished, the Testimonies are rejected, and many excuses which are untrue are offered to others as the reason for refusing to receive them. The true reason is not given. It is a lack of moral courage--a will, strengthened and controlled by the Spirit of God, to renounce hurtful habits.

*God gives sufficient evidence*

Satan has ability to suggest doubts and to devise objections to the pointed testimony that God sends, and many think it a virtue, a mark of intelligence in them, to be unbelieving and to question and quibble. Those who desire to doubt will have plenty of room. God does not propose to remove all occasion for unbelief.

He gives evidence, which must be carefully investigated with a humble mind and



a teachable spirit, and all should decide from the weight of evidence. God gives sufficient evidence for the candid mind to believe; but he who turns from the weight of evidence because there are a few things which he cannot make plain to his finite understanding will be left in the cold, chilling atmosphere of unbelief and questioning doubts, and will make shipwreck of faith. 5T 671-676.



*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.*



# RIGHTEOUSNESS

By A. T. Jones

Matt. 6:33—"Seek ye first . . . his righteousness," is the subject today. We notice first whose righteousness we are to seek. It is God's. We must seek and find it or we will not be saved. Nothing else will avail. We must know, however, where to seek for it and how, because we often seek for it in the wrong place; for instance, as many do, in the law of God, and through keeping it. We will never find it there. That is not the place to seek for it. This is not saying that the righteousness of God is not there. The commandments are the righteousness of God, but we will never find it there.

In Rom. 2:17-18, we see that the law is clearly pointed out, through which, if we are instructed, we are called of God. Then, being the will of God, it would be impossible for the Lord himself to be better than the ten commandments require us to be. The Lord's will must be the expression of what he is himself; hence it is impossible he should be better than his law. To keep his commandments, then, means that we shall be as good as God is, so we read in 1 John 3:7: "He that doeth righteousness, is righteous even as he is righteous." Now see Psalms 119:138, Deuteronomy 6:35, Isaiah 59:7—the people who do the law of God are righteous, even as God is righteous, then to keep them means that man



must be like God in character.

## OUR VISION MUST BE LIGHTENED SO WE CAN SEE OUR SIN

Then the righteousness of God is in his law, but it is not revealed to men by the law. Romans 1:16- 17, the righteousness of God is revealed in the gospel to men, and not in the law. It is in the law, but it is not revealed there to us because we are sinners, and sin has so darkened our mind that we can not see it there, and therefore our vision has to be lightened by some other means, which is the gospel, where we must seek for it, Romans 3:21.

The righteousness of God is made known without the law. How? By faith in Jesus Christ, through the gospel, and not by the law. Now read again Romans 1:16-17, and this will be clear. To show this further, Romans

10:4. Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone that believeth. Does not this say the same as the others? We have lost often the real point in this text to use it against those who claim the commandments are abolished, who claim Christ ended the law, and we claiming it means "the purpose of" the



law, but the point in this text is that Christ is the purpose of the law "for righteousness" to us, as we can not get it by the law, Romans 8:3. The law was ordained to life, righteousness, holiness, justification, but because

of sin it cannot be this to us, so what it cannot do Christ does for us. So then, if we seek it in the wrong place we lose the righteousness of Christ.

## THE MIND IS ALL DARKENED BY SIN

Now, righteousness must come from the same source as does life; they are

inseparable. Romans 8:3. Moses uses the terms here interchangeably, so also Gal. 3:21 showing that righteousness must come to us from the same source as life, and that is Christ. Romans 6:23: this we have always preached, but he said before this the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life, and so we have always claimed eternal life to be a gift, but we have not claimed the same for righteousness







as being a gift through Jesus Christ. Why was it necessary that something was given to have life? Because the wages of sin was death. If a law could give life, it would be by the law. If the law was a secondary form and God could have made another, and better, it would not suffice because if men could not keep an inferior law they could not keep a superior, consequently no law could give the life. Therefore Christ came to be the purpose of the law to everyone that believeth.

Now we want to see what righteousness there is in the law for us, and we will become convinced it is our own, which is the very best we can ever get out of the law. If I take the highest and most comprehensive view of the law I can, and live up to it, is that a satisfying of the law? No, because it is not a high enough view of it, because the mind is all darkened by sin, and man's comprehension is not broad enough to grasp the height and breadth of it, and so does not meet the requirements of the law. It is our own



righteousness then, and not God's we see in the law and we see ourselves (the extent of our vision) and not the face of God. Often we think we do right and afterwards see it was not so. If it was God's righteousness at that time, God would be imperfect. It is only in Christ that we can ever see the righteousness

of God. But God is the gospel and the gospel is Christ, and so by the law can no man be accounted righteous.

### OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS IS AS FILTHY RAGS

We must then have something more than the law to enable us to understand God's righteousness and to comprehend the law. That something "is Christ Jesus in whom is the fullness of the Godhead bodily." I read now Romans 10:13; here we have a people seeking earnestly for righteousness. Where? Their own. Did they find it? No. Romans 9:31-32, being ignorant of Christ's righteousness. They would not believe Christ or Paul, but sought it by the works of the law. Now read verse 30; the Gentiles found it having faith, and not being satisfied with their own righteousness, as did the Pharisees who trusted in themselves that they were righteous. This, too, is where the law will bring us if we try

to obtain righteousness through it, but when having faith in Christ, a man sees his sins and longs for the righteousness of God, knowing that it is the goodness, purity and righteousness of Christ that makes him so, he will become righteous.

Philippians 3:4-9: here was a Pharisee who lived up to the

broadest view of the law of God he could obtain and was blameless, yet he gave it all up for Christ. Galatians 2:2: if "righteousness come by the law then Christ is dead in vain," our own righteousness is all then we can get out of the law, and that the righteousness of God can come only by Jesus Christ. What is our own righteousness? Isaiah 64:5. Our righteousness is as filthy rags. We have all sinned and come short of the glory of God. What is sin? When Israel came out of Egypt, they knew not God, remembering only that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had a God, but knew nothing more. To make them understand their condition and what sin was he took one of their own words and applied it to his purpose. He took a word meaning "missed its mark" and used it to express sin. Now



we have all sinned and come short—that is what Paul means—we have "missed the mark." Then the more righteousness of the law a man has, the worse he is off—the more ragged is he.

### IT WAS TO DECLARE GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS THAT CHRIST CAME

Now turn to Zech. 3:1-8. Mrs. White declares this chapter to be a prophecy of this present time. Here we have Joshua standing clothed in his own righteousness and Christ takes it off and clothes him with the righteousness of God. Now Joshua had been doing the best he could,





cross would have met the penalty. Because he lived as a child and met all the temptations a child meets and never sinned—so that any child can stand in his place and resist in his strength; and he lived also as a youth, a man full grown, weaving for us a robe of righteousness to cover us (not to cover our filthy garments as that

but would he have been saved? No. How often we hear people say “I do the best I can”, and believe they will be saved. Joshua was re clothed and was to stand with the angels. If, then, our righteousness is all taken away and Christ clothes us with God’s righteousness, then to walk in his law, we will stand with the angels. So then read Isa. 54:17, first part. Christ, in all his references in the New Testament, repeats only what God had already spoken. Now Isa. 61:10, that is the song we are to sing; therefore righteousness is the gift of God as surely as is life, and if we try to get it in any other way we shall fail.

In Rom. 5:12-18, we read that as sin came by one, the righteousness of one brought the free gift of life upon men. So also Rom. 3:21-26, it was to declare God’s Righteousness that Christ came. Now taking Rom. 5:13-17, we find here a free gift and notice particularly verse 17. Righteousness is the gift of life to everyone who believeth, and Jesus Christ will ever be the purpose of the law to everyone who believeth. It is Christ’s obedience that avails and not ours that brings righteousness to us. Well then, let us stop trying to do the will of God in our own strength. Stop it all. Put it away from you for ever. Let Christ’s obedience do it all for you and gain the strength to pull the bow so that you can hit the mark.

### WHAT IS THE USE OF THE LAW?

Why did the Saviour come as an infant instead of a man? To die on the

would be a mixture), takes the filthy garment away and puts his own in their place, so that all may have it if they will. Now if the righteousness is the gift of God, and comes by the gospel, then what is the use of the law? There are several, but they may be used wrongfully. The law entered that the offence might abound, Rom. 3:19—the law speaks to sinners that all may become guilty before God to show people their guilt. Now verse 20, the law is to reveal sin to us - unrighteousness, not righteousness - Christ reveals the latter, the law the former. The law of God cannot allow a single sin in any degree whatever. If it did and condoned even a single thought that was not perfect it would sink a soul into perdition.

### WHENEVER A SIN IS MADE KNOWN TO US, IT IS A TOKEN OF GOD’S LOVE FOR US

The law is perfect. If it accepts imperfection the Lord must accept it and admit that he is imperfect, because the law is the representation of his character. In the fact that the law demands perfection lies the hope of all

mankind, because if it could overlook a sin to a single degree, no one could ever be free from sin, as the law would never make that sin known and it could never be forgiven, by which alone man can be saved. The day



is coming when the law will have revealed the last sin and we will stand perfect before him and be saved with an eternal salvation. The perfection of the law of God is that it will show us all our sins, and then a perfect Saviour stands ready to take them all away.

When God makes known all our sins it is not to condemn us, but to save us, so it is a token of his love for us, therefore, whenever a sin is made known to you, it is a token of God’s love for you because the Saviour stands ready to take it away. That is why God has given us a Saviour and the gospel. He wants us all to believe in him, come to him and be saved. Read Matthew 5:6. Are there not many here who hunger and thirst for

righteousness? Do you want to be filled? Look not then at the law, but the cross of Christ. Read Ephesians 3:14-19: rooted and grounded in faith through his love in our heart. Colossians 2:9-10, for we will be complete in Christ. There is a completeness, joy, peace, goodness, righteousness forever.





# THOUGHTS FROM JOHN WESLEY'S JOURNAL

*Editor's note: The following information is taken from the day to day account of John Wesley in his journey by sea from England to the coast of America—Georgia, to be exact. During this trip John Wesley learned much about faith from observing the German passengers aboard the vessel that he was sailing on. His journey began on October 14, 1735, when he departed from London along with his brother, Charles Wesley, Mr. Benjamin Ingham, and Mr. Charles Delamotte, and lasted for many weeks, and had many challenges upon the high waters of the Ocean. I have included only some brief incidents that John Wesley recorded in order not only to give you a flavor of travel by sea in those days, but the differences in the faith of the Germans on board, and the English on board, and the learning experience of John Wesley.*

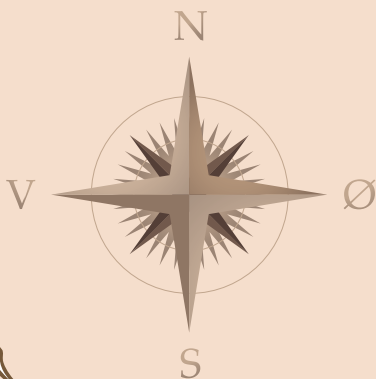
**SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1736:** “Many people were very impatient at the contrary wind. At seven in the evening they were quieted by a storm. It rose higher and higher till nine. About nine the sea broke over us

from stem to stern; burst through the windows of the state cabins, where three or four of us were, and covered us all over, though a bureau sheltered me from the main shock. About

eleven I lay down in the great cabin, and in a short time fell asleep, although very uncertain whether I would wake alive, and much ashamed of my unwillingness to die. Oh how pure in heart must he be, who would rejoice to appear before God at a moment's warning! Toward morning, 'He rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm.'”

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1736:** “In the evening another storm began. In the morning it increased, so that they were forced to let the ship drive. I could not but say to myself, 'How is it that thou hast no faith?' being still unwilling to die. About one in the afternoon, almost as soon as I had stepped out of the great cabin door, the sea did not break as usual, but came with a full, smooth tide over the side of the ship. I was vaulted over with water in a moment, and so stunned, that I scarce expected to lift up my head again, till the sea should give up her dead. But thanks be to God, I received no hurt at all. About midnight the storm ceased.”

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 1736:** “At noon our third storm began. At four it was more violent than before. Now, indeed, we could say, 'The waves of the sea were mighty, and raged horribly. They rose up to the heavens above, and clave down to hell beneath.' The winds roared round about us, and (what I never heard before) whistled as distinctly as if it had been a human voice. The ship not only





rocked to and fro with the utmost violence, but shook and jarred with so unequal, grating a motion, that one could not but with great difficulty keep one's hold of anything, nor stand a moment without it. Every ten minutes came a shock against the stern or side of the ship, which one would think would dash the planks in pieces.

At this time a child, privately baptized before, was brought to be received into

the Church. It put me in mind of Jeremiah's buying the field when the Chaldeans were on the point of destroying Jerusalem, and seemed a pledge of the mercy God designed to show us, even in the land of the living."

"At seven I went to the Germans. I had long before observed the great seriousness of their behaviour. Of their humility they had given a continual proof, by performing those servile offices for the other passengers, which none of the English would undertake; for which they desired, and would receive no pay, saying, 'it was good for their proud hearts,' and 'their loving Saviour had done more for them.' And every day had given them occasion of showing a meekness which no injury could move. If they were pushed, struck, or thrown down, they rose again and went away; but no complaint was found in their mouth. There was now an



opportunity of trying whether they were delivered from the spirit of fear, as well as from that of pride, anger and revenge. In the midst of the psalm wherewith their service began, the sea broke over, split the mainsail in pieces, covered the ship, and poured in between the decks, as if the great deep had already swallowed us up. A terrible screaming began among the English. The Germans calmly sung on. I asked one of them afterwards, 'Were you not afraid?' He answered, 'I thank God, no'. I asked, 'But were not your women and children afraid?' He replied, mildly, 'No; our women and children are not afraid to die.'"

*Editor's ending note: What will our witness be in the time of trial?*



# WHO CAN WE TRUST?

*Submitted by Bruce Westphal*

When the day comes will we fall down  
and worship the golden image?  
Will we be forced to believe a lie?  
All the powers of the Earth will soon unite,  
And will enforce new laws written for the occasion.

When darkness settles over the cities,  
When the coldness of supposed friends  
Reveals their real ambitions.  
When all that is dear to us is taken away,  
By what power will we be able to stand?

When they blame us for their shortcomings.  
When they accuse us of being obstinate,  
Will we still refuse to bow down to their idols?

Who has promised to be with us through every trial?  
Who has promised to go every step of the way with us?  
Do we see why we must know Jesus now?  
Tomorrow will be too late.  
Jesus has warned us that if they hated Him,  
They will hate those who are loyal to Him.  
If we gain the whole world and lose our own soul,  
what good will that be?

There is only One that can save us,  
And I pray that we know Him well.  
If we are faithful even though  
the world seems about to swallow us up,  
We may be afforded the greatest honor  
that can ever be bestowed upon a human being.

Can God trust us enough  
To allow us to suffer for His sake?

Because you see my friends,  
The world is watching us,  
And what we do.  
When the moment of truth arrives,  
It will be the greatest witness  
We could ever give for Christ.

# 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. When did the “great earthquake” known as the Lisbon Earthquake take place?

- a. October 22, 1844
- b. November 1, 1755
- c. December 11, 1758
- d. September 4, 1739

2. Over how many square miles did the Lisbon Earthquake extend?

- a. four hundred thousand square miles
- b. forty thousand square miles
- c. four million square miles
- d. four thousand square miles

3. The Lisbon Earthquake pervaded all but which of the following continents?

- a. Europe
- b. Africa
- c. America
- d. Asia

4. When did the sun become “black as sackcloth”?

- a. June 11, 1759
- b. May 19, 1780
- c. October 1, 1785
- d. April 1, 1791

5. What succeeded the intense darkness of the day of question number 4?

- a. The moon became as blood.
- b. The moon was crescent shaped.
- c. There was a total eclipse of the moon.
- d. There was a partial eclipse of the moon.

6. When did the stars fall from heaven?

- a. October 14, 1823
- b. November 11, 1831
- c. November 13, 1833
- d. November 14, 1841

7. The falling of the stars occurred in?

- a. The middle part of Europe
- b. Nearly the whole of North America
- c. All of Asia
- d. In South America only

8. In which of the following books and pages is the great earthquake, the darkening of the sun, the moon becoming as blood, and the stars falling mentioned?

- a. Revelation 13:9 & 10
- b. Matthew 24:7 & 8
- c. Luke 21:11 & 12
- d. Revelation 6:12 & 13

9. Which one of the following will not reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the others?

- a. The Protestants of the United States
- b. The communists of China
- c. Spiritualism
- d. The Roman Power

10. Who paid the balance of the book bill on Captain Joseph Bates' book on the Sabbath truth?

- a. James and Ellen White
- b. H. S. Guerney
- c. J. B. Cook
- d. T. M. Preble

From: Ellen G. White, *Prophet of Destiny*, by Rene Noorbergen, Published by Teach Services, 2001

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

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# Hope for Health

## Feature Products

In today's world of high-energy demand and under-nourishing foods, sustaining optimal health can be costly, time-consuming, and very confusing. Fortunately, Swedish Bitters is one of those rare herbal recipes that can provide relief for almost any health challenge. A broad statement, you say? Indeed it is. But in a world brimming over with "new and improved" products to deal with any ailment you can name, this one - Swedish Bitters - has withstood the test of time. And we do mean several hundred years!



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- Zedoary** - Wonderful digestive aid, it increases the strength of all the digestive organs.
- Carline Thistle Root** - Extremely effective herbal energizer, it helps with many disorders. A natural antibiotic and diuretic, it is very helpful for kidney, bladder, prostate, and overall urinary tract health.
- Theriac Venezian** - Powerful anti-inflammatory, can be used internally or topically to treat wounds.

### Why Swedish Bitters Salve Is Formulated with Natural Olive Oil

#### Olive Oil Contains:

- **Powerful antioxidants:** Vitamin A and Vitamin E.
- **Polyphenols:** Powerful natural antioxidants with anti-aging benefits.
- **Potent moisturizers:** Nutrients present in olives bind with water to naturally moisturize the skin.

### Swedish Bitters Salve:

- Assists in maintaining the natural suppleness of the skin.
- Contains no animal fats, chemicals, or fragrances that frequently cause allergic reactions.
- Provides a soothing effect on the skin - resulting from a combination of the natural nutrients and properties found in Virgin Olive Oil and our special Swedish Bitters herbal infusion.

### Swedish Bitters Concentrate:

- Great for travel, or simply to save space.
- Add a few drops to your beverage of choice several times a day, or you can choose to make the entire batch up at once.

\*These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to prevent, diagnose, treat, or cure any disease.

## Smoking & Brain Damage



Dr. Olson comes from a long line of health professionals including MDs, naturopaths, and osteopaths. Having always wanted to help people, especially in the area of health, she was a missionary to Belize and Korea. A national speaker, an RN for years, a certified herbologist, and a naturopathic doctor, Dr. Olson is utilizing this experience and wealth of knowledge for the benefit of people all over the world.

### From the desk of Dr. Olson:

Last month I discussed some of the risks of smoking in regard to catching the flu and other various infections. Everyone agrees that smoking is downright deadly. Most people know that it causes (or is a huge contributing factor to) lung disease, cancer, heart disease, etc. We have been told over and over that this habit is detrimental to the health of our bodies and minds. But this article shows yet another reason you should put the cigarettes down for good – brain damage! (See end of article for advice on how to stop addictions).

### Six Months of Smoking is Adequate for Significant Brain Damage - Byron Richards, CCN, Thursday, August 20, 2009

A surprising new study with MS patients shows that even a six month smoking period at any previous time in the person's life (10 or more cigarettes per day) was associated with

17% more brain lesions compared to MS patients that never smoked. This news follows an earlier study that showed heavy smoking resulted in early onset Alzheimer's.

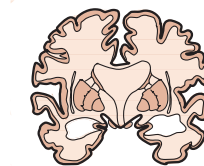
Toxic irritants in cigarette smoke make your blood brain barrier more permeable, enabling the multiple chemicals in cigarettes to enter your brain more easily and induce neurotoxin damage.

### Who is most at risk?

Not everyone who smokes develops MS or Alzheimer's, so who is most at risk? MS is an autoimmune problem, which automatically places women more at risk than men, as women have ten times higher rates of autoimmune problems as men (75% of the individuals in this study were women). However, any individual with a history of mental health issues, addiction issues, and/or hyper immune behavior (asthma, skin problems, rashes, allergies, etc) would be more at risk for this problem because their immune system may already be primed and hyper-aroused from other issues.

### Nerve damage is taking place

Many young people who smoke may not notice any "brain damage" symptoms while they are younger – or maybe they do. Regardless, this study proves that nerve damage from smoking is taking place, at least in a susceptible population, and that damage will be cumulative with other damage over the years and result in more advanced nerve decline problems.



I have long noticed nerve-shaking in former smokers and those heavily exposed to secondary cigarette smoke. I believe that much of this damage can be reversed and repaired with natural remedies.

If you do nothing to improve yourself it will likely speed the progression and accumulation of neurotoxic damage over the course of your life. As your nerves go, so does your health. \*

### Advice from the past

Alzheimer's disease? Multiple Sclerosis? Brain damage? As time goes on, more and more light is being shed on the truth about tobacco products, yet people can't seem to break the







addictive cycle. Because these effects often take years to show up, people fool themselves into believing they can quit before it happens to them. But as you can see here, even smoking for a brief amount of time and then quitting leaves you much more at risk for serious problems later in life. Over 100 years ago we were given a wealth of instruction about discarding this harmful practice:

“Tobacco using is a habit, which frequently affects the nervous system in a more powerful manner than does the use of alcohol. It binds the victim in stronger bands of slavery than does the intoxicating cup; the habit is more

difficult to overcome. Body and mind are, in many cases, more thoroughly intoxicated with the use of tobacco than with spirituous liquors, for it is a more subtle poison.” (1)

“Tobacco is a poison of the most deceitful and malignant kind, having an exciting, then a paralyzing, influence upon the nerves.” (2)

“Tobacco is a slow, insidious poison, and its effects are more difficult to cleanse from the system than those of liquor.” (3)

“The use of tobacco and strong drink has a great deal to do with the increase of disease and crime. Tobacco is a slow, insidious, but most malignant poison, and its use is working untold harm.” (4)

“That Christ should be discarded for these soul-and-body-destroying indulgences, is an amazement to the unfallen universe.” (5)

If people realize that the habit is harmful, yet continue to do it; they

may need additional help when trying to overcome this addiction. Thankfully, there is help! Praying to God and requesting His supernatural strength and power to help you resist the temptation is the first step toward beating the habit.

“Do you use tobacco or intoxicating liquor? Cast them from you; for they becloud your faculties. To give up the use of these things will mean a hard battle, but God will help you to fight this battle. Ask Him for grace to overcome, and then believe that He will give it to you, because He loves you.” (6)

### Nature's help for breaking the addictive habit

In addition, God has given us herbs and nutrients that help to break the addictive cycle, whether it is for tobacco, alcohol, narcotics, or any other dependence.

Do you need help quitting tobacco? Each person suffers from different symptoms when detoxifying, such as irritability, anxiety, pain, headaches, nausea, and more. Below are some



herbal supplements that help to ease the symptoms of withdrawal and detoxification. You can choose the supplements best suited to your personal needs.

**European Green Clay** (Internally) – Helps cleanse the bloodstream, detoxify the body, and ease symptoms of withdrawal.

**Swedish Bitters Extract** – Helps purify the blood and improve the function of the eliminative organs such as the kidneys and liver. Also aids in digestion, reduces stomach sickness, and increases energy levels.

**Liver Support** – Helps cleanse and strengthen the liver, which in turn helps detoxify the entire body.

**Mega-Multi** – Great nutrient blend that helps replenish vitamins & minerals that have been depleted from the system.

**Pain Eraser** (As needed) – Helps reduce headache and general aches and pains associated with detoxifying/drug withdrawal.

**C-Blast** – Helps detoxify the body, reduces cravings, and replenishes lost Vitamin C in the body (each cigarette destroys 25mg of Vitamin C – leading to a deficiency and susceptibility to illness.)

**Chlorophyll** – Is an excellent detoxifier and energizer. Cleanses and strengthens the liver, aids healing of the entire body, and reduces body odor. – Also tastes great!!

**Ener-G** – Has a balancing effect by normalizing the neurotransmitters in the brain.



**Soothe** – A natural alternative to sedatives and tranquilizers used to treat anxiety.

**Diabetes Control** – Aids in stabilizing erratic blood sugar that is often seen in addicts.

**Ginkgo Biloba** – Improves blood flow to the brain and enhances neurotransmitter activity.

If you or a loved one need help, but don't know where to start, call us. We offer FREE health counseling with trained professionals who can help you with a personalized health plan. Call us today, at 309-343-5853.

\* Byron J. Richards is a Board-Certified Clinical Nutritionist and author of "Fight for Your Health" and "The Leptin Diet". He is the Founder and Director of Wellness Resources Inc: [www.wellnessresources.com](http://www.wellnessresources.com).

1. Testimonies, Vol. 3, p. 562
2. Healthful Living, p. 201
3. Testimonies, Vol. 3, p. 569
4. Sons and Daughters of God, p. 212
5. Letter 8, 1893
6. Letter 226, 1903





# News Watch



## 1. Time Magazine, August 10, 2009—The World, page 12—“Take That, Tony Soprano”

“In a state long tainted by graft, New Jersey’s latest scandal may top them all. After a 10-year probe reaching from Hoboken to Israel, federal agents slapped 44 people with criminal charges. The allegations read like a movie script: assemblymen and mayors took bribes in diners and parking lots; rabbis laundered millions through Jewish charities; a man tried to sell a kidney to an FBI informant. The fallout has been equally cinematic: the mayor of Secaucus resigned July 28, and the same day, another accused official was found dead in suspicious circumstance.”

**End Time Perspective:** “Increasing Perils and Dangers.--In this degenerate age many will be found who are so blinded to the sinfulness of sin that they choose a licentious life because it suits the natural and perverse inclination of the heart. Instead of facing the mirror of the law of God and bringing their hearts and characters up to God’s standard, they allow Satan’s agents to erect his

standard in their hearts. Corrupt men think it easier to misinterpret the Scriptures to sustain them in their iniquity than to yield up their corruption and sin and be pure in heart and life.

“There are more men of this stamp than many have imagined, and they will multiply as we draw near the end of time.”  
AH 329.

## 2. Time Magazine, August 24, 2009—The World, page 11—“Facing Nature’s Fury”

“Typhoon Morakot ravaged the Philippines and Taiwan before slamming into China’s southeastern coast, flooding thousands of acres of farmland and forcing a million people to flee Fujian and Zhejiang provinces. Beijing estimates that the storm—the ninth in this year’s Pacific typhoon season—destroyed 6,000 homes and inflicted \$1.3 billion in damage. Morakot also breached dikes in the northern Philippines, flooding several villages, and walloped Taiwan with



74-m.p.h. winds, killing at least 62 people and causing the island’s worst floods in 50 years.”

**End Time Perspective:** “The restraining Spirit of God is even now being withdrawn from the world. Hurricanes, storms, tempests, fire and flood, disasters by sea and land, follow each other in quick succession. Science seeks to explain all these. The signs thickening around us, telling of the near approach of the Son of God, are attributed to any other than the true cause. Men cannot discern the sentinel angels restraining the four winds that they shall not blow until the servants of God are sealed; but when God shall bid His angels loose the winds, there shall be such a scene of strife as no pen can picture.”--  
Testimonies, vol. 6, p. 408.

## 3. Time Magazine, August 24, 2009—Briefing, page 14—“I ended up being loyal to a terrible fault.”

“A statement by Frank DiPascali, who pleaded guilty on Aug. 11 to 10 charges including fraud and money-laundering while serving as one of Bernie Madoff’s top executives. DiPascali, who could be sentenced to as many as 125 years in prison, told a federal judge that he and others knew





about Madoff’s investment scam as far back as the early 1990s and aided by helping falsify trading records.”

**End Time Perspective:** “ The Scriptures describe the condition of the world just before Christ’s second coming. James the apostle pictures the greed and oppression that will prevail. He says, “Go to now, ye rich men, . . . ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth. Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton.” COL 170.

**4. Time Magazine, August 24, 2009—The Pink Recovery by Christopher Caldwell, page 21.**

“A week ago, President Obama touted a newly published report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) that showed the country had lost 247,000 jobs in July. It seemed an odd thing to boast about, but you have to consider the context. The economy was losing

jobs at three times that clip when Obama took office in January. So it is possible that we are emerging from the most frightening economic downturn since the Depression. We won’t be the same country when we do.”

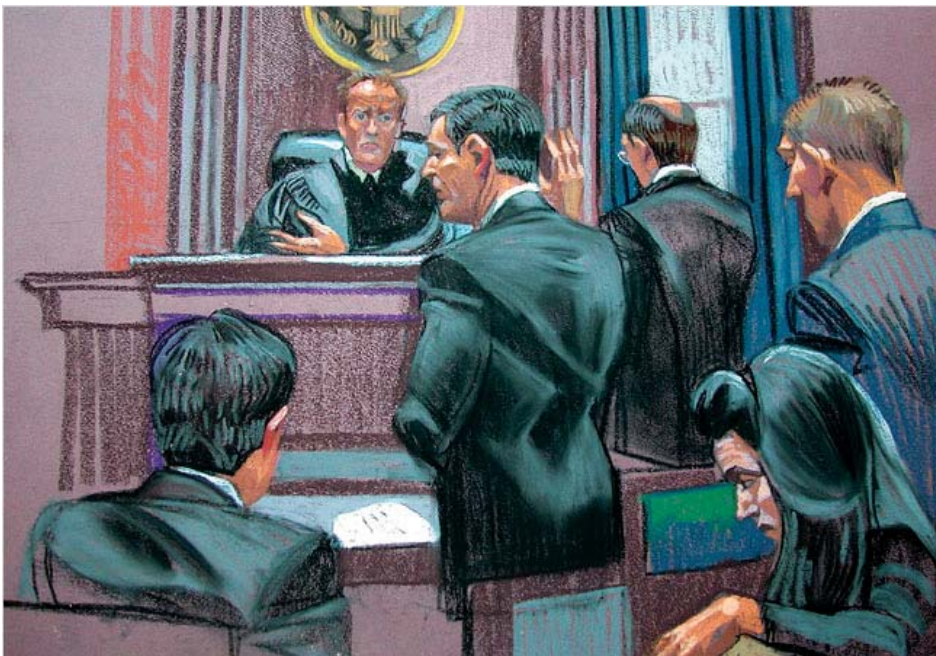
**End Time Perspective:** “Faith in Times of Economic Crisis.--You have a desire to walk by sight. God would have you learn to walk by faith. You will be often tempted to look at appearance, but this will not do. You must walk by faith. ‘Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.’ But when you looked at your depleted treasury, the dark shadows encircled you, and your faith failed. Then was the time to talk faith and courage, to rise to the emergency. The work is the Lord’s, . . . not ours, and we can safely leave it in His hands. Daniel sought the Lord when brought into trying places, and when in trouble, we must pray earnestly to God. You have not moved wisely in all things. You need to learn the lesson of self-denial and self-sacrifice. You must be willing to receive less money in an emergency. God will be glorified in this.” PM 112.



**5. Catholic Digest, April 2008—What is the Pope’s Official Title? Page 40.**

“The official title of the pope is: ‘Bishop of Rome and Vicar of Jesus Christ, Successor of Saint Peter, Prince of the Apostles, Supreme Pontiff of the Universal Church, Primate of Italy, Archbishop and Metropolitan of the Roman Province, Sovereign of Vatican City State.”

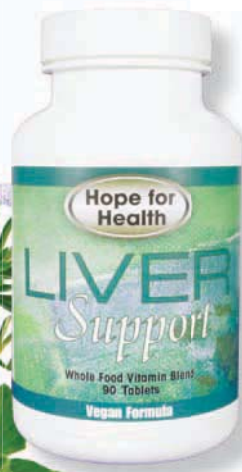
**End Time Perspective:** Editor’s note: We have had scholars in our own church claim that the title: Vicarius Filii Dei has never been applied to the Pope. Here, in the Catholic Digest we have a listing of the various names of the Pope. Vicar of Jesus Christ would be parallel with Vicar of the Son of God which is Vicarius Filii Dei = 666.





**Hope for Health**

Feature Product



Why should I worry about my liver? The liver is absolutely critical to a person's well being. A person's nutritional level is not only determined by what he or she eats, but by what the liver processes. Unfortunately, it is extremely difficult to detect early warning symptoms specific to liver metabolic imbalances since it is quite a "forgiving" organ that can withstand a myriad of abuse before finally giving up the fight. It is quite difficult to diagnose when the liver is not in order, and frequently one is unaware of it because the liver is the single organ that doesn't hurt when something is wrong with it. People can suffer for a long time from a liver ailment without knowing of it.

## LIVER SUPPORT

# FACTS:

The liver is the body's primary antipollution organ, in charge of removing potential toxins from the bloodstream; it filters more than a liter of blood per minute.

If you want to improve your digestion, look to supporting your liver. It's responsible for metabolizing fats, carbohydrates, proteins and many vitamins, most notably those that are fat soluble, like A and D.

Among the liver's other critical functions are regulating blood sugar levels, deactivating hormones so their levels aren't too high, and producing bile, a critical liquid that breaks down fats and carries away waste products.

As if all this doesn't keep your liver busy enough, it also supplies the immune system with antibodies and produces blood-clotting factors while also helping to oxygenate the body.

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### What does my liver do?

#### The liver:

- Processes all food and (most) drugs we ingest
- Stores iron reserves, as well as vitamins and minerals
- Makes bile to help digest food
- Detoxifies poisonous chemicals, including alcohol and drugs
- Stores energy by stockpiling sugar until needed
- Manufactures new proteins
- Makes clotting factors for the blood
- Removes poisons from the body that we accumulate from the air, exhaust, smoke, and chemicals we breathe

### What are the benefits of using Hope's Liver Support?

- Protects the liver from damage caused by viruses and toxins
- Detoxifies the liver from harmful environmental toxins and pollutants
- Improves overall health and function of the liver
- Cleanses, purifies, and detoxifies the liver, blood, and the entire body
- Strengthens and improves regeneration of the liver
- Relieves stress on the liver and helps rid the body of toxins
- Facilitates rapid liver regeneration

The special formula in our Liver Support is designed to help strengthen, protect, support, purify, and regenerate the liver while helping to improve overall general health. Some of the potent ingredients in our formula include Milk Thistle, Aloe Vera, Artichoke, Ginger Root, Reishi Mushroom, Schizandra Berry, Blessed Thistle, Licorice Root, Dong Quai, and over 20 other powerful liver-supporting ingredients.

\*These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to prevent, diagnose, treat, or cure any disease.

# the People's Page

*Editor's note: The following quotes from Ellen White were sent to us as favorites of Roger Bough:*

## **TRUE RELIGION**

“Love to God is the very foundation of religion. To engage in His service merely from hope of reward or fear of punishment would avail nothing.” (EGW, PP, p523)

“It is not the fear of punishment, or the hope of everlasting reward, that leads the disciples of Christ to follow Him. They behold the Saviour's matchless love, revealed throughout His pilgrimage on earth, from the manger of Bethlehem to Calvary's cross, and **the sight of Him... subdues the soul...**” (EGW, DA, p482)

“The Lord abhors indifference and disloyalty in a time of crisis in His work. The whole universe is watching with inexpressible interest the closing scenes of the great controversy between good and evil. ‘Who is on the Lord's side?’ (Exodus 32:26), men who will not stop merely with the inquiry, but who will demand that those who choose to identify themselves with the people of God shall step forward and reveal unmistakably their allegiance to the King of kings and Lord of lords. **Such men make their wills and plans subordinate to the law of God. For love of Him they count not their lives dear unto themselves. Their work is to catch the light from the Word and let it shine forth to the world in clear, steady rays. Fidelity to God is their motto.**” (EGW, PK, p136-137)

“The world needs evidences of sincere Christianity.” AG 263  
“To the heart that has become purified, all is changed. Transformation of character is the testimony to the world of an indwelling Christ. **The Spirit of God produces a new life in the soul, bringing the thoughts and desires into obedience to the will of Christ; and the inward man is renewed in the image of God.** Weak and erring men and women show to the world that the redeeming power of grace can cause the faulty character to develop into symmetry and abundant fruitfulness.” (EGW, PK, p233-234)

“... **‘Many shall be purified,** and made white, and tried’ (Dan. 12:10). Only he who endures the trial will receive the crown of life (James 1:12)” (Christ's Object Lessons, p. 155, emphasis supplied).

“Every child should be taught to show **true reverence for God.** Never should **His name** be spoken lightly or thoughtlessly. **Angels, as they speak it, veil their faces.** With what reverence should we, who are fallen and sinful, take it upon our lips!” (EGW, PK, p236)

“The love of Christ constraineth us” 2 Corinthians 5:14.

## **GOD PROVIDES THE STRENGTH**

“There is not an impulse of our nature, not a faculty of the mind or an inclination of the heart, but needs to be, moment by moment, **under the control of the Spirit of God.** ... walk humbly before the Lord, pleading in faith that God will direct every thought and control every impulse. All who profess godliness are under the most sacred obligation to guard the spirit, and to exercise self-control under the greatest provocation. However severe or unexpected the assault, **God has provided help for us, and in His strength we may conquer.**” (EGW, PP, p421)

“It would be well for us to spend a thoughtful hour each day in **contemplation of the life of Christ.** We should take it point by point, and let the imagination grasp each scene, especially the closing ones. As we thus **dwell upon His great sacrifice** for us, our confidence in Him will be more constant, **our love will be quickened,** and we shall be more deeply imbued with His spirit. If we would be saved at last, we must learn the **lesson of penitence and humiliation at the foot of the cross.** We shall love to talk of Him; and as we speak to one another of His love, our hearts will be softened by divine influences. **Beholding the beauty of His character,** we shall be ‘changed into the same image from glory to glory.’ 2 Cor. 3:18.” (EGW, DA, p83)

“**In our own strength it is impossible** for us to deny the clamors of our fallen nature. Through this channel Satan will bring temptation upon us. **Christ knew** that the enemy would come to every human being, to take advantage of hereditary weakness, and by his false insinuations to ensnare all whose trust is not in God. And by passing over the ground which man must travel, **our Lord has prepared the way for us to overcome.** It is not His will that we should be placed at a disadvantage in the conflict with Satan. He would not have us intimidated and discouraged by the assaults of the serpent. “Be of good cheer,” He says; “I have overcome the world.” John 16:33.

“Let the repenting sinner **fix his eyes upon “the Lamb of God,** which taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29); and **by beholding, he becomes changed.** His fear is turned to joy, his doubts to hope. Gratitude springs up. The stony heart is broken. A tide of love sweeps into the soul. **Christ is in him** a well of water springing up unto everlasting life. When we see Jesus, a Man of Sorrows and acquainted with grief, working to save the lost, slighted, scorned, derided, driven from city to city till His mission was accomplished; **when we behold Him in Gethsemane, sweating great drops of blood, and on the cross dying in agony,--when we see this, self will no longer clamor to be recognized.** Looking unto Jesus, we shall be ashamed of our coldness, our lethargy, our self-seeking. (EGW, DA, p440)



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*"The more closely we resemble our Saviour in character, the greater will be our love toward those for whom He died." 5T167*

*Shouldest not thou also have had compassion ... , even as I had pity on thee? Matthew 18:33*