

our firm
FOUNDATION

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

**IN THIS ISSUE: Charity, 1 Corinthians 13
Why All the Genealogies and
the Counting? | A Lesson From Judas
Emigration | Health Gem: C-Blast
Ellen White's Vision:
The First Angel's Message**



**No Cross,
No Crown**

Editorial

Clark Floyd



Clark Floyd, editor of Our Firm Foundation magazine, has been co-host of the radio program Bible Answers with Clark and Lee and is a licensed attorney and an ordained Seventh-day Adventist pastor. He has spoken internationally and makes his home in the beautiful mountains of western North Carolina.

Recently I have been reading through the little book called Promises for the Last Days by Ellen G. White. As we near the close of time, we should be claiming God's assurances more often. I thought it might be helpful to our readers to have several of these promises in this editorial. Prayerfully, these promises will be valuable to each of you.

"God knows our wants, and has provided for them. The Lord has a treasure house of supplies for His children, and can give them what they need under all circumstances. Then why do we not trust Him? He has made precious promises to His children on condition of faithful

As we near the close of time, we should be claiming God's assurances more often.

obedience to His precepts. There is not a burden but He can remove, no darkness but He can dispel, no weakness but He can change to power, no fears but He can calm, no worthy aspiration but He can guide and justify." TMK 224.

"We should take the promises of God, one by one, and examine them closely on every side—take in their richness, and be soothed, comforted, encouraged, and strengthened by them. God had provided for all the comforts the soul needs. They are suited to the friendless, the poverty stricken, the wealthy, the sick, the bereaved—all may have their appropriate help if they will see and

take hold upon those by faith. God scatters blessings all along our path to brighten the rugged way of life, and we want to be receiving all the comforts and tokens of God's love with grateful hearts." TMK 213.

"Let these blessed promises, set in the framework of faith, be placed in memory's halls. Not one of them will fail. All that God hath spoken He will do." 5T 630.

I have claimed one of the promises so often in my vocal prayers that a church member stitched it in needlepoint and presented it to me in a picture frame that I keep on my desk:

"And the Lord thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the Lord thy God with all thine heart and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live." Deut. 30:6.

Not only does this promise envelope my desire to love God with all my heart, but it reaches out and encompasses my three children, and their children.

"We should now acquaint ourselves with God by proving His promises. Angels record every prayer that is earnest and sincere. We should rather dispense with selfish gratification than neglect communion with God." GC 622.

"We need to trust in Jesus daily, hourly. He has promised that as our day is, our strength shall be. By His grace we may bear all the burdens of the present and perform its duties. But many are weighed down by the anticipation of future troubles. They are constantly seeking to bring tomorrow's burdens into today. Thus

a large share of all their trials are imaginary. For these, Jesus has made no provision. He promises grace only for the day." 5T 200.

"If we educated our souls to have more faith, more love, greater patience, a more perfect trust in our heavenly Father, we would have more peace and happiness as we pass through the conflicts of this life. The Lord is not pleased to have us fret and worry ourselves out of the arms of Jesus. He is the only source of every grace, the fulfillment of every promise, the realization of every blessing." OHC 120.

REMEMBER: "The Father's presence encircled Christ, and nothing befell Him but that which infinite love permitted for the blessing of the world. Here was His source of comfort, and it is for us. He who is imbued with the spirit of Christ, abides in Christ. The blow that is aimed at him falls upon the Saviour who surrounds him with His presence. Whatever comes to him comes from Christ. He has no need to resist evil for Christ is his defense. Nothing can touch him except by our Lord's permission; and all things that are permitted 'work together for good to them that love God.' Romans 8:28." MB 71.

"Christ in His life on earth made no plans for Himself. He accepted God's plans for Him, and day by day the Father unfolded his plans. So should we depend upon God, that our lives may be the simple outworking of His will. As we commit our ways to Him, He will direct our steps." MH 479.

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

Executive Director:

Joe Olson
executivedirector@hopeint.org

Editor:

Clark Floyd
editorial@hopeint.org

Copy-editor:

Reen Swindle

Director of Hope For Health:

Kaye Olson
hopeforhealth@hopeint.org

Bookstore Manager:

Andrea Olson
shipping@hopeint.org

About Hope International:

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

Invitation to Writers

We are accepting article-length manuscripts (3000 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*, 151 Ascension Lane, Marshall, NC 28753, or by email to editorial@hopeint.org.

Subscription Information: See page 31
• Shipping & Sales Tax: See page 31

Content credited in this publication is the property of its respective owner(s) and is licensed or used with permission. Other items are the property of Hope International.

Design & Layout by



cover story

04 No Cross, No Crown
Emmanuel Machakaire



features

07 In Canaan's Language
Worthie Harris Holden

10 Charity, 1 Corinthians 13
J.R. Henderson

12 Why All the Genealogies and the Counting?
Joe Olson

17 A Lesson From Judas
Ellen White

20 Emigration
James Edson White



departments

- 02** Editorial
- 24** Health Gem: C-Blast
- 28** News Watch
- 30** Ellen White's Vision: The First Angel's Message
- 32** Christian Crossword



ad features

- 9** Acerola Chews
- 23** C-Blast



No Cross, No Crown



The Power of Fiery Trials

By Emmanuel Machakaire

“Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations. That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 1: 6-7



Why God Sends Trials

Every thoughtful person has wondered why God sends trials to his children. You don't live very long before that question stares you in the face. It might be a critical illness, death of a loved one, loss of a job, the breakup of a marriage, trouble with your children, a season of depression, financial difficulties, or a time of intense persecution from others because of your faith. Those things happen to all of us sooner or later. If you've never pondered why God allows such things, you ought to.

When we turn to the Bible, we find many perspectives that help us understand why trials come to God's children. I Peter 1:6, 7 offers an important perspective that we need to know. It doesn't answer every question we could ask about trials, trouble, and the sufferings of this life; no single text

could answer every question. But it does provide a crucial framework for seeing the hand of God at work in the worst moments of life.

Let us take a closer look at some of the key words used in this text.

The first is the word “trials” at the end of verse 6. The Greek word is “peirasmos”, a word that appears often in the New Testament. It can mean “test”, or “trial”, or even “temptation”. Depending on the context, it can have a positive or negative connotation. When we face a test in school, we either pass or fail. The same is true of the tests of life. God sends those tests so that what is in the heart will be revealed for all to see. The same event may be both a test and a temptation. That is, it may be sent by God to test us, and Satan may use it as an occasion for temptation. It all depends on how we respond.

When trouble comes ...

We may turn to God in prayer, or we may become bitter.

We may become quiet and thoughtful, or we may begin to complain.

We may become tender and compassionate, or we may become harsh and cruel.

We may learn new trust in God, or we may rebel against Him.

We may take courage, or we may give in to fear.

We may draw close to God, or we may turn away from Him.

The same event in all cases—but

vastly different results. It all depends on how we respond.

The second word comes from the first phrase of verse 6: “In this you greatly rejoice”. Take the root word, joy, and consider it for a moment. What is joy? It’s a difficult word to define. We know that joy and happiness are two different things. Happiness depends on circumstances,

and comes and goes depending on the emotions of the moment. But joy is deeper and more profound because it comes from God. Joy comes from “satisfaction with God”. When we are satisfied with God, we will have joy even in the hardest moments of life. Joy can be referred to as the gigantic secret of the Christian life. Joy, he said, is always at the center for the Christian; trials are at the periphery of life. I put these ideas together this way: Joy is the ability to face reality—the good and bad,

the happy and the sad, the positive and the negative, the best and the worst—because we are satisfied with God. “My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing [this], that the trying of your faith worketh patience.” James 1:2, 3. Seen in that light, this is no contradiction between joy and trials. They belong together. Our text teaches us four important truths about the trials of life.

I. Our Trials are Brief

Peter begins by assuring his readers that their trials would only last “a little while”. Of course, that “little while” seems to last forever when we are in the furnace. When you sit by the bedside of a loved one in the hospital, time seems to slow to a crawl. When your marriage crumbles or your children are in trouble or you lose your job and can’t pay your bills, the trial seems to go on forever. In what sense can Peter say that our trials are brief? The answer is, everything in this life is brief when compared to eternity. It’s all a matter of perspective. Our trials may last for weeks





or months or years; sometimes they last for decades, but seen against the endless ages of eternity, even the worst trials here are brief by comparison. God never asks us to deny the harsh reality of our trials. He asks only that we take His perspective on our suffering.

II. Our Trials are Necessary

Note how Peter puts it: “You may have had to suffer.” Literally, the Greek reads, “If necessary for a little while.” Peter could not be sure how long they would suffer, but he knows that the suffering itself is necessary. Whether long or short, hard times come to every believer. Those hard times come in many varieties. And they come over and over again. No Christian is exempt from trials. Some have more, others less, but all share in the “many trials” Peter mentions. Those trials are necessary to help us grow spiritually. Those trials are proof that we belong to the Lord. John Duncan put it this way: “If we have not got a cross, alas! We may conclude that we have not Christ, for it is the first of his gifts.”

III. Our Trials are Purifying

We have arrived at the heart of

Peter’s message. Trials come “so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine” (v. 7). Note the little phrase “so that” in the text. Circle it, underline it, highlight it. No phrase is more hopeful or more needed. The words “so that” tell us that our trials have a purpose. They don’t just happen by chance or by some random act of fate. There are no accidents for the children of God. Everything happens for a reason. Even though we may not see the reason, our faith can survive if we know that a reason really does exist.

Peter goes on to explain that God sends trials in order to test and purify our faith. The phrase “proved genuine” translates the Greek word “dokimos”, which means to test something in order to prove that it will not fail. God puts our faith to the test by allowing hard times to come, not to destroy us but to demonstrate that our faith is genuine. Note the contrast between faith and pure gold. Did you know that it takes four tons of gold ore to produce one ounce of pure gold? During the refining process, the gold ore is heated in a giant furnace until it liquefies; the dross or waste material is skimmed off, leaving only the pure gold at the bottom. In ancient times goldsmiths knew they had pure gold when they could look

at the gold and see their reflection. That’s what God intends through our trials. He puts us in the furnace to burn off the greed, the impatience, the unkindness, the anger, the bitterness, the hatred, the lust, and the selfishness. For most of us, that’s a lifetime process. But in the end, the image of Jesus is formed in us. I have seen that happen over and over again in the lives of suffering saints.

God “proves” our faith

God wants to prove your faith is genuine, and trials provide the most reliable proof. We may all mouth certain phrases that make us sound spiritual when things are going well, but how we respond when life tumbles in around us tells the real story of what we truly believe. God “proves” our faith to us, to our loved ones, and to a watching world. Outside the four walls of the church are millions of people who watch the way we live. They may not understand what we believe, but they watch us from a distance to see how we respond when hard times come. And even if they don’t understand it all, they are profoundly moved by a believer whose faith remains strong in the time of trouble. They know our faith is real, and that draws them one step closer to Jesus.

“The work of pruning and purifying to fit us for heaven is a great work, and

will cost us much suffering and trial, because our will is not subjected to the will of Christ. We must go through the furnace till the fires have consumed the dross, and we are purified, and reflect the divine image. Those who follow their inclinations and are governed by appearances, are not good judges of what God is doing. They are filled with discontent. They see failure where there is indeed triumph, a great loss where there is gain; and, like Jacob, they are ready to exclaim, "All these things are against me." Gen. 42:36. When the very things whereof they complain are all working together for their good." GW92 372.

"No cross, no crown! How can one be strong in the Lord without trials? To have strength, we must have exercise. To have strong faith, we must be placed in circumstances where our faith will be tried. The apostle Paul, just before his martyrdom, exhorted Timothy, "Be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God." 2 Timothy 1:8. It is through much tribulation that we are to enter the kingdom. Our Saviour was tried in every possible way, and yet he triumphed in God continually. It is our privilege to be strong in the strength of God under all circumstances, and to glory in the cross of Christ." GW92 372.

This is how it works:

You lost your money, but gained devoted faith.

You lost your health, but gained patient faith.

You lost your job, but gained resilient faith.

You lost your loved ones, but gained grieving faith.

You lost your friends, but gained courageous faith.

Thus does God bring triumph out of our trials, and from the pit of despair, he lifts us to the pinnacle of faith. Hard times make strong saints. There is no other way.

IV. Our Trials are Eternally Significant

Our text suggests one final truth about our trials. God sends trials to prove our faith is genuine so that it "may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed" (v. 7). Normally when we read words like praise, glory, and honor, we associate them with Jesus Christ himself. But Peter says we are the ones who gain praise, glory and honor. That is, the Lord himself bestows upon us praise and glory and honor. Or more properly, because of our faithfulness during our trials in this life, we will share in the praise, glory and honor that belongs to our Lord. What a thought that is.

What an incredible scene in heaven, when the faithful saints of

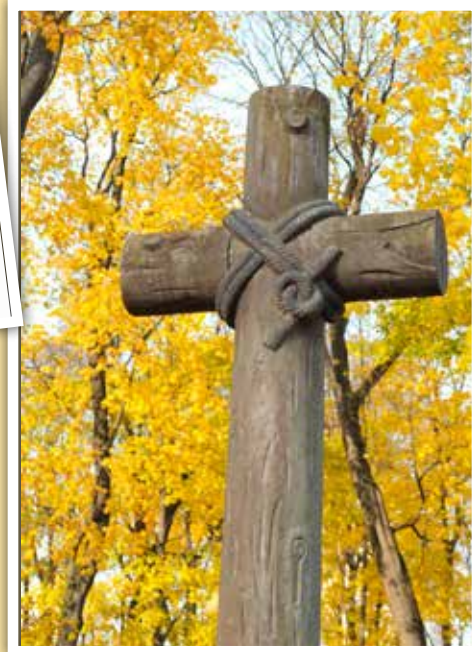
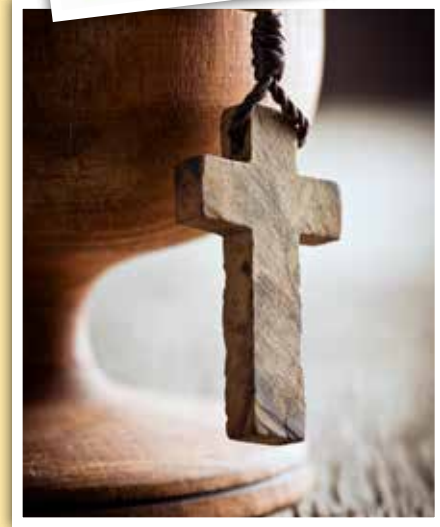
God are crowned with glory, praise and honor, by our Lord himself. I imagine Jesus saying, "Father, this is Emmanuel. He suffered for my sake on the earth, and he never denied my name. He is one of my faithful ones." As those words are spoken, a vast cheer rolls across the universe from the assembled multitudes. And so it will go as one by one those who suffered so much in this life, those who endured ridicule, hatred and martyrdom are revealed and rewarded for their faithfulness. And those who suffered illness with joy, who lost their possessions but not their faith, who walked a hard road on the earth but never gave up, are recognized and honored by the Lord.

All will be made plain

When Jesus finally appears, we will find out what our trials have accomplished. Things that seemed useless and unfair will be seen as instruments of God's grace. Things we thought were hard and even cruel, we will discover were tempered by God's mercy. We may not see those things very clearly now, but in that day, all will be made plain. And as we look back across the pathway of life, we will see that nothing was wasted. God knew what he was doing all along.

As we wrap up this message, here are the main lessons from the trials and troubles of life that we all face or may face sooner or later:





Christian perfection. Count it all joy!

- God must be praised in fiery trials.

Think of it this way:

Before our trials, our faith is unproved.

After our trials, our faith is improved.

A faith God approves brings him great glory. Here is good news for all of us.

God is not looking for educated people.

God is not looking for rich people.

God is not looking for talented people.

God is not looking for beautiful people.

God is looking for faithful disciples who having passed through the fiery trials, are stamped for all the world to see – “Approved by God.”

So if you find yourself in the furnace right now, be of good cheer. It is your Father’s kindness that has put you there.

The Christian position is not: Joy, *then* trials, or trials *then* joy, or joy *or* trials; it is always joy *and* trials, at the same time, working together, mixed together, so that we have joy *in* our trials, joy *beside* our trials, joy *within* our trials, and sometimes even joy *in spite* of our trials. Thus could David

say in Psalm 34:8, after mentioning his fears and his troubles, “Taste and see that the Lord is good.” Indeed, his mercies endure forever, but most of us only discover that truth in the furnace. Like the three Hebrew children of Daniel 3, when we are cast into the furnace, suddenly we discover “the fourth man” is there with us. Jesus comes to us in our time of direst need, and just when we need him most, he is there. Think of Paul and Silas; how could they manage to sing songs of praises to the Lord in prison? (Acts 16:25). It was the joy of knowing God’s love in their trials.

This is God’s call to all of us:

Embrace the cross God is calling you to bear. Stop fighting with God. Stop complaining. Stop blaming others. And open your heart to exceeding great joy. Some of us have never discovered this kind of joy because we fight God at the point of our trials. But joy and trials come together in God’s plan. There is no exceeding great joy without the suffering that goes with it. Indeed, everything I have learned, everything that has truly enhanced and enlightened my existence, has been through affliction and not through happiness.

Don’t fear great rejoicing. Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God, do not resist his work in your life, and he will lift you up. The good news is: “Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.” Psalm 34:19. Let God do his work in you, and you will know joy unspeakable and full of glory. For there is Power in Fiery Trials. Amen.



Emmanuel Machakaire is a(n) SDA writer who is based in So. Africa. He enjoys studying, writing, and sharing Bible truths.

Hope for Health



Finally! A delicious chewable form of vitamin C that your kids will love! This chewable vitamin C is so tasty; your kids won't know it's so good for them!
And for you adults who want a taste – don't worry; it's good for you too!!

Acerola Chews

Just a FEW of the benefits of the PURE vitamin C in our **Acerola Chews:**

- Promotes healthy teeth and gums
- Protects your skin and organs against premature aging
- Helps ease pain and swelling of the joints
- Helps prevent frequent or easy bruising/bleeding
- Promotes a very strong immune system and helps prevent frequent colds and infections

Why Should I Supplement With Vitamin C?

Most importantly, our bodies cannot make vitamin C on their own, so we need to supplement our diet with a high quality vitamin C product, such as **Acerola Chews**. Vitamin C is known to strengthen the immune system, improve oxygenation, and fight overall health concerns. It also directly helps to build collagen cells.

Why Collagen Is SO Important:

Collagen is the most ubiquitous substance in the body, meaning it is present in and critical to almost every component of the body. It is especially abundant in connective tissue. Connective tissue gives our body form and supports our organs. Bones, teeth, skin, ligaments, cartilage, and numerous other tissues in the body require a healthy supply of collagen in order to function properly.

More extraordinary benefits of Hope For Health's **Acerola Chews:**

AMAZING ACEROLA FACTS:

- A Brazilian super-food, the acerola cherry is best known for its exceptionally high levels of vitamin C. Acerola contains 10–50 times more vitamin C by weight than oranges. For the sake of comparison, 100 grams of ripe Acerola fruit contains 17,000 milligrams of vitamin C, whereas 100 grams of orange fruit contains only 50 milligrams!
- Studies reveal that acerola contains more than 150 active nutrients and super-nutrients!
- Most vitamin C and multivitamin supplements contain ascorbic acid or ascorbate, which is the outer ring that surrounds the real vitamin C complex. That's right, REAL vitamin C is a complex of several different factors, all of which must work together to give you all the many benefits of vitamin C. Whole foods like acerola cherries come with the ENTIRE vitamin C complex, which can efficiently reach and nourish all of the cells of your body, providing the health benefits listed previously.

CUSTOMER TESTIMONIAL

I have tried many chewable vitamin C products, but Hope For Health's **Acerola Chews** are by far the best and most tasty! They have a great tangy yet sweet flavor! I never have to worry about my kids getting their dose of vitamin C, because now they LOVE taking them! Thank you!

~J.D. Minnesota

THE ACEROLA CHEWS HAS TWO VARIETIES... "SWEET" AND "TANGY"

For abundant access to critical collagen, get Acerola Chews today!

To Order Call Today: 1-800-468-7884

or Visit us on the web at: www.hopeforhealthusa.com

*Prices listed do not include shipping and handling or sales tax

Price:

Tangy Acerola Chews - 90 Wafers \$8.99

Sweet Acerola Chews - 90 Wafers..... \$9.99

Suggested Adult Usage:

- 1-3 wafers each day. Take with or without food as tolerated

Suggested Child Usage:

- 1-2 wafers each day. Take with or without food as tolerated

*These statements have not been evaluated by the FDA. This product is not intended to prevent, diagnose, treat, or cure any disease.



Combining nature, faith, and love to bring healing to the world.

CHARITY, I CORINTHIANS 13

By J.R. Henderson

Charity, supremest love,
Forever doth abide;
Of righteousness it doth approve;
From sin it turns aside.

Charity hath elements
Of Christian graces rare;
Is rich in works and fruitfulness
Abounding everywhere.

Charity hath temper sweet,
Not easily provoked;
Has grace for all who with it meet;
With anger is not yoked.

Rejoiceth not in evil things,
But truth it loveth well,
Our faith to heaven only brings
Where charity doth dwell.



Charity is true and kind,
And seeketh not her own,
For to all selfishness 'tis blind,
And ever suff'reth long.

Charity is not puffed up
Humility it wears;
It puts a seal upon the lips
Speaks not of self or cares.

With courtesy 'tis always filled;
In little things 'tis kind;
With hearts of purest love instilled,
Its mercies are entwined.

Charity is generous, too,
Is great in gifts; it seems
The noblest things for heaven we do
When love through action gleams.

It leads us through the pearly gate
Is guileless, free from sin;
It enters where all heaven wait
For us to enter in.

If, then, we see but darkly here,
Through faith and hope and grace,
We know, with charity, we'll there
See clearly face to face.



WHY ALL THE GENEALOGIES AND THE COUNTING?

By Joe Olson

“And my God put into mine heart to gather together the nobles, and the rulers, and the people, that they might be reckoned by genealogy. And I found a register of the genealogy of them which came up at the first, and found written therein,” Neh. 7:5.

This scripture is referring to the time period of the Jews' return from Babylonian exile. And I'm sure that everyone who has read the Bible has gone through what seem like endless genealogies. A lot of people refer to them as the “begats” - Abraham begat Isaac; Isaac begat Jacob; Jacob begat Judah. Did you ever wonder what the point of them was? I mean, there are so many places in the Bible that address them that one must wonder what the reasons are for them. God had to decide what to put in His word and what to leave out. The Creator of the universe inspired men to write what He wanted us to have to learn about Him.

Genealogies begin in the book of Genesis

Throughout the scripture, there are many, many references to both genealogy and to numbering the people. And this is not just the Old Testament; even the New Testament has its long list of families. Matthew begins his

book with a genealogy, starting with Abraham. “The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren;” Matt 1:1, 2.

The genealogies actually started very early in the Bible... Genesis chapter 4. Interestingly, it starts with the genealogy of Cain, when he was removed from Eden and moved to the land of Nod. “And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden.” Gen. 4:16.

Then in chapter 5, God begins the long list of families starting with Adam. “This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;” Gen. 5:1. God goes all the way to the family of Noah and his three sons. That was the first 2,000 years of life on this planet.

God then takes up the genealogical record again in Genesis chapter 10. He starts with Noah's three children. “Now these are the generations of the sons of Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth: and unto them were sons born after the flood.” Gen. 10:1. After God names the children that came from Shem, Ham and Japheth, He continues in chapter 11. But in chapter 11, He recounts the family lineage of Shem, and this time only addresses the family members that resulted in the birth of Abraham.

Then we have the sons of Abraham, from his different wives and concubines; then the sons of Ishmael and



his hereditary lines. After that there were no more genealogies until we get to Moses. After the 400 years in Egypt and God leads His people out of the land of the pharaohs, we have genealogies again and this time, the people are counted. “Take the sum of the people, from twenty years old and upward; as the LORD commanded Moses and the children of Israel, which went forth out of the land of Egypt.” Num. 26:4.

What is the point of all the numbering?

The people are numbered in the Book of Numbers (I just thought that was interesting). “These were the numbered of the children of Israel, six hundred thousand and a thousand seven hundred and thirty.” Num. 26:51. And then throughout the Bible, there is more numbering and more genealogies and they seem to go on and on and on.

What is the point? What are all these genealogies and all this numbering for? Well, there are some obvious answers. First off, if God wanted all of these things added to His word, there must be a reason. It is obvious *He* did not need a record of it... I’m pretty sure God can remember. So, the reason for having all of this in His word is for *us*. He has put these genealogies and the numbering in His word for *our* benefit.

Well then, what might those benefits be? Firstly, the genealogical record shows what family Jesus came from and this gives us courage and faith as we see the prophetic statements about Jesus’ birth. He was born here of a woman and did not just come from heaven, but lived as we live... here on this earth. We can trace Jesus’ birth all the way from Adam. We know who His mother and father were, his grandfather, great grandfather, etc., etc. We can see that there is a specific and direct line all the way down the historical time-line.

Nothing has happened by accident

And one of the exciting things about that is that it shows that God has been in control from the very beginning. There have been no accidents; there has been



no “big bang”; there has been a determined, exact, defined plan since creation. And when we can see the definite plan from the very beginning, right up to the time of Jesus, we can then be strengthened to know that there is also a definite plan right up to the time of heaven. These genealogies are to strengthen our faith! We are to look at them as a model of perfection that God has created and that He will continue on to the end of this world.

So many today wonder if God even knows if they’re alive. They fear they are all alone; they are constantly harassed by the devil to tempt them to feel as if there is no point to this life... to *their* lives; they live in fear that it is all meaningless. The genealogies God put in His word refute all of that. The genealogies show us that nothing is happening by chance and that He is aware of every single individual on this earth! The genealogies prove that there is a point to all of our lives and that God is directing each and every path. These genealogies are there to ever remind us that we mean something to God and that we count. We count! Every single one of us counts!

The devil hates it when he sees how much we matter to God

God didn’t count the people for Him... He counted them for us! He loves us so much He wanted us to know that we matter to Him. We *count* to Him! That is fantastic news! In all of the cosmos and eternity of time, God took the time and effort out to put in His word that we matter... we count! Praise the Lord!

Now we can look at all these genealogies not as a long, tiresome effort to go through in the Bible, but as a literal representation of how much we actually mean to the God of the universe! The devil absolutely hates it when we see God’s love through the Bible record. And he tries to make these efforts of the Lord in numbering and creating the genealogical record a galling, tedious endeavor. Most people I know don’t like going through the genealogies. I don’t feel like that any more. Now I look at these records as a picture of the love of a Father who stopped everything He was doing to make sure I could look at this representation of Him and be encouraged and receive hope.

In a world filled with people who have accepted the idea





of blind luck and chance and that “things just happen” ... this proves all of that wrong. No, things don’t just happen. Things are orchestrated like a huge symphony, where every single person has a job and a function to make the beautiful music. It’s just that this orchestra is so large that we cannot imagine it being like that.

Many might ask what the point of writing all of this down is. I mean, one after the other and after the other and another, etc., etc., etc. Why just keep going on and on and on? What might seem tedious and boring to us, simply means we don’t get the plan. We don’t understand that there are no extra people. We *all* matter to Him. And our value to Him is so high that He was willing to send His only Son to make sure we get home to Him.

Each individual is part of this great whole

It is so vast and huge and beyond our understanding that we simply give up trying to fathom it, and act like it is not true. We can’t comprehend that kind of love. When God says His love is deep and wide and tall and that His ways are not like our ways and our understanding is not like His, and you wonder how this can be... look at the genealogies. Look at the counting. When we say, “I don’t get it”, then we can see that we don’t think like God thinks.

Everything is interconnected. We are all part of the great whole. When we see a huge flock of birds... we see just that - a whole bunch of birds. But to God, He sees individual birds. He knows each one. And Jesus says that not a single one of them falls without His Father being intimately aware of it. There are no extra birds or clouds or leaves or anything on this planet. That is how big our God is! That is how perfect He is.

How intimately God knows His children!

And speaking of numbering... What did Jesus say about the very hairs on our heads? “But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.” Matt. 10:30. Do you think Jesus was just making a point about something, or do you

actually believe Him? Do you believe that God actually keeps a count of how many hairs you have on your head? Jesus said He numbers them! Talk about being known! Talk about intimacy! Do you know anybody else who knows you that well?

When we begin to understand how well God knows us and how much He cares for us, then we begin to grasp that there is a warm blanket of love that surrounds us that the devil cannot tear away from us. We begin, ever so dimly, to understand that our heavenly Father loves us with an everlasting love. When we read about the numbers and the begats, we see a new light. We see a Father who is so aware of our every thought and worry and concern and feeling that we become overwhelmed with a desire to love Him and to be with Him. We begin to see in every stone and every flower and every blade of grass an intricate plan so immense and so vast and so enormous that it calls forth from us a praise and gratitude that we can barely understand.

Our own love becomes perfect when we truly understand God’s love for us

When we get into that position... that understanding... that mindset, if you will, we cannot ever be moved. No matter what anyone says or does or acts like... we know better. When others question, we are confident. When others doubt, we are full of faith. When others complain, we praise. When others see no light at the end of the tunnel, we are bathed in glory. When other people cannot see the grand design in all of this world, we see a tapestry that shows a glorious picture of our Saviour and our heavenly Father! And as this view becomes ever clearer to us, we begin to love God more and more until *our* love becomes perfect.

And you know what the scripture says about perfect love... “There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.” 1 John 4:18. John was there. John saw the plan. John recognized the interconnectedness of everything. He saw the glory of the genealogies and the





numbering. And it made John love God with a perfect love. And when he loved God like that, he was through with fear.

When we fully realize love, all fear will leave us

When we see the plan, when we see the unfathomable intricacy of God's entire design, then we can't help but sing praises to His name. It will burst forth from us uncontrollably. We won't be able to help it. And when we realize that everything, *absolutely* everything, is planned and that nothing is accidental, then all fear and all worry and concern for or about anything is cast out. Hallelujah!

Do you see the numbering and the genealogies in a different light now? Do they have a new and different meaning now? That is an indication of our thoughts becoming more like His thoughts. That feeling that you are experiencing is fear leaving the mind! Can you imagine the witnesses we can and *will* be when there is no fear? And this is where God is bringing us as the last days come upon us. He knows that men's hearts are failing them for fear. So He wants our hearts strong and alive and willing to step up and be a part of His plan.

How many real Christians do you know?

And speaking about being a part of His plan... I'd like to address one more thing about the numbering. God's people have always been a small number. But saying it is a small number is very relative. I mean, when we say there are few of us, how many is that? Well, if there are 100 people, a few might be 10. If there are a thousand, a few might be a hundred. But God has not left us to wonder. He numbered the people so we would know just how few there were.

Let's get real here for a minute. Have you ever looked out into the world and felt there were very, very few actual Christians? How about in your family? How about in the Church? There are only a few who see God as He is and want to be with Him. There have always been just a few. Remember when God chose Israel? He pointed that out... "The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you,

because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people:" Deut. 7:7. Why did He "set His love" upon the fewest of the people? Why not start with a huge nation of people to have more to get the message out? Because those who follow God have always been fewest in number. What did Jesus say about the two paths? "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matt. 7:14.

There have always been just a few

The devil has always used our small numbers against us. He says things like, "How can you be the only one in your family?" Or, "Out of all the world, you people are the only ones who are right?" Or, "If you have the truth, then why aren't the rest of the Christians following it?"

But God gave us the answer to his temptations...The numbering of Israel. There have always been just a few! For there to be a few now just follows what the rest of the Bible has shown us all along. The devil just *hates* it when we can see through his lies and deceptions! And as things start heating up in this world and the devil really begins to enforce his false Sabbath, he will again try to use our small numbers against us. Then the numbering of Israel will make even more sense to us.

God has been educating us all along the way to realize, and then to remember, that His people are very few in this world. The scriptures where the number of people that choose God is small will then become very precious to us.

God has prepared His word, before it was ever written down by man, to give us just what we needed to strengthen our faith. Again we see the power and the wisdom of our God. He knew what was going to come. He knew what temptations the devil would use. He was perfectly aware of exactly what we needed to bolster our faith in troublous times. And He had these texts and genealogies and numbering added to His word.

Can you see the glory and perfection and the exactness in His plan? Nothing has happened by accident! Nothing has taken our God by surprise. Everything has flowed and followed a course that God knew perfectly well, and has been prepared for it before it ever *began* to happen. Don't you want to serve a God like that? Does it not give us a peace that passeth all understanding to know that our God





is in control of everything? It makes me want to give my heart to Him more fully every day!

After Jesus, there were no more genealogies

And let’s address yet one more educational example with these genealogies. There are genealogies in both the Old and New Testaments, as I mentioned before. But after Jesus, the genealogies stop. Have you noticed that? When the Jews rejected Jesus, there were no more genealogies. After the death of the Son of God and the rejection of their Saviour, the Jews were no longer numbered or reckoned by genealogy. Why do you suppose that was?

Jesus made it very, very clear. “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.” Matt. 23:37,38.

It was over for the Jews as a nation that served God. They rejected their God. And their God had rejected them. “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.” Hos. 4:6.

The Jewish nation has no special significance

There are many reasons for the genealogies, and there are also reasons for there being no more genealogies. But the devil still tries to convince us that the nation of the Jews have particular significance. As usual, he tries to get us to focus our attention anywhere but where it needs to be. Jews can be saved of course; I’m not saying they can’t. But as a *nation*, it has been over for them for almost 2,000 years.

The devil loves all the misdirected and misguided focus on the Jews, as a nation. Their “house” was left desolate almost 2,000 years ago. And a very good example of that is the lack of genealogies any more. The Jews as a nation are no longer God’s peculiar people. WE are God’s peculiar people now. *Christians* are God’s shining example of His people today. That’s why as Christians, we are to do what the nation of the Jews once did...Follow God wherever He leads and keep His commandments. We are the ones now

who are the apple of His eye. There is no specific nation of people... there is a world of people. And yet, as the numbering used to show, that “world of people” is still, and always has been, a small world.

God’s true people are the obedient ones

Who are God’s people now? Not the Jewish nation. Not the people who “say” they are Christians. Not the people that reject knowledge. Not the ones who have forgotten His law. No, God’s people are the ones who do what He says. “Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.” Rev. 14:12. These people have learned the truth about the genealogies and the numbering. These people love their God because they have seen how much He loves them. These people see in God’s word a testament to His love and care and desire for them.

So, why all the genealogies and the counting? To show us who God is and cause us to love Him even more. When we look at Him and His word, we are filled with a desire to love Him and be more like Him. His law is not a burden or a yoke... it is a glorious revealing of His character and an actual expression of His love for us. We see that law, and it is love. And we keep it, not because we have to, not to get to heaven, not to keep from burning in hell, but because we want to be like Jesus and His Father, and they are the embodiment of the law.

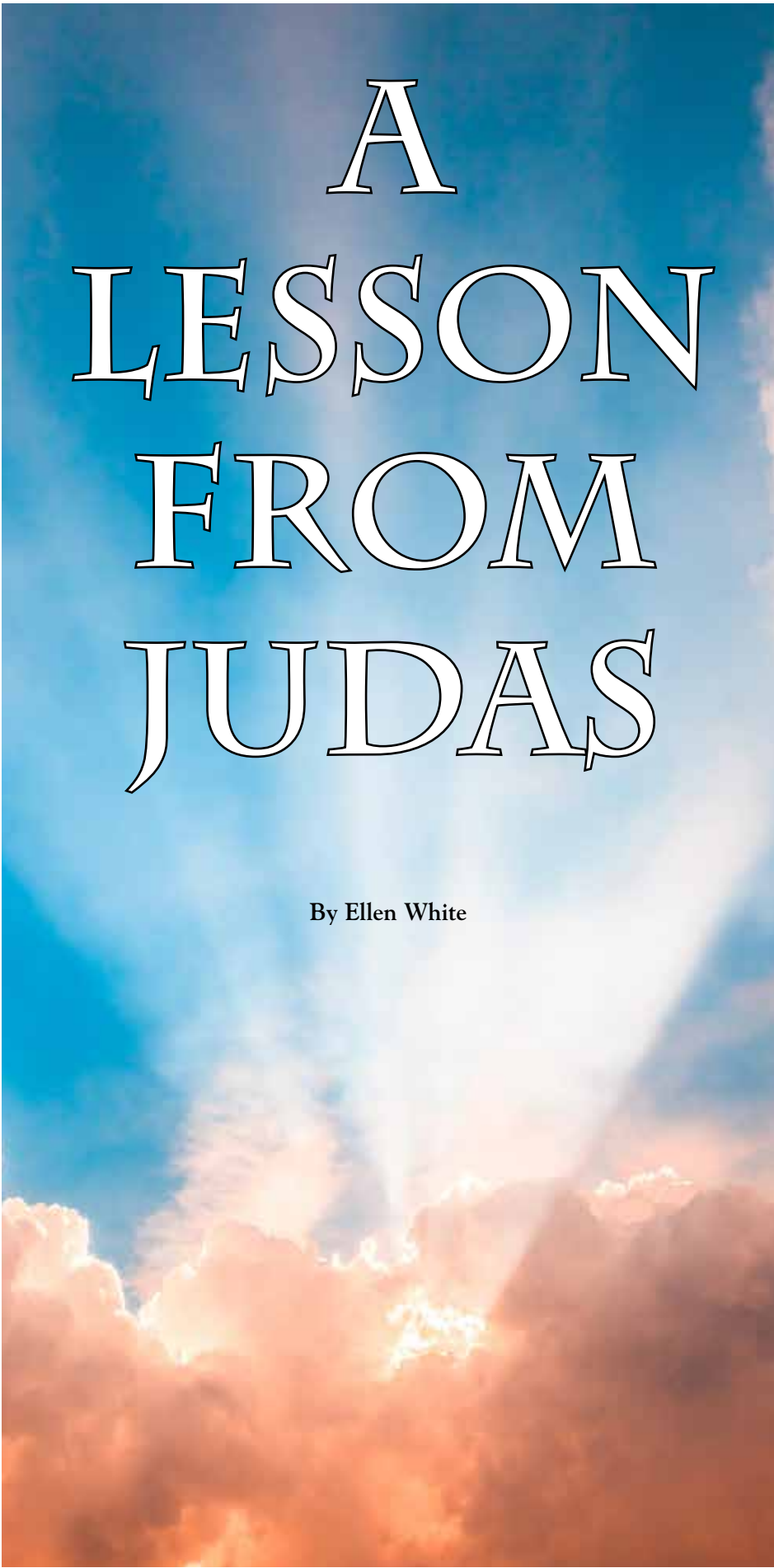
God’s law and our lives become so intertwined that we cannot be separated

God does not keep the law... He *is* the law! And as we grow closer to Him, the same thing begins to apply to us. We no longer just keep it... we *become* it. The law and our lives are so intertwined that we cannot be separated. The genealogies, the numbering, the law... we see as one, glorious whole. And the more we see it, the more we become part of that divine plan that God instituted from the beginning. And those homes that Jesus has been preparing for us, will be just right, and just what we want, and will be perfect... absolutely perfect.

And the ring of harmony in our voices, coupled with the joyous community of heaven, will resound with a glory and a splendor and a grandeur that God had planned from the very beginning. May we even now begin to raise those anthems of praise is my prayer!



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



A LESSON FROM JUDAS

By Ellen White

“Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover. And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people. Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve.” Satan would not have entered into Judas if he had not opened the door to give him admittance. He would not have entered into him if he had been a doer of the words of Christ. “Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.” Had he been a doer of the words of Christ, he would have taken heed, and would have barricaded the soul, so that Satan could not have entered.

Judas had had great light; he had had many opportunities to understand what were the requirements of God. Numbered among the twelve, he had listened to the lessons of Christ; he had heard the truth, and he had no excuse for failing to form a character after the likeness of Christ. It had been his privilege to behold the character of Christ, to contemplate his goodness, his compassion, to see his works of mercy, to behold his wonderful miracles in healing the sick and giving life to the dead. He should have been rich in faith, and bound to Christ with cords of love which nothing could sever; but though a hearer of the words of Christ, he was not a doer of his word. Had Judas improved his opportunities and appreciated his privileges while being in close relationship with Christ as a disciple, he would have watched unto prayer, and would have overcome his besetting sin, avarice and covetousness, which is idolatry, and would have become transformed in character. But, although Christ gave lessons in condemnation of this sin, Judas did not feel his danger. He did not make his request to God for the aid of the Holy Spirit to help his infirmities, nor did he earnestly

strive for the best gifts in order that he might accomplish the greatest good and receive grace for grace.

GOOD AND HOLY IMPRESSIONS COULD NOT BE MADE UPON THE HEART OF JUDAS

In this age, if those who come under the precious influence of the truth do not become transformed in character, they will, like Judas, go from light to darkness; and how great will be their darkness. God had intrusted to Judas talents of ability, and if he had used these gifts of God in blessing humanity with the rays of light that shone upon him from the Sun of Righteousness, he would have had increased light, and his path would have been as the path of the just, which shineth more and more unto the perfect day. But he was more eager for position, for rank and wealth, than for the glory of God and the good of humanity. He became so narrow in his ideas, so selfish in his plans, that good and holy impressions could not be made upon his heart and mind. Had he as eagerly sought for the spirit of true goodness, mercy, compassion, forbearance, and true courtesy, as he did for power and wealth, he would not have possessed the attributes of Satan, but would have manifested the

attributes of the character of Him who daily lived not to please himself, but went about doing good, healing all who were possessed of the devil. Judas had talents of influence, and had he received the Spirit of Christ, he would have been transformed in character so that he could have accomplished the work to which God had called him. God qualifies his disciples for the work which he would have them do, and gives them talents according to their several ability. But in order that they may do the work for which they are called, they are admonished to wait, to watch, to pray, lest Satan shall take advantage of them.

CHRIST ALONE OUR HELPER

Every one who truly becomes the disciple of Christ will be tested and tried. If the human agent will fully determine that he cannot and will not live without Christ, he will be an overcomer. Although, like Peter, James, and John, he may reveal defects of character, yet he will receive the lessons of reproof from the Saviour, and will be transformed in character. The angels of God will be around the tempted soul who is striving for the victory. His determination, his importunity, will bring to him the necessary strength and grace.

James and John thought that they

could obtain the favor of God, and, for the asking, have a seat at the right hand and at the left hand of Christ when he received his kingdom. But Jesus answered and said: "Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?" This inquiry meant, Can you bear the test and proving of God? Can you drink the cup of self-denial, of humiliation, reproach, suffering, ignominy, and death? They said, "We are able." O, how little did they understand what would be the sufferings of Christ! Had they known, they would have shrunk back from such a statement, and their answer would have been one of far less assurance and self-confidence. Could they have realized that their Lord would be subjected to such utter humiliation as he was, could they have seen him staggering and falling under the cross, and known that their own path would be one of reproach, of ignominy, of imprisonment, of persecution and shame, before they could win the crown, they would never have said in self-confidence, "We are able." But they did become partakers of the sufferings of Christ. They did drink of the cup of which he drank, and were baptized with the baptism with which he was baptized.



EVERY DEFECT IN CHARACTER MUST BE OVERCOME

It is essential that the lessons of humility that Christ has given should be thoroughly understood. These disciples of Christ loved Jesus, and were ever close to him. James and John desired the privilege of being nearest to Jesus in the kingdom of heaven. This led them to ask for a seat upon his right hand and upon his left hand. But every disciple, from age to age, is individually required to take up his cross and follow where Christ leads the way, learning in the school of Christ his meekness and lowliness of heart.

Those who reign with Christ in his kingdom must have a fellowship in his suffering. Every defect in character condemned by the law of God, must through the grace of Christ, which is freely given to every soul who desires it, be overcome. Every hereditary and cultivated tendency to evil must be seen, subdued, and cleansed, that the soul temple may become fit for the indwelling of the Spirit of God. The divine will must be accepted, and the human will brought into harmony with God, though it cause bitter agony and tears. Traits of character that are offensive to God are often very dear to man, and are cherished as virtues. How blind is humanity unless the light of heaven is accepted and cherished! When truth is laid hold of resolutely, and a firm, determined purpose is cherished to bring the life into harmony with truth, then is cultivated the faith that works by love and purifies the soul. Then the disciples of Christ manifest that steadfastness of purpose that will not fail nor be discouraged. God will bestow his gifts to the striving soul in proportion to his willingness to receive, and his readiness to impart for the glory of God.



JESUS ALONE CAN BREAK EVERY YOKE

But the same resistance to light is manifested now as was manifested in the days of Christ. O, why did not the Jewish nation know and understand Jesus? He could have been everything to them. "In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not. . . . That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."

No one of us has the power to save himself. Jesus, the world's Redeemer, can alone give power to reform, to believe in himself as the Restorer. He alone can break every yoke. All the outward ceremonies of the Jews, all

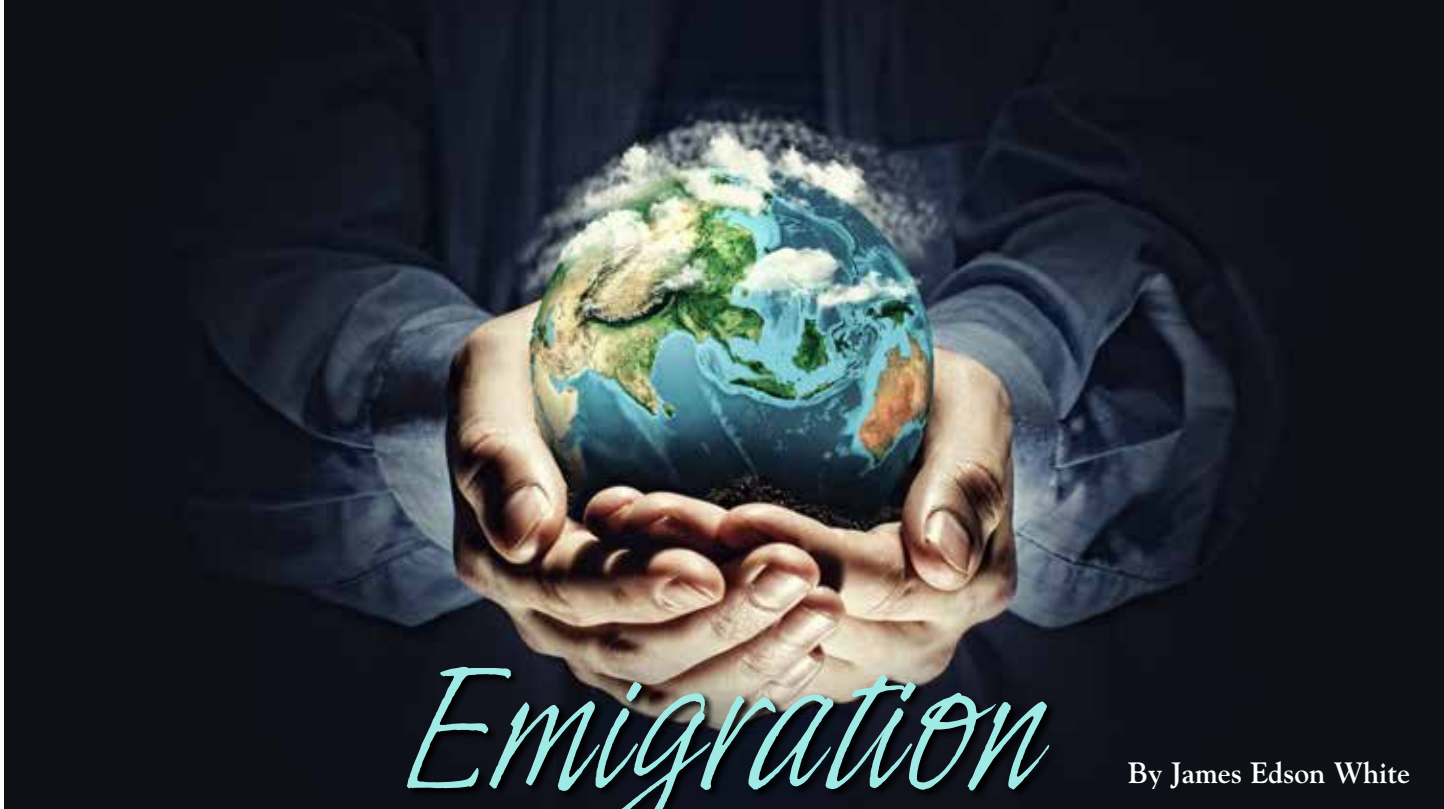
their sacrificial offerings, were of no virtue, for the One prefigured in them stood in the midst of them, and, sad fact, they knew him not. He came unto his own, the nation he had redeemed from Egyptian slavery, but they would not receive him.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name; which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only-begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth." "But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."

ST, July 18, 1895



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.



Emigration

By James Edson White

**For they say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.
Heb. 11:14**

Satan has held possession of this world for nearly six thousand years. Originally the earth belonged to man; for God gave it to him at creation. When man chose to obey Satan rather than God, he left the service of his Creator, and entered the service of Satan. In conquering man Satan became the master and man became the servant, and so man lost his dominion of the earth, it passing into the hands of Satan, his conqueror. Paul tells how this was done in the following words: "Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey?" Romans 6:16.

The earth was not created in vain

God designed that man should retain possession of the earth, it having been made for him, for God said to him: "Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion

over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." Genesis 1:28.

God's purpose in regard to this earth will finally be carried out. Hear what the Lord says through His prophet: "For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God

Himself that formed the earth and made it; He hath established it, He created it not in vain, He formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; and there is none else." Isaiah 45:18.

God's purpose will not fail of fulfillment, even though sin and wickedness may control this earth for thousands of years. Satan may exult in apparent overthrow of God's designs, but his triumph will be short. From out of the many generations which have dwelt on the earth, a people will be gathered which have been true to God and His government, and to them,





Son of God, a way has been opened by which those who do not love the government of Satan can leave it, and return to the government and kingdom of God. Unless we accept the principles of God's government, and are transferred into His kingdom, we remain subjects of Satan's kingdom, and will surely perish with him in that day when all the enemies of God's government are destroyed.

Those who accept the offers of Christ no longer belong to the kingdom of Satan. They have given allegiance to the government of God, and have become citizens of the kingdom of Christ. Paul says of this change, "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son." Colossians 1:13.

The change from the evil of Satan's kingdom to the righteousness of the kingdom of Christ is spoken of as a "translation". We may well accept the term, for the change that takes place in the righteous when they are finally translated at the coming of the Lord, can be no greater than that which takes place in the sinner when he leaves the service of sin and Satan for the service of Christ and its purity.

Sin, discord, and rebellion will never be in heaven again

Those who have thus been "translated" no longer

through Christ, shall come "the first dominion". Micah 4:8.

The kingdom of God and the kingdom of Satan both exist on earth

Of this time we read in Daniel 7:18: "But the saints of the Most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever." This refers to the full and final restoration of this earth, and its passing into the possession of the people of God.

Even now two kingdoms exist in the earth. One is the kingdom of God, a kingdom of righteousness, set up by Christ. The other is the kingdom of evil set up by Satan. The existence of these two kingdoms is recognized by Christ in Matthew 11:26, 28.

Satan's rule has been one long period of deception, wickedness, cruelty, and oppression. His kingdom is a frightful despotism, and the principles of his government are summed up in few words: Opposition to God and all the principles of His government. His motto: "Evil, be thou my good."

When we accept Christ we become citizens of his kingdom

Through sin all the human family belong to the kingdom of Satan. By the sacrifice and mediation of the



belong to the kingdom of Satan, and hence have ceased to be citizens of this world. The patriarchs recognized this truth, “and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.” Hebrews 11:13.

Abraham realized that this sinful, fallen earth, was not his home: “For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.” Hebrews 11:10. This is the city of the New Jerusalem, which Christ went to prepare according to His promise in John 14:1-3, and which is finally to descend upon the earth, and become its capital city. This city and its “foundations”, which Abraham expected to behold, are described in Revelation 21.

But none will be allowed to enter that “better country” unless it shall be known that they will be good citizens. John declares that “there shall in nowise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb’s book of life.” Revelation 21:27.

There was sin, discord, and rebellion in heaven once, and it brought sorrow into all the universe of God. Never again will it be permitted to enter. So every one who desires to emigrate to that better country must be thoroughly tried here. By this trial we become fitted for a home with God and the holy angels. A character is thus developed that is in harmony with



God, and that can be relied upon throughout eternity.

Those who refuse to obey God’s law will not be allowed to emigrate to that “better country”

God has given a book of instruction which tells man what is required of him. In this book, called the Bible, or the word of God, is given the law of God to govern him. This law contains the principles which govern in heaven.

By studying God’s word, and by obedience to his law, our characters are changed, and we become like those who live in heaven. If we refuse to obey God’s law, we do not make the needed change in character, and so remain citizens of earth and members of Satan’s kingdom. Such persons could not be in harmony with the obedience which prevails in heaven, and so will not be allowed to emigrate to that heavenly country.

Thus we can see that all God’s commands to us are for the purpose of bringing us into harmony with heaven, so that by and by we may be fitted for our heavenly home.

But many have listened, and will continue to listen to what men say, and are obeying them contrary to God’s expressed commands. Will God accept service from such? Hear what Christ says: “In vain do they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.” Matthew 15:9.





Hope for Health

Did you know? A properly functioning immune system destroys up to 10,000 unhealthy cells EVERY DAY! Our C-Blast is formulated with only the finest, purest, whole-food ingredients that will give your immune system a BLAST of power!

C-BLAST

DISCOVER SOME OF THE BENEFITS OF THE 15 EXTRAORDINARY INGREDIENTS IN C-BLAST:

- **Acerola Cherry** - Packed full of vitamin C, this cherry promotes a strong immune system that can fight off infection more efficiently.
- **Camu Camu** - Supports the immune system and helps maintain optimal health; especially under conditions of stress and anxiety, which tend to deplete the immune system.
- **Indian Goose Berry** - With 20 times the Vitamin C of an orange, this little berry packs a punch. Supports a strong immune system, which can fight off infection effectively.
- **Whole Grapefruit** - High in vitamin C and bioflavonoids that boost the immune system and help promote healthy cell growth while inhibiting unhealthy cell replication.
- **Whole Lemon Fruit** - Restores acid-alkali balance. Helps maintain the body's internal "climate" at a pH which supports healthy bacteria instead of the viruses and harmful bacteria which thrive in more acidic environments. Fights infections & purifies the blood.
- **Whole Lime Fruit** - Very high in Vitamin C, lime fruit aids in fever reduction and supports the immune system. It helps maintain respiratory health.
- **Whole Orange Fruit** - Rich in vitamin C, orange fruit helps to boost the immune function. Full of vitamins & minerals that help keep the body healthy & strong.
- **Alfalfa Grass Juice** - Improves vitality and stimulates the immune system. It contains ALL the known vitamins, and a plethora of other key minerals and nutrients.
- **Wheat Grass Juice** - Provides a unique source of nutrition that helps to balance the immune system. It will strengthen deficiencies and reduce overactive systems.
- **Oat Grass Juice** - Strengthens a weak constitution. Packed with nutrients, oat grass juice: is full of vitamins and minerals, is very high in protein, and contains all the essential amino acids along with chlorophyll, flavonoids, lecithin, and enzymes.
- **Barley Grass Juice** - Contains immune-boosting properties and protects the body from unhealthy cell formation.

- **Red Grape Juice** - A natural antioxidant and anti-inflammatory, it boosts immunity.
- **Raspberry Juice** - Rich in vitamins A and C, raspberry juice enhances the immune system during the winter season when immunity is down.
- **Blueberry Juice** - Called a "super food," blueberry juice enhances the effectiveness of vitamin C on the immune system and reduces inflammation.
- **Blackberry Juice** - A rich source of Vitamin C, blackberry juice helps to stimulate the immune system and prevent infections.

YOU COULD BE DEFICIENT IN VITAMIN C IF YOU ARE SUFFERING FROM:

- Muscle and joint pain
- Loose teeth, swollen, sore, or bleeding gums
- Low resistance to illness
- Fragile bones, easy bruising, or difficulty healing
- Exhaustion/weakness/feeling extra tired

INTERESTING VITAMIN C FACTS:

- People who smoke need on average an additional 35 mg. of vitamin C every day than people who don't smoke.
- Vitamin C aids the body's absorption of iron. Foods such as broccoli and spinach are high in both, and therefore pack a double-health punch!

BENEFITS OF OUR SPECIAL FORMULA WHOLE FOOD C-BLAST INCLUDE:

- Regulated stress and energy levels
- Strengthened immune system
- Improved skin tone and suppleness
- Support of the gastrointestinal tract
- Enhanced ability to heal and repair wounds
- Improved ability to maintain healthy cholesterol and blood pressure

To Order Call Today:

1-800-468-7884

or Visit us on the web at:

www.hopeforhealthusa.com

*Prices listed do not include shipping and handling or sales tax

*These statements have not been evaluated by the FDA. This product is not intended to prevent, diagnose, treat, or cure any disease.

Price:

90 caplets.....\$15.99
180 caplets.....\$26.99

Suggested Adult Usage:

- Normal does to increase immune function: 1 caplet with each meal (3 per day).
- To fight current problem: 2-4 caplets every 4 hours until symptoms subside.



Combining nature, faith, and love to bring healing to the world.

Health Gem

C-BLAST

By Diane Styles

When colder weather starts seeping into our bones we recognize that we should be looking to stock up on that powerful little antioxidant, vitamin C, to help maintain and increase our defenses against winter chills and ills. However, did you know that our bodies need constant daily supplies of vitamin C for a wider range of health issues?

Vitamin C is a highly effective antioxidant; antioxidants being essential substances our body needs to help keep high energy molecules called free radicals in check. Without an adequate supply of antioxidants, these free radicals, agents that are responsible for aging and tissue damage, proliferate and attack our healthy body cells. If left unchecked, they will cause those healthy cells to start replicating abnormally and uncontrollably, resulting in the development of serious and chronic illnesses.

Even in small amounts vitamin C can protect indispensable molecules in the body, such as proteins, lipids (fats), carbohydrates, and nucleic acids, from damage by free radicals and reactive oxygen species that can be generated during our normal

daily metabolism as well as through exposure to toxins and pollutants. In other words, damage is caused to our bodies not only by our eating and drinking things we shouldn't, but also simply by the required and normal daily processes involved by our organs working for and cleaning them.

Vitamin C is required for the synthesis of collagen, an important structural component of our blood vessels, skin, tendons, ligaments, skin, bone, teeth, cartilage, heart valves, vertebrae, cornea, eye lens, and the substance between cells; all are formed from collagen, and vitamin C is the chief ingredient in collagen. Without enough vitamin C, the body is unable to form collagen and is unable to repair itself. Some collagen forms in the absence of Vitamin C, but the fibers are abnormal and will result in skin lesions and fragile blood vessels.

This important vitamin plays a role in healing wounds. It helps to boost the immune system, enabling it to effectively fight off infections. It also helps protect our bodies against

the inflammation associated with respiratory and congestive problems, and joint deterioration.

Recent research has found that vitamin C plays a big part in our circulatory health and in assisting to prevent blood vessel changes that can lead to serious vascular problems - and that it reduces cellular DNA damage, which is the vital first step in the initiation of inflammatory changes that allow a damaged cell to grow into a dangerous tumor. It was stated in the same report that vitamin C dramatically combats the oxidative damage caused by smoking and even exposure to tobacco smoke, and that it may also mitigate (meaning limit, check or diminish) the risk of serious respiratory conditions. Ensuring we have an adequate daily supply of vitamin C supplements has also been found to speed the clearance of the Helicobacter pylori bacterium from the stomach, which is responsible for the formation of gastric and duodenal ulcers and abnormal cell development in the stomach and intestines.

However, vitamin C is more than a "warrior against disease" it is also called the "beauty vitamin". The beauty industry has long known that





vitamin C, in food and cream form, is vital for good skin. It helps form collagen and elastin (essential to keep the skin looking plump, taught and young) and its antioxidant properties protect us from the harsh effects of the environment, such as UV rays, pollution, and a bad diet – which means it helps prevent our skin from sun damage, reduces the incidence of sunburn, and helps restrain the development of those annoying wrinkles, ladies!

In fact, every cell in our body has a function which in some way depends on vitamin C. It is vital to so many chemical reactions in the body that without it life would not be possible. Energy cannot be made in any cell either in the brain or muscles without adequate vitamin C. Vitamin C defends our body against foreign invaders of every type, and as stated, is the main ingredient of collagen, which is what our skin, bones, hair, teeth and nails are formed from.

Vitamin C kills both virus and bacteria directly, aids in neutralizing the toxins they give off, and also feeds our own antibodies and white blood cells. It has killing power against viruses. However, what is not widely known is that as much as 1000 milligrams of vitamin C can be used in an hour when the body is fighting

illness. Seldom do people take enough, or know how much to take. The body's own antibodies are unable to fight bacteria without vitamin C.

So, as we can see, the C vitamin plays a very powerful and essential role in our sustained good health and youthful appearance as well! And the good news is, Hope International's *C-Blast* abounds in this essential nutrient – in fact, every one of the 15 listed ingredients in *C-Blast* is abundant in vitamin C nutrition.

Here is a list of what *C-Blast* contains, and some of the benefits of those 15 extraordinary ingredients:

Acerola Cherry – Acerola cherries in fact contain more vitamin C than all other fruits in the world excepting the Camu Camu berry.

One cup of raw orange slices contains 95.8mg (1,916 IU) of vitamin C, or 160% of the recommended daily value, according to Nutrition Data presented by the USDA. One cup of acerola cherries contains 1644mg (32,880 IU), or 2,740% of the daily recommended value!

Camu Camu – This berry is packed with more natural vitamin C than any other food source recorded on the planet, as well as beta-carotene, potassium, calcium, iron, niacin, phosphorus, protein, serine, thiamin, leucine and valine, all contributing

to the camu camu's astringent, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, emollient and nutritional properties.

Indian Gooseberry – With 20 times the Vitamin C of an orange, this little berry also packs a punch. Its properties enhance food absorption, balance stomach acid, help maintain healthy liver, brain and mental functioning, as well as healthy cardiovascular and respiratory systems, assist in regulating our elimination processes and urinary system in general, are good for the skin, promote healthier hair, act as a body coolant, flush out toxins, assist in increasing our vitality and strengthening the eyes, and improve our muscle tone. Not a small effort for these very small fruits!

Whole Grapefruit – Grapefruit is also a rich source of vitamin C, as well as bioflavonoids which are believed to:

- have an antibacterial effect
- promote circulation
- stimulate bile production
- help maintain healthy blood cholesterol levels
- assist with continuing good eye health
- act as antihistamines
- have anti-inflammatory properties



- act with vitamin C to protect and preserve the structure of capillary blood vessels!

Whole Lemon Fruit – They are also a very good source of potassium, calcium, fiber, and vitamin B6. Potassium is an important component of cell and body fluids which help control heart rate and blood pressure; calcium is essential for strong bones and teeth; phosphorus is essential for healthy bone formation, improved digestion, excretion, protein formation, hormone balance, cell repair, chemical reactions, and nutrient utilization, making it an essential element for our diet. Fiber helps to ensure a smoothly operating digestive tract and vitamin B6 is specifically important for normal brain and nerve function, and also helps the body break down proteins and make red blood cells.

Also present in lemons are iron, magnesium, riboflavin and thiamin. Iron is a mineral needed by every body cell. It carries oxygen from our lungs to all parts of the body. It also helps our muscles store and use oxygen.

We need thiamine so that our body can use carbohydrates as energy – it is essential for glucose metabolism. Riboflavin helps our bodies break down calories, thereby producing much-needed energy supplies and assists our bodies to produce red blood cells. Magnesium

is responsible for over 300 essential and different chemical reactions in the body, including maintaining your energy level, helping you relax, and sustaining the health of your heart and blood vessels.

Lemons also contain flavonoids with properties to assist the body in preventing abnormal cell growth. In animal research and lab tests using human cells, limonoids, which are a compound in lemons, have been shown to battle abnormal growth in breast, stomach, colon, skin and lung tissues. As well, the lemon's properties restore our bodies' acid-alkaline balance, helps maintain its internal "climate" at a pH which supports healthy bacteria instead of the viruses and harmful bacteria which thrive in more acidic environments, fight infections and purify the blood. Whoever would have thought this one fruit would contain so much benefit for us?

Whole Lime Fruit – Very high in Vitamin C, lime aids in fever reduction and supports the immune system and also helps maintain respiratory health.

Whole Orange Fruit – Rich in vitamin C, orange fruit helps to boost the immune function. It is full of vitamins & minerals that help keep the body healthy & strong.

Alfalfa Grass Juice – Improves vitality and stimulates the immune system. It contains all the known

vitamins, and a plethora of other key minerals and nutrients.

Wheat Grass Juice – Provides a unique source of nutrition that helps to balance the immune system. It will strengthen deficiencies and reduce overactive systems. It also contains – you guessed it, more vitamin C!

Oat Grass Juice – Strengthens a weak constitution. Packed with nutrients, oat grass juice: is full of vitamins and minerals, is very high in protein, and contains all the essential amino acids along with chlorophyll, flavonoids, lecithin, and enzymes – *and* it contains 300% more Vitamin C than wheatgrass juice!

Barley Grass Juice – Contains immune-boosting properties (and close to seven times the vitamin C content in oranges!) and protects the body from unhealthy cell formation, **Red Grape Juice** – Another fruit abundant in vitamin C, the red grape is a natural antioxidant and anti-inflammatory, and boosts the body's immune system.

Raspberry Juice – Rich in vitamins A and C, raspberry juice enhances the immune system during the winter season when immunity is down.

Blueberry Juice – Called a "super food," blueberry juice enhances the effectiveness of vitamin C on the immune system and reduces inflammation.

Blackberry Juice – Yet another rich source of Vitamin C, blackberry juice



helps to stimulate the immune system and prevent infections.

When we realize the overflowing abundance of good for us to be found in even this short list of herbal and fruit properties, it is certainly hard not to believe that our Creator definitely had our health in mind when creating the foods we eat!

So how much vitamin C should I take?

When vitamin C destroys viruses, bacteria, pollutants etc, the vitamin itself is also destroyed. Prominent nutritionist and biochemist Adelle Davis believes as much as 20 to 40 times more vitamin C is needed when a person is ill. Many people may have tried simply “taking extra vitamin C” when they have a cold and not noticed much – this is simply because they do not take enough!

When our bodies are exposed to stress (physical or emotional pressure), our stores of vitamin C are depleted by the adrenal gland which requires one molecule of vitamin C to make one molecule of adrenaline. One cigarette uses 50 mg. (1000 IU) of vitamin C and an average of 200 to 300 mg. of

vitamin C (4000 to 6000 IU) per day is needed to raise a smoker’s vitamin C level to that of a non-smoker.

If you drink alcohol, live in a polluted city, take drugs of any sort, smoke, or have stress in your life, all these factors use up the extra C you are taking and there is not enough left over to fight illness. Any type of strain reduces our resistance to infection.

This is where the old wives tale “if you go outside in the rain you’ll catch a cold” actually came from, although it is certainly not true in each case. There is, however, some logic here in that when a person’s body temperature is exposed to the elements, it is stressed and this uses up vitamin C, thus making the body less able to fight bacteria which may come along.

The RDA, which is 60mg (1200 IU), is enough to prevent people from dying of scurvy, but this amount does not factor in how many milligrams are destroyed by whether or not people live in a polluted city, or drink coffee or alcohol, etc.

The ideal amount of C for the average individual to start with is around 1000 to 10,000 mg depending on what they expose themselves to.

The man who discovered vitamin

C, Albert Szent-Gyorgyi, took 1000 mg per day in 1928, before the research on it had been completed and all the benefits were known. Linus Pauling took 10,000 to 18,000 mg (200,000 to 360,000 IU) per day; Dr. Michael Colgan, prominent researcher of vitamin C, takes 5000 mg (100000 IU) per day.

We need to remember that vitamin C is not stored in the body, so we need a constant supply from food and supplements.

The most effective form of vitamin C comes from whole-food sources. *C-Blast* is a potent, whole-food vitamin C blend, and with natural vitamin C being such an essential daily requirement, that is sure good to know!

You can see all the abundant benefits of *C-Blast* from Hope for Health, together with further details and ordering methods in our online store at www.hopeforhealthusastore.com. Please also ask for a copy of our informative and educational product catalog by calling 1-800-468-7884 for free.

Diane, a(n) SDA since the late 70s, writes from Melbourne. In addition to writing, she enjoys art, literature, nature, and all animals - especially cats.



News Watch

SHARES WORTHLESS
Stocks tumble assets
anxiety deepens
Interest rates
liquidity
Crash!
rat
worldwide
job
divid
in doubt
RECESSION FORECAST

**Time Magazine,
September 9, 2013—
Blazing Summer
by Nate Rawlings**

“The Yosemite wildfire is just the latest in a costly fire season—For nearly two weeks, the Rim Fire has scorched a sacred corner of Northern California, burning more than 180,000 acres, including at least 22,000 acres of Yosemite National Park.....The 19 elite fire fighters killed battling a June 30 blaze in Arizona marked the start of an especially active summer. In California alone, 4700 fires—11 of them major—have cost the state \$44 million out of a \$172 million budget for the year....and as the Rim Fire burned more than 50 other fires were scorching 10 western states.”



End Time Perspective:

“How frequently we hear of earthquakes and tornadoes, of destruction by fire and flood, with great loss of life and property! Apparently these calamities are capricious outbreaks of disorganized, unregulated forces of nature, wholly beyond the control of man, but in them all God’s purpose may be read. They are among the agencies by which He seeks to arouse men and women to a sense of their danger.” PK 277 (c. 1914).



**Time Magazine, September
9, 2013—Chicago’s Crossing
Guard Army, page 13**

“Every one of the nearly 1,200 neon-vested workers lining the streets of Chicago’s roughest neighborhoods this fall knows the name Derrion Albert. The 16-year-old’s after school beating death in 2009 exposed the plight of the city’s violent neighborhoods and faltering schools and led the city to launch the Safe Passage program to protect kids who pass through gang territory on their way to class.”

End Time Perspective:

“In the days of Noah the overwhelming majority was opposed to the truth, and enamored with a tissue of falsehoods. The land was filled with violence. War, crime, murder, was the order of the day. Just so will it be before Christ’s second coming.” 1 BC 1090.

Ellen White's *Vision*

The First Angel's Message

By E. G. White

I saw that God was in the proclamation of the time in 1843. It was His design to arouse the people and bring them to a testing point, where they should decide for or against the truth. Ministers were convinced of the correctness of the positions taken on the prophetic periods, and some renounced their pride, and left their salaries and their churches to go forth from place to place to give the message. But as the message from heaven could find a place in the hearts of but few of the professed ministers of Christ, the work was laid upon many who were not preachers. Some left their fields to sound the message, while others were called from their shops and their merchandise. And even some professional men were compelled to leave their professions to engage in the unpopular work of giving the first angel's message.

The ax was laid at the root of the tree

Ministers laid aside their sectarian views and feelings and united in proclaiming the coming of Jesus. Wherever the message was given, it moved the people. Sinners repented, wept, and prayed for forgiveness, and those whose lives had been marked with dishonesty were anxious to make restitution. Parents felt the deepest solicitude for their children. Those who received the message labored with their unconverted friends and relatives, and with their souls bowed with the weight of the solemn message, warned and entreated them to prepare for the coming of the Son of man. Those cases were most hardened that would not yield to such a weight of evidence set home by heartfelt warnings. This soul-purifying work led the affections away from worldly things to a consecration never before experienced.


Thousands were led to embrace the truth preached by William Miller, and servants of God were raised up in the spirit and power of Elijah to proclaim the message. Like John, the forerunner of Jesus, those who preached this solemn message felt compelled to lay the ax at the root of the tree, and call upon men

to bring forth fruits meet for repentance. Their testimony was calculated to arouse and powerfully affect the churches and manifest their real character. And as the solemn warning to flee from the wrath to come was sounded, many who were united with the churches received the healing message; they saw their backslidings, and with bitter tears of repentance and deep agony of soul, humbled themselves before God. And as the Spirit of God rested upon them, they helped to sound the cry, "Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come."

False shepherds stood in the way of the work of God

The preaching of definite time called forth great opposition from all classes, from the minister in the pulpit down to the most reckless, heaven-daring sinner. "No man knoweth the day nor the hour," was heard from the hypocritical minister and the bold scoffer. Neither would be instructed and corrected by those who were pointing to the year when they believed the prophetic periods would run out, and to the signs which showed Christ near, even at the doors. Many shepherds of the flock, who professed





to love Jesus, said that they had no opposition to the preaching of Christ's coming, but they objected to the definite time. God's all-seeing eye read their hearts. They did not love Jesus near. They knew that their unchristian lives would not stand the test, for they were not walking in the humble path marked out by Him. These false shepherds stood in the way of the work of God. The truth spoken in its convincing power aroused the people, and like the jailer, they began to inquire, "What must I do to be saved?" But these shepherds stepped in between the truth and the people, and preached smooth things to lead them from the truth. They united with Satan and his angels, crying, "Peace, peace," when there was no peace. Those who loved their ease and were content with their distance from God would not be aroused from their carnal security. I saw that angels of God marked it all; the garments of those unconsecrated shepherds were covered with the blood of souls.

Falsehoods were circulated to injure the influence of William Miller

Ministers who would not accept this saving message themselves hindered those who would have received it. The blood of souls is upon them. Preachers and people joined to oppose this message from heaven and to persecute William Miller and those who united with him in the work. Falsehoods were circulated to injure his influence; and at different times after he had plainly declared the counsel of God, applying cutting truths to the hearts of his hearers, great rage was kindled against him, and as he left the place of meeting, some waylaid him in order to take his life. But angels of God were sent to

protect him, and they led him safely away from the angry mob. His work was not yet finished.

The most devoted gladly received the message. They knew that it was from God and that it was delivered at the right time. Angels were watching with the deepest interest the result of the heavenly message, and when the churches turned from and rejected it, they in sadness consulted with Jesus. He turned His face from the churches and bade His angels faithfully watch over the precious ones who did not reject the testimony, for another light was yet to shine upon them.

I saw that if professed Christians had loved their Saviour's appearing, if they had placed their affections on Him, and had felt that there was none upon the earth to be compared with Him, they would have hailed with joy the first intimation of His coming. But the dislike which they manifested, as they heard of their Lord's coming, was a decided proof that they did not love Him. Satan and his angels triumphed, and cast it in the face of Christ and His holy angels, that His professed people had so little love for Jesus that they did not desire His second appearing.

God allowed the disappointment in order to prove them

I saw the people of God joyful in expectation, looking for their Lord. But God designed to prove them. His hand covered a mistake in the reckoning of the prophetic periods. Those who were looking for their Lord did not discover this mistake, and the most learned men who opposed the time also failed to see it. God designed that His people should meet with a disappointment. The time passed, and those who had looked with joyful expectation for their Saviour were sad and disheartened, while those who had not loved the appearing of Jesus, but embraced the message through fear, were pleased that He did not come at the time of expectation. Their profession had not affected the heart and purified the life. The passing of the time was well calculated to reveal such hearts. They were the first to turn and ridicule the sorrowful, disappointed ones who really loved the appearing of their Saviour. I saw the wisdom of God in proving His people and giving them a searching test to discover those who would shrink and turn back in the hour of trial.

Jesus and all the heavenly host looked with sympathy and love upon those who had with sweet expectation longed to see Him whom their souls loved. Angels were hovering around them, to sustain them in the hour of their trial. Those who had neglected to receive the heavenly





message were left in darkness, and God's anger was kindled against them, because they would not receive the light which He had sent them from heaven. Those faithful, disappointed ones, who could not understand why their Lord did not come, were not left in darkness. Again they were led

to their Bibles to search the prophetic periods. The hand of the Lord was removed from the figures, and the mistake was explained. They saw that the prophetic periods reached to 1844, and that the same evidence which they had presented to show that the prophetic periods closed in 1843, proved that they would terminate in 1844. Light from the Word of God shone upon their position, and they discovered a tarrying time—"Though it [the vision] tarry, wait for it." In their love for Christ's immediate coming, they had overlooked the tarrying of the vision, which was calculated to manifest the true waiting ones. Again they had a point of time. Yet I saw that many of them could not rise above their severe disappointment to possess that degree of zeal and energy which had marked their faith in 1843.

Satan and his angels triumphed over them, and those who would not receive the message congratulated

themselves upon their farseeing judgment and wisdom in not receiving the delusion, as they called it. They did not realize that they were rejecting the counsel of God against themselves, and were working in union with Satan and his angels to perplex God's people, who were living out the heaven-sent message.

Those who accepted the message of the first angel were prepared to receive that of the third angel

The believers in this message were oppressed in the churches. For a time, those who would not receive the message were restrained by fear from acting out the sentiments of their hearts; but the passing of the time revealed their true feelings. They wished to silence the testimony which the waiting ones felt compelled to bear, that the prophetic periods extended to 1844. With clearness the believers explained their mistake and gave the reasons why they expected their Lord in 1844. Their opposers could bring no arguments against the powerful reasons offered. Yet the anger of the churches was kindled; they were determined not to listen to evidence, and to shut the testimony out of the churches, so the others could not hear it. Those who dared not withhold from others the light which God had given them, were shut out of the churches; but Jesus was with them, and they were joyful in the light of His countenance. They were prepared to receive the message of the second angel.

EW 232



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.

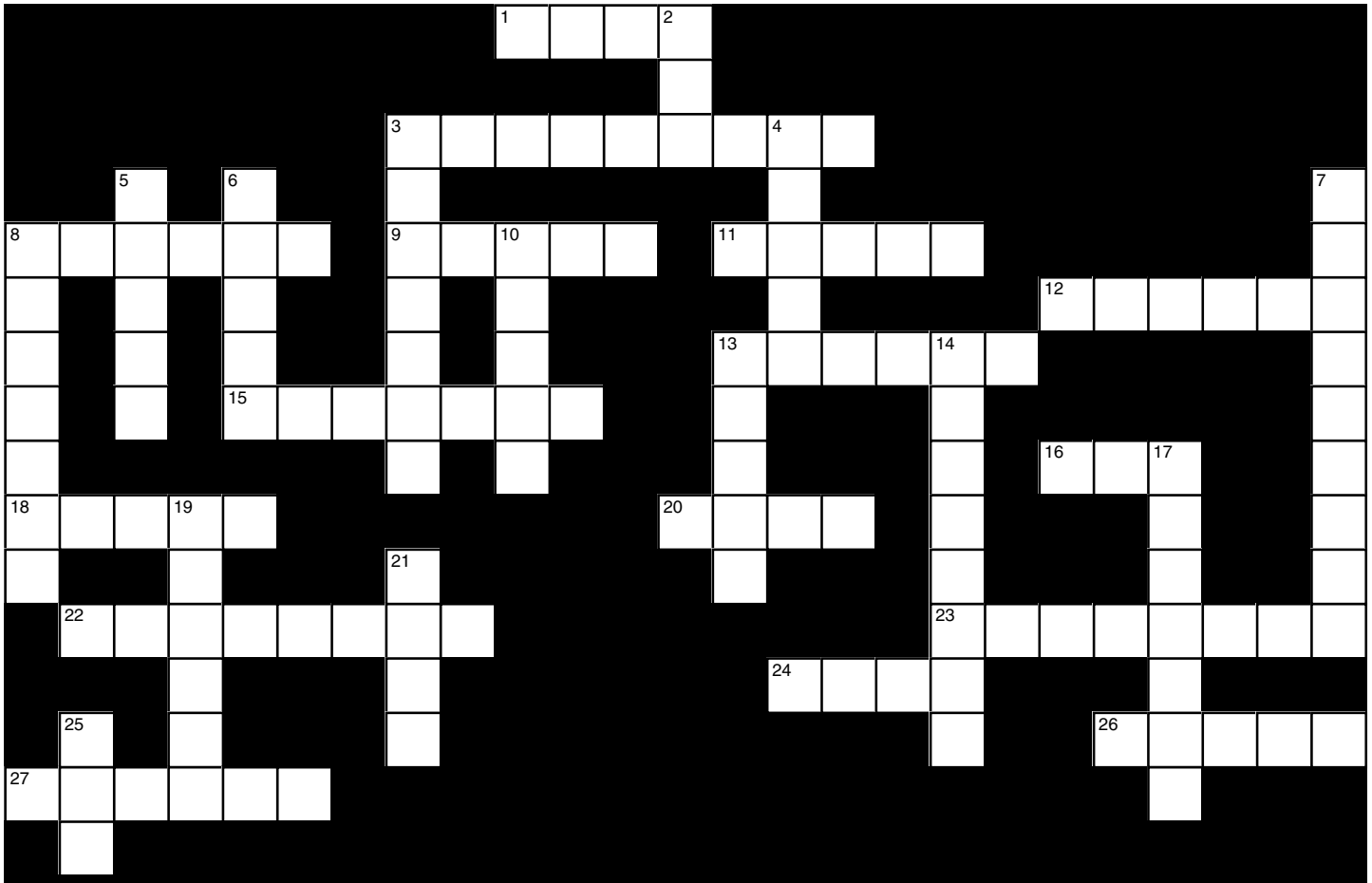
Hope International does not solicit tithes; however, we are a tithe-worthy organization and accept tithes. We use the tithe only for the gospel ministry. Donations designated "Gospel Ministry" will be considered tithe.

SHIPPING, SALES TAX & CURRENCY

For all products advertised in this publication (unless otherwise noted): • **USA destinations:** \$0.01- \$25.00 = \$6.25, \$25.01- \$50.00 = \$9.25, \$50.01- \$100.00 = \$13.50, \$100.01-\$200.00 = \$16.75, \$200.00 or more = FREE!

- **To destinations outside the USA:** Actual shipping rate will be charged. **Sales tax:** North Carolina residents, please add 6.75%. **All money sent must be in US funds, drawn on US banks.**

Christian Crossword



ACROSS

1. The Moabite ancestress of King David
3. The father of John the Baptist
8. A concubine of King Saul
9. Father of the prophet Hosea
11. Chosen by Deborah to lead the Israelites against Sisera
12. Prophesied that 'a star shall come forth out of Jacob'
13. His Hebrew name means 'God is my judge'
15. Abraham's third wife
16. The seventh of Jacob's twelve sons
18. The father of Moses
20. A Kenite woman who killed Sisera
22. First king of Israel after the monarchy split
23. Ancient Canaanite tribe descended from Heth
24. The elder of Jacob's twin sons
26. Abraham's youngest brother
27. The queen of Persia before Esther

DOWN

2. Helped hold up the hand of Moses against the Amalekites
3. Sixth son born to Leah
4. The son of David's sister Abigail
5. Killed immediately when attempted to steady the ark of God
6. A High priest in the time of King David
7. A silversmith in Ephesus
8. The wife of Isaac
10. Bathsheba's father

13. She was seduced by Shechem
14. He fell asleep and fell from a 3rd story window
17. She seduced Samson
19. The Philistine king of Gath with whom David took refuge
21. The first born of Adam and Eve
25. The elder son of Bilhah, Rachel's maid

Answers from Christian Crossword published in the September 2013 issue of Our Firm Foundation

