

Volume 28, Number 12 • December 2013

*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*



THE THREE  
ANGELS' MESSAGES  
THE 2ND ANGEL

**IN THIS ISSUE:** The Three Angels' Messages – The 2nd Angel | My Past | A Peculiar People  
When Shall These Things Be? | Lift, Brother, Lift | Annual Index for the Year 2013  
Health Gem: Smelling, Seeing, Hearing, Tasting | Ellen White's Vision: The Gathering Time



*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.*

In Job chapter 22 we are given the following counsel: “Acquaint now thyself with him (God), and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee. Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart.” Verses 21 & 22.

Ellen White, in the Acts of the Apostles at page 126 says, “When the mind of man is brought into communion with the mind of God, the finite with the infinite, the effect on body and mind and soul is beyond estimate. In such communion is found the highest education. It is God’s own method of development. ‘Acquaint now thyself with Him’, is His message to mankind.”

She goes on in My Life Today at page 28, and says, “It is of the greatest importance that you continually search the Scriptures, storing the mind with the truths of God. You may be separated from the companionship of Christians and placed where you will not have the privilege of meeting with the children of God. You need the treasures of God’s Word hidden in your heart.

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*If you are wise, you will gather up these precious grains of truth.*

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“All over the field of revelation are scattered grains of gold—the sayings of the wisdom of God. If you are wise, you will gather up these precious grains of truth. Make the promises of God your own. Then when test and trial come, these promises will be to

you glad springs of heavenly comfort.

“Temptations often appear irresistible because, through neglect of prayer and the study of the Bible, the tempted one cannot readily remember God’s promises and meet Satan with the Scripture weapons. But angels are round about those who are willing to be taught in divine things; and in the time of great necessity they will bring to their remembrance the very truths which are needed. Thus “when the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him.”

“The heart that is stored with the precious truths of God’s Word is fortified against the temptation of Satan, against impure thoughts and unholy actions.

“Keep close to the Scriptures. The more you search and explain the Word, the more your mind and heart will be fortified with the blessed words of encouragement and promise.

“Let us commit its precious promises to memory, so that, when we are deprived of our Bibles, we may still be in possession of the Word of God.”

In a little booklet by Mark MacCarone, a Prescription for Victory is given in 7 steps: 1. Before going to bed, claim Isaiah 50:4: “The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakened morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned”; ask God to wake you up early for worship. 2. Give permission for God to take your heart. Proverbs 23:26: My son, give me thine

heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways.”

Claim Joshua 24:15: “Choose you this day whom ye will serve, but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord,” and COL 159.3: “No outward observance can take the place of simple faith and entire renunciation of self. We can only consent for Christ to accomplish the work. Then the language of the soul will be, Lord, take my heart for I cannot give it. It is Thy property. Keep it pure for I cannot keep it for Thee.” Claim the gifts Jesus received each morning. See COL 139, John 14:26, 2 Corinthians 12:9, Matthew 4:4, Jeremiah 1:9. 4. Claim the help of God’s angels that excel in strength. Psalm 103:20. 5. Ask God to place His armor on you. Ephesians 6:10-18. 6. Claim the scriptural promises as your weapons. 2 Peter 1:4. 7. Praise God for all the victories He gives you during the day. 1 Corinthians 15:57.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, the signs seem to indicate that Jesus could return soon, although we don’t know the day or the hour. But even if the time is delayed for a while, we don’t know how much more time each of us has individually. We should be growing on a daily basis. We should be studying the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy regularly. I, in my prayers, often request of the Lord, “Help me be safe to be saved!”

Nahum 1:9 says: “What do you imagine against the Lord? he will make an utter end; affliction shall not rise up the second time.”

**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  
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**cover story**

- 04** The Three Angels' Messages – The 2nd Angel  
*Joe Olson*



**features**

- 10** My Past  
*William P. McKenzie*
- 12** A Peculiar People  
*Mrs. E.G. White*
- 17** When Shall These Things Be?  
*James Edson White*
- 25** Lift, Brother, Lift  
*Mrs. P. Alderman*
- 30** Annual Index for the Year 2013



**departments**

- 02** Editorial
- 20** Health Gem: Smelling, Seeing, Hearing, Tasting
- 26** News Watch
- 28** Ellen White's Vision: The Gathering Time
- 32** Christian Crossword



**ad features**

- 11** Swedish Bitters
- 27** Congesta-Clear





# THE THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES

## THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ANGEL

By Joe Olson

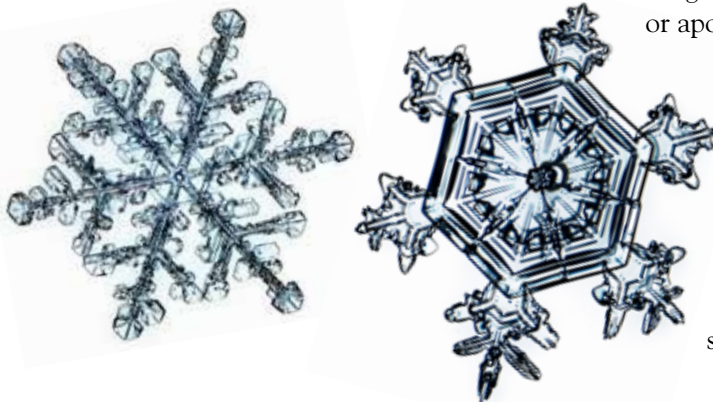
So far in our series on the Three Angels' Messages, we have learned that the first angel sounded his message of fearing God and worshipping the Creator, and that the hour of God's judgment had come. This judgment period began on October 22, 1844. At that time Jesus went from the Holy Place in the heavenly sanctuary above, to the Most Holy Place. This is called the investigative judgment. Jesus investigates each person's case who called upon His name. This judgment started with Adam and has continued on from there. The only ones being judged right now are those who have asked Jesus to come into their hearts; only those who

ever cried unto the Lord to save them are being addressed.

### *Scripture refers to apostate religion as "Babylon"*

And when Jesus is done judging the dead and goes on to the living, there is very little time left. When He has completed His task of judging, He throws down his censer, puts on His

kingly robes and comes to this earth to receive His faithful. After this first angel gives his message, another one follows. "And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." Rev. 14:8. The term "Babylon" is derived from "Babel", and signifies confusion. This term is used in Scripture to designate the various forms of false or apostate religion. In chapter 17 of Revelation, Babylon is represented as a woman—a figure that is used in the Bible as the symbol of a church, a virtuous woman representing a pure church, a vile woman an apostate church. When the churches spurned the counsel of God by



rejecting the Advent message, the Lord rejected them.

### *The misunderstanding in 1844 was no surprise to God*

There was a huge awakening among the people when the Advent message was preached. Remember, there were no Seventh-day Adventists at this time. The people who accepted the message that Jesus was returning soon were called Adventists.

They were in joyous expectation of the advent of their Lord. Many thousands of people, from the various denominations, joined in with those who were preaching that Jesus was coming October 22, 1844. It is true that they had the prophesied event misunderstood. They thought that Jesus was returning on that date to this earth to claim His people. But, what He actually did was go into the Most Holy Place to cleanse the sanctuary. You see, God allowed this misunderstanding to prove His people. A very good reason for allowing this misunderstanding was to test His people. Actually, He did this so we could see what our own hearts were like. After all, He knows everything, so this was no surprise for Him.

It is true that there were many, many thousands who accepted the message that Jesus was coming.

They got everything out of their lives that was in the way of their following their Master. They loved Him with their whole hearts. But there were many millions more who did not accept that the Lord was coming; not because they understood the prophecy correctly, but because they did not want to leave this earth.

### *Our own hearts deceive us*

Most Christians are Christians in name only. This call of the first angel separated those who truly love God and those who simply professed to. God knows the heart of every single individual on this earth. But we don't even know our own hearts. "The heart is deceitful above all things,



and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Jer. 17:9. Who does our heart deceive? Ourselves. That's one of the reasons we are told not to judge others. We don't even know our own selves! So God created a test to prove to us what was in our own hearts. Those who really did love Him showed their love by looking forward to His appearing. "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." 2 Tim. 4:8. And those who did not "love His appearing" made that obvious by not joining in with those who were expecting Jesus to return.



### *The ones who refused to join the movement declined because they preferred their life of sin*

Remember, those who did not join the movement didn't refuse to do it because they understood that Jesus was actually in the heavenly sanctuary. They didn't join because their hearts were not knit close to Jesus. They had sin in their lives and they were not ready to meet Jesus. They had no desire for purity, nor did they want to be with a pure God. So this message of the first angel exposed them for what they were. It had nothing to do with denominations. It had nothing to do with corporate religion, but it had *everything* to do with whether or not we really loved Jesus like we said we did.

And this was a sign to everyone... the ones who didn't join in the message, and the ones who did. Everyone knew who was on which side. There were those who couldn't wait to be with their Saviour...and there were those who didn't want to see Him. It didn't matter what you *said*, it mattered what you *did*. Just like today when we say that actions speak louder than words.

Can you imagine such a test today? How many do you think, of all the denominations and all the people in the world who profess to love Jesus, would really join in with a group that was waiting for Jesus' soon return? Now the people in that day, pre-1844, as this message was preached everywhere, had no idea it was a test.





They had no clue that God was exposing everyone for what they really were. He was exposing the true Christians as well as the false. Everyone was seen for what they were, and they all thought they were in the right camp.

***Could someone really be a Christian, but not want to witness the return of Jesus?***

The Christians in the mainline Churches thought this little group (for that's what it was, comparatively speaking) were the false Christians. They thought they were just an extremist element within the various denominations. You see, all, or most, of these people were in the Methodist

Churches, the Baptist Churches, the Presbyterian Churches, the Lutheran Churches and all the rest of them. And do you know what happened to all of these individual Christians who were so excited about

the Lord's coming? They were kicked out of their denominational churches. That's right, these men and women and children who looked for and longed for the return of their Saviour were kicked out of the denominational churches. They were told to either keep their mouths shut about expressing their beliefs about Jesus' return, or they were to be removed from fellowship. The fearful and the faithless in these denominations stayed where they were and kept their mouths shut. But those whose hearts were filled with joy at the anticipation of their Lord and Saviour's return could not keep silent, neither could they understand why their friends and families had such animosity towards them for desiring the blessed event. After all, how could someone be a Christian and

not want the return of their Lord? It was inconceivable to them. And it will be just as inconceivable to the true Christian today as well. But true Christians follow the truth no matter what the cost, because Jesus is the truth. True Christians want to be with Christ... period.

***Jesus had passed into the Most Holy place, and judgment had begun***

And as a result of that first angel's message, where the people of the earth were warned that the hour of God's judgment had come, most of

the people rejected the message. They rejected God's angel and his message. When they rejected God's message and messenger, there was nothing else to be done for them. When they rejected Him, He 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." Hosea 4:6. God Almighty was trying to inform all of this world's inhabitants that there was very little time left to get ready. Jesus was coming soon. Jesus had gone into the Most Holy Place to judge those whom had called upon His name. And when He was done doing that, He was to return, and His reward would be with Him. And the vast majority of the world, and the professed Christians rejected His message of warning. The knowledge that God was trying to impart was being rejected by the majority of those professing to love Him. And when they rejected that knowledge, He rejected them.



***“Christians” had refused to accept their Lord and Master, therefore, He would refuse them***

So, in comes the second angel of Revelation 14... “And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.” Rev. 14:8. After the first angel gave his message to the entire world, and it was rejected by all of the professed Christian denominations, the second angel is dispatched. This angel followed the first one and said that “Babylon is fallen”. Babylon is confusion. What can possibly be more confusing than denominations who profess to love and desire and want their Saviour Jesus Christ, but then reject Him? Just like the Jews of old who professed to look for their Redeemer, but then killed Him when He showed up, Christians did the same thing. They would not receive their Lord and Master. They would not receive His message, and as a result, God would not receive them.

***These churches were no longer safe to be in***

What a tragedy! What a horrific state of events! All of the denominations of the world who were set up by holy men of God, who were longing for their Saviour’s return, ended up rejecting the Saviour’s message that He was coming soon!

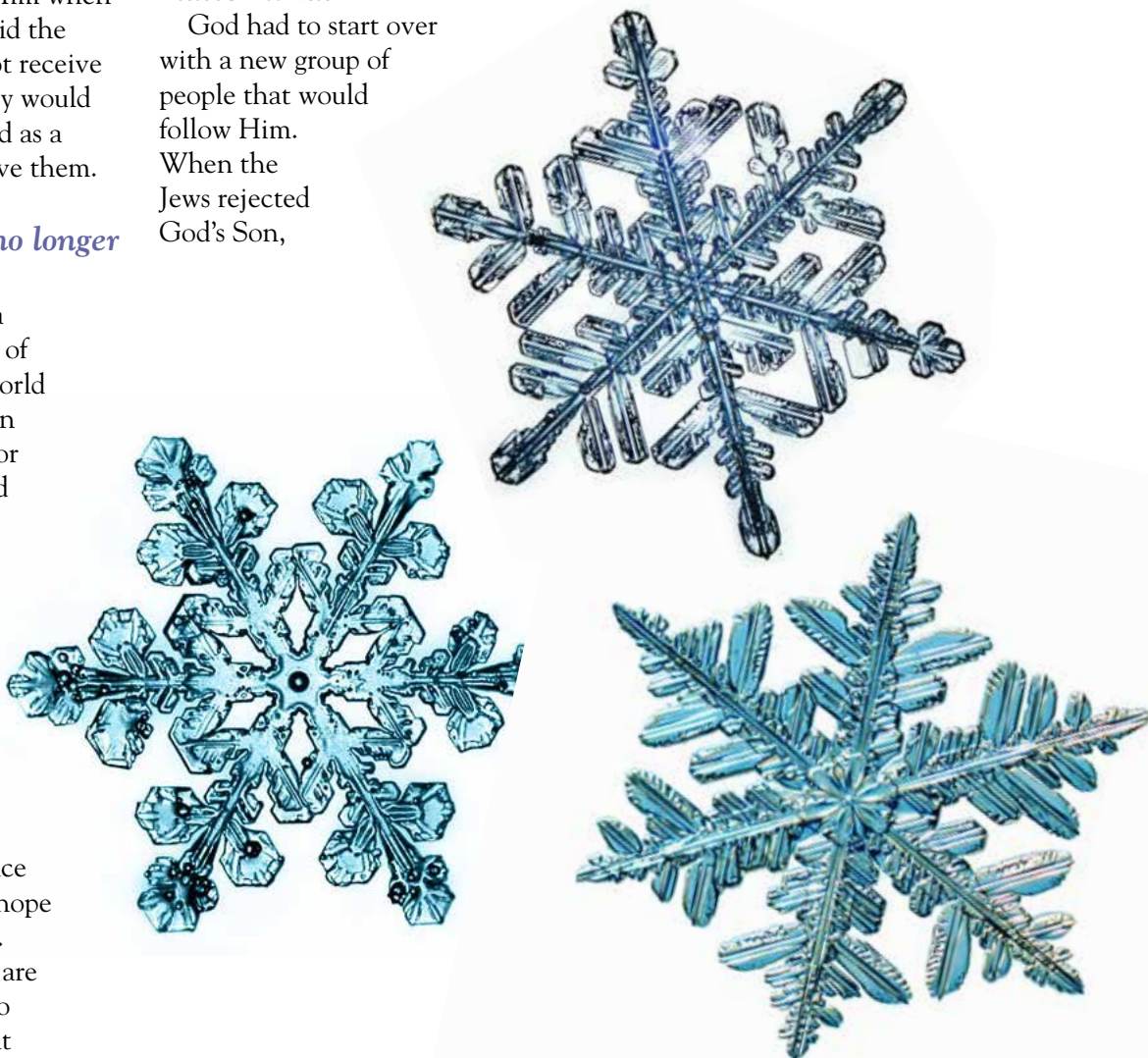
What confusion! These churches were no longer safe to be in. Frankly, what value were they anymore? These institutions were built up to draw all men unto God. They were in place to be lights and beacons of hope to lead them to the Saviour. And these very institutions are the ones used by the devil to thwart God’s message! What

could be more confusing? And they were not just confusing people, they were literally trying to prevent others who did accept the message, from receiving and following it. It was exactly as Jesus said of the Jewish scribes and Pharisees... “But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.” Matt. 23:13. The Jews wouldn’t receive their Saviour. The Christians wouldn’t receive their Saviour, either. What does God do now? The Jews were rejected by God because they rejected Him. The Christian denominations were all rejected by God because they all rejected Him, too.

***This small group of believers wanted to be with Jesus, no matter what***

God had to start over with a new group of people that would follow Him. When the Jews rejected God’s Son,

He turned to those who would accept His Son; they were called Christians. When all the denominational Christians rejected the news of Jesus’ return, He turned to those who would accept His Son’s return. They didn’t have a name at the time, but it was the group who did long for His Son’s return and wanted to be with Him. They loved the message of the first angel and they did all they could to promote it. The truth was more precious to them than any denomination or position in the church or family ties or friendships in the world. They wanted to be with Jesus, no matter what or how others felt about them. Nothing was more important to them than being with their Saviour. They truly lived the words of Jesus when He said... “He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth



son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.” Matt. 10:37.

The ones looking for their Saviour’s return were not letting anything get in the way of that blessed event. They learned all too well what Jesus meant when He told His disciples... “Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in-law against her mother in-law. And a man’s foes shall be they of his own household.” Matt. 10:34-36.

### *Jesus is truth - to reject truth is to reject Jesus*

There has always been just a little group of people, comparatively

speaking, that really loves God and wants to be with Him. There were just a few before the flood. There were just a few in Jesus’ day. There were just a few in 1844, again, comparatively speaking. And there will be just a few in these last days as well. Very, very few have loved the truth to the point of giving up all to receive it. Jesus said in John 14:6, “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” Jesus is the truth! To reject the truth is to reject Jesus. And the second angel’s message not only pointed out the fall of the denominational churches, but said why they had fallen. “And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.” Rev. 14:8. The angel said that Babylon had fallen, “because...”, and he gives the reason right in his message – “... she had made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication...”.

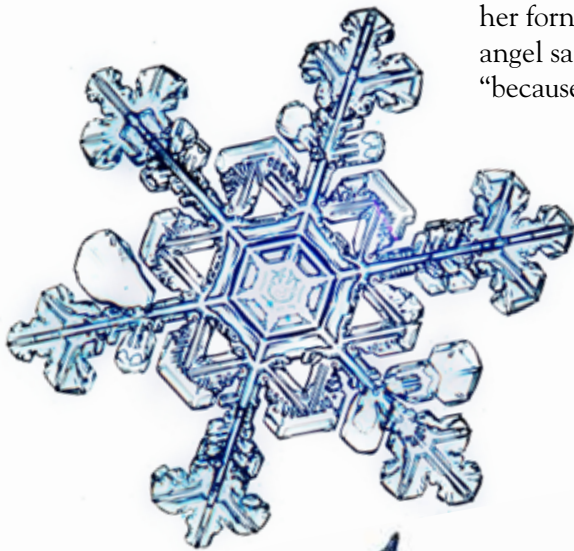
### *So, what is this “wine” all nations are made to drink?*

These fallen churches had rejected their Saviour and the truth and they were then left to believe a lie, just like the scripture says. “And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:” 2 Thes. 2:10, 11. But they did not simply “believe a lie”... they promoted the lies. Anything that is not true is a lie... right? There is no middle ground. There has never been a middle ground. Now, how does Babylon, or these fallen Protestant Churches, make all nations drink her wine? And what is this wine? Whatever this wine is, according to the 2<sup>nd</sup> angel, she makes everyone... all nations... drink it. Obviously, it is not real wine. Then what is it? What could this wine represent, that all of these Protestant Churches are “making” nations drink?

Our first clue has to be our context. What is the context of this message? That Babylon, or these churches that have rejected the truth, has fallen. They have turned away from their Saviour and since He is the truth, they have turned away from the truth as well. So, what could the wine be?

Our second clue is that everyone drinks it. What is the one thing that every other Protestant denomination agrees on and does? They keep Sunday as the Sabbath day. And everyone has agreed with her. This “wine” that Babylon makes everyone drink is the false Sabbath – Sunday.

And there is yet a third clue...Babylon makes everyone drink the wine of the “...wrath of her fornication...” The Greek word for “wrath” is “thoo-





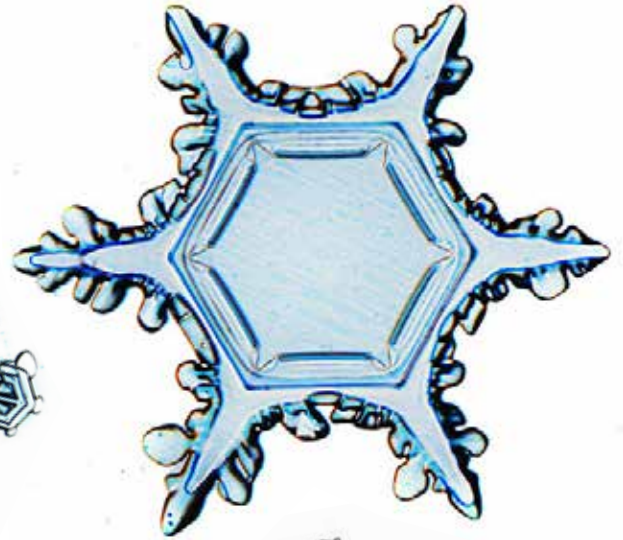
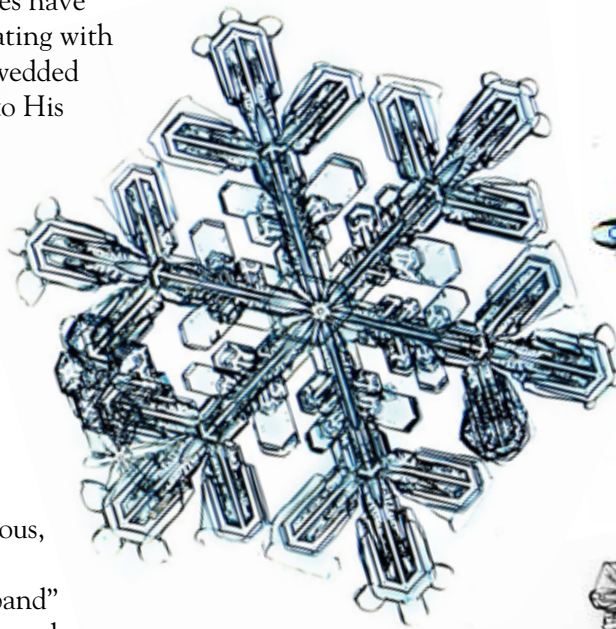
mos” and also means, “passion”. These Protestant churches have been passionately fornicating with one whom they are not wedded to. You see, Jesus refers to His Church as His “bride”. “... I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.” 2 Cor. 11:2. But these churches were not virgins. These churches had been fornicating. In other words, they had taken other lovers. It was obvious, by their reaction to the message that their “Husband” or “Jesus” was coming soon, that they were not looking for Him. Not only were THEY not looking for Him, they were trying to prevent those who WERE looking for Him from finding Him. When they rejected the Jesus, they rejected the truth.

***Believing false doctrines is the wine they have been made to drink***

So, whomever they fornicated with must have been liars. “... yea, let God be true, but every man a liar...” Rom. 3:4. As soon as you reject truth, as we read earlier, we begin to believe lies. “... because they received not the love of the truth, ... they should believe a lie:” 2 Thes. 2:10,11. Now we can see that the wine is lies that the Protestant Churches have received from those they fornicated with.

We know that one of the lies is that Sunday is the Sabbath day. What are some of the others? The immortality of the soul. Eternal burning in hell. Revelation is a closed book. Jesus is not in the heavenly sanctuary. Once saved—always saved. Cheap grace. Evolution. The state of the dead, meaning their being in heaven or hell now. The whole Bible not being inspired. And there are countless more!

And as the churches have taken hold of these false doctrines, they



have been making all nations drink their intoxicating wine. And this wine has made the people unable to see and think clearly. And this has kept the people from seeing Jesus for who He is. He is the truth and they are not used to seeing truth. So, they rejected Him.

***Babylon is fallen, is fallen***

And just one more point about this second angel’s message. Please note what the angel said at the beginning of his message... “And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, ...” Rev. 14:8. The angel says that Babylon fell... twice. There are two falls for Babylon; one was the rejection of their Lord and accepting all the false doctrines by rejecting the truth. The second fall will be when they enforce their false truths upon the people... specifically the false Sabbath day... Sunday.

There are still many of God’s people in the Protestant religions of this world. There are still true-hearted souls in the Baptist and Catholic and Presbyterian and Lutheran and all the rest of the churches. But when

those denominational churches begin to enforce a day of worship that God has never ordained, then their fall will be complete. They are fallen and continue to fall, and their fall will be complete when they make demands for Sunday observance.

And that leads us to our last message – The 3<sup>rd</sup> Angel’s message. Stay tuned!



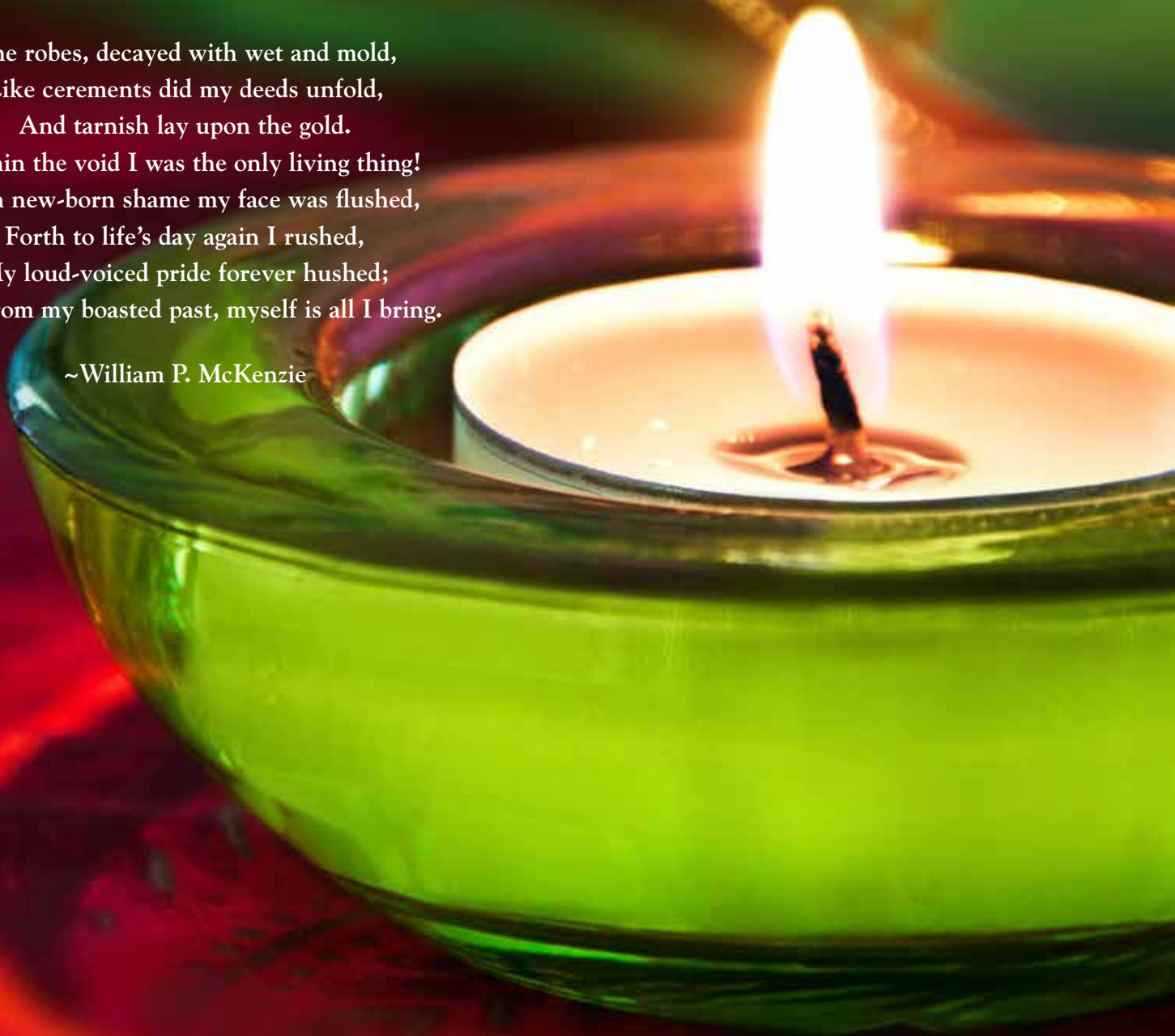
*Joe Olson serves as the executive director and chairman of the board of Hope International. He also travels as an international speaker.*

# *My Past*

I stood before a portal vast,  
Wherein I knew there lay my past,  
And memory swung it wide aghast,  
When, as I bade her let me to my palace room,  
I thought of robes of honor fair,  
Garments of praise and jewels rare  
Worn by my good deeds living there;  
But lo! I shuddered, for I stood as in a tomb,

The robes, decayed with wet and mold,  
Like cerements did my deeds unfold,  
And tarnish lay upon the gold.  
Within the void I was the only living thing!  
With new-born shame my face was flushed,  
Forth to life's day again I rushed,  
My loud-voiced pride forever hushed;  
And from my boasted past, myself is all I bring.

~William P. McKenzie



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- **For serious concerns:** May increase up to 1 tablespoon 15 minutes before each meal and 30 minutes before bedtime (4 times a day).
- **For help sleeping/to stop snoring/for night-time relief of sickness or pain:** 1 tablespoon 1 hour before bedtime.
- **Externally - may be applied topically to:** Cuts, burns, bites, stings, skin blemishes & conditions or applied as a poultice to sprains and strains.

### CAPSULE USAGE:

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- **For help sleeping/to stop snoring/for night-time relief of sickness or pain:** 2-3 capsules 1 hour before bedtime.

### CONCENTRATE USAGE:

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# A Peculiar People

By Mrs. E.G. White

“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.”

In these words is presented before us the work that is required of every follower of Christ. Through the grace of Christ we are to perfect a Christian character. We must not think that we can wait until Christ comes, and that he will then give us the necessary virtue and grace. It is in this life that we are to represent Christ. He gave himself for us that he might cleanse us from all unrighteousness, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

**When the sinner realizes the truly offensive character of his sin, his heart will be filled with love and gratitude for his Saviour**

We are not to continue in sin that grace may abound; we are to cease from transgression. The love of Christ manifested in the infinite sacrifice which he has made in Calvary, is without a parallel. It is sincere, devoted,

measureless, and meets the emergency of the sinner's case, awakening in the heart of those who receive it, respect and reverence for the holy law of God. In the light reflected from Calvary, the law is seen to be holy, just, and good. It cost the life of the Son of God to pay the debt of transgression which the sinner had incurred. It is when the sinner has a realization of the offensive character of sin, a realization to some extent of what it cost the Son of God to redeem him, to give him another trial and probation, that his heart is filled with love and gratitude, and an earnest faith awakens that works by love and purifies the soul. This faith and love will be seen in the soul of him who is truly converted to God; and he who experiences the love of God, will ever feel humiliation and repentance for past transgression. If Christ had to make so great a sacrifice, if he had to endure such sufferings because of my sin, shall I not bow in humility, and regret that I have inflicted such grief upon his divine soul? Shall I not fear lest I shall crucify the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame? The soul who appreciates the precious gift of salvation will ever behold Christ dying upon the cross, and the language of that soul will be the language of unselfish sorrow that he has ever committed sin to so wound the Son of God. I shall always grieve that I have sinned, and

have cost the Man of Calvary so great anguish. I look upon him whom I have pierced, and I mourn that I have transgressed the law of God. When we have a proper appreciation of the sacrifice that has been made in our behalf, we shall not plead for the privilege of continuing in transgression. We shall put away sin, and our hard hearts will melt under the amazing love of Christ for our souls.

**We are not here to bless ourselves only, but to help others be saved also**

With correct views of Jesus, we cannot allow our affections to be placed upon earth and earthly things, but we shall center them upon heaven and heavenly things. The hours of probation that are granted us here, are very precious hours; and we are to take heed unto ourselves, lest at any time our hearts be overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and the day of God come upon us unawares. If Christ is formed within, the hope of glory, we shall ever keep in view the fact that he is soon coming; and when we consider the infinite sacrifice that has been made in our behalf, we shall have respect unto the recompense of reward.

If we are thinking soberly, if we are living righteously, we shall have a good influence over those that are associated with us; for we shall be breathing in the atmosphere of heaven. And we should think soberly; for we are not here to bless ourselves only, but as sinners and debtors to God, we are to



work out our salvation with fear and trembling, and help others that they, too, may be saved. If we would have the Lord purify us unto himself, we must do on our part all that we can that iniquity may be removed from us. We must have a living experience with Christ; and if we love God, we shall want to talk of him to others, and lead them to the fountain of life.

**If only one who walks in the light is doing the work, he will leave a bright track heavenward**

It may look like a discouraging task to seek to present the truth in our large cities when there are so few to engage in the work. But if there is only one to lift up the banner of truth, a great work may be done. Isn't it something that there is one scattering the divine rays of truth? If there is only one to go to work, let him begin, and let his light shine; and if he walks in the light, he will leave a bright track heavenward. God has given us our intellect that we may use it for him. With all our powers of mind, we should exalt the standard of holiness, exemplifying the truth by our own piety and integrity, and thus we shall teach others how to glorify God.

There are many who desire to forget God; but these will not inherit eternal life. It will be those who walk in harmony with his divine precepts, that God will save in his kingdom. They will often have to endure trial and suffer affliction,

but they must remember Jesus, the Lord of Glory, who was supreme over all. He was self-sacrificing. He suffered the loss of all things, that he might bring eternal life within our reach. And he has said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

**Do not set your affections on the things of this life**

The lawyer who came to Jesus asked: "Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all heart, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right; this do, and thou shalt live." Here are stated the conditions of eternal life; but if you are setting your affections on the things of this life, if you are not loving God with all the heart and your neighbor as yourself, you are not fulfilling these conditions, and cannot expect that you will be saved unless you repent and turn to God with all the soul.

I have spent the last forty years of my life in the service of God, and my only regret is that I have not given every hour of my life to his work. I feel that it is my duty to have every power of my being devoted to him. I often wish that the curtain which separates heaven from earth could be swept back, and that we



might behold the glories of the eternal world, and have a more vivid sense of the great sacrifice made for man; that we might understand more fully what high claims heaven has upon us. Says the apostle, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? for ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

**The Lord will never forsake us, even though we may be placed in sorrowful situations**

All Heaven is interested in our salvation, and I would that our minds were spiritualized, that we might fully realize this great fact. Although Christians will experience trials and difficulties, they should be the happiest people on the earth; for if they are obedient children, they can address God as their Father and Friend. "As a father pitieth his children so the Lord pitieth them that fear him." God has a deep interest in those who are striving to obey his precepts.

Although the children of God may at times be placed in situations that are trying and full of sorrow, they need not imagine that the Lord has forsaken them. Joseph was cast into prison without any provocation, and it seemed that God had forgotten him; but Joseph trusted in the Lord. He had been true to the Lord under temptation, declaring,



not possible for us to tell what a man may become, and what he may achieve through the power and grace of Christ. The reason why we are so weak in moral power, is that we are continually venturing on Satan's ground. We should be careful where we go, and see to it that we take no backward steps. For when professed Christians do not live up to the light that God gives them, they can do more harm than open sinners.

When Daniel had been exalted in the court of Babylon, he was not free from trial and temptation. The wise men of the court were filled with envy, and plotted for his destruction.

"How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"

And the Lord did not forsake him. Heaven gave him wisdom to answer the tempter, and a firm purpose to resist evil. If one of us were called to go through such trial as Joseph endured, would we have borne without complaint and murmuring? He forgot his own trials, and sought to help others. Even in the prison he made himself a necessity and a blessing.



### **In the face of personal danger, Daniel kneeled and prayed**

How earnestly the enemies of Daniel watched for an opportunity to accuse him before the king, but they decided that they could find nothing against him, except in his fidelity to his God. They induced the king to frame a decree, according to the custom of the Medes and Persians, that could not be changed, to the effect that if any man for thirty days offered prayer to anyone except the king, he should

### **Man has a work to do to close the door against temptation, for we will be tested**

Look at the case of Daniel in Babylon. He was surrounded with all the luxury of the king's court, but he refused to participate in the banquets of extravagance. He would not defile himself with a portion of the king's meat, or take of his wine. When men have the principle that will enable them to stand amid temptation, as did Daniel, the God of heaven will look upon them with approval, and will send them needed help and strength at the moment of their trial. If Daniel had weakly yielded to temptation to indulge appetite, he would have placed himself in a position where he could not have received the wisdom and grace the Lord had for him. He would have brought upon himself physical and mental weakness.

God does not take any man into connection with himself, to give him wisdom and grace, unless he places himself in right relation to the precepts and principles of truth. Man has a work to do to close the door against temptation. He must build a wall around himself, and then God will train his powers for the highest use. It is

be thrown into the den of lions. The king was flattered by this proposition, and as he did not understand the motive that prompted it, he signed the desired decree, and made it a law. Did these men think because they had deceived Darius that they had deceived the Lord also? Daniel knew all about the decree, but when the time came for prayer, "he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime."

### **Daniel had determined that he would be true to his God**

The report was quickly carried to the king, and too late he saw that the decree had been proposed and carried into effect through the envy and jealousy of his court. Daniel had determined that he would be true to God. He would let the world know that no king, prince, or power, had a right to come between his soul and God. God did not forsake him, for though he was cast into the den of lions, the angels of heaven were with him, and he suffered

no harm. The king, filled with sorrow, spent a restless night in his chamber, and at early light he came to the den, and cried, "O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?" Then Daniel said to the king, "My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me; forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt."

Daniel was soon delivered from the den of lions, and his enemies who had plotted his ruin were themselves destroyed.

### **Through his steadfastness, Daniel showed to the nation that Jehovah was a living God**

Through the trial that was permitted to come upon Daniel, great good resulted to the nation; for it gave opportunity to call the attention of great and small to the fact that God was able and willing to save him who trusted in him. Daniel showed to the nation that Jehovah was a living God. He brought out chapters in his experience showing that God had manifested himself to his servant in a remarkable manner. He told them how he had stood before them as a prophet of the Most High God, and that no earthly power had the right to interfere with a man's personal relation to his God. Thus God was manifested above every king, emperor, or statesman, as the one to be honored and obeyed.

### **We must come out from the world in order to be counted as God's peculiar people**

Daniel was counted peculiar, and every man who makes God his counselor, and who seeks him in simplicity of heart, will be counted peculiar by the world. But this is the faith we need, this is the experience that we must have; for Christ has died to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. We should live with an eye single to his glory, and then we shall be able to gain the victory over the world. We must come out from the world and be separate, if we would be the sons of God, the heirs of heaven. If we do this, we shall



enter in through the gates into the city, we shall have a right to the tree of life, and we shall see the King in his beauty.

ST, November 4, 1889



*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.*



# When Shall These Things Be?

By James Edson White

***“Tell us, when shall these things be?  
and what shall be the sign of Thy coming,  
and of the end of the world?”***

*Matthew 24:3*

In the Saviour's teachings He had instructed His disciples in regard to His second advent to the world. But they had no idea when it would take place. They expected Him to set up a temporal kingdom on earth, and probably connected this event with His second coming.

As Jesus was departing from the temple, after His triumphant entry into Jerusalem, His disciples directed His attention to its glory. It was the pride of the Jewish nation, and they supposed it would stand forever. It was a wonderful building, and its construction had required the labor of thousands of men for forty years. Josephus, in his description of it, said that some of the stones were about thirty-eight feet long, eighteen feet wide, and twelve feet high.

## ***Would the temple really be destroyed?***

What must have been the astonishment of the disciples as Jesus turned to them sorrowfully, and said: “See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, there shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down.”  
Matthew 24:2.

All the traditions the disciples had held, and their own beliefs, seemed to be slipping away from them. They remembered the instructions of their Lord in regard to His second coming, the end of the world, and the setting up of His kingdom; and now He had added to this the plain statement that Jerusalem and the temple would be utterly destroyed. What could it mean? Had they misunderstood Him?



## ***What would be the signs of His coming?***

Silently they walked by His side to the Mount of Olives, and when He had seated Himself, they came to Him with questions the answer to which would forever settle the matter. “When shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of Thy coming, and of the end of the world?”

Were their questions out of place? Did the Saviour rebuke them for

unseemly curiosity?—No! He knew that their motives in asking were sincere, and He proceeded to carefully instruct them in regard to the events referred to in their questions.

The Saviour was always ready to give full and careful explanation and



instruction to all who really desired to understand the truths taught by Him. To be sure, He often spoke in parables, many of which were not readily understood by the hearers, but to all who were interested sufficiently to ask for an explanation, He made His meaning simple and plain. Hence to the enquiring disciples the Saviour gave, as recorded in Matthew 24, the prophecy in regard to the events that were to take place on this earth.

In these words of instruction are embodied the full and complete answer to their questions. Neither was it given for the benefit of these disciples alone. It was given to the disciples that it might be handed down by them to all who would believe on the Saviour in all ages until He should finally come and take the faithful to Himself. It applies to our time, and with

much greater force as we are nearing the accomplishment of all the events recorded in this wonderful lesson.

***The second coming of Jesus was never intended to be a secret event***

It is asserted by some, however, that the second advent is a subject with which we have nothing to do. That all knowledge of this great event is a secret with the Almighty; that our Lord will come as a thief in the night; that He may come in one year, or His coming may be a thousand years in the future. If this is the case, then why did the Saviour take pains to make such definite statements in regard to it? Why did He give such positive way-marks to show when this great event was near, “even at the door”?

If we can know nothing in regard to this important event, which so



intimately concerns us, we are forced to accept one of two conclusions: Either the Saviour undertook to make an explanation to the disciples which He should not have entered into, or, trying to explain the matter, He failed to make it so clear that it can be understood. Of course we cannot admit either one of these propositions, and hence are forced to believe that the Saviour considers that this subject is important, and intends that we shall understand it.

The Lord has given us the most minute description of the events to transpire on this earth, and has given also, accurate signs to show when His coming is near, "even at the door". And although we may not know the day and the hour, yet our information is so definite that we may "see the day approaching", and be prepared to meet our King, at His appearing, with joy and not with grief.

### ***Satan wants all eyes blinded to the truth of the Saviour's return***

Our Lord knew that the truths in regard to His second coming would be misunderstood. It is the one subject above all others which the enemy of all souls desires shall not be proclaimed to the world. The knell of his doom is perceived ringing through every promise of the coming of the Lord.

More than this, there is no subject that so turns the hearts of men to God, and converts souls to Christ, as the true proclamation of Bible truth in regard to the soon coming Saviour. Of course Satan will do all in his power to blind the eyes of men to this truth, and divert their attention from the events clustering around it.

### ***"Take heed that no man deceive you"***

Christ knew that errors would abound in regard to this subject and prefaces His instruction with the warning, "Take heed that no man deceive you." Matthew 24:4. And in



our study of this subject, let us be sure that our ears are open to receive the teachings of God's word, and that we are not blinded by any ideas we may have received, or by any theory we may have held in regard to it.

The question of the disciples was evidently twofold; first, When shall the destruction of Jerusalem take place? and, secondly, What shall be the sign of the second coming of Christ, and of the end of the world? The Saviour's answer, found in the twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew, may be divided into three parts:

The first fourteen verses apply to the period from the time of the

apostles to the end of the world.

Then follows a recapitulation beginning with the destruction of Jerusalem, and giving the position of the church in history.

From verse twenty-nine, onward, are given the visible signs which are to mark the near approach of the second advent.

# Health Gem

## **SMELLING, SEEING, HEARING, TASTING**

*From the book Hand Book of Health*

By J.N. Loughborough



### **ORGAN OF SMELL**

#### **What is the organ of smell?**

The nose is an organ admirably adapted to the office of smelling. The air, laden with odorous particles, can be drawn through it, and over the delicate membrane with which it is lined, near the surface of which commence numerous nerves, which unite with, and form the olfactory nerve, which carries its impression to the center of animal perception, the top of the medulla oblongata. There are four cavities to the nose, two through the upper jaw into the throat, by which the nose communicates with the lungs, and thus it is admirably adapted as a breathing organ, as well as smelling. The little hairs crossing the outer cavities of the nose are for the purpose of preventing the ingress of injurious particles of dust to the lungs. The nose is the natural passage for the external air to

the lungs. It is by this sense that we are warned of the presence of decaying and unwholesome articles, and through it we experience a thousand delights from the fragrant odors of nature's flowers, etc. The odor of healthful food also quickens digestion.

#### **What is essential to a healthy condition of this organ?**

The integrity of this organ requires that the mucous membrane lining the nose should be continually moistened and lubricated by its own exhalation and secretion. It is liable to become dry, so nature has provided it with facilities for abundant moisture. Colds, inflammation of



the mucous surface, such narcotics as tobacco, snuff, smelling bottles of hartshorn, camphor, and all strong and pungent perfumery, weaken, paralyze, and sometimes utterly destroy, all perception of odors, and injuriously affect the whole brain through this sense. Sneezing has been said by some to be the voice of God in our nature commanding us to avoid what causes us to sneeze. Constant irritation of the mucous lining of the nose may in time hush this voice so that the peculiar sensibilities of the nose no longer warn us of intruders from that source.

### **THE ORGAN OF SIGHT: THE EYE**

#### **What is the organ of sight?**

The eye; that wonderful organ whose healthful function enables us to see surrounding objects, and thus avoid many injuries, as well as experience many joys. The eye is of a



- is that to which the muscles that move the eye in various ways are attached. Within the sclerotic coat is the choroid coat, composed mostly of blood-vessels and nerves. The inner coat is called the retina. It is either an expansion of the optic nerve,

or composed of nervous filaments attached to it.

globular form, composed of a number of humors, which are covered by membranes, and inclosed in several coats. On the front surface there is a slight depression, and in this is situated the crystalline lens. This is a body of considerable thickness and strength, and has the form of a double-convex lens. It is placed in a perpendicular direction immediately behind the pupil, and is kept in its situation by a membrane which is called its capsule. In front of the crystalline lens, and occupying the whole of the front part of the eye, is the aqueous humor. It is composed principally of water, with a few saline particles, and a very small portion of albumen. A curtain with an opening in its center floats in the aqueous humor, but is attached to one of the coats of the eye at its circumference. This curtain is called the iris, and the opening in it is the pupil. It derives its name from the various colors it has in different individuals, and it is the color of the iris that determines the color of the eye. All the light admitted into the eye passes through the pupil, which is dilated or contracted according to the intensity of the light and power of the eye. The eye has three coats. The outer or sclerotic coat - the white of the eye

### How is the eye with its various parts moistened?

There are what are called lachrymal glands, which constantly supply the eyes with moisture, not only when they are open and in action, but also when closed and quiet in sleep. There are two small openings from the eyes into the nose, through which the fluid secreted by the lachrymal glands is conveyed. When these glands are much excited by irritations of the eyes or nose, or by strong emotion of the mind, they pour their fluid into the eyes faster than the small nasal ducts can convey it into the nose, and it flows down the cheeks in tears.



### What is the medium of sight to the eye, and how is sight effected?

Light is the medium of vision, and the light conveys the impression of the object to the retina. A good illustration of the action of the eye may be made by cutting a hole in a window shutter large enough to receive a spectacle glass, excluding all light from the room except what comes through the hole. If the sun is shining brightly upon the shutter the rays of light will be seen in the room



drawing together till they come to a focal point, and then the rays pass on diverging from one another, but the angle will be alike both sides of the focal point. At this focal point all the rays coming through the glass cross each other, so that the top rays at the glass are the bottom ones beyond the point. If a sheet of white paper be placed a little beyond the focal point, a beautiful miniature image will appear upon it of whatever the rays of light may come from, but this image will be upside down, and turned side for side, caused by the crossing of the



light of the lamp or window, but let the light shine over your shoulder upon your book. Those who read much should spend considerable time out-of-doors, looking at distant objects. Close application to reading tends to shorten the sight and weaken the eye. It is supposed one reason city people lose their eye-sight sooner than those in the country, is because their sight is confined to objects near at hand. Another reason, however, is the impurity of the air, it being infected with smoke, coal-dust, etc. Smoke of any kind, especially tobacco smoke, is very injurious to the eyes. But it must ever be remembered that all organs of the body sympathize with each other and are affected by diseases of each other; so to cure diseases of the eyes

rays of light. If instead of a spectacle glass, a small glass globe filled with water be placed in the hole in the window shutter, the rays will cross and diverge before they get through it, and the image will be thrown upon the back part of the globe. The interior of the eye is represented by the darkened room; the cornea by the transparent window glass; the iris by the shutter; the pupil by the hole through which the rays of light enter; the aqueous, crystalline, and vitreous humors, constitute a lens of so great a convexity, that the rays cross and diverge before they get through the globe, and throw their inverted image upon the retina. Here the mind perceives it, and by usage, views the object as though it were right side up.



there must be care given to the vital interests of the whole domain of organic life.

**THE ORGAN OF HEARING: THE EAR**

**What can you say of the construction of the ear?**

This organ, which, with that of sight, ministers to the intellectual and moral wants of man, as well as the

physical, and relates us in duties, interests and pleasures to our fellows, exhibits in its structure a greater complexity than any other part of the human organization. The ear may be divided into the outer, the inner, and middle parts, and the auditory nerve. The outer part consists of the external ear, and the tube which leads to the membrane of the tympanum. The external ear is composed of cartilage, covered with a delicate skin, supplied with nerves and blood vessels. It inclines forward and is adapted to collect sounds, which it conveys through the tube. This tube is nearly an inch in length, made partly of cartilage and partly of bone. It has a number of small glands which secrete the wax. Its entrance is guarded by stiff hairs to prevent the ingress of foreign substances to the ear. The middle part of the organ embraces the tympanum and its membrane, the small bones of the ear, and the eustachian tube. This tube passes to the throat a little back of the palate. It is about two inches long, the largest at the throat. The membrane of the tympanum is placed



**What care is necessary in relation to the eye?**

Reading early in the morning, before the just-wakened eyes are accustomed to the light, reading by twilight or lamp-light, are all injurious to the eyes. Never read facing the

at the bottom of the external tube. This membrane is placed obliquely, inclining downward and inward; it is tense, thin, and transparent. The tympanum, between the external and internal ear, is of irregular cylindrical form, with several openings. It contains the four little bones of the ear called the hammer, the anvil, the round bone, and the stirrup. Muscles of very small size move these bones in various directions. The internal ear is composed of three parts, and is situated in a part of the temporal bone near the base of the skull. Its parts

the softness or harshness of the sound transmitted. The muscles move the chain of small bones so as to conduct the vibrations of sound across the tympanum to the internal ear. The contained air of the tympanum reverberates the sound, which is strengthened and modified by reflection from the walls, cells, and spaces of the ear. The impression of this sound is taken cognizance of by the auditory nerve. Of the peculiar action of this nerve, we shall have to content ourselves with admiring its wonderful operation without being able to solve the mystery as to how it acts. Of the philosophy of sound we can only say here that it is a vibration of the air caused in various ways, as by the striking of a bell, by singing of birds, or by the human speech.

### What can you say in general terms of the ear?

It is one of the most useful of the organs of sense. It is attuned to the varied and sweet sounds of nature. Through it the persuasive tones of eloquence exert more power to stir or to stay the passions of man than all the arguments the ablest reasoner can present to the judgment. How important that we carefully guard and preserve this organ. It will be perceived that persons on becoming blind have a more acute sense of hearing than they had before. This hearing in some respects compensates for loss of sight.

are called the cochlea, the vestibule, and the semicircular canals. The first resembles the shell of a snail. The vestibule is a sort of porch or entry, which communicates with all the other parts. The three semicircular canals are all back of the cochlea and vestibule. The auditory nerve is distributed to the semicircular canals, the cochlea, and the vestibule, terminating in the form of a pulp.

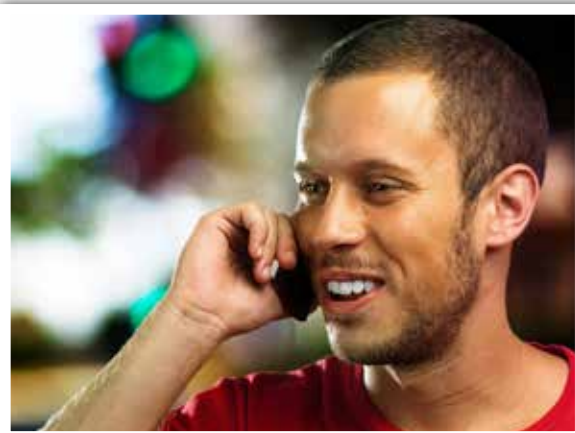
### What can you say of the action of this organ?

As the pupil of the eye contracts or dilates according to the amount of light transmitted to it, so the nerves of the ear act upon the muscles of the internal ear in proportion to



### Is the ear very liable to disease?

There are very few causes of derangement of the ear. Ear wax sometimes hardens in the ear. This can frequently be entirely relieved by several times dropping into the ear a few drops of pure sweet oil, and swabbing out the ear thoroughly with a little warm soft water and castile soap. Colds in the head, if they affect the hearing, must be very carefully avoided. In dullness of hearing, while you can hear distinctly the ticking of a watch placed against the side of the head, there is hope. Throat diseases, and scarlet fever, are very liable to





leave children hard of hearing. This difficulty, as well as a permanent discharge from the ear, usually results from taking cold while recovering from the above diseases. The greatest care should be used that such results should not follow scarlet fever, etc. The difficulty may be outgrown, if not it is likely to grow worse as life advances.



papillae, supported by a dense layer of membrane. At the root of the tongue are a number of mucous glands. The tongue is abundantly supplied with blood by the lingual arteries. It has three nerves of large size: the gustatory branch of the fifth pair, the nerve of sensation and taste, distributed to the papillae; the glosso-pharyngeal, to the mucous membrane, follicles, and glands. It is a nerve of sensation and motion; the hypo-glossal is the principal nerve of motion to the tongue, distributed to the muscles.

The nerves of the sense of taste in the tongue terminate in the papillae of the tongue, and are most numerous in the mucous membrane which covers the end of the tongue.

in order for the sense of taste to be exercised, that the substance tasted should be soluble. There is also such a sympathetic relation existing between all the organs of the body, that their derangement affects measurably the organ of taste. When the nose is obstructed and injured, the sense of taste is affected.

### What constitutes a healthy taste?

The integrity of the sense of taste enables us to select, with accuracy, those alimentary substances just adapted to the wants of the nutritive apparatus. The sense of taste, like all the special senses, is highly educable, but is very generally depraved and perverted. Those persons who cannot realize any agreeable savor in any article of nutriment until the papillae of the tongue are stung into action by salt, pepper, mustard, vinegar, or other pungents, have greatly blunted the sense of taste, and know but little of the real pleasures of eating. Such eat more to silence the goadings of a morbid appetite than to enjoy life. We should carefully avoid the use of every substance which blunts the use of taste: such as intoxicating liquors, tobacco, spices, salt, etc.

## THE ORGAN OF TASTE

### What is the organ of taste?

The tongue. It is composed of muscular fibers, arranged in almost every direction. Between these muscles is a quantity of adipose substances. At the back part it is connected with the os hyoides by a muscular attachment. It is also attached to the epiglottis and lower jaw by the mucous membrane; this membrane forms a fold in front of the jaw and beneath the under surface of the tongue. The surface of the tongue is covered with four kinds of

### How is the sense of taste effected?

The papillae on the surface of the tongue, when brought in contact with savory substances, are excited to that degree that they become erect and turgid, and convey to the appropriate nerves this sense. Here again is one of the wonders of the nervous system: how one nerve so nearly like another in its substance, can have the sense of taste, while the other may have the sense of smelling or hearing. It seems to be necessary





# *Lift, Brother, Lift*

Mrs. P. Alderman

Toil, 'til the burden is lifted,  
Work till the work is done.  
See where the clouds are rifted,  
Angels with help are come.

The vineyard, long neglected,  
Is waiting the sickle now;  
And fields with not a furrow  
Are waiting the gospel plow.

Then lift, dear Christian comrade,  
Though it be but a pound;  
So shall thy heart be strengthened;  
With peace thy days be crowned.

Sound it aloud, O watchman!  
The eleventh hour at last!  
Oh, tarry not, dear pilgrim,  
Lest thine hour be passed.

# News Watch

Shares Worthless  
Crash!  
Anxiety deepens  
Interest rates  
Liquidities  
RECESSION FORECAST



PHOTO: JOE C. HONG, AP

## ***Atheist ‘mega-churches’ take root across US world, by Gillian Flaccus of Associated Press.***

“Atheist mega-churches: Attendees sing a song at the Sunday Assembly, a godless congregation, on Sunday Nov. 10, in Los Angeles.—It looked like a typical Sunday morning at any mega-church. Hundreds packed in for more than an hour of rousing music, an inspirational sermon, a reading and some quiet reflection. The only thing missing was God.”

“Dozens of gatherings dubbed ‘atheist mega churches’ by supporters and detractors are springing up around the U.S.”

## **End Time Perspective:**

Luke 17:26—“And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of Man.” Clear Word—“Just before the Son of Man returns in glory, the earth will be like it was in the days of Noah.”

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## ***Time Magazine, November 25, 2013—The Typhoon’s Toll, by Bryan Walsh, page 30.***

“A monster storm brings death and destruction to the Philippines. Now survivors are struggling to pick up the pieces...At its height, Haiyan (the cyclone) was off the charts, registering 8.1 on the 8 point Divorak scale used to measure the intensity of tropical cyclones. (Winds estimated at 195 mph. and gusts up to 230 m.p.h.—the most powerful tropical storm ever recorded to make landfall.”

## **End Time Perspective:**

“The calamities by land and sea...are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude...The final movements will be rapid ones.” 9T11 (1909).



*Villagers carry religious statues during a procession before taking part in a Latin mass ceremony at a local Chapel in Santa Rita township on November 22, 2013 in Eastern Samar, Philippines.*

PHOTO: DAN KITWOOD / GETTY IMAGES



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- 1,000 people are admitted to the hospital due to breathing issues.
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**Garlic Extract** - A very powerful herb, garlic displays antibiotic, anti-fungal, and anti-viral properties and is reportedly effective against many seasonal sicknesses and cold sore issues. Garlic reduces congestion helps expel mucus.

**Menthol** - A constituent of peppermint oil, menthol is a powerful antiseptic and anaesthetic, which helps to relieve pain and fight infection. Has cooling and soothing properties that give fast relief.

**Omega 3 & 6** - Relieves pain & inflammation. Boosts immunity.

**Onion Extract** - Breaks up heavy lung congestion, clears phlegm, and soothes the inflammation of the lungs and sinuses. Contains anti-inflammatory and secretion-stimulating properties.

**Peppermint Oil** - Opens up lungs, bronchioles, and sinuses. Peppermint oil is very helpful for bronchial concerns, sinus congestion, breathing issues and other respiratory illnesses.

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

# Ellen White's *Vision*

## *The Gathering Time*

By E. G. White

September 23, the Lord showed me that He had stretched out His hand the second time to recover the remnant of His people, and that efforts must be redoubled in this gathering time. In the scattering, Israel was smitten and torn, but now in the gathering time God will heal and bind up His people. In the scattering, efforts made to spread the truth had but little effect, accomplished but little or nothing; but in the gathering, when God has set His hand to gather His people, efforts to spread the truth will have their designed effect. All should be united and zealous in the work. I saw that it was wrong for any to refer to the scattering for examples to govern us now in the gathering; for if God should do no more for us now than He did then, Israel would never be gathered. I have seen that the 1843 chart was directed by the hand of the Lord, and that it should not be altered; that the figures were as He wanted them; that His hand was over and hid a mistake in some of the figures, so that none could see it, until His hand was removed. [THIS APPLIES TO THE CHART USED DURING THE 1843 MOVEMENT, AND HAS SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE CALCULATION OF THE PROPHETIC PERIODS AS IT APPEARED ON THAT CHART. THE NEXT SENTENCE EXPLAINS THAT THERE WAS AN INACCURACY WHICH IN THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD WAS SUFFERED TO EXIST. BUT THIS DOES NOT PRECLUDE THE PUBLICATION OF A CHART SUBSEQUENTLY WHICH WOULD CORRECT THE MISTAKE, AFTER THE 1843 MOVEMENT WAS PAST, AND THE CALCULATION AS THEN MADE HAD SERVED ITS PURPOSE.]

Then I saw in relation to the “daily” (Daniel 8:12) that the word “sacrifice” was supplied by man’s wisdom, and does not belong to the text, and that the Lord gave the correct view of it to those who gave the judgment hour cry. When union existed, before 1844, nearly

all were united on the correct view of the “daily”; but in the confusion since 1844, other views have been embraced, and darkness and confusion have followed. Time has not been a test since 1844, and it will never again be a test.

### *Old Jerusalem will never be built up*

The Lord has shown me that the message of the third angel must go, and be proclaimed to the scattered children of the Lord, but it must not be hung on time. I saw that some were getting a false excitement, arising from preaching time; but the third angel’s message is stronger than time can be. I saw that this message can stand on its own foundation and needs not time to strengthen it; and that it will go in mighty power, and do its work, and will be cut short in righteousness.

Then I was pointed to some who are in the great error of believing that it is their duty to go to Old Jerusalem, and think they have a work to do there before the Lord comes. Such a view is calculated to take the mind and interest from the present work of the Lord, under the message of the third angel; for those who think that they are yet to go to Jerusalem will have their minds there, and their means will be withheld from the cause of present truth to get themselves and others there. I saw that such a mission would accomplish no real good, that it would take a long while to make a very few of the Jews believe even in the first advent of Christ, much more to believe in His second advent. I saw that Satan had greatly deceived some in this thing and that souls all around them in this land could be helped by them and led to keep the commandments of God, but they were leaving them to perish. I also saw that Old Jerusalem never would be built up; and that Satan was doing his utmost to lead the minds of the children of the Lord into these things now, in the gathering time, to keep them from throwing their whole interest into the present work of the Lord,



and to cause them to neglect the necessary preparation for the day of the Lord.

### *It is a dangerous thing to soften the messages from God*

Dear Reader: A sense of duty to my brethren and sisters and a desire that the blood of souls might not be found on my garments have governed me in writing this little work. I am aware of the unbelief that exists in the minds of the multitude relative to visions, also that many who profess to be looking for Christ and teach that we are in the “last days” call them all of Satan. I expect much opposition from such, and had I not felt that the Lord required it of me, I should not have made my views thus public, as they will probably call forth the hatred and derision of some. But I fear God more than man.

When the Lord first gave me messages to deliver to His people, it was hard for me to declare them, and I often softened them down and made them as mild as possible for fear of grieving some. It was a great trial to declare the messages as the Lord gave them to me. I did not realize that I was so unfaithful and did not see the sin and danger of such a course until in vision I was taken into the presence of Jesus. He looked upon me with a frown and turned His face from me. It is not possible to describe the terror and agony I then felt. I fell upon my face before Him, but had no power to utter a word. Oh, how I longed to be covered and hid from that dreadful frown! Then could I realize, in some degree, what the feeling of the lost will be when they cry, “Mountains and rocks, fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb.”

### *If you are faithful to the end, you shall eat of the tree of life and shall drink of the river of the water of life*

Presently an angel bade me rise, and the sight that met my eyes can hardly be described. A company was presented before me whose hair and garments were torn and whose countenances were the very picture of despair and horror. They came close to me and took their garments and rubbed them on mine. I looked upon my garments and saw that they were stained with blood, and that blood was eating holes in them. Again I fell like one dead at the feet of my accompanying angel. I could not plead one excuse. My tongue refused all utterance, and I longed to be away from such a holy place. Again the angel stood me upon my feet and said, “This is not your case now, but this scene

has passed before you to let you know what your situation must be if you neglect to declare to others what the Lord has revealed to you. But if you are faithful to the end, you shall eat of the tree of life and shall drink of the river of the water of life. You will have to suffer much, but the grace of God is sufficient.” I then felt willing to do all that the Lord might require me to do that I might have His approbation and not feel His dreadful frown.

### *The deceptive power of Spiritualism takes away all the glory of heaven*

I have frequently been falsely charged with teaching views peculiar to Spiritualism. But before the editor of the Day-Star ran into that delusion, the Lord gave me a view of the sad and desolating effects that would be produced upon the flock by him and others in teaching the spiritual views. I have often seen the lovely Jesus, that He is a person. I asked Him if His Father was a person and had a form like Himself. Said Jesus, “I am in the express image of My Father’s person.”

I have often seen that the spiritual view took away all the glory of heaven, and that in many minds the throne of David and the lovely person of Jesus have been burned up in the fire of Spiritualism. I have seen that some who have been deceived and led into this error will be brought out into the light of truth, but it will be almost impossible for them to get entirely rid of the deceptive power of Spiritualism. Such should make thorough work in confessing their errors and leaving them forever.

### *We are to be judged by the Word of God*

I recommend to you, dear reader, the Word of God as the rule of your faith and practice. By that Word we are to be judged. God has, in that Word, promised to give visions in the “last days”; not for a new rule of faith, but for the comfort of His people, and to correct those who err from Bible truth. Thus God dealt with Peter when He was about to send him to preach to the Gentiles. (Acts 10.)

To those who may circulate this little work, I would say that it is designed for the sincere only and not for those who would ridicule the things of the Spirit of God.



*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.*

# *our firm* **FOUNDATION**

## Annual Index for the Year 2013

### **BARNES, ALLEN**

- Spiritual Formation – A Troman Horse – Jan.
- Spiritual Formation – Wondering After the Beast – Feb.
- Spiritual Formation – Counterfeit Spirituality – March

### **FITCH, CHARLES**

- What is it for God's People to Come out of Babylon? – May

### **HASKELL, STEPHEN**

- Christ Our High Priest – June

### **JONES, A.T.**

- Work to a Purpose – Aug.

### **LAURIN, PETER**

- Growing in Christ – July

### **LOUGHBOROUGH, J.N.**

- Smelling, Seeing, Hearing, Tasting – Dec.

### **MACHAKAIRE, EMMANUEL**

- The Power of Forgiveness – Jan.
- The Power of the Truth – March
- The Power of Meekness – April
- The Power of Integrity – Aug.
- The Power of True Worship – Sept.
- The Power of Fiery Trials – Oct.

### **OLSON, HEATHER**

- 10 Foods to Soothe Inflammation and Banish Pain – Jan.
- 5 More Foods to Soothe Inflammation and Banish Pain – Feb.
- 7 Skin-Smoothing and Beautifying Foods – March
- 8 More Skin-Smoothing and Beautifying Foods! – April
- 12 Muscle-Building Superfoods – May
- 17 Slimming Superfoods – June

### **OLSON, JOE**

- Tearing Off the Blindfold – Jan.
- Ezra's Dilemma – Feb.
- Ezra's Dilemma-Solved – March
- Don't be Ignorant of Satan's Devices! – April
- Miracles and Management – May
- You Can Test God! – June
- When God "Fights", What Kind of Fight is it? – July
- Is There Such a Thing as Luck? – Aug.
- The Joys of Sabbath-Keeping – Sept.
- Why all the Genealogies and Counting? – Oct.
- The Three Angels' Messages – The First Angel – Nov.
- The Three Angels' Messages – The Second Angel – Dec.

### **SMITH, PATRICIA**

- Return of the Days of Lot – April
- Lessons from a Hymn – May
- What is Eternal Life? – June
- The Three Beautiful Temples – Nov.

### **STYLES, DIANNE**

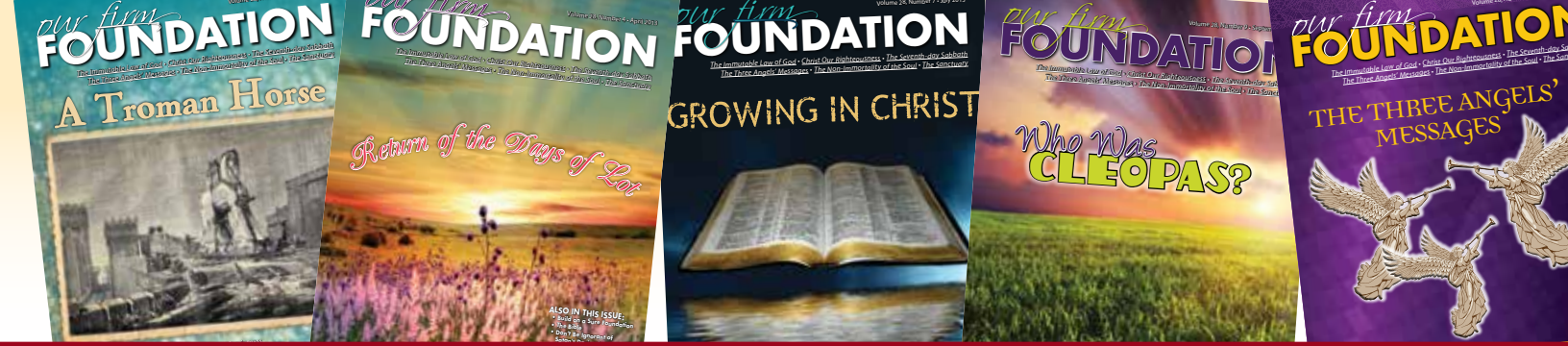
- Broccoli – King of the Crucifers – July
- C-Blast – Oct.
- Eyebright – Nov.

### **SWINDLE, REEN**

- A Liquid Diet – Aug.

### **WHITE, ELLEN (ARTICLES)**

- Caesar's Household – Jan.
- Christ and His Law – Feb.
- Effectual Prayer – March
- Build on a Sure Foundation – April
- Genuine Conversion – May
- The Divine Estimate of Worldly Wisdom – June
- Constant Attainment Essential to Christian Life – July
- The Faith of Abraham – Aug.
- A Work of Preparation – Sept.
- A Lesson from Judas – Oct.
- What the Word of God is to Us – Nov.
- A Peculiar People – Dec.



### WHITE, ELLEN (VISIONS)

- The Sins of Babylon – Jan.
- The First Advent of Christ – Feb.
- The Church and the World United – March
- The Great Apostasy – April
- To the Inexperienced – May
- The Third Message Closed – June
- Prayer and Faith – July
- God's Gift to Man – Sept.
- The First Angel's Message – Oct.
- Mark of the Beast – Nov.
- The Gathering Time – Dec.

### WHITE, JAMES EDSON

- He Will Come Again – Jan.
- The Leader of Israel – Feb.
- The Creator – March
- The Created – April
- Christ, Our Mediator and Advocate – May
- The Redeemer – June
- The True Israel – July
- The King's Reward – Sept.
- Emigration – Oct.
- Great Tribulation – Nov.
- When Shall These Things Be? – Dec.

### POEMS

- The Gates of Pearl, by L.D. Santee – Jan.
- A Prayer, by Mrs. L.R. Reynolds – Jan.
- The Coming Dawn, by A.G.C. – Feb.
- Sinner, Turn, by Clara E. Richeson – Feb.
- The Future Peace and Glory of the Church, Selected – March
- Onward, by Otto Lundell – March
- The Bible, by Unknown – April
- The Point of View, by Edith Virginia Bradt – April
- Waiting, Trusting, by J.F. Baker – May
- The Road Leads Home, by Unknown – May
- Jesus at the Door, by Frank Hope – June
- The Heavenly Priesthood, by Thomas Kelly – June
- Home, by Julia Colegrove – June
- Fellowship With Christ, by N.W. Vincent – July
- Climb to the Heights, by Mary E. Inman – July
- Building on the Sand, by Eliza Cook – Aug.
- God's Tender Care, by Gospel Banner – Aug.
- In Canaan's Language, by Worthie Harris Holden – Sept.
- God's Lamp, by Patricia J. Smith – Sept.
- Charity, 1 Cor. 13, by J.R. Hendeson – Oct.
- Patience, by Elizabeth Rosser – Nov.
- Speech, by Ella Wheeler Wilcox – Nov.
- My Past, by William P. McKenzie – Dec.
- Lift, Brother, Lift, by Mrs. P. Alderman – Dec.

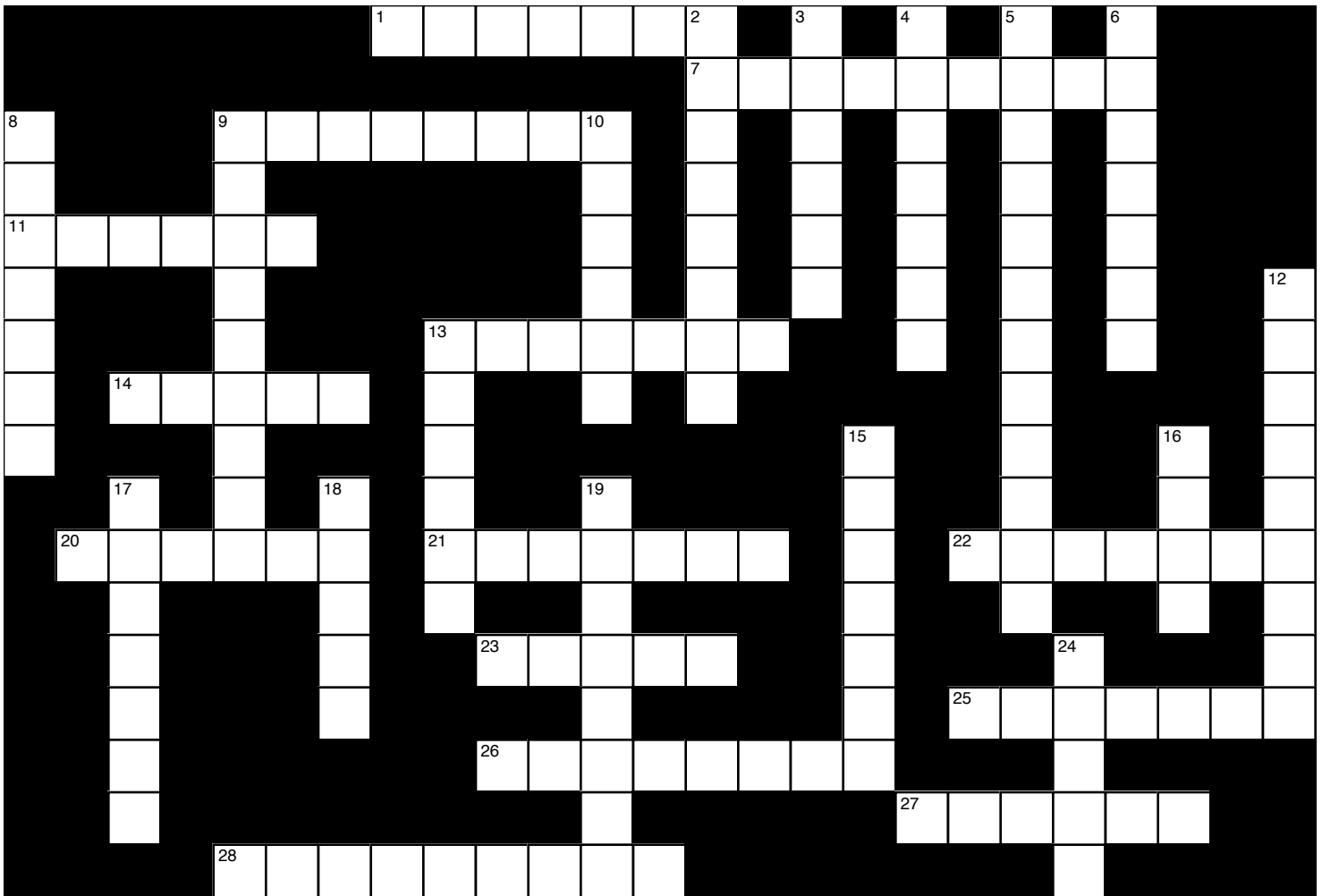
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# Christian Crossword



## ACROSS

1. Son of David that murdered Amnon, his older brother
7. The husband of Naomi, the mother-in-law of Ruth
9. Captain of the guard in Joseph's day
11. The fifth Roman procurator of Judea
13. A granddaughter of Nahor and the bride of Isaac
14. An Old Testament prophet that spoke against Nineveh
20. The manservant of the prophet Elisha
21. A learned Alexandrian Jew who came to Ephesus in 53 AD
22. Peter prayed and she came back to life
23. Domestic Steward at court of Herod Antipas
25. Those Jews that had a fanatical nationalism
26. The son-in-law of Annas the high priest
27. His vineyard was taken by Ahab
28. High priest in the time of Moses

## DOWN

2. The royal cupbearer to King Artaxerxes
3. 12th century judge of Israel
4. The eldest of Levi's three sons
5. Daniel's Babylonian name
6. Superintendent of the royal palace during Solomon's reign
8. The Roman name of Zeus
9. The Egyptian father-in-law of Joseph
10. Second wife of Jacob
12. He climbed a tree to see Jesus
13. Daughter of Aiah that was one of King Saul's concubines

15. He died and came back to life
16. The Moabite ancestress of King David
17. The spokesman for Jupiter
18. The rich man with Lazarus, the beggar
19. Roman Emperor from AD 41-54, mentioned twice in Acts
24. Abraham's brother

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

