

*our firm*  
**FOUNDATION**

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

# THE FALLING STARS

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Recently, I was asked by a fellow who had just begun to visit our church whether America appeared in prophecy. Of course, as Seventh-day Adventists, we know that America takes a significant stand in last day prophecies.

In chapter 13 of Revelation we first learn of a beast with seven heads and ten horns. Revelation 17:10 shows us that the seven heads are seven consecutive world powers—earthly governments Satan uses to persecute God’s faithful church. The dragon is Satan working through pagan religions, the occult and spiritualism, while the beast symbolizes Satan working in disguise, using the corrupted Christian church to do his work. In verse 5 we see that the beast continues ‘forty and two months’ (the 1260 year period of Papal dominance—a period given 7 times in Scripture).

“In 1798 the French general Berthier under the command of Napoleon took the Pope prisoner and attempted to completely eliminate the Papacy as

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*“Protestantism will gradually lose its ‘protest’ and become ever more tolerant of the beliefs it once taught were error.”*

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an institution. It seemed to the world that the Papacy was wounded to death. However, the prophecy says that the wound ‘was healed’....

“At some point in the near future the Roman Catholic Church System will completely recover her former glory and will have more power and prominence than ever before. ‘And all the world wondered after the beast.’

“The next beast in the vision (see Revelation 13:11-15) comes up ‘out of the earth’ and is described as having ‘two horns like a lamb’. This beast represents the United States of America. Here are five clues which help us to accurately determine its identity:

- (1) It comes to power around 1798 as the Papacy is going into captivity and receiving its deadly wound. At that time the United States was just ‘coming up’ as a youthful nation. The United States declared its independence on July 4, 1776, and by 1790 all thirteen colonies had ratified the constitution. This nation was quickly drawn into world politics and today is a world superpower.
- (2) The ‘sea’ represents ‘multitudes and nations’. Revelation 17:15. The beasts that arise from the sea usually do so amid the strife of war. By contrast this one comes ‘out of the earth’, representing relatively peaceful emergence in a comparatively unpopulated area. This is exactly the manner in which the United States came to power.
- (3) This beast with ‘two horns like a lamb’ represents a nation of youth, innocence and gentleness, which is based on the two great principles of civil and religious liberty. Republicanism and Protestantism were the fundamental principles of the nation. These principles are the secret of its power and prosperity. It is strong because the government and the church are separate, without one controlling the other.
- (4) It is a country that has government without a king and religion without a Pope.
- (5) It becomes a world power strong enough to force the world, on pain of death, to worship the image of the beast.

“For America to give life unto the image of the beast it would have to abandon the principles of religious freedom, repudiate the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and discard the

fundamental beliefs that have made this nation what it is.” Amazing Prophecies pp. 58 & 59.

In a book entitled Great Prophecies for Our Time, by Arthur S. Maxwell copyrighted in 1943, we read the following about the prophecies of America: “And the lamblike beast, when it is come to full strength, is to use its influence to persuade the peoples of earth ‘to worship the first beast’.

“This does not mean, of course that every American is going to become a convert to Rome! Of course not. But it certainly does suggest that the doctrines, practices, and ideals of the papacy will find increasing favor both in church and government circles. It implies that Protestantism will gradually lose its ‘protest’ and become ever more tolerant of the beliefs it once taught were error; that Protestantism will be led into increasing collaboration with the system it contended against with such intrepid courage and passionate zeal in years gone by. It suggests also a growing movement for the reunion of the churches, with emphasis upon unity rather than upon truth; that this movement will not be confined to this country alone, but with strong American support, will be urged upon all the people of the world. These omens lead to the inevitable conclusion that the first principles of the Republic will be forgotten, and heavy pressure will be brought to bear on all who refuse compliance with the plan.”



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**Our Mission:**

It is the mission of Hope International and the editors of *Our Firm Foundation* to clearly present Christ and His truth. The days remaining for this world are few, and we must work quickly. We must boldly proclaim the historic truths of Adventism that place us on so firm a foundation in the midst of this troubled world. —Editor

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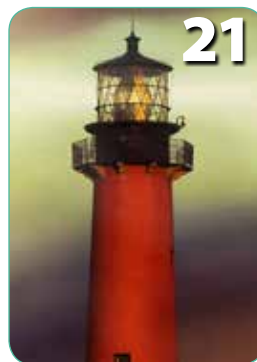
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# THE FALLING STARS

By James Edson White

"And the stars shall fall from heaven."  
Matthew 24:29

One of the signs foretold by our Saviour was that of the falling stars. This was literally fulfilled in the great meteoric shower which occurred November 13, 1833. This wonderful exhibition of celestial fireworks began between two and four o'clock in the morning and continued until day light. It extended over North America, and as far south as Mexico and the island of Jamaica.



## WAS THE FINAL DAY AT HAND?

The effect produced upon those who witnessed this event is thus described:

"No celestial phenomenon has ever occurred in this country since its first settlement which was viewed with such intense admiration by one class in the community, or with so much dread and alarm by another.

During the three hours of its continuance, the day of judgment was believed to be only waiting for sunrise, and long after the shower had ceased, the morbid and superstitious were still impressed with the idea that the final day was at least only a week ahead.

"Meetings for prayer were held in many places, and many other scenes of religious devotion, or terror, or abandonment of worldly affairs, transpired under the influence of fear occasioned by so sudden and awful a display." Great Events of the Greatest Century, 229.

## "...THE WORLD IS ON FIRE!"

A Southern planter speaks as follows of the effect of this scene on the black population: "I was suddenly awakened by the most distressing cries that ever fell on my ears. Shrieks of horror, and cries for mercy, could be heard

from most of the negroes of three plantations, amounting in all to some six or eight hundred. While earnestly and breathlessly listening for the cause, I heard a faint voice near the door, calling my name.

“I arose, and taking my sword, stood at the door. At this moment I heard the same voice still beseeching me to rise, and saying, ‘O my God, the world is on fire!’ I then opened the door, and it is difficult to say which excited me most, the awfulness of the scene or the distressed cries of the negroes.

“Upwards of one hundred lay prostrate upon the ground, some speechless, and others uttering the bitterest moans, but with their hands raised, imploring God to save the world and them. The scene was totally awful, for never did rain fall much more than the meteors fell toward the earth; east, west, north, and south, it was the same. In a word the whole heavens seemed in motion.”

### NEVER A SPECTACLE SO TERRIBLY GRAND AND SUBLIME

Arago estimates that “not less than two hundred and forty thousand meteors were at the same time visible above the horizon of Boston.” Another writer, who was at Niagara at the time, says: “No spectacle so terribly grand and sublime was ever before beheld by man as that of the firmament descending in fiery torrents over the dark and roaring cataract.”

The way these stars fell is thus foretold by the prophet John: “The stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely (unripe) figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.” Revelation 6:13.

### THE STARS FELL THICK AS DECEMBER SNOWFLAKES

Professor Olmstead, of Yale College, says: “The meteors did not fly at random over all parts of the sky, but appeared to emanate from a point in the constellation Leo, near a



star called Gamma Leonis, in the bend of the sickle.”

Henry Dana Ward speaks of the literal fulfillment of the foregoing text as follows:

“Here is the exactness of the prophet. The falling stars did not come as if from several trees shaken, but from one. Those which appeared in the east fell toward the east; those which appeared in the north fell toward the north; those which appeared in the west fell toward the west; and those which appeared in the south fell toward the south.

“And they fell not as ripe fruit falls; far from it; but they flew, they were cast, like the unripe fig, which at first refuses to leave the branch, and when, under a violent pressure, it does break its hold, flies swiftly, straight off, descending; and the multitude falling, some cross the track of others, as they are thrown with more or less force, but each one falls on its own side of the tree.”

### THE FALLING STARS TELL US WHERE WE ARE IN PROPHECY

In Burnett’s “Geography of the Heavens” is found the following description:

“The first appearance was that of fireworks of the most imposing grandeur, covering the entire vault of heaven with myriads of fire-balls resembling sky-rockets. Their coruscations were bright, gleaming, and incessant, and they fell thick as the flakes in the early snow of December. To the splendor of this celestial exhibition the most brilliant sky-rockets and fireworks of art bear less relation than the twinkling of the most tiny star to the broad glare of the sun.”

To the student of prophecy there can be no question that this event forms another link in the chain of prophecy already fulfilled. It is another milestone to tell us where we are in the rapidly passing events of this world’s history.



# Carnal or Spiritual: The Battle for the Mind

By Patricia J. Smith

The great controversy has been raging in the universe ever since Lucifer rebelled against his Creator in Heaven and desired to take His place. We see the first glimpses of the carnal mind as we read the boast of Lucifer, the rebellious covering cherub, in Isaiah 14:13, 14 – “I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the sides of the north: I will ascend

above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.”

Why Lucifer, a covering cherub who stood in the very presence of God in the Most Holy Place in the temple in Heaven, became the first sinner in the entire universe, developing a rebellious carnal mind that hated God and His Holy Law is an unanswerable mystery. The Bible calls it “the mystery of iniquity”. 2 Thessalonians 2:7.

**We know that Lucifer served in the temple, or sanctuary, in Heaven from the comparison of the following scriptures:**

1. Under the symbol of the king of Tyrus, it is said of Lucifer, “Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth.” Ezekiel 28:14.
2. What did the cherubim cover? They covered the mercy seat, one cherub on either side of it. See Exodus 37:7-9; 25:18-21.
3. The earthly tabernacle was patterned after the heavenly sanctuary, the pattern in the heavens. See Exodus 25:8, 9; Hebrews 8:5; 9:21-23. The cherubim in the earthly sanctuary were golden, made of beaten work. The cherubim in Heaven were living angels, one on either side of the mercy seat in the second apartment of the sanctuary, the Most Holy Place. See Exodus 26:34; Hebrews 9:3-5.
4. The Ten Commandments were in the ark of the covenant, which was covered by the mercy seat. Exodus 25:16; 24:12; Deuteronomy 5:6-22; Revelation 11:19.
5. Between the cherubims, the very



presence of God dwelt. Leviticus 16:2; Exodus 25:22.

So, in the very presence of God, Lucifer's mind was on himself, and he desired to be above God, his Creator. This he well knew was transgression of the Law of God that was in the ark of the testimony under the mercy seat. It is clear that his desires and selfish ambitions were foremost in his mind, for he mentioned "I" 5 times in his boastful words previously quoted. He most definitely had an "I" problem!

himself into the Devil and Satan, to the unbelieving Jews: "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own; for he is a liar, and the father of it."

How was it determined in



Heaven, in the beginning, that Lucifer, the Devil, was a liar and a murderer? How is an action or a thought determined to be sin, transgression of the law? Paul declares, "Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law." Romans 7:7. In another verse in the same book, he makes it clear that sin - transgression of the law - cannot exist without the law. "Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression." Romans 4:15. So, in order for Lucifer, the Devil, to be declared a liar and a murderer from the beginning, there had to be a law in place that condemned lying and murder. That law is the same Ten Commandment Law that was given to Moses, written on stone with the finger of God.

The apostle James declares regarding the law of God - law of liberty - and the transgression thereof, these words - "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. For he

It may be questioned whether the Ten Commandments really existed in Heaven at this time. When we compare scripture with scripture, we clearly see that the Law of God - the Ten Commandments - definitely existed in Heaven and Lucifer broke them, becoming the first sinner.

### **Sin cannot exist without the law**

In John 8:44, Jesus declared these words regarding Lucifer, who made





that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law. So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.” James 2:10-12.

**The devil sinned from the beginning**

The only law given by God that is against adultery and murder is the Ten Commandment Law. The only definition of sin in the word of God is the transgression of this law. “Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law; for sin is the transgression of the law.” 1 John 3:4.

Later, in verse 8 of this same chapter, the beloved apostle plainly states that the devil sinned from the beginning. In Heaven, Lucifer transgressed the law of God. “He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.” 1 John 3:8.



By desiring to exalt himself above God, Lucifer transgressed the first commandment – “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” Exodus 20:3. He became a liar and a murderer when he led fellow angels to also rebel against God, for in persuading them to follow him in disobedience, he had to lie on God, painting Him in a false light. When his fellow angels followed him in transgression of God’s Holy Law, they forfeited their eternal life of joy and happiness with God and became subjected to misery, ruin, and finally, eternal death, murdered by Lucifer, “for the wages of sin is death.” Romans 6:23. This death is eternal death, for it is contrasted with eternal life, the gift of God, in the same verse. Eternal death is being blotted out of existence forever. “Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.” Matthew 25:41. Hellfire, like the eternal fire that destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, will continue to burn as long as necessary to complete its work of destruction. Then it will go out, just as Sodom and Gomorrah are not burning now. See Jude 7. The fire will turn all of the wicked – the root (Satan, the Devil) and his branches (his followers) –

into ashes, never to live again. “For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch... And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the LORD of hosts.” Malachi 4:1, 3.

**Hatred and rebellion toward God’s holy law is seen daily in the lives of those not fully surrendered to Christ**

Ever since Adam yielded to the Devil’s temptations through Eve and sinned, breaking the perfect and holy Ten Commandment Law of God, our first parents and all of their descendants (except Jesus) have had the same carnal mind as Satan, their leader, and have naturally displayed the same evil characteristics of that mind. “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.” Romans 5:12.

Throughout our modern world, the attitudes of Satan’s mind are readily seen, displayed boldly on a daily basis by all who are not fully surrendered to Jesus Christ. Exalting self and hatred and rebellion toward the holy law of God – His Ten Commandments – is widespread in the political, educational, entertainment, economical and business arenas, as well as in personal life. Sadly, even in the religious world, the carnal mind is dominant, with the preaching of the prosperity gospel and the trampling down of the Law of God.

Of course, Satan is pleased as he sees the success of his plan to deceive the whole world in rebelling against God and His holy authority. “And



the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.” Revelation 12:9. He knows “that he hath but a short time.” Revelation 12:12, before he will be blotted out forever, and so, he tempts and persuades as many people as possible, of every and all beliefs and practices, to rebel against God and His Holy Law. Satan does not care if people transgress openly all ten, or go to church every week, ignoring and seemingly breaking only one commandment, for he well knows that the end result will be the same either way - eternal death with him and his angels - if the rebellion is persistently practiced and not truly repented of, being forsaken and overcome by the power of Christ.

### Self-exaltation is a characteristic of Satan

It is a very sad and grim realization when it is understood that many, so very many, who profess to be Christians, followers of the meek and lowly Jesus Christ, are entering churches week by week, praising our Saviour, but are actually possessed by the carnal mind of Satan! They desire self to be exalted through the prosperity gospel, through ability to dress, sing, perform, preach, act, etc. better than someone else, and they rebel against the authority of God’s Moral Law declaring it to be nailed to the cross by Jesus and no longer in force for the Christian.

There was a law that came to an end at the cross, nailed there by Jesus, and no longer in force for Christians, but that law is not

the Ten Commandment Law, but the Ceremonial Law that dealt with meat, drink, respect of an holy day, the new moon or the sabbath days (i.e. yearly feast days). Colossians 2:16. This Ceremonial Law which had “a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.” Hebrews 10:1. The law that was done away with had rules regarding sacrifices; this law is clearly not the Ten Commandment Law, which is the detector of sin.

### Jesus never yielded to the temptations of Satan

This widespread hatred of the Ten Commandments Christ does not share and gave us no such example of! He showed us a life of total obedience to the Law of God and respect for it. Notice the following scriptures:

“If ye keep my commandments ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father’s commandments, and abide in his love.” John 15:10.

“Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.” Matthew 5:17.

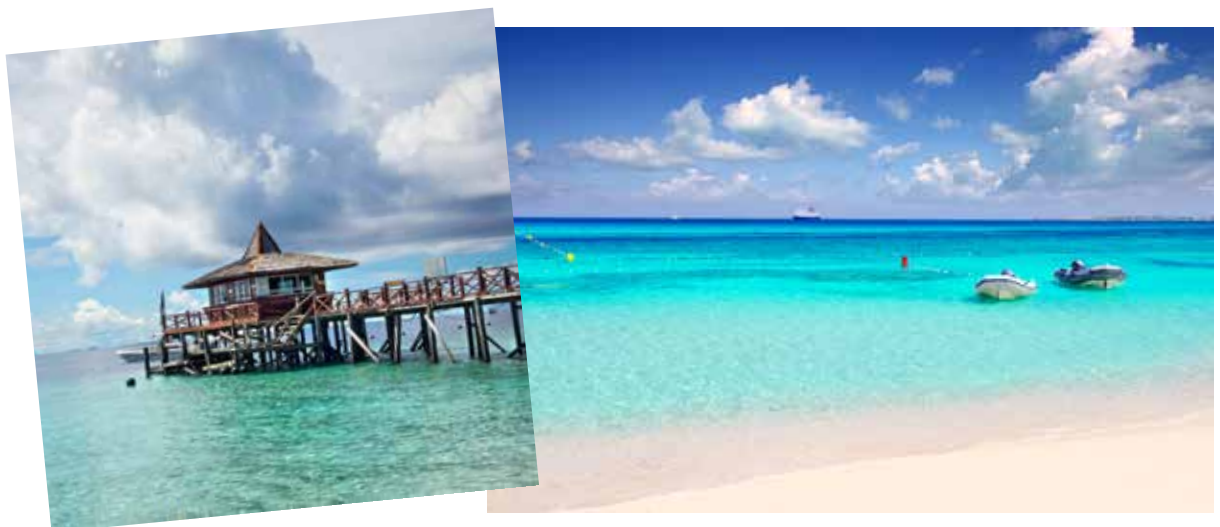
“And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do

no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honor thy father and thy mother; and, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.” Matthew 19:17-19.

“And he (Jesus) came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read.” Luke 4:16.

It is clear from the testimony of Holy Scripture that Jesus did not yield to the temptations of Satan to break the Law of God, not even one time! “For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth.” 1 Peter 2:21, 22. Christ was a complete commandment keeper and obeyed all of His Father’s Holy Law.

Christ Jesus fervently desires to freely give this same power to overcome all sin and be obedient to all ten of the commandments to each one who yields to Him, and truly wants to follow His footsteps. Thus He will destroy the works of the Devil – all sin – in us, in our lives and our minds. He deeply longs to give us His mind, His spiritual mind. “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:5. This mind is completely opposite to the carnal mind of the Devil, which is also the natural mind of every human being on Planet Earth.



**Notice the following contrasts from Scripture:**

The Carnal Mind	The Spiritual Mind
"I will exalt my throne..." Isaiah 14:13	"Christ Jesus...humbled himself." Philippians 2:5, 8
"The devil sinneth from the beginning." 1 John 3:8	"...I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love." John 15:10
"Ye are of your father the devil...He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar and the father of it." John 8:44	"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6
"For to be carnally minded is death..." Romans 8:6	"...but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." Romans 8:6
"Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." Romans 8:7	"For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous." 1 John 5:3
"...I am carnal, sold under sin." Romans 7:14	"Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin." Romans 6:6
"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." 1 Corinthians 2:14	"Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God." 1 Corinthians 2:12
"So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God." Romans 8:8	"By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God." Hebrews 11:5
"Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin." John 8:34	"Being then made free from sin, ye became servants of righteousness." Romans 6:18 (Note: "All thy commandments are righteousness." Psalm 119:172)
"Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." James 4:4	"And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God." James 2:23
"But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." 2 Timothy 3:13	"Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:12

**Now you are armed with the Sword of the Spirit, the word of God**

From now on, whenever you hear anyone, anywhere, declare that we, as Christians, do not have to keep the Ten Commandments because they were nailed to the cross, you most clearly and definitely will know that you are hearing the voice of the carnal mind, that "is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be." The speaker is influenced by the first sinner, the original law-breaker, Satan himself. Surely, Jesus did not come to earth and die such a cruel death for our sins, as the innocent Lamb of God just so, under His grace, we could freely sin even more!!

No, indeed! Jesus' mission is "to save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21. The apostle Paul declares, by the Holy Spirit, "What shall we say? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" Romans 6:1, 2. Breaking any one of the Ten Commandments is born out of hatred to God, realized or unrealized, and is against God, for God is love, and "love is the fulfilling of the law." Romans 13:10. Jesus did no sin Himself, and gives His followers no license to sin, but delivers them from all sin!





**Will you choose blessing or cursing this day?**

Dear reader, I pray that you will hear the plea of God through His servant Moses and choose life in Christ! "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live." Deuteronomy 30:19.

"Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day: And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known." Deuteronomy 11:26-28.

Only the truly converted believer in Christ can declare with David, the

sweet singer in Israel, "Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for thy law is my delight." Psalm 119:77; "O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day." Verse 97.

Only the spiritually minded believer renewed in Jesus Christ can with joy declare with John the Baptizer these words regarding the Lord Jesus – "He must increase, but I must decrease." John 3:30.

"Because the law of the Lord is perfect, and therefore changeless, it is impossible for sinful men, in themselves, to meet the standard of its requirement. This was why Jesus came as our Redeemer. It was His mission, by making men partakers of the divine nature, to bring them into harmony with the principles of the law of heaven. When we forsake our sins and receive Christ as our Saviour, the law is exalted. The apostle Paul

asks, "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law." Romans 3:31.

**Not one jot or tittle of God's law has been changed**

The new-covenant promise is, "I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them." Hebrews 10:16. While the system of types which pointed to Christ as the Lamb of God that should take away the sin of the world was to pass away at His death, the principles of righteousness embodied in the Decalogue are as immutable as the eternal throne. Not one command has been annulled, not one jot or tittle has been changed. Those principles that were made known to man in Paradise as the great law of life will exist unchanged in Paradise restored. When Eden shall bloom on earth again, God's law of love will be obeyed by all beneath the sun." MB 50, 51.



*Patricia is a second-generation SDA writer who loves to study and share the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. She enjoys biking, rock collecting, and spending time with family. She resides in Louisiana with her husband and two children.*

# EVOLUTION...

## Really?

By Joe Olson



In this article I would like to address the idea of evolution -- not the highly sophisticated arguments from both the scripture and science; I just want to address it from the common sense that God has given us. People can argue endlessly for one stand or the other on the idea, and I will say that some will not be convinced no matter how much evidence is given. But for now, I just want to address a few things from the scientists' own literature.

You've heard the saying that we can't see the forest for the trees. It means that we can get so focused on a single tree that we can't see the entire forest. We have this amazing ability to be so myopically focused, or focused on a pin-pointed thing, that we see nothing else. There is such grandeur in the world, and in our own bodies that when we look at one particular aspect, we can lose sight of everything else. That is easy to do with a lot of things. Christians can get very myopic or narrowly focused on one doctrine in the Bible, where nothing else seems to matter any more.



### EVOLUTION IS THE ULTIMATE DENIAL ISSUE

But in this message, I'd like to address a single area of our bodies, and how it relates to evolution. Evolutionists believe that we were not created by God. Evolutionists believe that we have come from mud, stardust, chemicals in the sky, etc., etc., etc. They don't all agree about what we were made from, but what they all do agree on is that it wasn't God. Nobody "made" us. You see, if Someone "made" us, then we are accountable to that Someone. And people, as a general rule, do not want to be accountable. That's where our whole society is going now you know. We are not accountable. "It's not my fault I drink... I have a disease." "It's not his fault he killed that woman... he had anger issues." "He can't control himself... he has deep-seated emotional issues." And the excuses go on and on and on until we all feel pretty good about ourselves, in spite of the fact that we do so much evil. And that is just how the devil wants it.

But a really integral part of feeling un-responsible,

meaning, it is not our fault, is this evolutionary attitude. “We were made this way,” they say. And what they mean by “made” is simply an evolutionary step. God didn’t make them that way... it just happened through the evolutionary process. Can you see how subtly dangerous that idea is? If they just ended up that way, through no fault of their own, then how can they be guilty for what they have done or how they act? It takes all accountability out of the equation. Nobody is responsible for anything, therefore no one is guilty of anything. But why do we feel the need to believe or accept that? -- God. Guilt comes from God. God has implanted in each of us, in our brains, the very idea of right and wrong... good and evil. And we have been rebelling against that since creation. And the brain... our brains... is what I’d like to address here.



what “scientists” or teachers told them. It astounded me. I went to college after serving four years in the military and after working in the world for awhile. That made me a little older than most of my classmates. One of the things that really made an impression on me was how accepting the kids were of whatever the teachers told them. If the teacher said it, it was gospel.

There is no way they would lie, or make stuff up, nor was it possible that they did not know. I just looked around the classroom and stood amazed at all of these young men and women who simply blindly accepted whatever was told them. I couldn’t believe it. How in the world was this possible? I would ask some of them, “How do you know that THEY know what they are talking about? Where is your reference point? Have you tested, even just in your minds, that what they are saying makes sense? Are you thinking about what they say, especially from a logical point of view? As a matter of fact... ARE you thinking? Or, are you just accepting it all as fact, without ever even thinking about it?” It amazed me to no end. They were practically worshipping these teachers. They were gods of knowledge. It made me crazy.

### **WHERE DID THE “STUFF” COME FROM THAT WE ARE MADE OF?**

I’ve been reading this month’s National Geographic magazine. This comes from the February, 2014 issue of the magazine. The front cover image is a picture of the brain. The title is: “The New Science of the Brain.” It was an extremely interesting article.

Now let me interject here that I am somewhat biased. Before I ever came to Christ, before I ever believed in, or accepted God, I always knew I was created. With the brain that “Someone” had given me, I could reason out that there was no way I was able to see, hear, feel or think or move the fingers in my hand that that had just “happened”. Now, I didn’t know who did it, but I knew “Someone” did. Might have been a space man, or creatures from another planet, but “Somebody” did it.

The idea that there was some massive explosion, from gases that just “were” and that *poof!*... here I am, is too wild to even imagine. Where did the gases come from? Who made the primordial soup? Just to blindly accept that there was “something” and that we came from “it” was too incredulous, or beyond belief to me.

### **THE STUDENTS WERE PRACTICALLY WORSHIPPING THEIR TEACHERS**

But as I grew older, I was amazed to see how many people just accepted

### **DID YOU EVER JUST ASK “WHY?”**

One day, in my Anatomy and Physiology class, my teacher was commenting on how we arrived here by way of the sludge or space dust or whatever it was, and how we evolved into these wonderful bodies. And he went on to say that the different animals evolved to be small in order to

hide from predators, or large to be the biggest predator, or evolved long necks to reach tall branches to eat, etc., etc. And I looked around and saw the cherubic faces of the young people who were looking admiringly into the teacher’s face as he fed us this rubbish. Finally, I couldn’t take it any more.

Over time in his class, I had begun to enjoy this teacher and his witticisms and overall sense of humor, and we had become sort of friends. But I raised my hand in the class and asked, why did the giraffe stop growing at 18 feet? There were branches taller than 18 feet so why didn’t the giraffe grow to 20 feet or 26 feet or 100 feet? Why didn’t the rhinoceros grow larger than the elephant? Why didn’t the ant





get bigger? Why isn't a lion pink? Everyone in the class was hushed. I think they thought I might be killed for daring to question the teacher. And as I looked at the teacher, he was getting hotter and hotter by the minute.

This teacher liked me and he knew I was a Christian, but he also knew he could not answer the questions I was asking. There ARE no answers to those questions. No one knows the answers to those questions... but God. And the instructor, really upset with me for embarrassing him in front of all his students, answered and said... "Because God made them that way!" Then he added, "Are you happy, Olson?" And I responded simply, "Yes, yes I am."

You see, these people, these teachers, these scientists, say these things to us, whatever they might be, like they are the gospel truth. But the truth is, THEY were just taught it when they went to school and they are just regurgitating it to us when we become students. And the whole thing works very nicely until someone uses his or her own brain and says, "Wait a minute – how do I know what you are telling me is right?"

### **YOU WILL NEVER REACH THE TRUTH IF YOU DON'T QUESTION**

When you start questioning, the whole thing starts to fall apart, like a house of cards. If there is one thing I could impress upon anyone, it would be to question everything.



Question everything! Question everything! Take nothing for granted and believe no one. Check it out for yourself. YOU make sure it is right. You have your own mind... figure it out yourself! Don't take their word for it. And I mean that about everything! Including your parents, your teachers, your pastors! Know for yourself what is right or true. Especially in regard to religion and faith. Don't believe what someone else tells you, listen to what they say, but then you verify it on your own. No one should ever say, "I believe it because my pastor or my teacher or my mother said it." Say, "I believe it because my pastor or my teacher or my mother said it, and I checked it out and found it to be true." You have a brain... use it! And never, ever, ever let anyone tell you that you are too stupid or not educated enough to understand it. That is the line they give you so you won't figure out that they are giving you a line.

### **"SOMEONE" HAD TO HAVE MADE THE MOUSE BRAIN - A WATCH EVEN HAS A MAKER**

So, with this in mind, let's look together at this article in the National Geographic. These scientists are trying to figure out the human brain. But, the human brain is too large and too complicated, so they start on the brain of a mouse. Now remember, most of these scientists, if not all of them, believe in evolution. Certainly, at a minimum, none of them have stated in the article that God made our brains. And National Geographic definitely is an evolutionary-believing magazine.

Now, they take a mouse brain and they discover that even it is so technical and beyond their grasp that they can only start with a little piece of its brain. So they have to cut the mouse brain down to a manageable size to begin with. How small would you imagine they have to start with? A half? A quarter? A hundredth? They use what is basically a meat slicer and slice a portion of the mouse's brain to **one one thousandth** the thickness of a human hair. Now, let's just dwell on that for a second... The brain of a mouse... not a man... a mouse... is so complicated, that to even begin to look into it, we have to cut it down to a size that we can barely even imagine. Just that alone... what does that tell you? Using your own brain to figure it out, without a teacher or a scientist telling you what it means... what does that tell you? What does that mean to you? The fact that it is that complicated... a MOUSE brain that is that complicated, says to me that "Someone" made it.

Have you ever looked at a watch and said, "Man, I wonder how that evolved to where it is now?" No, when you saw the watch, the question was, "Who MADE that exquisite piece of machinery?" Never, ever, in a thousand years, would anyone wonder if it came to be by itself. Look at all the moving parts. Look at all the intricacy. Look at how everything works together. WHO did this? THAT is what we ask.

## EVEN A MOUSE BRAIN IS FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE

These scientists are looking at the brain of a mouse and see the ridiculous intricacy and yet they cannot see the forest for the trees. It should immediately draw out of them, “What a wondrous God!” “For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.” Romans 1:20. God said that we can understand the invisible things, (like God Himself) “by the things that are made.” One look at this mouse brain should have been enough for these people to grasp the concept of the Creator. But no, they don’t... or won’t see it.

Let me go on; it gets even better! I’m quoting... “The only problem [dealing with this mouse brain] is the sheer enormity of everything.” The writer of this story goes on to say, “So far the largest volume of a mouse’s brain that Lichtman and his colleagues have managed to re-create [meaning make a picture of] is about the size of a grain of salt.” These men, schooled for years in our greatest universities and using equipment that is the latest technology we have been able to create, have been able to make a picture the size of a grain of salt. Of a mouse brain! In other words, even the brain of a mouse has been so fearfully and wonderfully made, that they can’t delve any deeper into its creation. And that happened by a big, cosmic explosion. This is the “big bang theory”?

## 25,000 HIGH DEFINITION MOVIES

What do you have to do in your mind to get yourself to accept that it all “just happened”? I know I keep repeating it, but,, we are just talking about a MOUSE brain. We are not referring to a human brain, or even an ape brain. A MOUSE brain. And all these evolutionists pray that we never stop for a minute and ask, “Who made us and these mice?” Because, like my A&P professor, they will have to admit that God did it.

And that “grain of salt” sized piece of mouse brain they were actually able to make a picture of... The data in that salt grain of brain is equal to a hundred terabytes of information. I can barely figure out how much a byte of information is, much less a terabyte. But the scientists said that a hundred terabytes of information is like the information on 25,000 high definition movies. 25,000 movies! On a salt-grain-sized piece of... yes, I’m saying it again – a mouse brain!

## AND IT HAD TO HAVE HAPPENED TWICE

Really? Are we still thinking that the mouse evolved into its brain? No one had anything to do with that? It just... happened? And remember, we are dealing with just one particular PART of a mouse! There are eyes, ears, feet, hearts, lungs, circulatory systems, digestive systems



and a whole lot more. And they all have to have evolved simultaneously and in perfect working order in order for there to be a mouse. And as a good friend once told me... it had to have happened *twice*! One is male, the other is female. So, in order for there to be evolution, a male mouse had to “evolve” into his condition as a mouse, and there had to be a whole other evolution of a female mouse, so there could be more mice!

What are the odds of that? *Really?* How stupid do we have to be to accept that a “bang” did all that? The story in the National Geographic goes on to say that a post doctoral student set out to analyze every detail in a cylinder of mouse brain tissue, measuring just a thousand cubic microns. The volume of a thousand cubic microns is just 1/100,000 the size of a grain of salt. This student wanted to “measure” so-to-speak, all of what was in this volume of a mouse brain. 1/100,000 the size of a grain of salt.

I’m quoting again here... “That miniscule patch of brain turned out to be like a barrel of seething snakes. Kasthuri found a thousand axons and about 80 dendrites, each making about 600 connections with other neurons inside the cylinder.”– In a volume of the mouse’s brain that was 1/100,000 the size, not of the mouse’s brain, but a salt grain! It is beyond our comprehension!



## DID THEY COME TO THEIR SENSES AFTER ACQUIRING THIS KNOWLEDGE?

Listen to this... I am quoting again... The scientist said, "It's a wake-up call to how much more complicated brains are than the way we think about them." No kidding! Really? It's a wake-up call, is it? Well, did they wake up? Did they now realize that "Someone" made the mouse and his brain? I wish I could say, "Yes." But then, the article would not have appeared in the National Geographic, would it? No, they just go on in their blindness and unwillingness to accept that we did not just "appear". Because remember, then they would be accountable, and THAT they refuse to deal with.

The article went on to say that they would need another two years to complete a scan of all 70 million neurons in a mouse. 70 million! The author of the article asked the scientist about scanning an entire human brain, which contains a thousand times more neurons than a mouse's." This was the scientist's response... "I don't dwell on that," he says with a laugh. "It's too painful."

Just think about that for a minute! From his own mouth he says that it is too painful to even think about making a picture of a human brain. Just a picture of how it works! Yet... that same scientist accepts that it just happened. Can't see the forest for the trees. And these 3-D models of these bits of mouse brains take colossal amount of data. A human brain is 3,000 times larger than a mouse brain. To do a 3-D image of a human brain would take an equivalent amount of data to all the written material in all of the libraries of the world! All of the libraries in the world!



## THEY ADMIT THEY CAN'T ANSWER 'RIDICULOUSLY SIMPLE' QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BRAIN

Can we even comprehend it? Can we imagine it all "just happened"? Come on... really? And keep in mind that we are only referring to the delivery structure of the brain if you will... the dendrites, the axons, the synaptic junctions, etc. We are not even addressing the material that flows through these delivery systems. That material, the proteins, the chemicals, the fats, etc., are another whole story. For instance, just mapping ONE protein in the brain, of which there are many, would create a "monstrous heap of data" (their words). That "monstrous heap of data" is about two petabytes (and I am sure everybody knows how large that is), and is the equivalent to **several hundred thousand** high-def movies. ONE protein!

And one last quote to address how silly it is not to give God the glory for His marvelous work... "There are ridiculously simple questions about the cortex that we can't answer at all..." They can't answer even "ridiculously simple questions" about the brain... Not even "ridiculously simple" ones (their words). But what they *do* know, what they ALL say they know, is that our brains just evolved to be what they are. They DO know that God did not make them.

Maybe it's time we started using our OWN brains to figure out the truth.



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





# Hope for Health

A field of red clover is lovely to behold with dark pink tops looking irresistible to the bees! Hope for Health has discovered that Red Clover is not just aesthetically pleasing, it is a rich source of MANY valuable nutrients including calcium, chromium, magnesium, niacin, phosphorus, potassium, thiamine, and vitamin C to benefit a wide range of health complaints!

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In a clinical study published in "Maturitas," menopausal subjects who consumed Red Clover experienced a 44 percent reduction in hot flashes compared to a placebo group. In another study published in "American Journal of Clinical Nutrition," post-menopausal women who consumed isoflavones from Red Clover experienced less bone loss in their spinal bones and increased markers of bone formation, compared to those who took a placebo. Red Clover may protect against bone loss, according to a 2004 study of 177 women (ages 49 to 65). Results showed that women who took Red Clover supplements daily for a year had significantly lower loss of bone mineral density than those who took a placebo.

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- May loosen phlegm and calm bronchial spasms
- Promotes healthy cell growth
- Boosts the immune system
- May soothe skin inflammations

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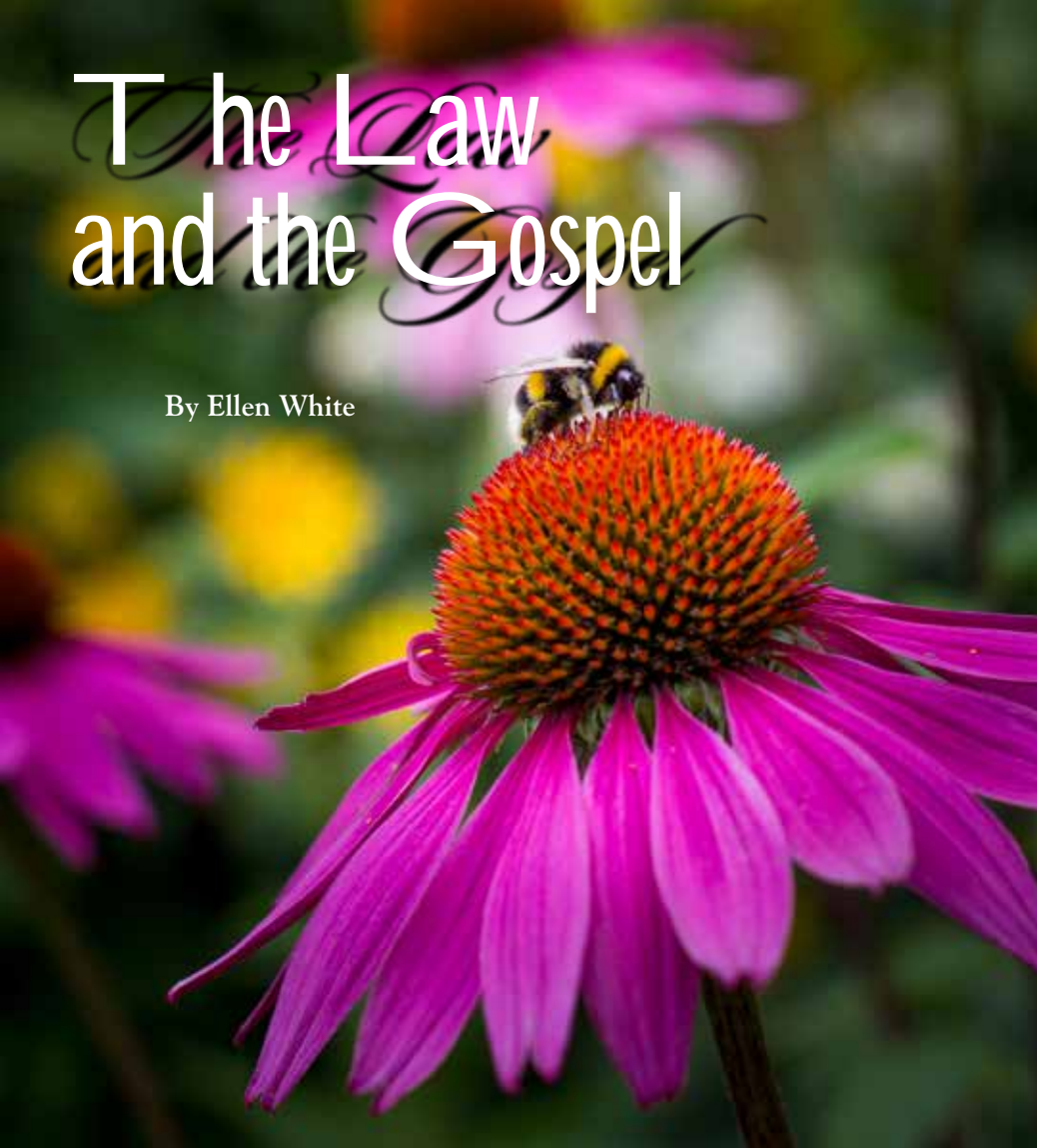
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*Combining nature, faith, and love to bring health to the world.*

# The Law and the Gospel

By Ellen White



The Law and the Gospel can not be separated. In Christ mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. The Gospel has not ignored the obligations due to God by man. The Gospel is the Law unfolded, nothing more nor less. It gives no more latitude to sin than does the Law. The Law points to Christ; Christ points to the Law. The Gospel calls men to repentance. Repentance of what?—Of sin. And what is sin?—It is the transgression of the Law. Therefore the Gospel calls men from their transgression back to obedience to the Law of God. Jesus in his life and death taught the strictest obedience. He died, the just for the unjust, the innocent for the guilty, that the honor of God's Law might be preserved, and yet man not utterly perish.

The work of salvation in both

the Old and the New Testament dispensation is the same. Christ was the foundation of the whole Jewish economy. The types and shadows under which the Jews worshiped, all pointed forward to the world's Redeemer. It was by faith in a coming Saviour that sinners were saved then. It is through faith in Christ that they are justified today.

In giving his Son, God gave himself, that man might have another trial. If God could have changed his Law to meet man in his fallen condition, would he not have done this, and retained his only-begotten Son in heaven?—He certainly would. But because his Law was as changeless as his character, he gave his beloved Son, who was above Law, and one with himself, to meet the penalty which his justice demanded.

## **Christ's death on the cross shows the immutability of the Law of God**

Satan is working with all his deceptive power to ensnare the world. He would have them believe that this great sacrifice was made in order to abolish God's Law. He represents Christ as opposed to the Law of God's government in heaven and in earth. But the Sovereign of the world has a Law by which to govern his heavenly intelligences and his human family, and the death of his Son fixes the immutability of that law beyond any question. God has no intention of doing away with his great standard of righteousness. By this standard he can define what a correct character is.

Christ consented to die in the sinner's stead, that man, by a life of obedience, might escape the penalty of the Law of God. His death did not make the Law of God of none effect; it did not slay the law, lessen its claims, or detract from its sacred dignity. The death of Christ proclaimed the justice of his Father's law in punishing the transgressor, in that he consented to suffer the penalty of the law transgressed himself, in order to save fallen man from its curse. The death of God's beloved Son on the cross shows the immutability of the Law of God. His death magnifies the Law and makes it honorable, and gives evidence to man of its changeless character. From his





own divine lips are heard the words, "Think not that I am come to destroy the Law or the prophets; I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil." The death of Christ justified the claims of the law.

**The same doctrine of the Nicolaitans is being taught today**

But the doctrine is now largely taught that the Gospel of Christ has made the Law of God of no effect; that by "believing" we are released from the necessity of being doers of the word. But this is the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which Christ so unsparingly condemned. To the church of Ephesus he says: "I know thy works, and thy labor, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil; and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars; and hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast labored, and hast not fainted. Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent. But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate."

**Christ and the Law cannot be separated**

Those who are teaching this doctrine today have much to say in

regard to faith and the righteousness of Christ; but they pervert the truth, and make it serve the cause of error. They declare that we have only to believe on Jesus Christ, and that faith is all-sufficient; that the righteousness of Christ is to be the sinner's credentials; that this imputed righteousness fulfils the law for us, and that we are under no obligation to obey the law of God. This class claim that Christ came to save sinners, and that he has saved them. "I am saved," they will repeat over and over again. But are they saved while transgressing the law of Jehovah?—No; for the garments of Christ's righteousness are not a cloak for iniquity. Such teaching is a gross deception, and Christ becomes to these persons a stumbling-block as he did to the Jews,—o the Jews because they would not receive him as their personal Saviour; to these professed believers in Christ, because they separate Christ and the Law, and regard faith as a substitute for obedience. They separate the Father and the Son, the Saviour of the world. Virtually they teach, both by precept and example, that Christ, by his death, saves men in their transgressions.

**The divine commandments cannot be regarded with indifference and carelessness**

It is necessary that every intelligent being shall understand the principles of the law of God. Christ through the apostle James declares, "Whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." These words were spoken this side of the death of Christ; therefore the Law was binding upon all at that time.

The Saviour raised his voice in protest against those who regard the divine commandments with indifference and carelessness. He said, "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called

the least in the kingdom of heaven; but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven." And he also declared, "Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in nowise pass from the Law till all be fulfilled."

Men may talk of freedom, of Gospel liberty. They may assert that they are not in bondage to the Law. But the influence of a Gospel hope will not lead the sinner to look upon the salvation of Christ as a matter of free grace, while he continues to live in transgression of the Law of God.



When the light of truth dawns upon his mind, and he fully understands the requirements of God, and realizes the extent of his transgressions, he will reform his ways, become loyal to God through the strength obtained from his Saviour, and lead a new and purer life. "Whosoever abideth in him," says John, "sinneth not; whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him."

ST, February 25, 1897



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.

# THE COMING KING

*“Thine eyes shall see the  
King in His beauty”  
Isa. 33:17*

I shall see Him! I shall see Him!  
Whom my soul hath long adored;  
See the King in all His beauty  
To His royal right restored.  
He who once, despised, rejected,  
On the cross was left to die,  
Soon shall reappear in glory,  
For His coming draweth nigh.

I shall see Him! I shall see Him!  
O, the rapture of the thought!  
These same eyes shall soon behold Him  
Who with blood my pardon bought;  
For we've seen the signs of promise,  
We have heard the “midnight cry.”  
Haste, my soul go forth to meet Him,  
For His coming draweth nigh.

I shall see Him! I shall see Him!  
Praise the Lord! 'twill not be long;  
Heralded by heavenly minstrels,  
Welcomed by the blood-washed throng,  
He'll return the selfsame Jesus,  
From the glory-mantled sky.  
Wake, ye saints! arouse! be ready!  
For His coming draweth nigh.

—Domestic Journal

# The Righteousness of God!

By Lynnford Beachy

Righteousness is the “state of him who is as he ought to be,... integrity, virtue, purity of life, rightness, correctness of thinking, feeling, and acting” (Thayer’s Greek Lexicon). This is a high standard to live up to. Paul calls it something we hope for. He wrote, “For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith.”! Galatians 5:5.

We can hope to have righteousness, but it only comes by faith.

Righteousness is the state of being pure; of thinking, feeling and acting correctly. Jesus put it this way, “Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.” Matthew 5:48. This is a seemingly unreachable goal. How can you be as perfect as our Father in heaven? The Bible tells us, “But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses [are] as filthy rags;...” Isaiah 64:6. There must be something more to this picture.

## A Clearer Picture

Paul explained the righteousness that we can have by faith when he wrote, “But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference.” Romans 3:21, 22. Here we learn that the righteousness we get by faith is “the righteousness of God”. This sure makes it easier to understand how Jesus could ask us to be as perfect as His Father, for the righteousness we get by faith is God’s own righteousness.

The Bible says, “**In His days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is His name whereby He shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.**” Jeremiah 23:6. The Lord is our righteousness. He is our only hope of being perfect. Paul explained it this way, “But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption.” 1 Corinthians 1:30. Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” John 14:6. Jesus is the way to the Father’s righteousness. If we have Christ, we have God’s righteousness, “For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.” Colossians 2:9. Having Christ in



you is the way that we “...might be filled with all the fulness of God.” Ephesians 3:19. **That is amazing!**

Paul prayed that he would “...be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.” Philippians 3:9, 10. The righteousness we are to have is “of God by faith”, but not just any faith, it is “the faith of Christ”. That is powerful! God’s righteousness can only be attained by faith, but not our own puny faith; it can only be had by the faith of Jesus Christ. That faith is limitless. With His faith, anything is possible.

## From Faith to Faith

Paul confessed, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.” Romans 1:16, 17. Catch the value of that phrase. God’s righteousness is revealed from faith to faith: from our puny faith to Christ’s limitless faith. When we come to Christ we exercise the little “measure of faith” (Romans 12:3) we have each been given, but then we get His unlimited faith. Please don’t miss this extremely important point. Jesus Christ gives you His faith as a free gift.

Faith is extremely important. The Bible says about the failure of the children of Israel, “So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.” Hebrews 3:19. They were never able to partake of Christ (v. 14) and His righteousness because of their unbelief. The promises of God seemed too good to be true, so they remained in unbelief. Friends, we must not follow their example. “For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end.” Hebrews 3:14. One of the big things that men fail to grasp is that if we have Christ, then we have “the faith of Christ”.

Notice what the Bible says, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, good-ness, faith...” Galatians 5:22. Notice that “faith” is part of the fruit of the Spirit. This cannot be our faith, but has to be “the faith of



But God promised in His word, “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9. This is a concrete, solid promise that we can claim and be 100% sure it will happen because God promised. The same is true with all the promises about our benefits we have when Christ lives in us.

All the riches of heaven have been given to us in one unfathomable gift, the gift of Jesus Christ. In Him are all things that pertain to life and godliness. The Bible says, “Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, **According as his divine power hath given** unto us **all things** that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge (knowing) of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that **by these** ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” 2 Peter 1:2-4.

All these blessings of heaven are available to us “through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord”. Getting to know God and His Son enables us to have access to far more than is possible without this knowledge. Realizing the immensity of the blessings that are yours for the asking is the key to unlocking the reality of being a partaker of the divine nature and escaping the corruption that is in the world. When you ask Jesus Christ into your heart you immediately have everything you need to live a victorious life.

### **Christ in You**

The Bible says, “Examine [test] yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates [not standing the test]?” 2 Corinthians 13:5.

**With Christ in you**, you have everything, but without Christ, you have nothing!

The Bible says, “**That Christ may dwell** in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,...” Ephesians 3:17. Jesus Christ dwells in you by faith. That is why it is so important what you believe. If you believe that Christ is in you, based upon His promises, then He is in you. Satan continually tries to get us to doubt that Christ is in us. There is a battle going on over your mind and faith. Jesus said, “This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.” John 6:29. God’s work is to get you to believe in Christ, and Satan’s work is to get you to doubt. This is why this battle is called “...the good fight of faith...” 1 Timothy 6:12.

Christ”. Friends, this is a BIG DEAL! We have the faith of Christ right now if we accept it and believe that we have it.

### **Incredible Benefits**

You see, many people overlook the incredible benefits we have in Christ. The Bible says, “...ye **have not, because ye ask not.**” James 4:2. Jesus said, “According to your faith be it unto you.” Matthew 9:29. That is both an amazing promise and a frightful challenge at the same time. We have not because we ask not, and we have according to our faith. If we believe that we have “the mind of Christ”, “the Spirit of Christ”, “the love of Christ”, “the meekness and gentleness of Christ”, “the obedience of Christ”, “the unsearchable riches of Christ”, “the grace of Christ”, and “the faith of Christ”, (1 Corinthians 2:16; Romans 8:9; 35; 2 Corinthians 10:1, 5; Ephesians 3:8; Galatians 1:6; Philippians 3:9), then we will have them, and our lives will demonstrate this fact. But, if we do not believe that we have these things, then we will not have them, for they are obtained by faith.

This is actually a simple process; as simple as ABC. Ask God to fulfill His promises in your life, believe that what God has said, He will do, and then claim the promises as your own. It seems too good to be true, but I have tried it, and it works. The key is not to doubt that these promises are yours. Never stop trusting in the word of God to do what that word says. That is what Jesus called “great faith” in Matthew 8:5-10. Faith must be grounded in the powerful word of God, and cannot be genuine when it has no foundation. I can have faith that my old car will be able to drive to Alaska and back, but if the Lord did not instruct me to go to Alaska in that car, then how can I be certain it will make it safely?



It truly is mysterious how Christ can live in us, but the Bible has revealed this mystery, “Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, **but now is made manifest** to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.” Colossians 1:26, 27. Having Christ living in you is our only hope of Salvation.

Paul explained, “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.” Galatians 2:20. Our meager faith is able to grasp hold of Christ so He can live in us. Then we live our lives “by the faith of the Son of God”. It is the faith of Christ that enables us to live a victorious life.

### **The Spirit of Antichrist**

John wrote, “And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.... Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.” 1 John 3:24-4:4.

Notice the connection here. John first stated that “we know that he abideth in us”, and he closed with, “greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.” Between these statements is his warning against false teachers “that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh...” Notice the context here. The warning is against false teachers who claim that Jesus Christ does not abide in your flesh. This is a dangerous error because “...greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”

If you do not have Christ in you, then you do not have the advantage you need over “your adversary the devil”, who “as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.” 1 Peter 5:8.

Don't let anyone trick you into believing that Jesus Christ does not live in your flesh right now. “**Christ in you**” is your only “hope of glory”. Colossians 1:27. Paul explained, “...ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, **if so be** that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.” Romans 8:9.

The Spirit of Christ is our lifeline to God. The Bible says,



“And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.” 1 John 5:11, 12.

### **The Son of God**

There is a strong connection between righteousness by faith and Jesus being the Son of God. John wrote, “For whatsoever is born (begotten) of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?” 1 John 5:4, 5.

In order for us to overcome the world and have the righteousness of God, we must believe that “Jesus is the Son of God.” Jesus lived a unique life when He was here. He was the only person born who lived His whole life without ever committing a sin. “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.” Hebrews 4:15. Jesus Christ intimately knows what we are going through, and precisely knows how to give us the victory.

**The Bible says**, “For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour [help] them that are tempted.” Hebrews 2:18. Not only does Jesus know what we are going through, but He has a divine connection with His Father that enables Him to meet us where we are and bring us to where His Father is.

To illustrate Christ's absolute connection to God, Paul wrote, “God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, **Hath**



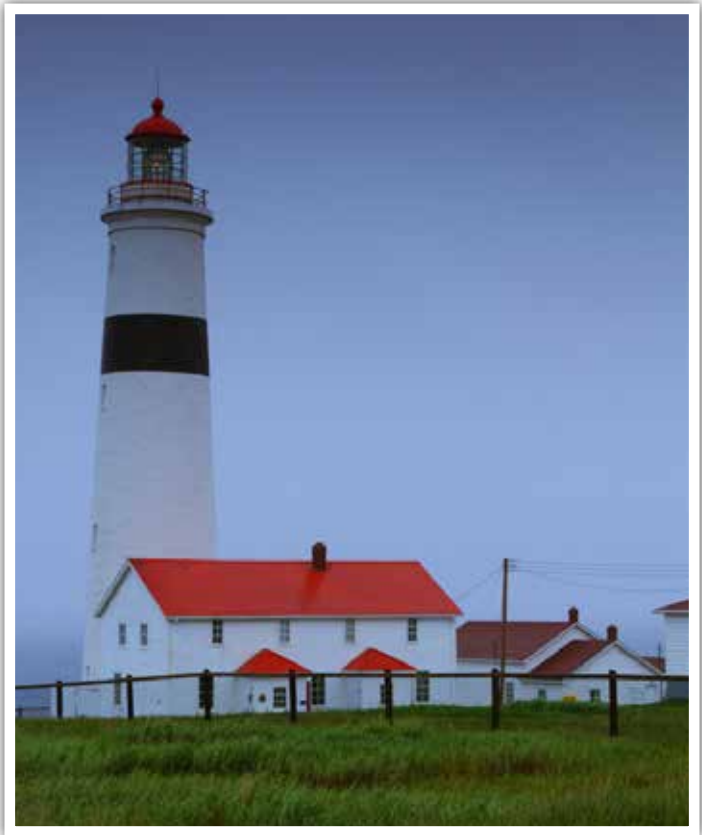
in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath **by inheritance** obtained a more excellent name than they.” Hebrews 1:1-4.

The Son of God is “the express image” of His Father, who inherited all things from His Father, including His pure, holy nature. Later in this chapter the Bible says, “But unto the Son he [the Father] saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.” Hebrews 1:8, 9.

Here, Jesus Christ is called “God” by His own Father. He is also said to love righteousness and hate iniquity (sin). The pure righteousness of God is an attribute of the character of the divine Son of God. Jesus prophesied in the book of Psalms, “I delight to do Thy will, O my God: yea, **Thy law** is within my heart.” Psalm 40:8. The fact that Jesus is the Son of God guarantees that He has the same nature as God. His natural love for righteousness and hatred for iniquity He received by inheritance from His Father.

If Jesus Christ was unrelated to God, the Father, then there would be no guarantee that they are alike. It is Christ’s connection to His Father and to us that enables us to partake of His divine nature. Just as Christ’s connection to His Father is vital, His connection to us is vital.

**The Bible says**, “Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto His brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.” Hebrews 2:17. “For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens.” Hebrews 7:26. The divine Son of God “became us”. This inseparably connects divinity



and humanity, but this connection is only in Christ. For us to be connected with divinity, we must have Christ in us.

### Conclusion

God has given us everything we need to thrive as God’s children. The Bible says, “Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not . . . . Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.” 1 John 3:1-3.

God has entrusted us with so much. He loves us enough to make us the sons of God and make us pure “even as He is pure.” This wonderful ability only comes to us through the faith of Jesus Christ. Having Jesus Christ living in your heart opens up a vast treasure house of blessings from heaven that is available to all those who believe. I pray that you will accept the great blessing of Christ in you, and let Him continually live in you, “That **the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled** (filled full) in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.” Romans 8:4. May you truly partake of the free gift of the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ!

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# Hope for Health

Moringa is a super-food to beat all super-foods! The amount of antioxidants, anti-inflammatories, vitamins, and minerals it contains is everything your body needs and more! No other supplement is even remotely comparable! Scientific research proves that one serving of moringa provides you with seven times the amount of vitamin C in oranges, four times the vitamin A in carrots, 50 times more vitamin B3 than peanuts, 25 times more iron than spinach and three times the potassium found in bananas! It is also an EXCELLENT source of calcium and protein; Super Moringa truly is the ULTIMATE source of nutrition to get you energized for your day!

# SuperMoringa

Researchers have started to give moringa nicknames such as: "The Miracle Tree" and "The Elixir of Long Life" due to its nearly miraculous abilities.

Here are some of the many benefits that justify these nicknames:

- May increase the natural defenses of the body
- Provides nourishment to the eyes and brain
- Promotes a healthy metabolism
- Promotes the cell structure of the body
- Promotes natural serum cholesterol
- May lower the appearance of wrinkles and fine lines
- Promotes the normal functioning of the liver and kidneys
- Beautifies the skin
- Promotes energy
- Promotes proper digestion
- A natural antioxidant and anti-inflammatory
- Super support for the immune system
- Promotes a healthy circulatory system
- May give a feeling of general wellness, relieves stress, and improves mood
- Supports and helps maintain healthy blood sugar levels

## Calcium and Magnesium

One serving of Super Moringa provides approximately 125 percent of our RDI of calcium and 61 percent of our RDI of magnesium. These two trace minerals work in synergy; while calcium is needed to build strong bones and teeth; we also need magnesium to help us absorb it. Since moringa contains generous quantities of both, it is especially good at guarding us from pain, inflammation, and bone loss.

## Antioxidants

This whole food plant contains high amounts of protein, all eight essential amino acids, a full spectrum of vitamins and minerals, and a plethora of phytonutrients and other powerful antioxidants. According to analysis, the leaves of the moringa contain 46 types of antioxidants. One serving, in fact, contains 22 percent of our recommended daily intake (RDI) of vitamin C, one of the most important antioxidants on earth, and a whopping 272 percent of our RDI of vitamin A. Antioxidants help to neutralize the devastating impact of free radicals, thereby guarding us from many of the degenerative conditions that affect so many people!

## Excellent Source of Protein

The leaves of the moringa tree contain 18 amino acids, eight of which are essential amino acids, making them a "complete" protein - a rarity in the plant world. Super Moringa is considered to have the highest protein ratio of any plant so far identified, with the protein in moringa being comparable in quality to that of soy. Food scientists once believed that only soy had protein comparable to meat, dairy, and eggs. Now they have added moringa to that very short list. Some even consider Super Moringa protein better than soy protein as it is non-allergic. Protein is, of course, needed to build muscle, cartilage, bones, skin, and blood, and is also needed to produce enzymes and hormones.

## Cardiovascular

Super Moringa also contains four vital compounds your body requires for a healthy cardiovascular system: Niacin, vitamins A1 and A5, and vitamins B3 and B10. It also provides the nutrients necessary to support your body's production of nitric oxide (important in protecting organs). These include magnesium, zinc, potassium, calcium, and vitamin E. When your nitric oxide levels are healthy, blood flows properly through your blood vessels.

## Weight Loss

This supplement helps you lose weight in more ways than one. First, it suppresses your appetite. Obviously if you are not hungry, you are not going to overeat. Next, it increases your energy levels. The more energy you have, the more calories you will burn. Finally, since moringa helps improve your mood, you may be less likely to eat even when not hungry. Some emotional eaters will tell you they eat whether the urge is present or not. According to Dr. Monica G. Marcu, researcher and clinical pharmacologist, moringa is unique because it can supply daily a wide gamut of vital nutrients with few calories.

## Price:

60 capsules ..... \$10.99

## Suggested Adult Usage:

- Take 1-2 capsules once or twice a day with food.

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

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

# Health Gem

## INDULGENCE OF APPETITE

By Ken Mindoro

*So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food...she took of its fruit and ate.  
She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.*

*Genesis 3:6*

The temptation of the indulgence of appetite has plagued mankind since the Garden of Eden. There, it formed the first part of the threefold deception that Satan used against Eve. This deception was so successful that during his encounter with Jesus in the wilderness, Satan once again used a three-part temptation to attack the Savior physically, mentally, and spiritually. Three times was Christ tempted by the Devil and three times did Christ overcome through His own threefold message grounded in the Word of God.

“And they overcame [Satan] by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death” Revelation 12:11. Jesus desires that we overcome



Satan even as He overcame through God's word. Through obedience to God's law which flows from faithful acceptance of Christ's sacrifice, we partake of the same victory that the Savior achieved in the wilderness.

### God's goal for us is complete restoration

In His revelation to the apostle John, Jesus Christ has given us a three-part gospel message of victory that we must carry to the world (Revelation 14:6-13). The First Angel reminds us that God is both our Judge and Creator and commands us to live accordingly. The Second Angel announces that even though sin has been permitted to continue for a little while, those who practice



transgression are fallen not only through their actions, but also in the way they have influenced others to also rebel against God. The Third Angel's message not only describes how God will ultimately deal with the problem of sin at the close of the Great Controversy, it also describes the enduring conditions of victory for the saints.

This enduring condition represents the goal of physical, mental, and spiritual restoration possible through God's plan of salvation. Although the glorification of humanity will not occur until the second coming, we can enjoy some of the benefits of God's plan today by following the laws of physical and mental health given to us through His servants, the prophets. The benefits of a healthy life on Earth allow us to demonstrate before the world the practical advantages of accepting, living, and sharing the Three Angels' messages.

**Temperance plays a large part in our salvation**

Those whose lives embody the Three Angels' messages are not legalists. They do not judge unfairly or seek to exalt themselves over their neighbors. They form an exclusive group not



because of who they are or what they do; they form the remnant church because of who they follow—our Lord Jesus Christ.

Victory comes through Jesus Christ and His Word. The more we focus on Christ, the more we see where our behavior does not conform, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are convicted to put away from our lives that which would only separate us from God. Right now, God's remnant church may appear to be no different from the counterfeit Christians of the world. But as this process of conviction and acceptance of the truth continues, the wheat of the church will, through the lessons of self-control, grow in one direction spiritually, while the tares will develop in another direction as they continue their indulgence of sin.

Where are your decisions taking you? Are they leading you closer to God or cementing your partnership with the world? "Choose you this day whom ye will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15. Choose temperance; choose life.



# The Friend of Sinners

List ye to the blessed Saviour,  
Hear His kind and loving voice  
Speaking words of hope and comfort,  
Bidding every soul rejoice.

“Though your sins be dyed like crimson,  
I will make them white like wool;  
I will pardon your transgression,  
I will heal the sin-sick soul.

“You must leave all worldly pleasure,  
You must leave the ways of sin,  
You must follow in My footsteps,  
If you would my glory win.”

Blessed Jesus, Friend of sinners,  
We would bring our sins to Thee,  
Lay them at thy feet, believing  
Thou canst set the sinner free.

O, we praise Thee for Thy promise,  
For Thy kind and loving care!  
We will follow in Thy footsteps,  
That we may Thy glory share.

—E. R. Colburn

# News Watch

SHARES WORTHLES  
worldwide T  
Crash! Job rat  
anxiety deepens  
Interest rates  
liquidity  
RECESSION FORECAST

In mid-April 2014 the Netherlands Union of Seventh-day Adventists in a special session, voted that homosexuals (regardless of whether or not they are actively engaged in male-male or female-female sex) are to be guaranteed membership in the Adventist churches in their territory. On December 19, 2000, the Dutch upper house of parliament passed the two bills that had been previously approved by the lower house. Effective April 2001, marriage and adoption in the Netherlands became open to both heterosexual and homosexual couples. This was the first country in recent history to legalize gay and lesbian marriages.



**End Time Perspective:** The Bible makes no accommodation for homosexual activity or relationships. Sexual acts outside the circle of a heterosexual marriage are forbidden (Lev. 18:5-23, 26; Lev. 20:7-21; Rom. 1:24-27; 1 Cor. 6:9-11; Matthew 19:4-6).

“As it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all.” Luke 17:28 & 29.

*Editor’s comment:* Sometimes when we think we are being kind to someone, we are actually making them feel comfortable in their sins, causing them to be lost. God has the cure for every sin. I know of a man who once had homosexual tendencies, but who gave his life to Christ and today is a pastor, a father and a husband.



Tony Palmer, a South African Protestant Pentecostal Bishop, a mentor and friend of Pope Francis, and Kenneth Copeland, who is involved in speaking in tongues, have both indicated that the “protest is over!”

*Tony Palmer. Photo source:exministries.tv/*

*Editor’s comment:* Please read my editorial. The Catholic Church has not changed, but these Protestants have forgotten why they protest.

# Ellen White's *Vision*

## *A Statement Made by Ellen G. White at Loma Linda, California about the Year 1908*

Brother Will Ross (now deceased) was a personal friend of mine, and an acquaintance of about forty-five years. In our church fellowship we very frequently spent our Sabbath afternoons discussing his experiences in the message, and his conversations with Mrs. E. G. White.

About 1908, while in Loma Linda and living near sister White, he would frequently accompany her in her walks, and would discuss the message

and future events. On one of these walks together, and while waiting at the Loma Linda railroad depot in company with sister McInterfer, and elder D. E. Robinson, (her granddaughter's husband) present, sister White related to the three of them about the storm of persecution that was coming upon the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Will Ross related it to me as follows:

### *Storm of Persecution Coming*

“Sister White told us, as we three stood there on the railroad depot platform, that a terrible storm of persecution was coming, just like a windstorm, that blew down every standing object. There was not a Seventh-day Adventist to be seen. They, like the disciples, forsook Christ and fled. All who had sought positions were never seen any more.



After the storm there was a calm. Then the Adventists arose like a great flock of sheep, but were without shepherds. They all united in earnest prayer for help and wisdom, and the Lord answered by helping them choose leaders among them who had never sought positions before. They prayed earnestly for the aid of the Holy Spirit which was poured out upon them making them fully ready for service. They then went forth "fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners" to give the message to all the world.

I was astonished, and asked if that applied to Loma Linda, as we were looking that way. Sister White replied to my question by stating that it applied to the entire denominational world. It so stunned me that I did not ask any more questions."

—Will Ross, Boulder, Colorado

In the year 1943, Elder D. E. Robinson was visiting the churches of Colorado. I was serving as the elder on the platform that Sabbath that Elder Robinson visited and spoke in the Boulder S.D.A. Church, and having with him the large Bible which Sister White held in her hand, and leafed through during one of her visions.

At the close of the service, brother Ross talked with Elder Robinson and asked him if he remembered when he and Elder Robinson, and sister McInterfer were standing on the depot platform visiting with sister White, and she related to them about the terrible windstorm of persecution that was coming upon the S.D.A. church. Elder Robinson replied, "Yes, brother Ross, I remember it."

So I documented this reply January 15, 1946. Not wishing to forget this

important narration that was related to me by brother Ross, I frequently discussed it with him in later years, and his statements never varied.

(signed) \_\_\_\_\_

Elmer W. Johnson

**Editor's Note:** The copy I have has the signature of Elmer W. Johnson on it; it had the verification of Everett Rogers on the back verifying that he had Mr. Johnson sign it. The verification was dated 4/20/89.



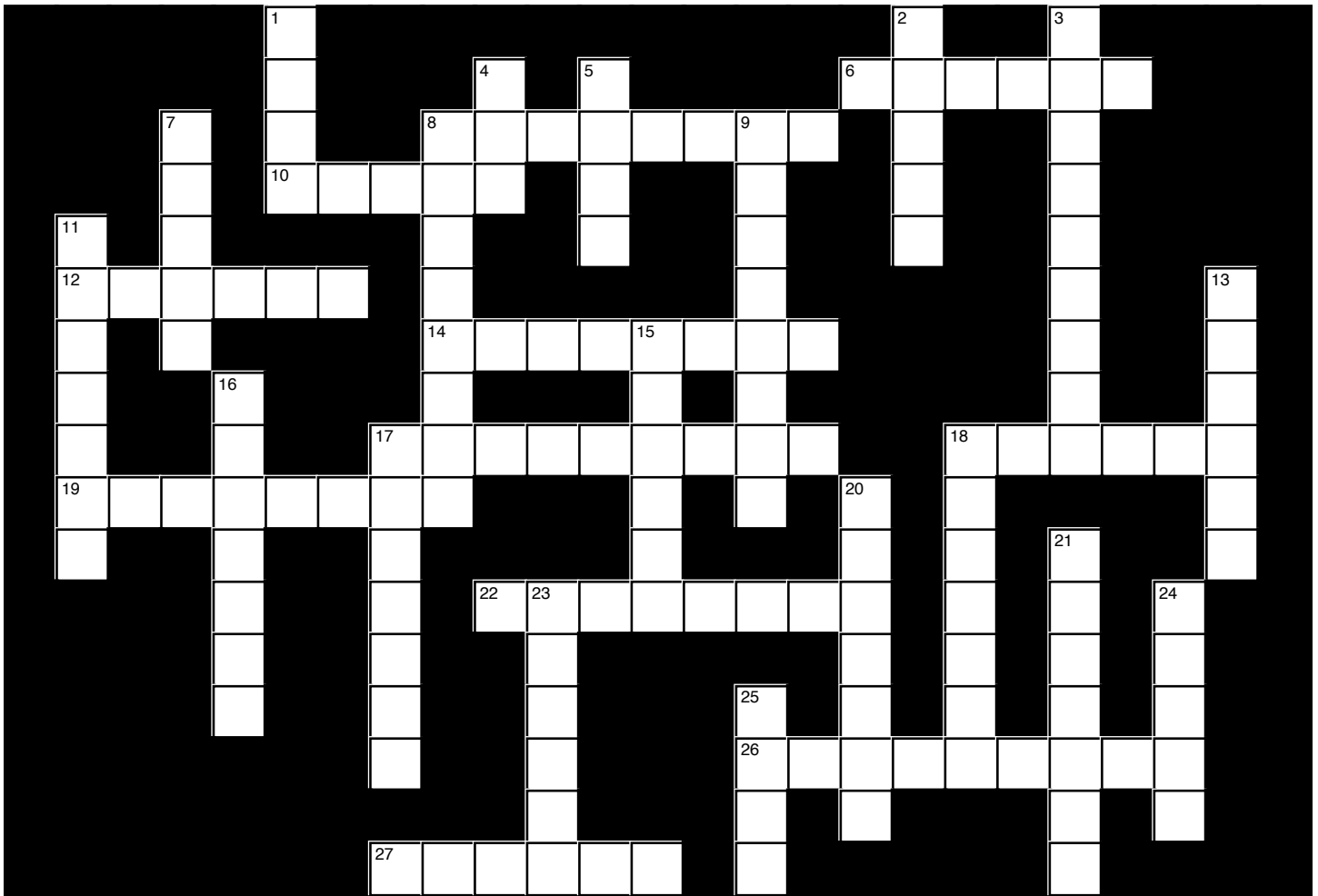
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# Christian Crossword



## ACROSS

6. The Latin word for a regimental unit of 6000 soldiers
8. Released instead of Jesus by Pilate
10. He sent cedar trees and carpenters to build David's house
12. He came from Judea to Caesarea to meet Paul in the house of Philip the deacon
14. The Ark was in his house for three months
17. A very short man that wanted to see Jesus
18. A respected member of the Sanhedrin from Arimathea
19. An ancient Canaanite tribe descended from Heth
22. Paul's conversion occurred on the road to \_\_\_\_\_
26. Jewish books not in the Hebrew canon of the Bible
27. Where was Paul schooled?

## DOWN

1. Moabite ancestress of King David
2. One of Paul's trials was in front of \_\_\_\_\_
3. He, because of a vision, sought to fetch Simon Peter
4. The brother of Shem and Japeth
5. The wife of Clopas
7. A loyal prison-companion of Paul in Rome
8. An associate of Paul at Antioch
9. The father of Levi the tax collector
11. Peter prayed for her and she arose from the dead
13. The brother of Phinehas, the priest
15. Paul went to \_\_\_\_\_ after his conversion
16. The great goddess of the Ephesians
17. The father of James and John

18. Zeus was called \_\_\_\_\_ by the Romans
20. Third son of King David
21. The ruler of the Jewish synagogue at Corinth
23. A paralytic bedridden for 8 years, healed by Peter
24. Mordecai would not bow down to this man
25. Another name for ancient wise men

## Answers from Christian Crossword published in the July 2014 issue of Our Firm Foundation

