



our firm
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The Three Angels' Messages • The Non-Immortality of the Soul • The Sanctuary*

THE JEWS, THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE SABBATH

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Here we are again, near the end of another year. All around us we see dazzling lights of all colors and sizes adorning houses, lawns, trees and shrubs, and yet we are in more darkness than ever - spiritual darkness. All the glittering lights that the world can turn on cannot hide or dissipate that darkness.

Not only are we at the end of another year, but "We are nearing the close of this earth's history, and we need to place ourselves in right relation to our dear Saviour, who gave His life for us. We have not a moment to lose. We are fitting our characters for eternity, preparing for habitation in that city that Christ has gone to prepare for those who love Him. I do not want to miss gaining an entrance into the New Jerusalem, and I want _____ and _____ and _____ to be there. All who will form characters

People everywhere are starving for the light of truth.

after the divine similitude will receive a welcome to that holy place." 12 MR 266. In this entry, Ellen White had those blank areas filled in with the names of her loved ones, but I left those spaces open for each of us to personalize with the names of those we want to see in Heaven, and in the earth made new.

I am an early riser; I love to go outside in the early morning while it is still dark, when I can see the star-lights and smell the fresh new day. Many times, even in the winter, I have bundled up in a quilt and sat in my

porch swing long before daylight and talked with Jesus. It is amazing how much more acute the senses are during that peaceful time of day without interruptions or distractions; Jesus can be heard much more clearly then. Throughout the day when the usual busy-ness of life takes over, I have to remind myself of that first peace of the day, and revisit it in my mind so I don't get too caught up in the happenings of the world. So many distractions: wars, rumors of wars, pestilence, discord in the church and family, the lights of the world ... you could fill the page with all the things that Satan would love for us to spend our time focusing on. But my mind always goes back to those blanks, and my responsibility to the names in those blanks, so I send up little prayers for them throughout the day. "The Saviour has told us to pray without ceasing. The Christian can not always be in the position of prayer, but his thoughts and desires can always be upward." 3BC 1157.

From the time we open our eyes in the morning, till we close them at the end of day, we can be in silent prayer for our loved ones, and ourselves. We are to be lights in the world, and to reflect that light to others, but if we don't have it, how can we reflect it? Prayer is the way we are to receive the light for ourselves that we are to shine on the world: "Pray often to your heavenly Father. The oftener you engage in prayer, the closer your soul will be drawn into a sacred nearness to God. The Holy Spirit will make intercession for the sincere petitioner with groanings which cannot be uttered, and the heart will be softened and subdued by the love of God. The

clouds and shadows which Satan casts about the soul will be dispelled by the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness, and the chambers of mind and heart will be illuminated by the light of Heaven." HP 89.

Are we being lights for people near us? Are we reflecting the light of Jesus to the world? Are we kindling other lights from our light? Are we telling others about the true Light? Acknowledging God brings the light of His truth and character to our minds and hearts. Being in the presence of that light makes our way more plain and teaches us, and our characters will begin to reflect His image; then we can witness, sharing His light with others. "But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God." John 3:21. Walking in the light might be scary to some because it brings everything in our lives out of the darkness, however, that is exactly what God has called us to do.

People everywhere are starving for the light of truth. Let us not be blinded and deceived by the shimmering lights of the world, but be true lights for ourselves and others.

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." 2 Cor. 4:4.

Reen Swindle, copy-editor of Our Firm Foundation magazine, is an artist who lives in the beautiful Smoky Mountains. She enjoys walking, reading, research, creative work and caring for several rescued dogs.

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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THE JEWS, THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE SABBATH

By Joe Olson

My message today stems from an article in a recent Catholic Herald. It is dated September 4, 2014. And before I get into the gist of the message, I wanted to say that I have always wondered, ever since I became a Sabbath keeper, how the Sunday laws would affect the Jews. The United States has an inordinate amount of love and respect for the nation of Israel. And since we are going to be at the head of the Sunday law movement, I just wondered how it would play out between the Christians and the Jews. I mean, we are going to be at the forefront in commanding everyone to keep the false Sabbath, the first day of the week, and how will that work since the Jews keep the seventh day holy?

HOW WILL THIS FEAT BE ACCOMPLISHED?

Did you ever think about that? We, the U.S., who has such respect and admiration for the nation that birthed the Saviour, will ultimately make the Jews give up their day of worship. Jesus was a Jew, and the U.S. will be at the head in demanding observance of a day that Jesus never authorized. How will we do that? How will we make these Jews do what the Babylonians, the Medes, the Persians, the Greeks and the Romans could not do? None of them were able to make the Jews keep a different day holy. With all their laws and rules and pagan gods and persecutions and everything else... the Jews still keep Saturday holy. For nearly two thousand years, they have been scattered throughout the world, with no nation or land to call home, and yet they still keep the holy, seventh-day Sabbath. Obviously, I am referring to the ones who do still worship. Many Jews are Jews in name only, much like many Christians. But, for the ones who still observe the scriptures and keep God's holy Sabbath, how will the forces in league with the devil accomplish this amazing feat?

THERE ARE WARS AND RUMOURS OF WARS

I knew it would happen, for the Bible says that all the world will wonder after the beast, or the Catholic Church. Everyone, that is, who does not follow God and His commandments. But how it would happen was beyond my imagination. Well ... it is not beyond my imagination any more! And one more thought before I delve into the contents of this article I hold in my hand. At Hope, we have been talking a lot about the continual and habitual wars that are going on in this world. Just as the Bible says, this would be happening, but the end would not yet be. "And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must



come to pass, but the end is not yet." Matt. 24:6. And we have had wars ever since Jesus made this prophecy. We have had huge wars that have cost millions of lives. But ever since Israel became a nation again, there has been nothing but continual conflict in the Middle East.

THE "KINGDOM OF GOD" WAS TAKEN FROM THE JEWS AND GIVEN TO THE CHRISTIANS

And I'd like to think about that also for a minute... The nation of Israel was destroyed in A.D. 70 after the Roman armies came in. The people were either killed or taken prisoner or sold as slaves or run off. That was it for the Jews. Actually, that



Roman army. Now, for practically 2,000 years, there has been no Jewish nation. There were Jews scattered all over the world, but there has been no nation of Israel.

THE JEWS DECIDED THEY WANTED THEIR LAND BACK

I'm sure you've heard it said that nature abhors a vacuum. People began to repopulate the area that was once the Jewish nation. And skipping over the years, the people became Muslim ... followers of Mohammed. For many, many centuries, Muslims have occupied, built up and owned the land once

was it for the Jewish nation in AD 34. Yet, even then, Jesus gave the Jews, individually, the gospel first through His disciples; up until AD 70. But the Jews had disobeyed, as a nation, for the last time. Jesus saw this in the future when He said in Matthew 23:38 "Behold, your house is left unto you desolate." Amazingly, the scribes and Pharisees predicted it themselves, albeit, unwittingly. "They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons." Matt. 21:41. This was an answer in reference to Jesus telling them the parable about a householder who planted a vineyard and when he came looking for the fruits of it they killed his servants, and finally even his son. And Jesus agreed with their summation. "Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof." Matt. 21:43.

Jesus said that the "kingdom of God" would be taken from them. The "kingdom of God" would be given to a nation that would bring forth the fruits Jesus was expecting from the Jews. And so in 34 A.D., after the stoning of Steven, the gospel, or the "kingdom of God" was committed to those who were called Christians. And finally, in A.D. 70, the Jews were no longer a nation, being destroyed by the

owned by the Jews. Then one day, May 14, 1948, there was a war, in which a group of Jews decided they wanted their land back. There is more to it than this, but basically, the Ottoman empire was destroyed during World War 1 and the British retained the rights over Palestine. They were the first ones to declare the area of Palestine a place for the Jews to return to. But it was just a place, ruled by the British, for the Jews to congregate. The British had no desire or plan to allow the Jews their



own nation. The Jews had a different idea. They wanted their land back. Can you imagine? The Jews call it their ancestral home. And it *was* their home ... 2,000 years ago. But now the Muslims live there. They have occupied it, for all practical purposes, for the last 2,000 years. Now a group of people come in, who, by the way, have never personally lived there, and said, "Get out, we want it back."

What would you think about that? To try and put this in perspective, let's say that after just 200 or so years after we took this land in America from the Indians, they decided they wanted their ancestral home back. What would we be saying? Maybe this helps us understand a little better why Hamas, the group in charge of the Gaza Strip, says the only way for them

to exist is for Israel to *cease* to exist. That may sound harsh, but was it not harsh that a bunch of Jews just walked in and claimed their land after being removed for 2,000 years? I wouldn't like it if Chief Sitting Bull walked up to me and said, "Move, I want my land back."

IT IS A SITUATION THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO FIX

Now please understand that this is a very simplistic explanation of a situation that is much deeper than I can go into here, but this is the gist of it. How do you fix this problem? How do you make both sides happy? And America has basically taken the side of





ended in July of this year ... 2014. He was so popular that he was elected twice as the Prime Minister of Israel. He's 91 years old, yet he is still out traveling and connecting and influencing people. And his latest trip has been... to the Vatican. He went to see the

the Jews. I can see why Muslims call America the "Great Satan". Where do we get off telling the Muslims to accept the Jewish nation and their land grab? How would we react to the Chinese telling us to let the Indians have their land back? You know exactly how we would react. It would not happen. And what would we think of any nation or people or tongue who would side with the Indians? We would probably call them the "Great Satans". I'm not defending the Muslims or condemning the Jews. I am trying to explain that the situation in the Middle East, much like many other places in the world, is impossible to fix.

HAVE WE FORGOTTEN THE ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

And here is where we get back to my original thought about, "The Jews, the Catholic Church and the Sabbath." Remember that I was wondering how the Jews would ever accept a change to God's holy Sabbath day? How would it be possible, for an entire nation of people, who purportedly keep the seventh day holy, to accept a change from the seventh day to the first day of the week? This paper... this article helps me see how it can happen. Have you ever heard of Shimon Peres? He has been the most powerful man in Israel for many, many years. He is now the past president of the nation of Israel. His term just

ended in July of this year ... 2014. He was so popular that he was elected twice as the Prime Minister of Israel. He's 91 years old, yet he is still out traveling and connecting and influencing people. And his latest trip has been... to the Vatican. He went to see the pope. This past, two-term Prime Minister of the nation of Israel, a nation that does not accept Christ as the Saviour of the world, has gone to visit the pope, who purports to be the head of Jesus Christ's Church. Now you might



ask yourself, "Why would the previous head of a non-Christian nation go see the head, or the *supposed* head, of the Christian faith?" Because of wars and rumors of wars. This is why I went in so deeply earlier about the origins of the conflict in the Middle

East. There is no way to create peace without Jesus Christ. Yet one of these religions does not accept Jesus as the Saviour. They cannot get to "Our Father, which art in heaven..." because Jesus said He was the only way to the Father. "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. And if they can't get peace through God, they will find peace another way; I should say, they will TRY to find peace another way. And who does Shimon Peres think is the best one to accomplish this? The pope.

HAVE WE FORGOTTEN THE ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

I am quoting here in this Catholic Herald article of September 4, 2014... "Former Israeli president Shimon Peres has said that Pope Francis is more powerful than the United Nations when it comes to advocating peace." And it would not be so alarming if he just had his personal beliefs and he appreciated what the pope did or does, but he goes on to suggest something. He asks the pope to head a parallel

organization called... the "United Religions". He, a Jew ... an Israelite, wants the head of the *Catholic* religion to be the head of *all* the religions of the world. One might wonder if he has ANY understanding of the past at all. Is he completely unaware of



what the Catholic Church did the last time they were “in charge”? The United States and the world freaks out when someone mentions Guantanamo Bay or waterboardings. Does anyone remember the atrocities committed by the Catholic Church just a few years ago? We are not talking about thousands of years ago ... just a few hundred. Is this not prophecy being fulfilled when the Bible says that all the world will wonder after the beast?

THE JEWS AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH ARE UNITING

When the past president of the only nation that keeps God’s holy Sabbath, or at least some of its people, comes to the pope and asks him to take charge of all the religions of the world, *something huge is happening*. Peres said, “So, given the United Nations has run its course, what we need is an organization of United Religions, as the best way to counteract these terrorists who kill in the name of their faith.” We don’t need God. We don’t need the Holy Spirit. What we need is an organization run by the pope to give us peace. I wonder how peaceful the lives of the people were when a pope had been in charge? I wonder how peaceful the lives of millions upon millions of martyrs were? Do you *really* want this organization

to be in control again? Can you imagine asking Saddam Hussein or Vladimir Putin to take control of the peace process? It is inconceivable!

Which is exactly why I could not conceive of how the Jews and the Catholic Church would unite. I could not imagine it happening. But here, right before our eyes, it is coming to fruition. There is no way to fix this



THE POPE WILL BE THE WORLD’S “UNQUESTIONABLE MORAL AUTHORITY”

Here is more of what Mr. Peres thinks ... “What we need is an unquestionable moral authority who says out loud, ‘No, God doesn’t want this and doesn’t allow it.’” *Do you hear this?* An “unquestionable moral authority.” No one will be allowed to question the pope. He will be unquestionable. He will have absolute authority. He will be king of this world.

Mr. Peres suggests this because he feels that this pope is, “...a leader who is respected, not just by a lot of people, but also by different religions and their representatives.” Shimon Peres sees how the pope, and his

world without God. Yet, they will try. And how will the world, at least, Shimon Peres’ world, think they can make it happen?

With the *pope* in charge!

church, is being praised and exalted and admired, and he feels that maybe now is the time to set the pope up as the head of the world’s religions. And frankly, to those who do not know Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, what is their option? What does Jesus say? “... without me ye can do nothing.” John 15:5. But they don’t like this option. So they go about to make their own option. But ,, it really isn’t “their” option, is it?

No, someone else wants to take God’s place. “...I will be like the most High.” Isa. 14:14. Satan has, for thousands of years, wanted to be “like the Most High”. And he has bided his time until he could get





the Muslims... and the rest of the world.

Except those pesky Seventh-day Adventists. They are the only ones who refuse to get along. So, what should we do with them? Do you see where this is heading? Here is another article, posted in the Inquisitor, September 14, 2014, that says that the pope is promoting "Chrislam"

(a religion made by combining Christianity and Islam together). What day do you suppose will be the day that "Chrislam" worships? According to this article, the pope has

everything set up in this world. And from what I am reading, he is almost there. Can you imagine this "United Religions" leader pointing to the devil and saying, "Here is God!?" When the devil comes to personate Christ, he will be greeted by the head of the "United Religions" as the Saviour of this world. And remember, this "United Religions" leader will have "unquestionable moral authority". Unquestionable!

UNITY ... ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK FOR EVERYONE, EXCEPT ...

Now I can see how the Jews, the Catholic Church and the Sabbath will all come together. I didn't know how it might happen ... that the Jews would be willing to change their day of worship. But for peace ... for the possible end of conflict in the Middle East? I can see how they would give it up now. I can see how it would be put forth that to have peace and everlasting happiness, all we have to do is to unite on the first day of the week ... Sunday. Then ... all of our problems would be over. Then the wars will end. Then the plagues, like Ebola, will cease. Then the pain will be over. If **only** we will keep Sunday holy. If we can all just get together... you know... on the **FIRST** day of the week to worship together... THEN all will be right with the world. The Catholic... the Jews...



invited Muslims to pray Islamic prayers at the Vatican. The pope also states, according to this article, that atheists are saved. Who is being left out here? And what day do you suppose all of these Muslims and Catholics and Jews and atheists will worship on? Is it hard to imagine a Sunday Law coming now? Is it too much to think that laws will be passed by legislators to appeal to their base of voters? This is prophecy coming to pass! God

has told us this would happen, and we are seeing it before our very eyes! Do you think it is time to get right with the Lord? Is it time to decide to finally get ready?

THE GOOD NEWS IN THIS IS OUR SAVIOUR IS COMING SOON!

Now, whether everything plays out exactly as it is described here in the Catholic Herald or the Inquisitor, who knows. But now we can see that it is certainly attainable. And of course it will happen, because God said it would happen. And in His glorious, wonderful mercy, He has shown us how short the time is. The question that remains for us is, "What will we do?" With what God is revealing to us, what will we do with this information?

Will we still scoff and say, "That will never be." Will we admit that what God has said is right? And if we do admit to the truth, will we allow the truth to make us free and follow it? There is precious little time left.

Although this is very ominous and threatening, this should be, to those that love the Lord, very exciting and exhilarating. This means our Saviour is soon to return! Hallelujah! This means this world of sin is soon to be over!

This mean we are finally about to go home! Praise the Lord! Talk about wanting the conflict to end! You think the Middle East has been in conflict



for a long time ... God's followers have been engaged in a war for 6,000 years! And that war is coming to an end. Don't you want it to be over? Don't you long for true peace and calm and holiness to preside? Aren't you looking forward to the time when sin will end? It sure seems to me that the Lord is giving us another sign that we need to get our lamps trimmed and burning. Give Jesus, the only One who can truly make all things right, your heart today. Do NOT delay. Do not think there is another day. Do not think You will get on board right before it is too late.

A "PERFECT" PLAN OF ESCAPE

I'd like to tell you a story about myself when I was much younger. I don't know why it came to my mind, or what had happened, but apparently, there must have been a plane crash that I had heard about. This made a deep impact on my mind. My dad was in the military and we were stationed in Germany ... twice. There are a lot of hours flying when you are going back and forth to Europe. Remember, back then it was planes ... not jets! I don't remember the details of why I thought about this, but I had made a plan in my mind. Remember, this is when I was very small. I was worried about the plane crashing. What was I going to

do if the plane started to go down? This was very real to me and I needed a way out. How could I escape the doom of a plane crash?

Then I devised the perfect plan. The perfect plan ... of a six-year-old. If the plane started to go down, whether on land or in the sea, I had a way to escape. I would make my way to the door of the plane, and just before it crashed ... I would jump out! If I timed it right (I thought), it would be just like jumping off the curb to the road. Just a few



could wait to the very end, and then get off the doomed ship and live! It was perfect! ... for a six-year-old's mind. It never dawned on me that I was traveling at the same speed as the plane. It didn't cross my mind that I would hit as hard as the plane did since I was going as fast as the plane.

JESUS HAS, AND IS, THE REAL PLAN OF ESCAPE!

If you are going the wrong way, it will not be as easy as turning around at the perfect time to be saved. Do not allow the devil to convince you otherwise. Don't think what I thought! Do you know what the chances are that you can escape with that mindset?



inches. It would be just like stepping off a step to the ground. I had the perfect plan. I would be saved! I

About the same as me living through the plane crash by jumping out in the nick of time. Won't happen, will it? What are the odds it will work for you? Behold! NOW is the time to make your salvation sure! The Bridegroom cometh! Do you have the oil you need to be invited to the wedding? Trust me on this ... you don't want to miss it!



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



CONNECTION WITH CHRIST

By Mrs. E. G. White

The lessons that Christ gave in the synagogue to all that were there assembled, come down through the ages to our time. His words come impressively to every heart, and we are to take heed to them. We are not to give them casual, but special, attention. Comparatively little attention should be given to the subject of temporal food, to satisfy temporal hunger; but that food which comes down from heaven is of the highest consequence to us. The bread of life comes to satisfy our highest spiritual demands,—the hunger of the soul. It is God’s truth that is the bread of life. It is the truth that confronts the falsehood of the enemy.

CHRIST CANNOT ENDURE PRETENTIOUS CHRISTIANS

All the way from the first disciple to the present time there have been those who have professed to believe in the same way that these disciples in Christ’s day believed in him. These received the name of disciples; but they had not dug deep, and laid their foundation upon the Rock. Many who profess to be Christians today have not a vital connection with Christ. They do not discern their great

spiritual necessity. They say, “I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing.” They know not that they are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. This is the sure consequence of neglecting to abide in the Vine, of neglecting to avail themselves of a personal relation to Christ. Christ cannot endure pretentious Christians,—those who do not live his character. He will spew such out of his mouth as utterly distasteful to him.

THERE ARE MANY WHO NEED TO BE AWAKENED BY PLAIN, DECIDED TESTIMONIES TO DISCERN THEIR SPIRITUAL DEFICIENCIES

Can it be possible, one asks, that there can be any one in our church who feels such self-sufficiency as this? Time will answer this question. When reproof comes to them from

God, if they are humbly seeking him, they will receive the reproof as a blessing, and will at once begin to ascertain their spiritual necessities. If they feel that they are rich in knowledge and are in need of nothing, they will take offense, as did the disciples who turned from Christ and walked no more with him. There are many who need to be awakened

by plain, decided Testimonies to discern their spiritual deficiencies. Why are they not wise? Christ answers the question. They consider themselves whole, in no need of a physician. “I am rich, and increased with goods,” they say, “and have need of nothing.” The disciples who turned away





THE MAN WHO BUYS AND USES THE EYE-SALVE IS ENABLED TO SEE HIMSELF AS HE IS

Self-sufficiency is the fatal danger of a lukewarm state. The Laodiceans boasted of a deep knowledge of Bible truth, a deep insight into the Scriptures. They were not entirely blind, else the eye-salve would have done nothing to restore their sight, and enable them to discern the true attributes of Christ. Says Christ, By renouncing your own self-sufficiency, giving up all things, however dear to you, you may buy the gold, the raiment, and the eye-salve that you may see.

from Christ were of this class, and many who are reprov'd for their wrongs in this time act just as did those men to whom Christ said, "Ye also have seen me, and believe not."

But the One who is mighty in counsel says: "Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eye-salve, that thou mayest see." Then they will not reveal that they are worthless branches, separate from the True Vine, to be cast into the fire, and burned.



THE WORD OF GOD CONVICTS OF SIN

The eye is the sensitive conscience, the inner light, of the mind. Upon its correct view of things the spiritual healthfulness of the whole soul and being depends. The "eye-salve," the Word of God, makes the conscience smart under its application; for it convicts of sin. But the smarting is necessary that the healing may follow, and the eye be single to the glory of God. The sinner, beholding himself in God's great moral looking-glass, sees himself as God views him, and exercises repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the work of the Holy Spirit. Said Christ: "Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they believe not on me; of righteousness, because I go to my Father."

The Lord sees the necessities and the peril of the soul. He came to our world in the garb of humanity, that his humanity might meet our humanity. While we were in sin, he pledged his life for us. He loves the sinner, but hates the sin. Therefore he does not leave his tempted ones with eyes that are nearly blind to their own imperfections. The man who uses the eye-salve is enabled to see himself as he is. His wretchedness is discovered; he feels his imperfections, his spiritual poverty, and his need of being healed of his spiritual malady.

WHEN THE WORD IS RECEIVED IN THE SOUL, IT ENLIGHTENS THE MIND AND OPENS THE HEART

The rebuke of wrong is designed for the good of the professed follower of Christ, who is misrepresenting Christ by his spirit of self-righteousness and self-sufficiency. "As many as I love," says Christ, "I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my



throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.”

The reception of the Word, the bread from heaven, is declared to be the reception of Christ himself. As the Word of God is received into the soul, we partake of the flesh and blood of the Son of God. As it enlightens the mind, the heart is opened still more to receive the engrafted Word, that we may grow thereby. Man is called upon to eat and masticate the Word; but unless his heart is open to the entrance of that Word, unless he drinks in the Word, unless he is taught of God, there will be a misconception, misapplication, and misinterpretation of that Word.

SPIRITUAL LIFE IS MAINTAINED THROUGH FAITH IN THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

As the blood is formed in the body by the food eaten, so Christ is formed within by the eating of the Word of God, which is his flesh and blood. He who feeds upon that Word has Christ formed within, the hope of glory. The written Word introduces to the searcher the flesh and blood of the Son of God; and through obedience to that Word, he becomes a partaker of the divine nature. As the necessity for temporal food cannot be supplied by once partaking of it, so the Word of God must be daily eaten to supply the spiritual necessities.

As the life of the body is found in the blood, so spiritual life is maintained through faith in the blood of Christ. He is our life, just as in the body our life is in the blood. He is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption, just as the bone, sinew, and muscle are nourished, and the whole man built up, by the circulation of the blood through the system. In vital connection with Christ, in personal contact with him, is found health for the soul. It is the efficacy of the blood of Christ that supplies its every need and keeps it in a healthy condition.

A SOUL WITHOUT CHRIST IS LIKE A BODY WITHOUT BLOOD

By reason of the waste and loss, the body must be renewed with blood, by being supplied with daily food. So there is need of constantly feeding on the Word, the knowledge of which is eternal life. That Word must be our meat and drink.

It is in this alone that

the soul will find its nourishment and vitality. We must feast upon its precious instruction, that we may be renewed in the spirit of our mind, and grow up into Christ, our living Head. When his Word is abiding in the living soul, there is oneness with Christ; there is a living communion with him; there is in the soul an abiding love that is the sure evidence of our unlimited privilege.

A soul without Christ is like a body without blood; it is dead. It may have the appearance of spiritual life; it may perform certain ceremonies in religious matters like a machine; but it has no spiritual life. So the hearing of the word of God is not enough. Unless we are taught of God, we shall not accept the truth to the saving of our souls. It must be brought into the life practise.

When a soul receives Christ, he receives his righteousness. He lives the life of Christ. As he trains himself to behold Christ, to study his life and practise his virtues, he eats the flesh and drinks the blood of the Son of God. When this experience is his, he can declare, with the apostle Paul: “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.”

RH, November 23, 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.





Hope for Health



Colloidal Copper Soap

Hope for Health's Colloidal Copper Soap is definitely one of a kind! You won't find another copper soap like this anywhere else in the world. This fine, handcrafted soap is made using organic oils. Millions of nanoparticles of copper will penetrate deep into the skin. Your skin will thank you for this vital nutrient by looking smoother, younger and healthier than ever!

Do We Need Copper?

In the food we commonly eat, there are only very small amounts of copper. And yet, copper is a key mineral in many different body systems and is central to building strong tissue, maintaining blood volume and producing energy in your cells. Even though copper is critically important, you don't have much copper in your body, barely more than the amount found in a single penny! The penny in your pocket is only 2.5% copper by weight.

Some of the benefits of Colloidal Copper:

- Acts as a potent antioxidant
- Helps skin to retain moisture
- May help regulate heart rhythm
- May help balance thyroid
- Can decrease pain and inflammation
- Can accelerate wound repair
- Maintains normal cholesterol levels
- Increases red blood cell formation
- Stimulates the production of collagen and elastin, which may help to firm the skin and diminish fine lines, sagging and wrinkles
- Supports the skin's ability to repair itself by increasing the activity of copper-dependent enzymes
- May help increase blood vessel formation and oxygenation within the skin

This soap is great to use for washing your face prior to applying either Colloidal Copper Skin Toner or Colloidal Copper Facial Crème. You should really notice the difference!

Ingredients: Colloidal Copper, Saponified oils of: Organic Olive oil, Coconut oil, Organic Palm Kernal oil, Organic Palm oil, Organic Soybean oil, Rice Bran oil, Avocado oil, Organic Shea Butter, Mixed Tocopherals (Vitamin E), Turmeric, yellow oxide

Price:
3.9 oz. bar\$8.99

Colloidal Copper Facial Crème

Colloidal Copper Facial Crème provides all the beautifying properties of copper in a luxurious moisturizing creme. If you want your skin to be smoother, toned and younger looking in record time, try this crème today! Your skin should reflect the vibrant, healthy person you are inside and out!

Why Colloidal?

This term refers to a substance that consists of ultra-fine particles that are suspended in a medium of a different matter (i.e. a non-soluble mineral suspended in water). The particles of mineral or in this case, copper, are over 1,000 times smaller than a human blood cell and the water is clear. This ultra small particle size allows the copper to easily travel throughout the body and be eliminated on a continuous basis, with no risk of build-up.

Say Goodbye to Wrinkles

There is no doubt that Colloidal Copper Facial Crème when applied under the eyes will stimulate collagen production and sculpt away wrinkles and fine lines when applied every day topically.

Copper is one of a relatively small group of metallic elements that are essential to human health. We literally can't live without it! As we age, we lose minerals and develop signs of deficiencies. Some of the external signs of a copper deficiency are: thin or sagging skin, fine lines, wrinkles, age spots and gray hair. Skin becomes dull and lifeless as cell renewal slows. Applying Colloidal Copper Facial Crème to the skin is an excellent way of delivering additional copper to the body.

Ingredients: Colloidal Copper (Ultra Purified Water, .999% Pure Copper – 10ppm), Certified Organic Cocos Nucifera (Coconut) Oil Extra Virgin, Certified Organic Helianthus Annuus (Sunflower) Seed Oil, Emulsifying Wax NF, Rice Bran Oil, Certified Organic Simmondsia Chinensis (Jojoba) Seed Oil, Certified Organic Rosa Canina Seed (Rosehip Seed) Oil, Certified Organic Theobroma Cacao (Cocoa) Seed Butter, Certified Organic Butyrospermum Parkii (Shea Butter), Phenoxyethanol (and) Benzoic Acid (and) Dehydroacetic Acid.

Price:
4 oz.\$18.99

Directions: Moisturize face and neck with creme every morning and night after you cleanse and tone. Nighttime use is especially recommended. Always moisturize face and neck in circular, upward motion.

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

INSTRUCTED BY A DREAM

By William A. Spicer



And it was [so], when Gideon heard the telling of the dream, and the interpretation thereof, that he worshipped, and returned into the host of Israel, and said, Arise; for the LORD hath delivered into your hand the host of Midian. Judges 7:15.

The Way Prepared

The Midianite soldier's dream of the barley loaf that rolled into the camp, prepared the Midianites for flight and was turned as a signal from God to Gideon's men to go forward to victory.

In many a mission field, Providence has prepared the way by the lesson of a dream.

In discussing the providential use of this means of preparation for the hearing of the gospel, Warneck says:

"God, like a wise teacher, condescends to the childlike thought or uncivilized man, that He may tell him, in a way he can understand, things which he would otherwise hardly accept. We cannot fully explain these soul-processes without the thought of the divine influence working there, for they are often opposed to the knowledge and will of him who has them, and force him to actions for which he can find in himself neither the power nor the inclination. That, however, does not imply that false ideas and misunderstandings may not be mixed up with them. It is not a question of revelations, but of rude shocks meant to point them to the revealed truth.

"We must not banish such experiences to the realm of fable. They are too well attested; and they are met with everywhere among

animistic peoples with considerable regularity. Neither must we overestimate them. They have nothing more than a preparatory significance; they lead no further than to the door of the gospel. Like other divine reminders, they may be disregarded; they may also be misinterpreted and abused. Anyhow, in innumerable cases they have fulfilled their purpose of pointing stupified heathen to the gift of the gospel, which they had hitherto overlooked. In such divinely influenced processes of the soul which have abundant parallels in the Old and New Testaments, we see the sway of God, whose sovereign hand interposes in the destiny of men and turns their hearts like the water brooks."

Led to Christ

In the records of our South China Mission is the story of a heathen brought to Christ by providential intervention. Missionary, B.L. Anderson wrote that the son of a Chinese evangelist was stricken with bubonic plague. "He was but five years old, and from all appearances it seemed that he would soon be silent in death. The only hope of his recovery was in God. The child earnestly urged prayer. 'Pray,' he said, 'there is a wonderful power in prayer.' One





evening the believers, also a number of outsiders, gathered at the chapel and united in prayer for the child. There was a heathen man in the congregation who felt the presence of the Spirit of God, and that night, while sleeping upon his bed, he had a view of Jesus standing by the child, and he was very definitely impressed that the boy would recover. The boy did get well, and the heathen accepted Christ as his Saviour.”

A Chinese Heart Prepared

As one thinks of the gross darkness in the great non-Christian lands, it surely seems natural that the special providences of God should appear here and there as witnesses to heathen hearts. Here is one such story of North China, preserved by

Andrew Stewart in his book, “Out of Darkness”, published by the Religious Tract society, London:

“A prosperous farmer living in Kuan not far from Peking had a dream one night. A heavenly visitant appeared to him, and warned him against spending more money on the temple services. He had lived a devout and worthy life, had been faithful in his attendance at the temple and liberal in his contributions to its superintendent. The holy one told him that the services were not clean, and the priests were unworthy. He astonished him further by intimating that on the twenty-third day of the seventh moon he would meet a man who would tell him what to do.

“About eight or ten years previously a messenger had given him a copy of the New Testament and one of ‘The Peep of Day’. While these had greatly interested him, and had more or less influenced his thought and his life, he had never had any clear conception of their meaning.

“During the seventh month there came to his district a simple Christian evangelist, his own countryman. He was

a colporteur, and day after day he set up his bookstall and sold his books. He likewise had been guided by the divine Spirit to visit this district at this time, because God had a special work for him to do there.

“On the day mentioned in his dream the farmer stopped at the bookstall, and entered into conversation with the evangelist, with the result that he invited him to his home. Here they spent three days discussing the things belonging to eternal life. Two months later they traveled together to Peking, where the farmer stayed for a short time. He did not return until he had been baptized, after which he set out with great joy for his home. Here he became a faithful evangelist, preaching the gospel successfully to his own people, proving that God is able to use the weak things of the world to confound the mighty.”

Letsika’s Call to Service

Here is a story of a young convert of our mission in Basutoland, Africa. Letsika had found Christ, but his father and mother were heathen. The mission reports tell how he was led to make the effort that brought his mother to the light:

“One night Letsika dreamed that an angel of God stood by his side, and rebuked him severely for not laboring with his heathen mother to bring her to Christ. He was told that God



held him responsible for this lack. He awoke sobbing bitterly. With a cry he ran out of the hut into the cold night air. Kneeling on the frost-covered ground, he pleaded with God for the conversion of his mother, and power to meet the antagonism of his heathen father.

“His wife awoke, and going out, saw him in prayer. She feared that he had gone mad, so ran to the near-by village to tell his parents. But he was not mad. The Lord had laid upon him a burden for his mother’s conversion. He went to her, and labored with such earnestness and fervor that she yielded to God and is now a baptized member of the church.”

The Ukrainian Farmer’s Dream

Along the snow-covered Canadian plains, where Ukrainian farmers from Russia have made new homes in the New World, Colporteur Zachary was making his way with truth-filled books. He traveled with snowshoes, drawing a toboggan sled on which his books were packed. Secretary W.W. Eastman, of the General Conference Publishing Department, reports one experience of this pioneering missionary worker:

“One day he was passing a small straw-covered shack, and it was almost buried in snow. He said he made up his mind not to stop there, for they would be too poor to buy a book; but the song came to his

mind, ‘Pass me not, O gentle Saviour’, and then he thought how awful it would have been if the Saviour had passed him by. Immediately he turned, went to the door, and was greeted with a cordial, ‘Come in.’ As he entered, the man turned to his wife and said, ‘Here, wife, is the man I have been telling you about all day; here he is, here he is!’

“The colporteur could not understand such a greeting, but presently the man turned to him and said, ‘You are the man! You are the man! I saw you in my dream



for it. The man did not answer me, but pulled a book from under his coat, and began to show it to me. It had a red cover with large letters on it, and I noticed, as he showed the book, that there were pictures in it of the coming of Jesus in the clouds of heaven. I wanted the book, but he said, “I am just taking orders”, and he would not let me have the book. I pressed him for a copy, and presently he pulled out of his hip pocket a black book with gold letters on it, and in this book was the page where he wrote down the orders for the larger book, and he took my name. ‘Now,’ he said, ‘you are the man, you are the man, you are the man I saw in my dream; but where is the book? where is the book?’

“The colporteur reached in his hip pocket and took out his order book. ‘Oh, yes, that is the book!’ the man exclaimed. It was a small book with black covers, with the guaranty slip. ‘Don’t take this book away; I must have it,’ said the farmer, holding on to the copy of “The World’s Hope”. And although the man did not have the money, Zachary left the book with him, and received payment for it two months later.

“A little later, Colporteur Zachary had the privilege of seeing fifty Ukrainians rejoicing in the truth. Thus the grain, as represented in the farmer’s dream, literally ‘stuck to the clothes’ of the colporteur as he went through the ripened fields.”



last night. I was traveling, and we were passing by a field of grain, ripe, overripe. It was going to waste, and I asked the man who was driving why this grain was not reaped, and who was responsible for it. And then we saw a man coming through the field with a scythe on his shoulder, and he came out near where we were. The grain was sticking to his clothes.

“I asked him the question why this grain was not reaped, and who was responsible





Hope for Health

Colloidal Silver Soap

This all natural, hand crafted silver soap is simply amazing! Use it daily to provide the numerous benefits of colloidal silver to your skin. It's made with organic oils and contains an abundance of silver nano particles that easily penetrate deep below the surface of the skin, down into the depths of each pore. This silver soap is designed to support optimal skin health. It conditions the skin and leaves it feeling soft, smooth and younger looking. Silver soap may also deodorize the skin and provide relief from itching.

Why Colloidal?

This term refers to a substance that consists of ultra-fine particles that are suspended in a medium of a different matter (i.e. a non-soluble mineral suspended in water). The particles of mineral or in this case, silver are over 1,000 times smaller than a human blood cell and the water is clear. This ultra small particle size allows the silver to easily travel throughout the body and be eliminated on a continuous basis, with no risk of build-up.

Protect Your Skin:

We give much consideration to what we eat, what we put in our mouth, but what about what you put on your skin? Your skin is highly absorbent, so give it pure nutrients to absorb rather than nasty toxins found in many soaps. Your skin covers up to 20 square feet of your body! It is a protective shield for your internal organs and muscles; it is your first line of defense against harmful substances!

Powerful Germicide:

Hope for Health's Colloidal Silver Soap has been shown to act as a powerful germicide, natural antibiotic and efficient bacterial killer. Extensive research on silver found it to be highly effective in destroying over 600 types of illness causing bacteria! It will also inhibit the growth of yeasts, mold and fungi! Further studies have noted that there is no known illness causing organism that can live in the presence of even minute traces of colloidal silver! It has better antibiotic properties than any pharmaceutical drug and there are no nasty side effects!

Ingredients: Colloidal Silver, Saponified oils of: Organic Olive oil, Coconut oil, Organic Palm Kernal oil, Organic Palm oil, Mixed Tocopherals (Vitamin E)

Price:

3.9 oz. bar\$8.99

Colloidal Silver Lotion

Hope for Health's advanced Colloidal Silver Skin Lotion contains over 70% Colloidal Silver that supports the skin's natural rejuvenating abilities. It moisturizes and conditions the skin leaving it soft, smooth and younger looking. Colloidal Silver Skin Lotion naturally moisturizes and protects your hands & body while promoting healthy skin cells and tissues!



Why Colloidal?

This term refers to a substance that consists of ultra-fine particles that are suspended in a medium of a different matter (i.e. a nonsoluble mineral suspended in water). The particles of mineral or in this case, copper, are over 1,000 times smaller than a human blood cell and the water is clear. This ultra small particle size allows the copper to easily travel throughout the body and be eliminated on a continuous basis, with no risk of build-up.

Benefits of Silver:

- Soothes and protects irritated skin
- Reduces itching
- Relief from minor skin irritations
- Helps soothe rashes
- Reduces redness
- Restores cracked skin
- Insect bite relief
- First aid defense for sores, cut and scrapes
- Regenerates skin that has been burned

Colloidal Silver Skin Lotion Ingredients: Ultra Purified Water, 999% Pure Silver, Certified Organic Cocos Nucifera (Coconut) Oil Extra Virgin, Certified Organic Olea Europaea (Olive) Oil, Emulsifying Wax NF, Certified Organic Helianthus Annuus (Sunflower) Seed Oil, Certified Organic Theobroma Cacao (Cocoa) Seed Butter, Certified Organic Butyrospermum Parkii (Shea Butter), Phenoxyethanol (and) Benzoic Acid (and) Dehydroacetic Acid.

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THE **POWER** OF PERSEVERANCE

Persistence Pays

By Emmanuel Machakaire

Automobile genius Henry Ford once came up with a revolutionary plan for a new kind of engine which we know today as the V-8. Ford was eager to get his great new idea into production. He had some men draw up the plans, and presented them to the engineers. As the engineers studied the drawings, one by one they came to the same conclusion. Their visionary boss just didn't know much about the fundamental principles of engineering. He'd have to be told gently--his dream was impossible. Ford said, "Produce it anyway." They replied, "But it's impossible." "Go ahead," Ford commanded, "and stay on the job until you succeed, no matter how much time is required." For six months they struggled with drawing after drawing, design after design. Nothing. Another six months. Nothing. At the end of the year Ford checked with his engineers and they once again told him that what he wanted was impossible. Ford told them to keep going. They did. And they discovered how to build a V-8 engine. (Napolean Hill, *Think and Grow Rich*, 1960.)

"And he spake a parable unto them [to this end], that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bears long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on

the earth?" Luke 18:1-8. In these verses, the Lord Jesus tells His disciples a parable that is designed to teach them the importance of remaining persistent in prayer; likewise, we can also draw valuable lessons from the power of perseverance in prayer.

In this parable there are two players, the unjust judge and the poor widow, both with different characteristics.

I. The unjust judge:

This man did not care anything about God or man. All he cared about was himself and his own life. To put it simply, he was a wicked man! To understand this judge, we need to understand something of what the judicial system was like in those days. During those days the courtroom was not a fine building but a tent that was moved from place to place as the judge covered his circuit. The judge, not the law, set the agenda; and he sat regally in the tent, surrounded by his assistants. Anybody could watch the proceeding from outside, but only those who were approved and accepted could have their cases tried. This usually meant bribing one of the assistants so that he could call the judge's attention to the case. Even though he had heard this widow's petition and saw she had a case, he would not do as she asked. He simply turned a deaf ear to her pleas for help. He was hard-hearted and close-minded to the needs of others. The judge is clearly a reprobate and dishonest, disinterested and disrespectful. In spite of his spiritual condition and in spite of the fact that he did not care for this widow in the least, in the end, he helped her, because he did not want her to continue bothering him.



2. The poor widow:

We do not know the nature of this woman's burden, but she had a

grievance against someone that was lying very heavily upon her heart. This poor soul had several things working against her when it came to seeking redress before a court of law. She was a woman, and women were not allowed to speak in court. She was a widow, so she had no husband to speak for her, and widows were a segment of society that was oppressed and often taken advantage of. She was a widow, and being a widow was synonymous with being poor. She had no money with which to grease the wheels of justice. She could not have paid a bribe had she wanted to.

The Bible refers to her “continual coming”. This phrase has the idea that she was begging this judge for help every day. When he would show up for court, there she was. When he went into the marketplace, there she was. She pleaded with him in front of his friends. She stalked him at home. Everywhere he went, there she was, constantly asking him to give her satisfaction. This widow was probably exhausted, but she was also desperate. What else could she do? Where else could she turn? Because of her social standing and because of her financial standing, she had no other hope but to get help from this judge. Therefore, she made a nuisance of herself before him, every day. For whatever reasons, the judge is affected and a crack is made in the unjust system, and finally she received the very thing she was after!

Persistence has the power to change circumstances

Jesus taught that we should “always pray and not give up”, not because God is hard of hearing, not because God needs to be pestered into answering our prayers, not because God doesn’t want to answer us, but because when we pray we unleash more and more power from the throne of God. “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.” Luke 11:5-8.

Like the widow in the first parable, it’s the persistence of the one who pleads at midnight that gets results. The message in these two tales is that persistence in calling for justice, willingness to bear faithful witness, even in the face of hostility and disrespect, of selfishness and victimizing blame, has the potential power to change one’s circumstances and even transform one’s life.

In both these parables, of the friend at midnight and that of the pleading widow, Jesus makes the point that, if your irritated, surly friend, awakened from sound sleep in the middle of the night, will do the right thing; if an unjust judge, who has neither fear of God or respect for people, will enact justice, how much more will God, who is all about love and compassion, bring righteousness and justice into the midst of our lives. Persistence in prayer has the power to engage the almighty to actually unleash amazing power into our lives.

Prayer is to be persistent in the face of opposition

Jesus tells these tales in the midst of teaching his followers about prayer. Prayer is to be persistent in the face of opposition, without losing heart. “Take heart,” Jesus says, encouraging his followers to keep on keeping on, in spite of adversity. “In His parables our Lord illustrated divine truth by common practises. He spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man; and there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, though I fear not God, nor regard man; yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. And shall not God avenge His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him, though He bear long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily.

“Though this judge was professedly a wise, discriminating man, his heart was hardened by sin. His course of action revealed his real character. The fruit he bore was the fruit borne on an evil tree. He acted only according to his feelings. By selfish indifference and positive injustice,





he exhibited perverse human nature. If he was made irritable by being thwarted in any of his plans, the innocent suffered in consequence. The weak who needed sympathy and help, were made the objects of his derision. He knew that wrong actions were committed, but he did not do his best to make wrong right. He did not perform the duties which his position as judge of the actions of the people required him to perform. He relieved those he chose to relieve, and neglected many that he should have relieved.

Self was the god of this judge

“A certain widow presented her case before this judge, and she was repulsed. But she would not fail or become discouraged. Though she was again and again turned away, she still continued to beg for justice. What use had the cities for a judge unless he could relieve the cause of the oppressed? The Lord put into the woman’s heart a persistency that the indifference of the judge could not quench. Often the judge heard her complaint; often were her sufferings presented before him. And finally the judge yielded to her request. But he did not do this willingly, for the truth’s sake, because pity and compassion had been stirred in his breast, but because the widow troubled him. If this judge had had the mind that is in Christ Jesus, he might have saved himself all trouble. He might have saved the woman the earnest, soul-harassing persistency that finally moved him. He understood the difference between right and wrong. Had he feared God, the widow need not have gone to him again and again just to be treated with contempt by those who had no sympathy, and to be torn from the judgment-seat.

“But he did not possess Christlike attributes. He cared only for that which would further his ambition. He could have relieved the woman, but he would not. He could have restrained wrong, and his position before God required him to do this; but this course was not in harmony with his hard-hearted determination to let the widow ask and seek and knock in vain. He wanted to show his arbitrary power. He wrapped his garments of selfishness about him, and let her plead in vain. When he saw that he was revealing his true character, when his position was made uncomfortable by some who pitied the widow, he listened to her. “Though I fear not God, nor regard man, he said, yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.” Self was his god, and to save his

reputation, to avoid giving further publicity to his partial, one-sided judgment, he avenged the persevering woman.” ST, September 8, 1898.

Too often we think our petitions are unheard, and we cherish unbelief

“In this parable Christ draws a sharp contrast between the unjust judge and God. The judge, though fearing neither God nor man, listened to the widow because of her constant petitions. Although his heart remained like ice, yet the widow’s importunity resulted in her success. He avenged her, though he felt no pity or compassion for her, though her misery was nothing to him. “And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. And shall not God avenge His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him, though He bears long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily.” The judge yielded to the widow’s request merely because of selfishness, that he might be relieved of her importunity. How different is God’s attitude in regard to prayer! Our heavenly Father may not seem to respond immediately to the prayers and appeals of His people; but He never turns from them indifferently.

“In this parable and the parable of the man rising at midnight to supply his friend’s necessity that the friend might minister to a needy, wayfaring man, we are taught that God hears our prayers. Too often we think that our petitions are unheard, and we cherish unbelief, distrusting God when we should claim the promise, “Ask and it shall be given you seek; and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.” Let us draw the instruction that we should from these parables. The Lord is our judge; He is our lawgiver. We give evidence of the strong ground of our confidence in God by importunate prayer, combined with good works. But faith without works is dead, being alone... “Your heavenly Father knoweth, that ye have need of all these things,” the Saviour said. “If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask Him?” The realization of our need urges us to pray earnestly, and our Father is moved by our petitions.” ST, September 15, 1898.

Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence

The test of character is not persistence when you expect a light at the end of the tunnel; the true test is performance and persistence when you see no light coming. Nothing in



the world can take the place of persistence.

Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. There is genius in persistence. It conquers all obstacles. It gives confidence and it opens unopened doors.

The Lessons of the Parable:

- **We “ought always to pray ...”** the emphasis of this passage is on the word always, Paul used the word in 1Thes. 5:17 - “Pray without ceasing.”
- **Wicked men cannot separate us from God.** Our ability to pray always is evidence of this blessing. No government or society, no matter how atheistic can separate the believer from God. The vertical relationship cuts through the horizontal. The decree of Darius in the time of Daniel is a clear example of the impotency of wicked men to disrupt prayer, or its power. The enemies of Daniel coerced Darius into signing a law prohibiting prayer to Jehovah. Notice Daniel’s response: “Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days. Then these men assembled and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.” Dan. 6:10,11. Daniel’s prayers could not be prevented. After God rescued him from the lions’ den it was obvious that his prayers could not be disarmed, either.
- **Prayer is not waste of time.** It appeared to those watching this widow that she was wasting her time. The wicked judge was in control. But in the end her persistence (consistent obedience) was more powerful than his evil.
- **Do not let the evil one overcome you.** This woman did not allow this judge’s indifferent and evil attitude deter her from pleading her cause.
- **The indifference of others should not cause us to quit.** Many in the church will discourage you by their indifference. Their level or way of life becomes the standard by which we judge ourselves. This woman

demanded justice; for the sake of justice she did not ask someone to do it for her.

- **God will avenge you:** If this evil judge will respond, so will our loving Father. The world makes us think that no one is listening. Prayer is seen as superstition or mysticism. But to the Christian prayer is as real and effective as the character of God who answers prayer.

Persistence in prayer pays off in God’s time!

How did Jesus survive in an unjust world? – no one has been treated any more unjustly than Christ. “For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously.” 1 Pet. 2:21-23. Jesus had the faith to trust in the justice and righteousness of His Father. Do we have this faith? Jesus’ concluding question: “When the Son of Man cometh will He find faith on earth?” The evidence of faith will be the consistency of prayer. Pray always and do not quit.

This widow represents us. There are times when we, too, are burdened down with cares, worries, fears and troubles. During those times, it may seem that every circumstance of life is stacked against us. There may be the temptation to say, “What’s the use?” especially after we have prayed and prayed and prayed about some matter. Yet, if we can learn anything from this poor woman, let us learn the lesson that persistence in prayer pays off in God’s time! So, keep praying, despite all the obstacles you face and despite all the signs that say you should just give up! Lord, I know what it’s like to come to a place of discouragement so deep that it’s hard to pray any longer, hard to hold out hope, help us sustain our faith, for there is power in perseverance. Amen



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Health Gem

The Miraculous Renewing Power of Clay

Our featured product this month is “European Green Clay”, which we will be referring to as “clay” throughout this article. Clay has the power to miraculously renew your health. More than likely, you have never considered clay as something that you would take to improve your health. However, we believe that you will be **completely** convinced by the end of this article that clay is the answer for your health! We have thousands of satisfied clay



users, including everyone on the Hope for Health staff. We receive daily testimonies from people who are currently taking the clay. A few of the adjectives we hear most often are: astonishing, fabulous, glorious, amazing, marvelous and miraculous! The clay can be taken by **ANYONE**: children of any age, adults of any age, pregnant women, and we have **many** people who even give clay to their pets!

Why take clay?

Why should I take clay, you may be thinking, what are some of the benefits? The clay will absorb, and remove, from our systems the toxins that we all pick up from the air we breath, the food we eat, and from an environment filled with pollution and

chemicals that seep in to every aspect of our lives! There are currently over one thousand different pesticides used on American farmlands. Every day hundreds of MILLIONS of pounds of chemicals are dumped on the soil being used to grow your food! The FDA has warned (note: the FDA, not Hope for Health saying this) that there are over **50** different known poisons and toxic substances in the average American’s grocery cart!

The air we breathe, the air your children are breathing, is filled with the following toxins: carbon monoxide, lead, ash, hydrocarbons, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur oxides, insecticides, herbicides, dust from fertilizers and pesticides; and don’t forget acid rain vapors, and we won’t even address the chem trails that lace the skies! So, even if you are planting your own organic garden, the air is filled with toxins that you can’t control. During the average 10-minute shower,



the human body absorbs the same amount of chlorine as if you drank 20 GALLONS of tap water! This is the reality of our life today, but don’t give in to despair; there are precautions you can take. You may also want to consider where you are living, and try to find the best sources of water and food. But the easiest and cheapest

thing you can do to protect your family is a clay cleanse once or twice a year.

Clay is a miraculous toxin remover and cleanser

Clay is an effective deactivator of toxins from diet or pathogens and is the primary ingredient of kaolin, found



in many over-the-counter treatments for gastrointestinal problems in humans. European Green Clay is a type of mineral clay valued for its highly absorbent properties.

The next wonderful benefit of clay is that it will replenish your body with minerals. Mineral deficiency is the cause of many health problems. Wouldn’t it be phenomenal to eliminate your annoying, or in some cases, debilitating conditions, simply by taking in more minerals? Clay is a bio-mineral, composed of decomposed plant material and trace minerals such as calcium, potassium, magnesium, silica, phosphorous, copper, manganese and selenium. All of these minerals are essential minerals that the body needs daily and must be obtained either through diet or supplements.

Alternative medicine practitioners believe this composition makes clay particularly beneficial for a variety of health concerns.

Positive/negative

Clay is believed to have a natural “negative” electrical charge that attracts “positively” charged toxins from the bloodstream and tissue cells through the intestine and out of the body as waste. Just as magnets have negative and positive sides, and when you put another magnet with either the negative or positive side to the oppositely charged magnet, they pull together - that’s what the clay does. Toxins, heavy metals, waste products, etc. are all positively charged. When you introduce a negatively charged element within the system, all the positively charged particles are drawn to it and excreted from the body.



“Jump-start” your organs!

Our bodies have been designed to utilize just what we need... if it is available to us. The minerals needed by one person may not be the same as those required by another person, and interestingly enough, each person’s body will select the minerals it needs from the clay. **Wherever** there is a deficiency, clay seems to supply the needed substance, **regardless** of whether or not the clay itself is rich in that substance! For example, iron is found in minute amounts in clay, yet scientists say the analysis of its

composition is not sufficient to explain its rebuilding action of red blood cells. The clay produces results, which are **easily** confirmed by a red blood cell



recount. In only one month you can expect to see an impressive increase in red blood cells! Any organ that is lacking in performance is given a “jump-start” by clay and the clay helps restore it back to its original working state. The minerals present in the clay are absorbed as needed into your body, a process referred to as homeostasis; in other words, “If I need it, clay supplies it. If I don’t need it, it passes through with no possibility of an “overdose” on any substance contained in the clay.” Isn’t that incredible?

Here are some other ways that clay can help you:

1. As mentioned, clay has the ability to detoxify your body and pull out any heavy metals or radiation you may have been exposed to.

Here is an interesting fact many people are unaware of...After the Chernobyl Accident in Russia, green clay was given to people, pets and livestock to minimize radiation poisoning. The government put clay into chocolate bars and distributed them to the masses to cut down on the effects of the radiation poisoning. Men who went in afterward to investigate

had to wear radiation resistant suits. But before they donned their suits, they were painted with a layer of clay mud, so that IF any radiation made it through the suit, the clay would absorb it and they would not be harmed. Even with this history of the clay being so effective, the American medical system claims to have no “known” remedy for radiation poisoning among its list of drugs!

2. Clay may clean out and regenerate your entire gastrointestinal system.

A cleansed colon allows your body to be better able to receive nutrients from food or a vitamin and mineral supplement. This is critically important to understand! The majority of the



constituents in vitamins and minerals are absorbed through the intestines. If your intestines are clogged and/or coated with foreign substances, the ability of your intestines to absorb the nutrients in your food, vitamins and mineral substances, is *dramatically* reduced. Clay is your answer to this problem!

3. Clay restores alkalinity in your body.

An acidic condition in the body is an open invitation for any type of illness to take root in your body. Upon consumption, clay begins to restore the natural biological terrain of the entire digestive and elimination system,

including adjusting the pH level. Our experience with clay water reveals a pH level ranging 9-10. As part of this process, the body's own ability to maintain a proper bacterial balance is restored (a normalization of bacterial counts results from the near-uniform reduction of bacterial populations), and thus clay use can positively affect the body's ability to digest food substances due to improved efficiency of the digestive system.

4. Clay has been shown to pull out harmful bacteria.

In June 2007, Arizona State University featured the work of Lynda Williams and Shelley Haydel in the Research Stories section of their website. Geochemist Williams and microbiologist Haydel have partnered to study the antibacterial properties of clay. The goal of their research was to understand why clay was able to alleviate deadly bacteria. This bacteria produces a toxin that eats away at the



fatty tissue deposited below the surface of the skin, leading to many health problems, long-term disabilities or in some cases death, according to the World Health Organization. When clay is taken internally (other than supplying minerals) it finds bacteria, pulls the bacteria to it (like flies on a fly trap), then pulls it in like a big round sponge so the bacteria can

be excreted from the body without harming anything on its way out. Green clay particles are smaller than many bacteria. When bacteria encounter an environment abundant in clay it becomes surrounded by the clay, and imbedded in it. The immediate result is that the bacteria are unable to receive nourishment and cannot survive.



Clay has the power to attract and either absorb or stimulate the evacuation of toxic and non-useful elements. As a bacteria-destroying agent, it can render contaminated water innocuous. Its absorbent power has contributed to the elimination of the chemical taste of chloride in Paris water!

5. Clay may eliminate parasites, as it is impossible for the parasites to reproduce and thrive when clay is present.

Clay is an excellent vermifuge (worm and parasite expeller), attracting and binding internal parasites and packaging them for disposal.

6. Other reported benefits of clay include: relief from chronic constipation, diarrhea and

indigestion, a surge in energy, clearer complexion, brighter eyes, enhanced alertness, an emotional uplift, improved tissue and gum repair, reduced allergy conditions and a remarkable improvement in the immune system!

You may be thinking that the food you eat must supply the necessary minerals you need, thereby eliminating the necessity for supplementing with clay. Listen to this...At one time, the food grown in our soil may have supplied all the essential minerals, however, those days are long gone! As far back as June 5, 1936 the 74th Congress, 2nd session stated the following: "The alarming fact is that foods (fruits, vegetables and grains) now being raised on millions of acres of land that no longer contain enough of certain minerals are starving us! No matter how much of them we eat! No man of today can eat enough fruits and



vegetables to supply his system with the minerals he requires for perfect health because his stomach isn't big enough to hold them. And we are turning into big stomachs!" This was in 1936; so you can imagine how much worse things are today! According to the USDA, we would have to eat 75 bowls of spinach today in order to get the same amount of iron found in one bowl in 1948! What has happened to our food supply?

If you are suffering from any of the following symptoms, please consider the renewing power of clay.

Symptoms of Calcium Deficiency:

Pain and inflammation, particularly back pain, bone spurs, brittle fingernails, cognitive impairment, delusions, mood disorders, skin problems, all manner of cardiovascular dysfunctions, sleep disorders, kidney stones, limb numbness, muscle



cramps/spasms/twitches, nervousness, enlargement of bones with scar tissue, dental issues and all aspects of women's health problems.

Symptoms of Magnesium Deficiency:

Anxiety, shortness of breath, weight loss disorders, birth defects, confusion, mood disorders, women's issues, growth failures in babies, infant deaths, cardiovascular imbalances, sleep disorders/restlessness and nervousness.

Symptoms of Phosphorus

Deficiency: Weight loss disorders, anxiety, apprehension, bone pain, difficulty breathing, fatigue, irritability, numbness and weakness.

Symptoms of Silica Deficiency: Dry brittle fingernails and hair, poor skin quality and poor calcium utilization.

Symptoms of Potassium Deficiency:

Skin problems, cardiovascular issues, edema, constipation, glucose

intolerance, growth retardation, muscular weakness, mood disorders, fatigue, sleep disorders, nervousness, respiratory distress, water retention, mental apathy and cognitive impairment.

Symptoms of Copper Deficiency:

Hair loss, low red blood cell count, birth disorders, sadness, skin conditions, diarrhea, fatigue, fragile bones, cholesterol imbalances, thyroid issues, learning disabilities, blood sugar imbalances, respiratory problems, white or gray hair, criminal or violent behavior, rage/explosive outbursts, sagging tissue (eye, skin, breasts, stomach, etc.), liver disorders and back problems.



External uses for green clay

You will **ALWAYS** want to have green clay in your first aid kit! When green clay is applied externally, it literally "pulls" out toxins. You can use it on an area that is visibly distressed, or you can apply it over an organ or internal area that you know to be compromised. Due to the fact that clay and toxins have opposite electrical charges, it attracts them like a magnet and literally **pulls** them out of your body!

Some of the situations that green clay can help with externally are: Wound first-aid – the clay may help to control bleeding, eliminate pain, decrease recovery time, reduce or eliminate scarring, and it may lessen the incidence of infection.

Green clay is also extremely effective if you are burned. Upon applying the clay, the pain will diminish almost immediately! The burned area will also be less likely to blister and scar.



The clay can be used on any and all skin conditions from mole removal to bug bites, stings, rashes, cuts and even age spots!

Green clay is also very effectively used externally for pain relief, any pain situation: a recent injury or a chronic pain condition.

As mentioned at the beginning of this article, everyone on staff here at Hope, at one time or another has used the clay both externally or internally. We have been beyond impressed with this product, and if we were only able to sell one product it would most definitely be Green Clay!

Often times delivery people or vendors that we do business with will notice that we sell clay and will inquire about it, as it is unusual and not widely known as a health supplement. One such instance was the owner of the



blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged? Some said, this is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he. Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened? He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.”

printing business we used for our materials. He was scheduled to have knee surgery and was in constant pain even after taking narcotics. He began to take the clay internally and returned about six weeks later to let us know that he had cancelled his surgery and was pain-free; no more medication of any kind was needed!

This is a marvelous testimony, but not unusual at all. We literally have *hundreds* just like it, from people who have suffered for 10, 20, 30, 40 years or more with debilitating conditions that diminish their quality of life. They have taken the clay and now are leaping, praising and rejoicing for they have a renewed quality of life and health!

Jesus used clay in healing

At Hope for Health we follow in the footsteps of Jesus, as He, too, used clay in His health ministry; here is an example from John 9:6-11: “When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, and said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing. The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was



Clay costs only pennies a day

At Hope for Health we do not promote clay or any of our supplements for profit; in fact, we try to keep the price as low as we can in order to get the clay into your hands! A five-pound jug of clay will be more than enough for the recommended three-month cleanse, and you will have ample clay for external use as well, and it will cost your family just pennies a day! For less than the cost of your afternoon soda you can *improve* the health of your family, rid your body

of deadly toxins, and save thousands in medical costs!

Our simple desire and prayer is that you will know about this alternative to expensive medications. Green clay is cheap, our advice is free, and Jesus Himself used the clay. What could be a better endorsement?! After all, we were made from clay! Try it and see!

Please call us for detailed printed instructions (which are included with every order of European Green Clay) on use of green clay, and share your miraculous story of healing using this product!! Dr. Kaye Olson and all the Hope for Health staff are ready and willing to answer any product or health questions you may have. We are also happy to consult with you regarding any diet and lifestyle changes you may want to make.

Please call 828-649-0278.

If you wish to order or would like a free copy of our informative catalog that includes Hope for Health’s Clay, as well as all of our Hope for Health products, please call 1-800-468-7884.



News Watch

SHARES WORTHLES
Crash!
Stocks tumble assets
anxiety deepens
Interest rates
liquidity
RECESSION FORECAST



A vehicle with a large chunk of snow on its roof drives along Route 20 after a massive snowfall in Lancaster, New York, on Wednesday, November 19. A ferocious storm dumped large piles of snow on parts of upstate New York, trapping residents in their homes and stranding motorists on roadways, as snowstorms and record-low temperatures hit much of the country.

End Time Perspective:

“The sword of wrath is stretched out over a people who have by their pride and wickedness provoked the displeasure of a just God. Storms, earthquakes, whirlwinds, fire, and the sword will spread desolation everywhere, until men's hearts shall fail them for fear, looking for those things which shall come upon the earth. We know not how small a space is between us and eternity. We know not how soon our probation may close.”
RH, November 28, 1882

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Rome (CNN) – Pope Francis is to make his first trip to the United States as the head of the Catholic Church in September, the Vatican said Monday. He will travel to the World Meeting of the Families, said Vatican spokesman the Rev. Federico Lombardi. The Catholic public event, which celebrates the family as the basic building block of society, is to be held in Philadelphia next year. “It is the answer to the countless prayers of so many people who have asked God to guide Pope Francis to Philadelphia, the culmination of many months of hopeful anticipation, and the fulfillment of my own confidence that the Holy Father would grace us with his presence next year,” Philadelphia Archbishop Charles Chaput said in a statement. At a news conference, Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter heralded the occasion as “something truly to be excited about.”



PHOTO CREDIT: friendsofjustice.wordpress.com

End Time Perspective: “The Romish Church now presents a fair front to the world, covering with apologies her record of horrible cruelties. She has clothed herself in Christ-like garments; but she is unchanged. Every principle of popery that existed in past ages exists today. The doctrines devised in the darkest ages are still held. Let none deceive themselves. The popery that Protestants are now so ready to honor is the same that ruled the world in the days of the Reformation, when men of God stood up, at the peril of their lives, to expose her iniquity. She possesses the same pride and arrogant assumption that lorded it over kings and princes, and claimed the prerogatives of God. Her spirit is no less cruel and despotic now than when she crushed out human liberty, and slew the saints of the Most High.” GC88 570.

Ellen White's *Vision*

The Reformation

Notwithstanding all the persecution of the saints, living witnesses for God's truth were raised up on every hand. Angels of the Lord were doing the work committed to their trust. They were searching in the darkest places and selecting out of the darkness men who were honest in heart. These were all buried up in error, yet God called them, as He did Saul, to be chosen vessels to bear His

truth and raise their voices against the sins of His professed people. Angels of God moved upon the hearts of Martin Luther, Melanchthon, and others in different places, and caused them to thirst for the living testimony of the Word of God. The enemy had come in like a flood, and the standard must be raised against him. Luther was the one chosen to breast the storm, stand up against the ire of a fallen church, and strengthen the few who were faithful to their holy profession. He was ever fearful of offending God. He tried through works to obtain His favor, but was not satisfied until a gleam of light from heaven drove the darkness from his mind and led him to trust, not in works, but in the merits of the blood of Christ. He could then come to God for himself, not through popes or confessors, but through Jesus Christ alone.

Martin Luther admired the character of God and loved Him

Oh, how precious to Luther was this new and glorious light which had dawned upon his dark understanding and driven away his superstition! He prized it higher than the richest earthly treasure. The Word of God was new. Everything was changed. The book he had dreaded because he could not see beauty in it, was now life, eternal life, to him. It was his joy, his consolation, his blessed teacher. Nothing could induce him to leave its study. He had feared death; but as he read the Word of God, all his terrors disappeared, and he admired the character of God and loved Him. He searched the



Bible for himself and feasted upon the rich treasures it contained; then he searched it for the church. He was disgusted with the sins of those in whom he had trusted for salvation, and as he saw many others enshrouded in the same darkness which had covered him, he anxiously sought an opportunity to point them to the Lamb of God, who alone taketh away the sin of the world.

The priests did not wish to be reformed; they chose to remain in darkness

Raising his voice against the errors and sins of the papal church, he earnestly endeavored to break the chain of darkness which was confining thousands and causing them to trust in works for salvation. He longed to be enabled to open to their minds the true riches of the grace of God and the excellence of salvation obtained through Jesus Christ. In the power of the Holy Spirit he cried out against the existing sins of the leaders of the church; and as he met the storm of opposition from the priests, his courage failed not; for he firmly relied upon the strong arm of God, and confidently trusted in Him for victory. As he pushed the battle closer and closer, the rage of the priests was kindled still hotter against him. They did not wish to be reformed. They chose to be left in ease, in wanton pleasure, in wickedness; and they desired the church also to be kept in darkness.

Unlike Luther, Melanchthon was timid and cautious

I saw that Luther was ardent and zealous, fearless and bold, in reproving sin and advocating the truth. He cared not for wicked men or devils; he knew that he had One with him mightier than they all. Luther possessed zeal, courage, and boldness, and at times was in danger of going to extremes. But God raised up Melanchthon, who was just the

opposite in character, to aid Luther in carrying on the work of reformation. Melanchthon was timid, fearful, cautious, and possessed great patience. He was greatly beloved of God. His knowledge of the Scriptures was great, and his judgment and wisdom excellent. His love for the cause of God was equal to Luther's. The hearts of these men the Lord knit together; they were inseparable friends. Luther was a great help to Melanchthon when in danger of being fearful and slow, and Melanchthon in turn was a great help to Luther when in danger of moving too fast. Melanchthon's farseeing caution often averted trouble which would have come upon the cause had the work been left alone to Luther; and oftentimes the work would not have been pushed forward had it been left to Melanchthon alone. I was shown the wisdom of God in choosing these two men to carry on the work of reformation.

God chose as companions those with opposite character traits

I was then carried back to the days of the apostles and saw that God chose as companions an ardent, zealous Peter and a mild, patient John. Sometimes Peter was impetuous, and often when this was the case the beloved disciple would check him. This, however, did not reform him. But after he had denied his Lord, repented, and been converted, all he needed to check his ardor and zeal was a mild caution from John. The cause of Christ would often have suffered had it been left to John alone. Peter's zeal was needed. His boldness and energy often delivered them from difficulty and silenced their enemies. John was winning. He gained many to the cause of Christ by his patient forbearance and deep devotedness.



When one witness was slain, others were raised up to take his place

God raised up men to cry against the existing sins of the papal church and carry forward the Reformation. Satan sought to destroy these living witnesses; but the Lord made a hedge about them. Some, for the glory of His name, were permitted to seal with their blood the testimony they had borne; but there were other powerful men, like Luther and Melanchthon, who could best glorify God by living and exposing the sins of priests, popes, and kings. These trembled before the voice of Luther, and his fellow laborers. Through those chosen men, rays of light began to scatter the darkness, and very many joyfully received the light and walked in it. And when one witness was slain, two or more were raised up to take his place.

Only those willing to forsake all can be Christ's disciples

But Satan was not satisfied. He could only have power over the body. He could not make believers yield their faith and hope. And even in death they triumphed with a bright hope of immortality at the resurrection of the just. They had more than mortal energy. They dared not sleep for a moment, but kept the Christian armor girded about them, prepared for a conflict, not merely with spiritual foes, but with Satan in the form of men whose constant cry was, "Give up your faith, or die." These few Christians were strong in God, and more precious in His sight than half a world who bear the name of Christ, and yet are cowards in His cause. While the church was persecuted, its members were united and loving; they were strong in God. Sinners were not permitted to unite with the church. Those only who are willing to forsake all for Christ could be His disciples. These loved to be poor, humble, and Christlike.

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our firm **FOUNDATION**

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- Candid Investigation Necessary to an Understanding of the Truth – November
- Connection With Christ – December

- Gospel to All Nations – May
- The Coming King – June
- Darkening of the Sun – July
- The Falling Stars – August
- One Taken, Another Left – September
- Parable of the Fig Tree – October
- Distress of Nations – November

WHITE, ELLEN - VISIONS

- Duty in View of the Time of Trouble – January
- The Death of Stephen – February
- The Transfiguration – March
- The Sealing – April
- Recreation – May
- The Last Plagues and the Judgment – June
- Preparation for the End – July
- Loma Linda – August
- The Crisis Imminent – September
- The Two Ways – October
- The Medical Evangelist – November
- The Reformation – December

WHITE, JAMES

- Breathing Impure Air – September

WHITE, JAMES EDSON

- The Days of Noah – January
- The Bible - Its Preservation and Its Enemies – February
- The Man of Sorrows – March
- Destruction of Jerusalem – April

POEMS

- Joseph Griffithe, Triumph Through Christ – January
- E.M. Exton, Alone – January
- Unknown, Only Wait – February
- Selected, Not As Our Ways – February
- John W. Stein, Everywhere – March
- Emily Appleton Wade, Grant Us Thy Peace – March
- Unknown, He Leads Us On – April
- Unknown, He Chose This Path for Thee – April
- Mrs. L.D. Avery-Stuttle, Jesus Knows – May
- Unknown, Not As Our Ways – May
- Patricia Smith, The Greatest Investment – June
- Minnie Embree-Parker, Our Strength and Stay – June
- Mary Goodwin Plantz, Two Prayers – July
- H.F. Lyte, Gratitude for Blessings – July
- Domestic Journal, The Coming King – August
- E.R. Colburn, The Friend of Sinners – August
- N.W. Vincent, Be of Good Cheer – September
- F.A. Reynolds, The Sabbath – September
- H.M. Greenleaf, Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled – October
- Mary D. Brine, Gratitude – October

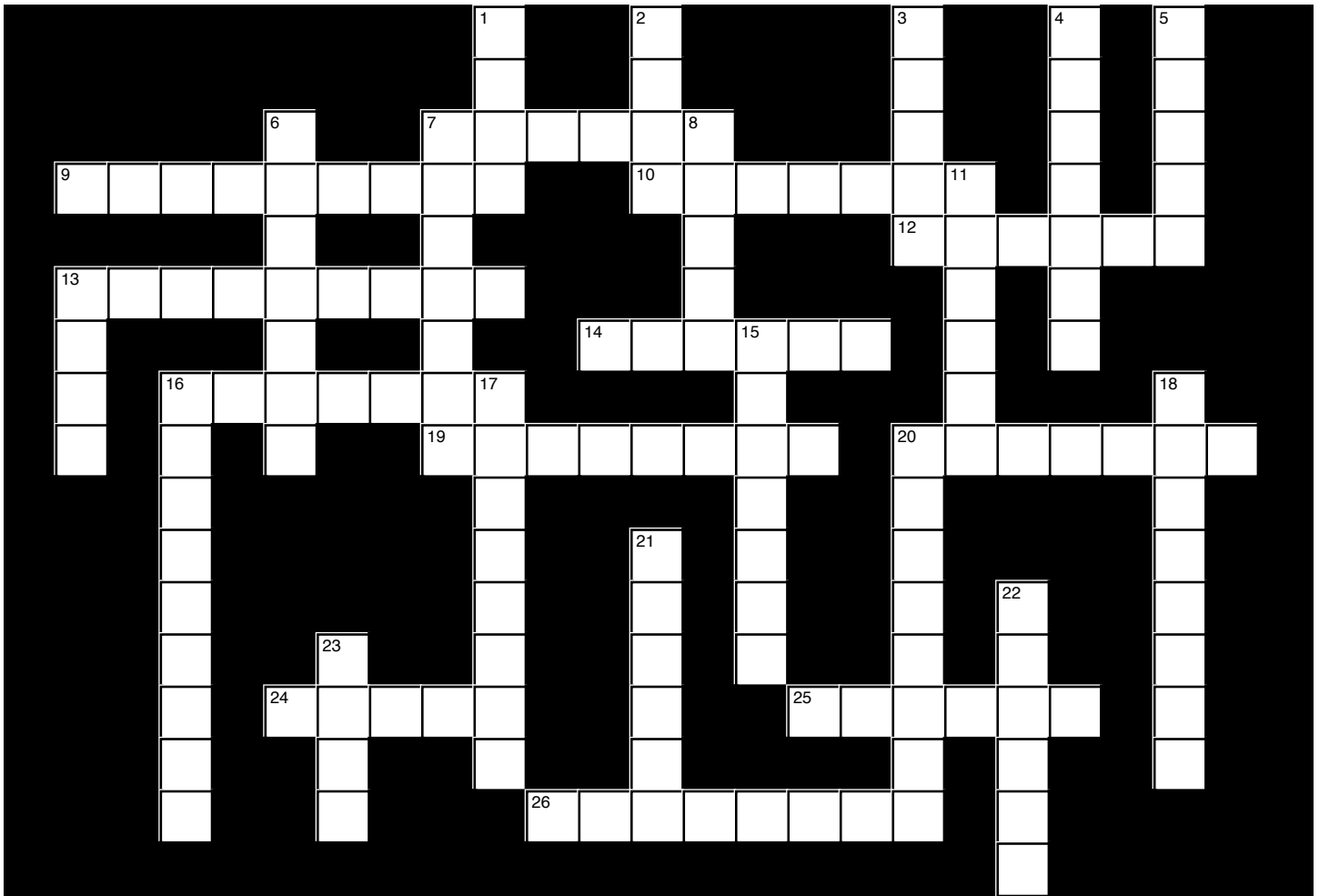
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Christian Crossword



ACROSS

- 7. Jacob's eldest son
- 9. Ruler of the synagogue at Corinth
- 10. Messenger angel; interprets Daniel's vision
- 12. Prophet under David and Solomon
- 13. Father of Zerubbabel
- 14. Paul's birthplace
- 16. Son of Aaron; succeeds him as high priest
- 19. Righteous King of Judah; reforms temple and worship
- 20. King of Egypt
- 24. Scene of Peter's vision
- 25. A division between groups
- 26. Slave of Philemon, converted by Paul

DOWN

- 1. Another word for "enemies"
- 2. An Edomite; chief of Saul's herdsmen
- 3. A black bird mentioned in Scripture
- 4. David's Shunammite nurse
- 5. A Philistine city captured by Judah
- 6. Originally the southern portion of Babylonia
- 7. Great-niece of Abraham
- 8. Grandfather of Abraham
- 11. Father of Noah
- 13. Oldest son of Noah
- 15. A scribe under Josiah
- 16. Naomi's husband

- 17. Son and successor of Solomon
- 18. Assassin of Joash
- 20. Aaron's grandson
- 21. Governor of Judea
- 22. Paul stood trial before this man
- 23. A wealthy Bethlehemite; husband of Ruth

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

