

A KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

By Ellen G. White

MANY are the ways in which God is seeking to make Himself known to us and to bring us into communion with Him. Nature speaks to our senses without ceasing. The open heart will be impressed with the love and glory of God as revealed through the works of his hands. The listening ear can hear and understand the communications of God through the things of

nature. The green fields, the lofty trees, the buds and flowers, the passing cloud, the falling rain, the babbling brook, the glories of the heavens, speak to our hearts, and invite us to become acquainted with Him who made them all.



The Heart's Proof

Do you ask me how I prove
That our Father, God, is love?
By this world which he hath made,
By the songs of grove and blade,
By the brooks that singing run,
By the shining of the sun,
By the breeze that cools my brow,
By fresh odors from the plow,
By the daisy's golden head
Shining in the fields I tread,
By the chorus of the bees
In the flowering willow trees,
By the gentle dews and rain,
By the farmer's springing grain,
By the light of golden eyes,
By the sheen of forest leaves,
By the sweets of woodland springs,
By the joy right-doing brings—
By a thousand, thousand things!

—Selected

Our Saviour bound up His precious lessons with the things of nature. The trees, the birds, the flowers of the valleys, the hills, the lakes, and the beautiful heavens, as well as the incidents and surroundings of daily life, were all linked with the words of truth, that His lessons might thus be often recalled to mind, even amid the busy cares of man's life of toil.

God would have His children appreciate His works, and delight in the simple, quiet beauty with which He has adorned our earthly home. He is a lover of the beautiful, and above all that is outwardly attractive He loves beauty of character; He would have us cultivate purity and simplicity, the quiet graces of the flowers.

If we will but listen, God's created works will teach us precious lessons of obedience and trust. From the stars that in their trackless course through space, follow from age to age their appointed path, down to the minutest atom, the things of nature obey the Creator's will. And God cares for everything and sustains everything that He has created. He who upholds the unnumbered worlds throughout immensity, at the same time cares for the wants of the little *brown sparrow* that sings its humble song without a fear. When men go forth to their daily toil, as when they engage in prayer; when they lie down at night, and when they rise in the morning; when the rich man feasts in his

palace, or when the poor man gathers his children about the scanty board, each is tenderly watched by the heavenly Father. No tears are shed that God does not notice. There is no smile that He does not mark.

If we would but fully believe this, all undue anxieties would be dismissed. Our lives would not be so filled with disappointment as now; for everything, whether great or small, would be left in the hands of God, who is not perplexed by the multiplicity of cares, or overwhelmed by their weight. We should then enjoy a rest of soul to which many have long been strangers.

As your senses delight in the attractive loveliness of the earth, think of the world that is to come, that shall never know the blight of sin and death; where the face of nature will no more wear the shadow of the curse. Let your imagination picture the home of the saved, and remember that it will be more glorious than your brightest imagination can portray. In the varied gifts of God in nature we see but the faintest gleaming of His glory. It is written, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him."

The poet and the naturalist have many things to say about nature, but it is the Christian who enjoys the beauty of the earth with the highest appreciation, because he recognizes his Father's handiwork, and perceives His love in flower and shrub and tree. No one can fully appreciate the significance of hill and vale, river and sea, who does not look upon them as an expression of God's love to man.

God speaks to us through His providential workings, and through the influence of His Spirit upon the heart. In our circumstances and surroundings, in the changes daily taking place around us, we may find precious lessons, if our hearts are but open to discern them. The psalmist, tracing the work of God's providence, says, "Whoso is wise, and will observe these things, even they shall understand the loving-kindness of the Lord."

God speaks to us in His word. Here we have in clearer lines the revelation of His character, of His dealings with men, and the great work of redemption. Here is open before us the history of patriarchs and prophets and other holy men of old. They were men "subject to like passions as we are." We see how they struggled through discouragements like our own, how they fell under temptation as we have done, and yet took heart again and conquered through the grace of God: and beholding, we are encouraged in our striving after righteousness. As we read of the precious experiences granted them, of the light and love and blessing it was theirs to enjoy, and of the work they wrought through the grace given them, the spirit that inspired them kindles a flame of holy emulation in our hearts, and a desire to be like them in character,—like them to walk with God.

Jesus said of the Old Testament Scriptures, —and how much more is it true of the New,— "They are they which testify of Me," the Redeemer, Him in whom our hopes of eternal life

are centered. Yes, the whole Bible tells of Christ. From the first record of creation,—for "without Him was not anything made that was made,"—to the closing promise, "Behold, I come quickly," we are reading of His works and listening to His voice. If you would become acquainted with the Saviour, study the Holy Scriptures.

Fill the whole heart with the words of God. They are the living water, quenching your burning thirst. They are the living bread from heaven. Jesus declares, "Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you." And He explains Himself by saying, "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." Our bodies are built up from what we eat and drink; and as in the natural economy, so in the spiritual economy: it is what we meditate upon that will give tone and strength to our spiritual nature.

The theme of redemption is one that the angels desire to look into; it will be the science and the song of the redeemed throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity. Is it not worthy of careful thought and study now? The infinite mercy and love of Jesus, the sacrifice made in our behalf, call for the most serious and solemn reflection. We should dwell upon the character of our dear Redeemer and Intercessor. We should meditate upon the mission of Him who came to save His people from their sins. As we thus contemplate heavenly themes, our faith and love will grow stronger, and our prayers will be more and more acceptable to God, because they will be more and more mixed with faith and love. They will be intelligent and fervent. There will be more constant confidence in Jesus, and a daily, living experience in His power to save to the uttermost all that come unto God by Him.

As we meditate upon the perfections of the Saviour, we shall desire to be wholly transformed, and renewed in the image of His purity. There will be a hungering and thirsting of soul to become like Him whom we adore. The more our thoughts are upon Christ, the more we shall speak of Him to others, and represent Him to the world.

The Bible was not written for the scholar alone; on the contrary, it was designed for the common people. The great truths necessary for salvation are made as clear as noonday; and none will mistake and lose their way except those who follow their own judgment instead of the plainly revealed will of God.

We should not take the testimony of any man as to what the Scriptures teach, but should study the words of God for ourselves. If we allow others to do our thinking, we shall have crippled energies and contracted abilities. The noble powers of the mind may be so dwarfed by lack of exercise on themes worthy of their concentration as to lose their ability to grasp the deep meaning of the word of God. The mind will enlarge if it is employed in tracing out the relation of the subjects of the Bible, comparing scripture with scripture, and spiritual things with spiritual. "Steps to Christ," pp. 87-91.

I Cannot Come Down

By M. P. Ringelberg

"No man can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and the mammon." Matt. 6:24.

We are living in times where every individual must make up his mind concerning many different things. Great decisions are made in political, economic and social fields. The tempo of life has been increased many times, and the moment of hesitation that passes up the moment of opportunity, may have disastrous results. This however is not only fact in daily life, but also in regard to taking a stand for Christ. Many people take the name of Christ on their lips, carelessly and indifferently, without having made a definite decision to be a Christian in deed. The great men in the Holy Scriptures have all one characteristic in common, and that is decided faithfulness. There was Daniel, who made a decision to serve rather His heavenly God, than the idols of the heathen king. There was Moses, who decided to rather suffer affliction with God's people, than to have honour and luxury as a prince. This decision in the life of these men, governed the pattern of their whole life thereafter. They stood firm amidst the whirling flood of sin and idolatry, and decided that they would stand with God until the last.

These characteristics are most needed also today among God's professed people. The question: Who is on the Lord's side? will be the greatest one in these last days.

We find in the Bible many periods corresponding with our present time of apostasy. In these times however we also find men who stood in the breach and were living witnesses for the truth.

One of these reformers was the prophet Nehemiah.

"He was engaged in building the walls of Jerusalem and the enemies of God were determined that the walls should not be built. 'But it came to pass, that when Sanballat, and Tobiah and the Arabians, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the walls of Jerusalem were made up, and that the breaches began to be stopped, than they were very wroth, and conspired all of them together to come and to fight against Jerusalem, and to hinder it.'" Test. Vol. 3:571-2.

The report of restoration of the destroyed wall made the enemies of God furious and they all bound themselves together to hinder the work.

But Nehemiah said: "Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God and set a watch against them day and night, because of them." Neh. 4:9. Nehemiah did not trust in his own strength

or wisdom, but made his difficulties known unto his God.

"We are in constant danger of becoming self-sufficient, relying upon our own wisdom, and not making God our strength. Nothing disturbs Satan so much, as our knowledge of his devices. If we feel our dangers we shall feel the need of prayer, as did Nehemiah, and like him we shall obtain that sure defense, that will give us security in peril." Test. Vol. 3:572.

Nehemiah clave to the Lord and departed not from following Him, but kept his commandments, which the Lord commanded Moses, and the Lord was with him. Nehemiah had made up his mind to serve the Lord, and come what may, nothing could keep him from it.

"Messengers were sent repeatedly, soliciting a conference with Nehemiah, but he refused to meet them." His answer was: "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down; why should the work cease whilst I leave it and come down to you?" Neh. 6:3, marg.

Nehemiah realized, that if he would cease the work but for a moment it would not be progress, but backsliding. When coming down to hear their proposals, he would not only be literally climbing down the wall, but it also would mean a severe spiritual handicap for the work that the Lord had entrusted to him. He would leave his high standard of faith in God and lend an ear to the whispering of the arch-enemy. It is not always the violent attack, that is most dangerous, but the sweet-sounding, flattering, or pitying words, that are spoken by apparently honest and well-meaning persons.

The reformer knew that he could not serve God as well as the interests of these men. Four times he was tried and four times his faith parried the attack.

The one great condition to taking a decided stand is to have a firm conviction of the present truth. If we believe fully that the threefold angel's message is the present truth for this time, we also shall find the strength to stand up for it and defend it. If however we are not completely convinced or have only grasped some of its truth with the mind, we lack the power that only conviction can give.

Nehemiah knew that he was doing a great work, he believed it to be the work that God wanted him to do. He was building the wall of the city of peace. The wall of protection around the people of God is strict obedience to the 10 commandments. This protection has been weakened, and in some places destroyed altogether. The great work for this time is to restore the breaches in the wall of the law of God. This work is ridiculed, hindered and threatened just as was the work Nehemiah did. When all this did not have any success, they resorted to

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THE CALL FOR WORKERS

THE first and abiding impulse of a converted soul is to help his fellows. In this way the gospel began. After Jesus, the great Shepherd, had come down to give his life a ransom for the world, John pointed two of his disciples to him as the Lamb of God. They followed him. One of these was Andrew, and he first went to his brother Simon Peter, and brought him to Jesus. The next day Jesus found Philip, and enlisted him in his service. And the first work of Philip was to hunt up Nathaniel, and bring him in.

So it has been, and so it must be. Those who have been made recipients of the truth must make it known to others. He who sits idly by, and sees his fellow man go down to ruin, with out an effort to save them, is not cultivating the Spirit of Christ and is not preparing to enter into the joy of his Lord.

A Call to the Individual

"A distinct work is assigned to every Christian."—Southern Watchman, Aug. 2, 1904.

"Every true disciple is born into the kingdom of God as a missionary. He who drinks of the living water becomes a fountain of life. The receiver becomes a giver. The grace of Christ in the soul is like a spring in the desert, welling up to refresh all, and making those who are ready to perish eager to drink of the water of life."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 195.

"God expects personal service from every one to Whom He has intrusted a knowledge of the truth for this time. Not all can go as missionaries to foreign lands, but all can be home missionaries in their families and neighborhoods."—"Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 30.

"To save souls should be the life work of every one who professes Christ. We are debtors to the world for the grace given us of God, for the light which has shone upon us, and for the discovered beauty and power of the truth."—"Testimonies," Vol. IV, p. 53.

"Every one who has received the divine illumination, is to brighten the pathway of those who know

not the Light of life."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 152.

"To every one work has been allotted, and no one can be a substitute for another. Each one has a mission of wonderful importance, which he cannot neglect or ignore, as the fulfilment of it involves the seal of some soul, and the neglect of it involves the one for whom Christ died."—Review and Herald, Dec. 12, 1893.

"We should all be workers together with God. No idlers are acknowledged as His servants. The members of the church should individually feel that the life and prosperity of the church are affected by their course of action."—Review and Herald, Feb. 15, 1887.

"Every soul whom Christ has rescued is called to work in His name for the saving of the lost. This work had been neglected in Israel. Is it not neglected today by those who profess to be Christ's followers?"—"Christ's Object Lessons," p. 191.

"There is something for every one to do. Every soul that believes the truth is to stand in his lot and place, saying, 'Here am I; send me,' Isa. 6:8."—"Testimonies," Vol. VI, p. 49.

"It is the privilege of every Christian not only to look for, but to hasten the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."—"Christ's Object Lessons," p. 69.

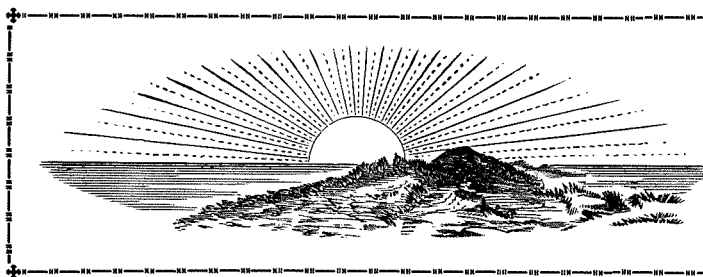
"And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever."

Shall we let the present opportunities pass, and the stars which we might secure fade from our crowns of rejoicing, and the crowns themselves fall from our grasp, and the kingdom recede from our reach, and life and all its joys be lost forever?

You answer, No; but the answer, to be effectual, must be, not in words only, but in works also.

"O God, my inmost soul convert,
And deeply on my thoughtful heart
Eternal things impress.
Cause me to feel their solemn weight,
And tremble on the brink of fate,
And wake to righteousness."

—A. W. DOERSCHLER.



NEWS *from* HOME and ABROAD

SOUTH-AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE

When we read or hear the word "Conference", we have a most solemn feeling. Many believers were gathered at our Union Conference from October 23-27, 1957. We praised the Lord for His guiding hand during the year, and now, once again, we were happy in the Lord to hear words of life. The words spoken by David in Psalms 122, that he was glad to be in the house of the Lord, to again receive words of comfort and refreshing, and to get new strength and power for the coming year, are precious. We all felt the need to be strengthened

by the Spirit of God that we may be able to stand in these days, while Satan is working among the people of God to hinder them. The Spirit of prophecy says:

"Satan is now seeking to hold God's people in a state of inactivity, to keep them from acting their part in spreading the truth, that they may at last be weighed in the balance and found wanting."—"Testimonies," Vol. 1 p. 260.

This Conference was conducted in Orlando. Our believers here are living under the most difficult circumstances, so it is quite a hardship for them to visit the Conference. Many were

left behind because of a lack of the needed means for travelling. Yet every group of our church, no matter how small, was represented by their delegates, who will bring the blessings from the Conference to their respective groups.

On Thursday we had the privilege of witnessing four dear souls making a covenant with God through holy baptism. May the Lord bless these dear souls who have set their feet upon the path of eternal life.

On Sabbath morning all the white brethren and sisters were present to pay a visit to our colored conference. The Sabbathschool started at 9 o'clock, and it was a very interesting Sabbathschool. At 11 o'clock Bro. H. Hietkamp took the service and spoke on Amos 4:12, "Prepare to meet thy God."

Both groups, white and black, brought their thankoffering while singing hymns and special songs to the honor of the Lord.

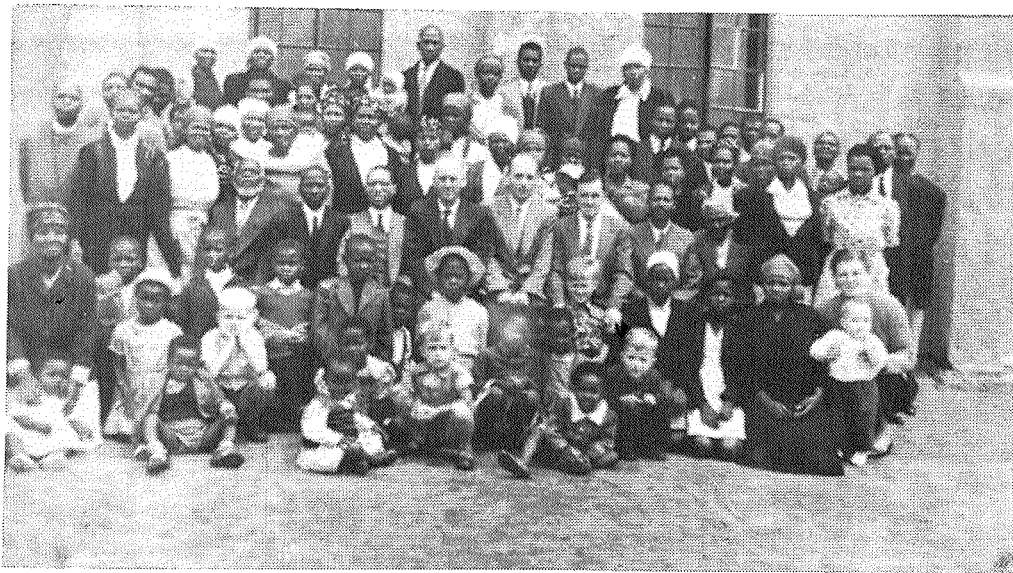
The differences of languages brought with it quite a problem to our meetings. Every word spoken had to be translated into 4 different languages, namely Zulu, Soesoetoe, English, and Afrikaans. But we thank the Lord when we see

the happiness under all these circumstances. Much can be learned from the Sabbathschool of our youth among the colored believers. Although they are small classes, the members all seem to be unusually bright in learning their Sabbathschool lessons. During the review whole Bibletexts and Notes of the lessons are recited merely from memory.

At the end of every meeting, it is in a fine, orderly manner that they leave the hall, row by row, starting from the children and ending with the adults, and singing all the way out. Even when the offerings are taken up, they sing from the beginning to the end.

The Conference was over altogether too soon. We praise the Lord—although the work is hard in these fields—for His helping hand in finding everywhere dear, honest souls who are interested in the message of Reformation. Our workers in these fields are bringing great sacrifices. Many miles and hours are spent on foot to find and visit dear souls at the remotest places. May the dear Heavenly Father bless the work in the dark fields of Africa. Psalms 126:5, 6.

—W. TH. BUYS



Believers Who Attended the South African Conference

BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL TERM AT THE MISSIONARY SCHOOL IN SPEELE, GERMANY

"... they sat down at Thy feet; every one shall receive of Thy words." Deut. 33:3.

Following a richly blessed colporteur session, conducted from August 4 to 11, in which the pupils also took part, the school was opened on August 13th.

For this opening not only the teachers and pupils assembled, but also Bro. Egerter, the employees of the Publishing Department and Central Office, as well as the kitchen help. This

solemn hour was entered into with song and prayer. Praise and honor was given to the Lord for His preserving grace and faithful protection which He extended to His children during the days of their absence. Our dear pupils spent their vacation in the field of labor, bringing the message to other people. With joyful faces, healthy, and not harmed in any way, they gathered again at Hebron. We were able to say, "His goodness is new every morning."

After the pupils had received a cordial welcome back to Hebron and to a new course of studies, we continued by announcing the school program, at the same time pointing to the duties of the pupils during the school term.

We closed the hour with a cordial prayer to

God that He may be our teacher, so that we, one day, may become humble instruments in His hand to save other human beings. It is furthermore our prayer to the Lord, that He may bless all our dear young brethren and sisters in the world, and awaken in them the desire to serve Him alone.

Missionary schools among God's people have always proved their worth in the great blessings and the progress of the cause that was seen. It has been an age-old institution which we can find already in the days of Samuel. The years that have past have proven that brethren and sisters, who had the privilege to visit the missionary school, are standing today as useful instruments in the great missionary work, and are filling positions in the cause of God. In "Testimonies," Vol. 6, p. 135, we read as follows:

"There is an urgent demand for laborers in the gospel field. Young men are needed in this work; God calls for them. Their education is of primary importance in our colleges, and in no case should it be ignored and regarded as a secondary matter. It is entirely wrong for teachers, by suggesting other occupations, to discourage young men who might be qualified to do acceptable work in the ministry. Those who present hindrances to prevent young men from fitting themselves for this work are counterworking the plans of God, and they will have to give an account of their course. There is among us more than an average of men of ability. If their capabilities were brought into use, we should have twenty ministers where we now have one."

Mothers and fathers should make it a heart-felt matter to see that their children, whom God has given them, will visit the missionary school and fill a place in the cause of God.

At present we have pupils from 7 nations, as follows: Germany, Italy, Brazil, Norway, Holland and Spain.

S. GUTKNECHT.

LABORERS WITH GOD

"The humble worker who obediently responds to the call of God may be sure of receiving divine assistance. To accept so great and holy a responsibility is itself elevating to the character. It calls into action the highest mental and spiritual powers, and strengthens and purifies the mind and heart. Through faith in the power of God, it is wonderful how strong a weak man may become, how decided his efforts, how prolific of great results. He who begins with a little knowledge, in a humble way, and tells what he knows, while seeking diligently for further knowledge, will find the whole heavenly treasure awaiting his demand. The more he seeks to impart light, the more light he will receive. The more one tries to explain the world of God to others, with a love for souls, the plainer it becomes to himself. The more we use our knowledge and exercise our powers, the more knowledge and power we shall have."

—"Christ's Object Lessons," p. 354.

COLPORTEUR SESSION OF THE GERMAN UNION

"Serve the Lord with gladness."

From August 4-11, we conducted our annual Colporteur Session in the "Hebron Mission Center." A group of 60 missionary workers, colporteurs and pupils were privileged to take part in it. In the focal point of our gathering stood the words from Ps. 100:2, "Serve the Lord with gladness." The heartfelt longing of the participants, was given expression with the song, "Jesus come and bless us . . ." The days were filled with many useful instructions in the line of concentrated work in the saving of souls. The work of the colporteurs and pupils, who are standing in the field of practical gospel work in book and missionary-paper distribution, has to this day shown very happy results, because souls have found the way of truth for which we thank the Lord in a special way. Since this book and missionary-paper work is a work of the highest order, the dear believers should support it in their daily prayers, so that it might not lack in the needed strength and joy, which is so necessary for this work. Our colporteur leader, Bro. Fleschutz, closed the blessed gathering with the words from the Scripture, "Let your zeal not grow cold. Be on fire



Home Missionary Workers

in the Spirit, and always ready for the Lord."—Romans 12:11 (Muehlheim Translation).

—YOUR BRETHREN IN THE SERVICE.



Br. and Sr. McSherry At Their Trailer Home

REPORT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

By L. V. McSherry

"I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous works. I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most high." Psalms 9:1, 2.

How beautiful and marvelous are the works of God, and His ways are grand and enobling. Very often we make plans wherein we exerted much labor of heart and mind, then we groan as all seems to come to nought. But as time unfolds and further events take place in our lives, how we do thank God for His intervening hand. This has also been our experience in manifold ways, therefore we are glad and rejoice in Him who watches and cares.

The work in Southern California is going forward and many are being reached by this precious truth. We also request your prayers for our newly opened Sabbath services in San Diego, which are being held in the Y.M.C.A. May the Lord richly bless our visitors that they, too, may want to become a part of God's remnant people and take their stand on the side of truth.

We were recently privileged to have in our midst Elder Doerschler, Elder Kramer and their families. As they broke the bread of life, we were able to feast abundantly on the word of God. The Lord has greatly blessed His servants in the work over the years and we deem it an honor when they have an occasion to worship with us.

At the present time, however, we do feel a great loss as the Lord permitted His servant, Elder H. O. Welp, to be laid to rest after many years of faithful service. As we realize his absence our thoughts are directed to the time when we shall meet him again in the first resurrection. And as we look about us, we know of a surety that the day is not far hence when Jesus will come to claim His own.

Each one here is longing for that day when there shall be no more parting, and sighing and crying shall be no more heard in the land. May all heed the voice of the angel and "Be ye ready", is our prayer.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE AT LAHR, GERMANY, OCTOBER 5 TO 6, 1957

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever." Heb. 13:8.

After the larger conferences had convened, the final plan included that also a District Conference should be conducted at Lahr, Germany.

Bro. G. Bodem opened the same with Hymn No. 133, "We tarry by the living waters." Then the holy presence of the Lord, with blessings of His rich mercy, were invoked by Bro. Fleschutz. The text, as given above from Hebrews 13:8, became the leading motto. As we review the past year, we feel obliged to great thankfulness to the Lord Jesus, who has until this very day carried us and kept us in His wonderful truth. It must be our goal in this life of uncertainty that He, who is "the same . . . forever" will continue to keep us unto perfection. O, that we might take more earnest heed of the admonitions of the Lord!

"The great day of the Lord is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly," but where do we find the true Advent spirit? Who is preparing himself to stand in the hour of temptation that is so soon to come?

With Hymn No. 158, and a prayer, we were led into the holy rest of the Sabbath. The subject presented to us was about the institution and solemn meaning of this day in times past, but in a special sense for us today. The Saviour Himself brought back to us the true meaning of Sabbath observance.

On the holy Sabbath morning all seats were quickly taken. Bro. Lehmann conducted the teachers meeting, and described vividly the object and high privilege of the Sabbath school, which was instituted by God for His children.

Bro. Mueller, as Sabbath school leader, called upon the brethren Koehler and Koebele to conduct the lessons, and these brethren drew deep upon the subject, and brought us great blessings.

The service which followed was based upon Matt. 11:12, "Heaven suffereth violence," our attention was drawn to the violent battle today for existence or non-existence, for life or death, for time or eternity. Almost won, is not enough; it is an eternal deception. We must now count the cost. Jesus paid the price for our salvation, not with gold or silver, but with His precious blood. Should we, today, love anything more than we love Him?

"Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord," were the introductory words of the following praise service, led by Bro. Rizzo. The

A F R I C A

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Our brethren Ttostetsi and Vilakazi write us:

"By the grace of God we are still enjoying this precious truth of Reform, and we give gratitude to our Creator. Jude, Verse 24.

May God help us that we be prepared for His coming, and belong to this class which exclaims: "Lo, this is our God, we have waited for Him and He shall save us". This is the wish of us all.

We greet all our brothers and sisters with hearty greetings from Africa!"



Workers In South Africa

During the month of April we had an opportunity to present the truth to the assembly of about 2000 Swazis and in the presence of the King of the Swazis. We were surprised to notice the searching spirit of the King after truth. We pray to God to enlighten him by the help of the Holy Spirit. Zech. 4:6. As a result of this opportunity, a lovely interest is springing up everywhere in Swaziland. We request an interest in your prayers. Eph. 6:18-20. Our work will, God willing, advance in Swaziland. Let us be patient and not give up. He will sustain us.

We also had the opportunity and privilege of helping to present the truth of the 2300 days of Daniel's prophecy, and even to answer the questions of King Sobhuza II, satisfying him and convincing many hearts of God's truth-loving people. He is a God-fearing King, not proud and bigoted, but humble and willing to be taught by God through His humble servants. He continually desires to draw the attention of his subjects to the living God, telling them to keep the law of God and have faith in Jesus.

By the providence of God,—on the last day we also had the privilege of bidding farewell to the King, and even speak and exchange Scriptural views with him and his Clerk at his office.

The little company in Natal is also full of courage, as well as those in Cape Province, Tsolo, Port Elizabeth, and Kimberley. All are enjoying the truth!

We receive lovely reports from the brethren in their fields in Northern and Southern Rhodesia. The Lord be praised for His love, grace, and mercy. Amen.

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DISTRICT CONFERENCE . . .

(Continued from page 7)

name of the Lord was glorified in the many wonderful experiences told. To Him alone be honor, gratitude, praise, and adoration!

In the missionary hour, the joy of the pilgrim-journey of the children of Zion was brought to view by Bro. Fleschutz, using Psalms 127, which speaks of Jerusalem, the city that we so greatly long after, and where we should come together to praise the name of the Lord. A young lad went there, 1900 years ago. They looked for Him for 3 days, because He would not part from the temple of God. He left for us a worthy example to follow. And there was Hanna, who found nowhere an understanding heart, going to Jerusalem, to pour out her heart's burden before the Lord. So it was with Samuel. He too remained pure, in spite of adverse circumstances surrounding him.

Soon the sacred day came to a close with its festive spirit. Once more Bro. Koehler touched the worries and struggles of every-day life, using these words, "Complaining hard, makes courage part; but thankful thinking, keeps from sinking; praise in love, draws above." The Christian rule of conduct in Rom. 12: 9-21, and Heb. 13:16 should be taken to heart every day.

The believers were made happy by choir singing and poems, as also by a very interesting showing of slide pictures in the evening.

Sunday morning was filled with missionary labor in the vineyard of the Lord.

—SR. G. SCHUSTER.

OUR SCANDINAVIAN CONFERENCES

"Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee. Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good." Ps. 122:7-9.

Following our blessed conferences in Holland, the different Scandinavian field conferences were conducted.

The Conference in Denmark

The Danish Field Conference convened from July 14-16 in Kopenhagen in our own church building. The dear believers came from near and far to assemble for this annual feast. All business matters were taken care of in a peaceful manner. Before the beginning of the Sabbath, we had a baptismal rite in a Danish lake.

The hours of the Sabbath were filled with spiritual studies, in which the brethren Ringelberg, Gutknecht, and Mueller served us with the Word of God. There are a goodly number of missionary works and colporteurs who serve the Lord in this territory, and the Bible studies on Sunday inspired us to do more work in the vineyard of the Lord. The hours were also beautified by the songs of the believers.

The Conference in Sweden

The Swedish Field Conference was conducted in Stockholm. Here, also, the business affairs of the cause were taken care of in all peacefulness, and the re-election for all branches was completed.

The divine service on the Sabbath, combined with the Holy Ordinances of the Lord, brought to us the blessings of the Most High. The remaining hours of the Sabbath served also for spiritual growth. There were meetings scheduled for Sunday, and a study about healthful living brought joyful thoughts to us, especially since a dear sister of 97 years was among us. The secret of her high age is said to be her Christian temperance, meaning that she lives very temperate, and keeps her measure in eating and drinking. Transgression of temperance is found also in overeating—even of right food.

Up here in the North, the Swedish Publishing Department, has very nice literature to offer, which is being spread by our believers.

The Conference in Finland

The Conference in the most Northern part of Scandinavia was held at Tampere. Many believers heeded the call to come to this Conference.

The hours of the Sabbath were taken up with spiritual experiences, testimonies, and songs. On Sunday morning a baptismal service was conducted in one of the 60,000 lakes of Finland. Before the celebration of the Lord's Supper, some souls were accepted into the church. During two public lectures held in the Mission Center at Kangala, a nice number of visitors came to hear the word of the Lord. Some time was also spent in meeting with our missionary-workers.

It was with joy and beautiful testimonies

that we were able to close this blessed conference.

The Conference in Norway

Our annual meeting with the believers of the Norwegian Field took place in Halden. As in the other three lands also, the business matters were again set in order. We were permitted to serve them with the divine manna, under the blessings of the Lord, and the hours of the Sabbath were especially richly blessed. Songs and musical renditions framed the hours, and brought joy to all the visitors.

It was on Sunday morning that the assembled Conference met at one of the interesting Norwegian Fjords, where five dear souls made a covenant with the Lord. The varied hours of the first day of the week served for the upbuilding of the cause.

Thus we could part from the last of these Scandinavian conferences with the beautiful thought that Christians never see each other for the last time! and we went on our homeward journey filled with thanks to the Lord, for He had abundantly blessed us on every place.

S. Schmitt, A. Mueller.

REPORT FROM CANADA

We have great cause to praise the Lord. If we look back into the experiences which we were permitted to make during the past months, we must proclaim with David: "O sing unto the Lord a new song, for He hath done marvellous things." The Lord has given us the blessed promise that He will finish His work and cut it short in righteousness. We believe firmly that all His promises are "yea and amen," and no earthly power will ever be able to destroy the true cause of God on earth. We have seen with our eyes that God is leading His people, and we know that He will accomplish His work gloriously.

Recently, Elder Doerschler was with us here, visiting the field, and I can report that the Lord blessed us abundantly while in the work together! The Lord came very near in all the meetings which were held, and we found all the believers of good courage in this blessed truth. We all realize that in this age of widespread apostasy no work is harder than that of reform. Therefore, whenever we see new evidences that this work is making progress, our hearts are made glad. The Lord is today gathering His children one by one. All those who accept and obey the counsel of the True and Faithful Witness, will exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth.

As long as we are active in the cause of God on earth, and work faithfully for the salvation of souls, we will be found happy and of good courage in the Lord. David proclaims: "The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tabernacles of the righteous; the right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly." Ps. 118:15. This rejoicing will only be seen in the "tabernacles of the righteous" who live and testify for the truth.

(Continued on Page 12).

OBEY—Acts 5:32

PRAY—Luke 11:13

TARRY—Luke 24:49

RECEIVE—Acts 2:4

"RECEIVE YE THE HOLY GHOST"

"To us today, as verily as to the first disciples, the promise of the Spirit belongs."—"Testimonies," Volume 3, page 20.

The Holy Spirit and His Work

The work of the Holy Spirit and His manifestation is revealed in the entire Bible. But the teaching and manifestation of the Holy Spirit is much more full and complete in the New Testament than in the Old Testament. The first work of the Spirit in the **heart**, is to reprove, convince, or convict of sin. "When He is come, (the Holy Spirit) He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." John 14:16. Only when the truth is accompanied to the heart by the Spirit, will it quicken the conscience or transform the life. Through the Scriptures the Holy Spirit speaks to the mind, and impresses truth upon the heart. Thus He exposes error, and expels it from the soul. He is a teacher of righteousness, if you have received righteousness by faith, He will **save you from sin**.

"The Holy Spirit was the highest of all gifts that He could solicit from His Father for the exaltation of His people. The Spirit was to be given as a regenerating agent, and without this the sacrifice of Christ would have been of no avail. The power of evil had been strengthening for centuries, and the submission of men to this Satanic captivity was amazing. Sin could be resisted and overcome only through the mighty agency of the third person of the Godhead, who would come with no modified energy, but in the fulness of divine power. It is the Spirit that makes effectual what has been wrought out by the world's Redeemer. It is by the Spirit that the heart is made pure. Through the Spirit the believer becomes a partaker of the divine nature. Christ has given His Spirit as a divine power to overcome all hereditary and cultivated tendencies to evil, and to impress His own character upon His church."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 671.

The Holy Spirit is the Lord's smelting furnace. He separates the precious from the base. It purifies the gold, and causes it to shine forth in all its heavenly luster, while it burns up the hypocritical glitter of the dross "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 2:38. And John the Baptist said of Christ: "He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire: whose fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into the garner; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." Matt. 3:11, 12. These furnace fires were kindled on the day of Pentecost. This

was God's early harvest-time, the first-fruits of the great last-day harvest. O that the church had kept the furnace fires burning at smelting heat! But they were allowed to cool, and the precious and the base are today mingled in a mighty mass, awaiting the furnace fires which the Holy Ghost has again begun to fan to smelting heat. Yes, it has begun. There is a movement toward the "upper room" among those who sigh and cry for all the abominations which are done in the midst of a backslidden church. A nucleus is forming, though only a remnant. The Lord left a visible, baptized church when He went away, and when He returns, He will find a visible church baptized with the Holy Ghost without spot or wrinkle, awaiting His return. "Christ also loved His church, and gave Himself for it; that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Eph. 5:25-27.

All those who love righteousness and truth will be forever separated from the disloyal and disobedient. They will **yet** hear the voice from heaven through the Holy Ghost, saying: "Babylon the great is fallen is fallen . . . Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities." Rev. 18:1, 4.

"Of the Spirit Jesus said, 'He shall glorify Me.' The Saviour came to glorify the Father by the demonstration of His love; so the Spirit was to glorify Christ by revealing His grace to the world. The very image of God is to be reproduced in humanity. The honor of God, the honor of Christ, is involved in the perfection of character of His people."—"The Desire of Ages," p. 671.

It is very evident that before the **fulness** of the Holy Spirit—the latter rain—can be manifested in the remnant church, a great deal of purging must be done. Dear reader, are you willing to be cleansed? When we surrender all to God, and become willing to obey the voice of the Holy Spirit by yielding every sin, performing every duty, and making any sacrifice, though it may be at the expense of our most cherished plans, God will fill us with the power of His Spirit for service.

A. W. Doerschler.

"Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with thee I will one will,
To do and to endure."

THE SPIRITUAL ISRAELITES OF THE TIME OF THE END

Who Are They? Of What Significance Are They To Us?

by Fred Schimpf

THE NEXT TRIBE to consider is

ZEBULUN

The blessing which Jacob pronounced upon Zebulun reads as follows, "Zebulun shall dwell at the haven of the sea; and he shall be for an haven of ships; and his border shall be unto Zidon." Gen. 49:13.

Note Zebulun's weakness of character. He dwelt "at the haven of the seas," and was "an haven of ships." Zebulun, then, dwelt and abode there where he could acquire great wealth, for he was a lover of the "Dollar", as we would call it today. He was greedy for money, and was out for gain. He wanted to become rich, and in his quest for riches he lost sight of the higher, the spiritual values of life.

A Sign Of The End

According to James Chapter 5, this craving for wealth is a special sign of the time of the end. We, today, are most certainly living in this very age and time. Never before in the annals of this world's history was there a time when there was such a mad drive for the "Dollar", as there is just now. Those who want to become rich in our time are found everywhere. Like that foolish man, spoken of in the parable in Luke 12, who wanted to build greater barns and granaries, so thousands of men and women today try to enlarge their bank-account and their material wealth, such as houses, farms and lands. "Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names." Psalms 49:11. The aim of many today is no higher than those of the "beasts that perish." (Verse 20.) They live as though there was no God, no heaven, no future life; as though they were all their own, and owed nothing to God and men. They measure life entirely by the amount of money they can make and accumulate, so that, when they die, it can be said of them, This man was worth so many millions of "Dollars".

The Divine Measure Of Life

The Bible makes it unmistakably clear that the divine measure of the value of a human life is not the "Dollar" (Luke 12:15), but its development of a spiritual "temple", acceptable to God (1 Cor. 3:16; Rom. 12:1).

Dear Reader: What is your measure of life? Are you, too, among those who are striving for the "Dollar" which often is not worthwhile having? Is your home, your farm, your bank-account the uppermost thought in your mind? Do you spend your time, your energy, yes your very life in a wild hunt for the wealth of this

world, which will not hold one particle of value for the one for whom the doctor has signed the death-certificate? Of course, there is nothing wrong if a man possesses riches! But if the riches possess the heart of man,—then wealth becomes a sin.

God's word gives us manifold warnings against this spirit of the age. Turning to the Old Testament part of the Holy Scriptures, we read these words, "Labour not to be rich . . ." Prov. 23:4. ". . . If riches increase, set not your heart upon them." Psalms 62:10. And then, turning to the New Testament, we read these words of Christ, ". . . take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares." Luke 21:34. ". . . Take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or Where-withal shall we be clothed? . . . Your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:31-33.

The Danger Of Wealth

In wealth lies a great danger, and that danger is to forget God, the Benefactor of mankind. In Deut. 6:10-12 this fact is vividly brought out. Solomon, the wise man, well recognized this fact. He was well acquainted with the deceitfulness of riches. And in order not to fall a prey to such deception, he prayed to God in this manner, "Two things have I required of Thee: deny me them not before I die: Remove far from me vanity and lies: give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: Lest I be full, and deny Thee, and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain." Prov. 30: 7-9.

What a beautiful prayer! Just think of it, dear reader! Solomon is here praying to God to keep riches away from him. How different Solomon's prayer was from the prayer of mankind today. Today people pray for riches, and if God does not answer their prayer to this end, then many take matters into their own hands and help themselves. But not so with Solomon. He asked God to keep riches distant from him, and asked only for food, convenient for his need. Again I say, what a wonderful prayer! O that this were the prayer of every man or woman in our world today! If it were, how quickly our world would be changed beyond recognition. But since this is not so, then if it were only the earnest prayer of every Christian. It ought to be so, for God expects it of His followers. Solomon was acquainted with the deceitfulness of riches and, lest he should be tempted to forget God; lest selfishness and greed should blind his eyes;

and unless the gift to see the richer, deeper, and priceless things of human life, should be taken away from him, he prayed to God to keep earthly riches away from him. Again I say, what a beautiful prayer!

Solomon's prayer certainly was in harmony with the admonition of Paul, "And having food and raiment let us be therewith content." 1 Tim. 6:8. Solomon's prayer should be the prayer of every one of us. God demands of His people in these last days to turn their thoughts from all worldly things unto the heavenly treasures.

When Jesus calls the 144,000 there will be twelve thousand souls among them who were afflicted with this weakness of character, and who will be marching through the pearly gate of the New Jerusalem, bearing Zebulun's name. They will be complete victors. They "overcame by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony."

(To be continued next issue.)

"THAT'S ALL I WANT"

Each child had given a Bible verse
In the Sabbath school one day,
And each one with credit performed his part
Till at last came little May.

"The Lord is my Shepherd"—she paused to think,
And her heart the faster did beat—
"The Lord is my Shepherd, that's all I want,"
And she proudly took her seat.
"The Lord is my Shepherd," that's all I want,
And why should I covet more?
The pastures are green where He leadeth me,
And abundant is His store.

—Selected.

REPORT FROM CANADA . . .

(Continued from page 9)

But on the other hand let us see what the fate will be of those who are careless and slothful in the work of God.

"Those who are not interested in the cause of God on earth can never sing the song of redeeming love above." Early Writings, p. 50.

Those who are not interested in the progress of God's cause on earth will never enter the pearly gates. Let us therefore labor earnestly while it is still day, for soon the night will come where no man can labor.

May God continue the work through the Holy Spirit on the hearts of those who love truth and righteousness. Let us pray especially for those souls who have recently taken their stand,—and for those who are interested in this message. May the Lord help us to be faithful to Him in every detail, so that at last we shall find an abundant entrance into His kingdom.

M. P. Ringelberg

Be not weary in well-doing,
While you're waiting for your Lord.
In due season if you faint not,
You shall reap a rich reward.

Be not weary in well-doing,
While you tread the narrow way.
And the prize is yours, if faithful,
In that last, that endless day.

TOMORROW

IN HIS hands I leave tomorrow,
For my heavenly Father knows
What is needed for my future;
When it comes He will disclose
Ways and means I could not reckon,
As His all-providing power
Brings to pass the right solution,
All-sufficient for each hour.

As I meet with firm assurance
What the present now requires,
I am given strength and purpose,
So I ask that my desires
May be righteous, just, and kindly,
Measured by His love, I pray;
In His hands I leave tomorrow
As I walk with Him today.

—By Della Adams Leitner

I CANNOT COME DOWN . . .

(Continued from page 3)

personal pride and ambition. They accused Nehemiah of intentions to make himself the king and ruler.

"We shall receive the most fierce opposition . . . But like the builders of the wall of Jerusalem, we should not be diverted and hindered from our work by reports, by messengers desiring discussion or controversy, or by intimidating threats, the publications of falsehoods, or any of the devices Satan may instigate. Our answer should be, We are engaged in a great work and we cannot come down." Test. Vol. 3:574.

We are in great need to realize the urgency of our message and the work in which we stand. It is faithfulness that counts in the last great battle between the powers of darkness and light.

"We do not understand, as is our privilege, the faith and confidence that we may have in God, and the great blessings which faith will give us. An important work is before us. We are to obtain a moral fitness for heaven. Our words and our example are to tell upon the world . . .

The warning needs to be often sounded: 'Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.'" Test. Vol. 3:574, 575.

"God calls for men and women of stability, of firm purpose, who can be relied upon in seasons of danger and trial, who are as firmly rooted and grounded in the truth as the eternal hills, who cannot be swayed to the right or to the left, but who move straight onward and are always found on the right side."

—Testimonies, Vol 4, p. 75

Our Homes and Our Health

GRATITUDE FOR HEALTH

"How often those who are in health forget the wonderful mercies that are continued to them day by day, year after year. They render no tribute of praise to God for all His benefits. But when sickness comes, God is remembered. The strong desire for recovery leads to earnest prayer; and this is right. God is our refuge in sickness as in health. But many do not leave their cases with Him; they encourage weakness and disease by worrying about themselves. If they would cease repining, and rise above depression and gloom, their recovery would be more sure. They should remember with gratitude how long they enjoyed the blessing of health; and should this precious boon be restored to them, they should not forget that they are under renewed obligations to their Creator. When the ten lepers were healed, only one returned to find Jesus and give Him glory. Let us not be like the unthinking nine, whose hearts were untouched by the mercy of God."—"Testimonies," Vol. 5, p. 315.

Ten Health Restorers

1. **DO NOT THINK TOO MUCH ABOUT YOURSELF.** Think of others whose burdens are heavy also. They may need your help. In helping and cheering others you will help yourself.

2. **DO NOT WORRY.** When troubles come upon you like a flood, when they grow to be like large mountains, and you cannot go forward or backward, then think of the children of Israel. There was a way made for them; there will be for you.

3. **DO NOT FEAR.** When you rise up in the morning, or when you go to bed at night, when you walk in the road, or when you ride in a car, when the nerves tell you that something dreadful is coming upon you, do not fear, for the Lord has said, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee."

4. **DO NOT THINK UNPLEASANT, UNHAPPY THOUGHTS.** Think not of all your troubles. You can find many pleasant and happy things to consider, if you will but search a little. If you will count the blessings, the blues will be banished shortly. If you can sing, even though the tears be flowing, sing on; you may be helped, and the tears will dry. It will not hurt you to laugh. Be not too serious, but cultivate a happy disposition.

5. **DO NOT BE OVERSENSITIVE.** If your friends hurt you, misunderstand or misjudge you, do not be depressed. There are many who care for you, and will stand by you. The Saviour was hurt, misjudged, and often abused. He understands, and will help you. Do the best you can, and leave the rest with Him. If you have made mistakes and have confessed your faults, then believe that they are forgiven, and you shall find peace.

6. **DO NOT REMAIN INDOORS TOO CLOSELY.** Rather be out and enjoy God's sunshine. Spend some time in this way every day if possible.

7. **SLEEP WHEN YOU GO TO BED AT NIGHT.** Think not of everything you have done during the day, and of the many things you have not done. Yesterday is past, and tomorrow has not come. Just forget yourself and all the world. If you have a tendency to worry, then remember the verse which says, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord." Just leave it with Him.

8. **EAT FOR STRENGTH AND HEALTH,** not merely for pleasure or taste. Do not eat between meals or eat too much rich food. Chew your food thoroughly, and be as cheerful as possible while eating. A wise Creator has planned a good menu for you—fruits, grains, nuts, and vegetables.

9. **SECURE PLENTY OF FRESH AIR,** when you are sleeping and when you are awake. Remember to breathe deeply, so that all the good air goes to the extremity of the air cells.

10. **TRUST IN THE LORD.** Even though the way seems hard and rough, and the path steep and long, and you are ready to give up, remember to ask God to help you. Has He not said, "Ask, and it shall be given you;" "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest?"—"The Oriental Watchman and Herald of Health."

SOWING SEEDS

Mable dropped a few seeds into the ground, and the little leaves soon began to peep up and grow; they liked the air and sunshine so well that they were big in a month or two. Then came buds and beautiful flowers. And the flowers blossomed all summer long, and the old ladies over the way had a bunch of flowers to brighten their rooms each day.

Mable's mother kept dropping kind-word seeds into everybody's heart. Mable watched these seeds grow. They blossomed into comfort and love and bright faces and smiles and thanks.

"I'll plant kind-word seeds, too," said Mable. "I think the flowers are lovely!"—Selected.

Editorial

☆ ☆ ☆

THE MIGHTY SHAKING THE STRAIGHT TESTIMONY

The scene is as follows: God the Father, as supreme judge, calls upon His own Son as a reliable eyewitness. Of this eyewitness it says that "His eyes are as a flame of fire." Rev. 1:14. From His scrutinizing glance nothing can be hidden. He bears a straight forward testimony as to the true spiritual condition of God's professed people on earth. Here is the fact, laid open before the heavenly intelligencies:

"I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot." Rev. 3:15.

"Many of our people are lukewarm. They occupy the position of Meroz, neither for nor against, neither cold, nor hot." Testimonies, Vol. 5, pp. 76, 77.

"The Laodicean message applies to the people of God who profess to believe present truth. The greater part are lukewarm professors, having a name but no zeal." Testimonies, Vol. 4, p. 87.

"It is a solemn statement that I make to the church that not one in twenty whose name are registered upon the churchbooks are prepared to close their earthly history . . ." General Conference Bulletin, 1893, p. 132.

What an astounding revelation! How tremendous in its import! From the word 'many' it shifts to 'the greater part' and finally ends up with 'not one in twenty' as being ready or, so to speak, 19 out of twenty. It sounds completely paradox! How could it ever be true? A people with such visible tokens of divine guidance—so richly endowed with the knowledge of present-day bible-truths,—a people who so zealously engages in missionary endeavors on all fronts, leading in medical—and temperance activities in peace and in war, whose institutions have been doubled and tripled over the last few decades,—Could it be that God would not pay any attention to all this straineous labor and all their good works and simply bypass them as worthless in His sight?—True enough, the True Witness uses the following solemn words,

"So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth." Verse 16.

"This denotes a final rejection, an utter separation from His church." Uriah Smith in Daniel and the Revelation, p. 394.

We may therefore rightly conclude that the very act of the spueing-out of the objectionable class, called Laodiceans, constitutes the final outcome of the shaking under study in this pamphlet. It is the shaking which was shown to Sister White in vision many years ago, which is to bring an utter separation of two classes of Seventh-day Adventist's, one from another. We read that already in 1876 the 'greater part' was found in this deplorable condition and in the year 1893 it had gained the momentum of '19 out

of twenty' (95%), only twelve years later. Who can say then how the standing is in this time and age of universal apostasy? The shaking must therefore be an act of such tremendous nature that it will visibly affect the entire denomination. Some Adventists have come to the conclusion that the spueing-out pertains to only a few individuals, leaving the impression that the greater part of the church is well pleasing to God. This cannot be true in view of the fact that the individual believer in this connection is addressed much later in the chapter, namely in the 20th verse, ". . . if any man hear my voice," making it evident that in reality but a very few will accept the divine counsel and the greater majority will reject it. This casts a very solemn atmosphere into the entire subject and should sober up our minds to the realization that a great work needs to be done among us.

In the shaking it is made mention of a 'thick darkness' which surrounds the praying ones and it must be symbolic of some kind of spiritual error or heresy, the coming-in of which we find outlined in the following prophetic words,

"God will arouse his people; if other means fail, heresies will come in among them, which will sift them, separating the chaff from the wheat." Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 707.

It is sad indeed that God's people have been in need of a revival of primitive godliness for many years, but to this very day it has remained a matter of wishful thinking. Could it be perhaps that already deceptive heresies have made their inroads into our ranks, unnoticed by the greater part of the church?

Of what nature these deceptive errors would be is plainly illustrated by the Faithful Witness:

"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." Rev. 3:17.

Self-reliance shuts out Jesus and builds up self-confidence, work-righteousness and Pharisaism. It was just this element which the Savior had to face in His days here on earth. It was this sin which brought the downfall of ancient Israel and we are told that "we are repeating the history of that people." Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 160.

That this spirit of priding themselves in exterior accomplishments is actually ruling every branch of the Adventist activities today, shall be brought to view in but two outstanding excerpts from the many, mentioned in the Review and Herald:

"There has never been a time in the history of the Seventh-day Adventist church so fraught with the evidence of divine leadership, or so fully charged with the current of divine power, as this present hour; and this is true both in undertakings and accomplishments." Nov. 15, 1923.

"There is no people on earth so responsive to right and spiritual leadership, so ready to follow right principles, as this people. They are going through to the kingdom." Apr. 26, 1934.

Thus prophecy is fulfilled. Christ says, "Thou art wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked," but the church says with emphasis, No! decidedly No! for the church is flourishing in, all her borders.

The dear reader may decide for himself, acc, to the law and the testimony, who of the two witnesses is right and who is wrong, for there is no question but that the given statements contradict each other very strongly. One of the two in question must be a 'true witness' and the other must be a 'false witness.' But who would dare to say that He, who is the very embodiment of truth, could ever make a false accusation? One thing is true: If Ladoicea is the Adventist church (which was proven sufficiently before), we may as well console ourselves to the fact that the church better open her eyes, individually and collectively, and acknowledge her fallacy of selfdeception. Says the Spirit of Prophecy,

"What greater deception can come upon human minds than a confidence that they are right, when they are all wrong! The message of the True Witness finds the people of God in a sad deception, yet honest in that deception." Testimonies, Vol. 3, p. 252.

Then,—many may say,—as long as we are honest in our opinion about the condition of the church, the Lord will not condemn us!—But what a dreadful mistake are such committing! It only adds another folly to the first one, as outlined in the following quotation,

"God will not condemn any at the judgment because they honestly believed a lie, or conscientiously cherished error; but it will be because they neglected the opportunity of making themselves acquainted with truth." Testimonies to Ministers, p. 437.

This, in the final analysis, dear reader, makes it a pointed, personal message to you and I; a very stirring message indeed, dealing with the fundamental causes which are to bring about the prophesied shaking. It is our personal duty to acknowledge the truth of Christ's words that we, as a people, have not the least reason to boast; but that we have all reason to lament and feel deeply concerned over the spiritual declension and apostacy among us.

5. WHAT WILL IT ACCOMPLISH?

After having studied into the fundamental causes for the predicted shaking, we turn our attention to the visible effects it will have upon the churches. Speaking of the 'straight testimony' we are told,

"This will have its effect upon the heart of the receiver, and will lead him to exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth. Some will not bear this straight testimony. They will rise up against it, and this is what will cause a shaking among God's people." Early Writings, p. 270.

Thus it is evident that at the time when the shaking is in progress the church-standards of the S.D.A. denomination must somehow have been so lowered that it causes no little concern among the honest in heart. The truth which is build up by many detailed doctrines, must somehow have lost its finer phases and deeper meaning, to be diverted into by-ways and perverted channels of human policy. Those, whose eyes are annointed with the spirit of discernment,

know full well that God's work on earth can never be finished in such a hap-hazard way. It is none but natural that perturbed voices are sounding an alarm throughout the entire demoniation to lay off hands from touching our divinely appointed standards and God-given truths. On the other hand those, who are blinded by their apparent success, will get infuriated by the straight testimony. for, does it not slow down their forward move and point out their cherished sins? And so they are bend to put a stop to this troublesome element.

It is not said on this occasion what will actually happen, but the interested reader may draw his own conclusion in view of the fact that the shaking as such must point to a noticeable separation of the vast majority from the faithful few in the church. These remnants reveal the true Protestant spirit in protesting aloud against the lowering of the standards,—be it in health reform, dress reform, or others; as also against the prevailing worldly policy, that led the Seventh-day Adventist church to yield to Government pressure in countries at war, not taking a decided stand against the open transgression of God's commandments, as should have been done.

Very few indeed are fully acquainted with matters as they actually happened behind the scenes in the European Division these past years. If we are interested in 'straight truth' we will not pay any attention to those who are repeatedly trying to tell us that all has been well abroad. Whereas in reality the vast majority of professed Adventists, sad to say, gave up their faith when under pressure, but still claim their church-membership today. Listen to these inspired words,

"God will not be trifled with. It is in the time of conflict that the true colors should be flung to the breeze. It is then that the standard-bearers need to be firm, and let their true position be known. It is then that the skill of every true soldier for the right is tested. Shirks can never wear the laurels of victory. Those who are true and loyal will not conceal the fact, but will put heart and mind into the work, and venture their all in the struggle, let the battle turn as it will. God is a sin-hating God. All those who encourage the sinner, saying, It is well with thee, God will curse." Testimonies, Vol. 3, p. 272.

"No line of truth that has made the Seventh-day Adventist people what they are, is to be weakened. We have the old landmarks of truth, experience and duty, and we are to stand firmly in defense of our principles, in full view of the world." Ibid. Vol. 6, p. 17.

"To lower the standard in order to secure popularity and an increase in numbers, and then to make this increase a cause of rejoicing, shows great blindness. If numbers were an evidence of success, Satan might claim the pre-eminence; for in this world his followers are largely in the majority." Ibid. p. 143.

"A company was presented before me under the name of Seventh-day Adventists, who were advising that the banner, or sign, which makes us a distinct people, should not be held out so strikingly; for they claimed that this was not the best policy in order to secure success to our institutions. But this is not a time to haul down our colors, to be ashamed of our faith." Ibid. p. 144. (To be continued next issue.)

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ASLEEP IN JESUS

*"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the
death of His saints." Psalms 116:15.*

**As Brethren of the General Conference of
the S. D. A. Reform Movement we herewith in-
form you that on January 23, 1958, our dear
brother and co-worker, Otto Welp, at the age
of 82 years, was separated from us by death.**



Home after wandering,
Praise after cry,
Now comes the weeping,
Then the glad reaping;
Now comes the labor hard,
Then the reward.

It was more than a half century ago that Elder
Welp accepted the three-fold angel's message,
and he was determined, right from the begin-

ning, to walk in its principles. When the first
great testing-time for the Adventist people was
anticipated, we found him standing squarely
for the truth, taking up the battle for the Lord
as an elder of a church in the Rhineland, Ger-
many. His unswerving loyalty toward the old
principles of the S. D. A. church made him a
pioneer and co-founder of this Reform Move-
ment.

His faithful stand for the cause of the Lord
brought to him and his family severe and pain-
ful persecutions at times, which he always faced
with undaunting courage and faith. Throughout
the years he went for his faith to prisons and
the concentration camp, and by only a small
margin he had nearly perished in it. Yet, the
Lord came to his aid and the plans of the enemy
were frustrated.

He was at all times willing to bear witness
for the truth of this time, even before the high-
est authorities. This he did in childlike faith to
the Lord, and he convinced his adversaries of
his sincerity.

He also had a prominent part in the internal
edification of the church, at which time he al-
ways remained sober in all the battles of faith,
keeping himself to the law of God and the
testimonies of the Spirit of prophecy. He was
an enemy to all forms of fanaticism and worldli-
ness, standing squarely against all these ten-
dencies.

He was known and beloved by many be-
lievers in more than 30 countries. For 20 long
years he lead the international work, and in his
activities none can deny his humble and simple
attitude, which virtue stayed with him till the
very last moment. Whoever was acquainted
with him and his work can testify that the Lord
used him as an instrument for good in His hand.

In two discussions with the leading men of
the Adventist church he took an active part, and
tried to point to the great crisis in the Adventist
cause, yet it was not heeded.

During the last years we find our brother
staying with one of his sons at Poway, Calif-
ornia. It was even up to the last Sabbath of his
life that he bore witness to the love of God and
to His unchanging truth. During the last divine
service he spoke yet about the Reformation to
some visitors.

Now our dear brother rests near the shores
of the great Pacific Ocean. We believe that of
him it can truly be said, "Blessed are the dead
which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea,
saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their
labours; and their works do follow them." Reve-
lation 14:13.

"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is
gain." Philippians 1:21.

We shall always keep our dear brother and
co-worker in loving memory.

*The Brethren of the
General Conference of the
S. D. A. Reform Movement*