

The Sabbath Matchman

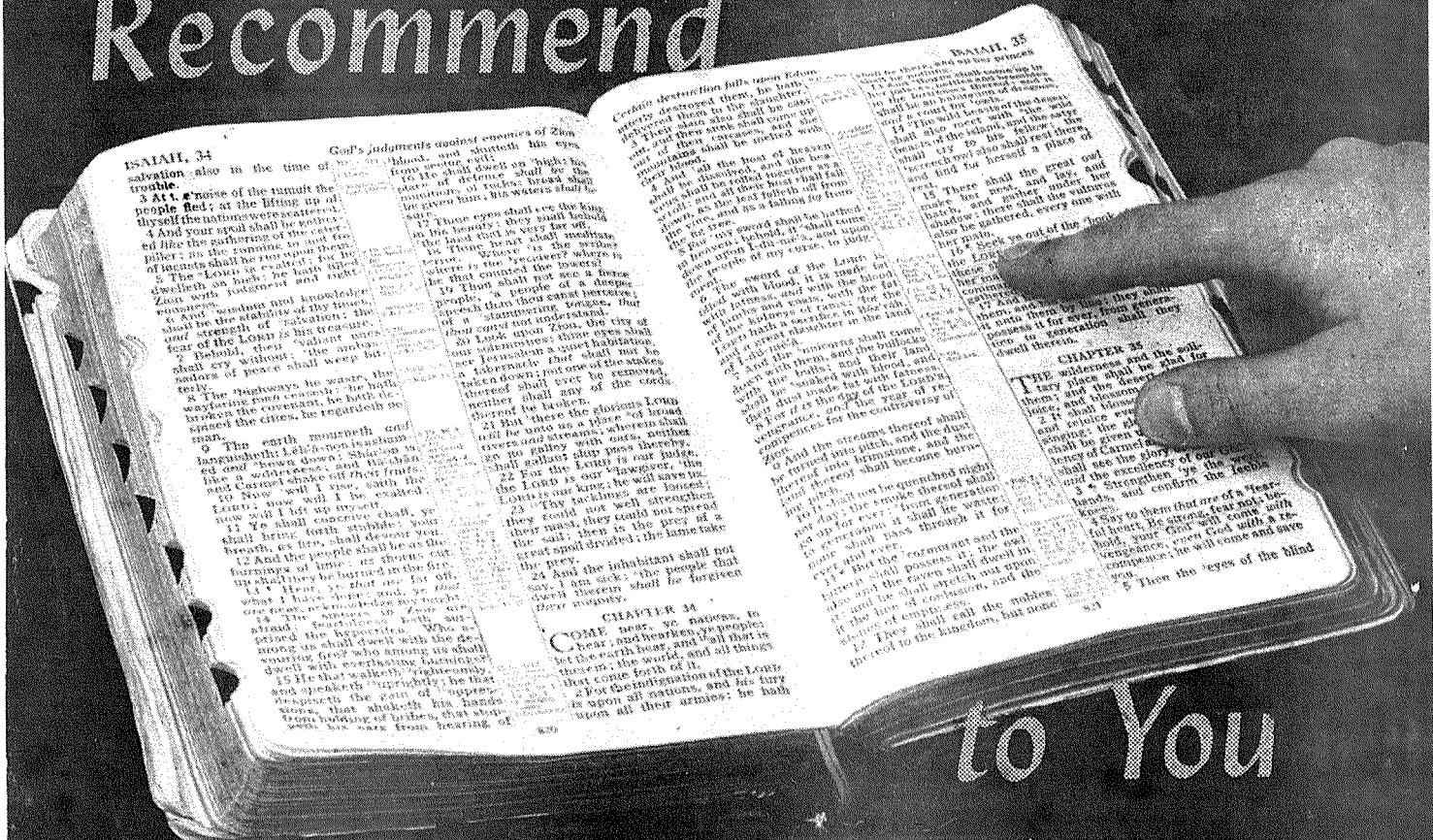


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We "Seek, and Ye shall Find" Recommend



to You the Word of God for the NEW YEAR

The Sabbath Watchman

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Editor O. Kramer.

Special Contributors

A. W. Doerschler, M. P. Ringelberg, L. V. McSherry

International Missionary Society S. D. A. Reform Movement

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3905 East 16th Avenue

DENVER 6, COLORADO, U.S.A.

EASTERN CANADA

P. O. Box 401, Hamilton, Ontario

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THE INTERCESSION OF CHRIST

The Lord Jesus has led captivity captive, and now sits at the right hand of God, for ever making intercession for us. Can your faith picture Him? Hear Him as He pleads—hear you not what it is? Is that your prayer which He is mentioning before His Father's throne. The vow which just now you uttered, He is now uttering there. He is the Altar and Priest, and with His own sacrifice He perfumes our prayers. And yet, mayhap, you have been praying long, and had no answer. Poor weeping suppliant! thou hast sought the Lord and He hath not seemed to hear thee, or at least not answered thee to thy soul's delight, and thou art full of darkness and heaviness on account of this, "Look to Him, and be lightened." If thou dost not succeed, He will; if thy intercession be unnoticed, His cannot be passed away; if thy prayers can be like water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up, yet His prayers are not like that; He is God's Son—He pleads and must prevail. God cannot refuse His own Son what He now asks—He who once bought mercies with His blood. O, be of good cheer, continue still thy supplication, for Jesus "ever liveth to make intercession" for thee.—C. H. Spurgeon.



TRUSTING

*I do not ask that God will always make
My pathway light;
I only pray that He will hold my hand
Throughout the night.
I do not hope to have the thorns removed
That pierce my feet;
I only ask to find His blessed arms
My safe retreat.
If He afflicts me, then, in my distress,
Withholds His hand;
If all His wisdom I cannot conceive
Or understand—
I do not think to always know His why
Or wherefore, here;
But sometime He will take my hand and make
His meaning clear.
If in His furnace He refines my heart,
To make it pure;
I only ask for grace to trust His love—
Strength to endure.
And if fierce storms beat round me,
And the heavens be overcast,
I know that He will give His weary one
Sweet peace at last.*

—Whispers of Peace

A New Year

WE ARE now writing 1964. God's people are waiting with anxious expectation for the fulfillment of the last phases of prophecy. Says the Prophet:

"For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry." Hab. 2:3.

A threatening storm is arising on the religious horizon. What seemed vague and irrational in times past has now become a stark reality. Over eighty years ago, the servant of God again made proof of her divine mission by delineating present-day events as follows:

"When Protestantism shall stretch her hand across the gulf to grasp the hand of the Roman power, when she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with Spiritualism, when, under the influence of this threefold union, our country shall repudiate every principle of its constitution as a Protestant and Republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan, and that the end is near.

"As the approach of the Roman armies was a sign to the disciples of the impending destruction of Jerusalem, so may this apostasy be a sign to us that the limit of God's forbearance is reached, that the measure of our nation's iniquity is full, and that the angel of mercy is about to take her flight, never to return. . . .

"Throughout the land the papacy is piling up her lofty and massive structures, in the secret recesses of which her former persecutions are to be repeated. And the way is preparing for the manifestation, on a grand scale, of those lying wonders by which, if it were possible, Satan would deceive even the elect." —*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, pp. 451, 449, 450.

The year just past was noted for its gain in Roman prestige. The Ecumenical Council favored revisions of traditional policies to accommodate Protestantism, and the councils of Protestant churches are seeking closer relationship and cooperation with Rome. We see everywhere signs of a move for greater unity between previously opposing religious factions. If it were not for our knowledge of prophecy and present truth, which indicates the aims of the papacy, we might be tempted to welcome such an apparently amiable approach. But now we know that these are the workings of evil "principalities and powers under

heaven" to plunge the inhabitants of the earth into the last life-and-death struggle that will precede the end of all things.

In the perusal of our earthly activities which often tax all our mental abilities, we are in danger of forgetting the awful solemnity of the hour. Often "we see, but perceive not." The impressions that are forced upon us day after day may result in causing our minds to become callous and unimpressed. We become accustomed to seeing and hearing the most villainous atrocities, blood-curdling crimes, soul-stirring disasters, murders, and assassinations. That which in its horror might have shaken us emotionally to the depths of our being in former decades is now taken for granted as an everyday occurrence. And so it is that the signs of the times, although speaking with thunderous report, are being drowned out by the overpowering inventions and the satanic modern life. This is Satan's effort to counteract God's last warning message to the world. What can be done to arouse God's sleeping saints from this iron lethargy of complacency?

The Omnipotent One is granting us a new year of probation. Remember, the lives of thousands, yes, even millions, were ended in 1963. It might have been you or I, but we are still in the land of the living. This new year might be our last on earth—yours or mine. Shall we spend it in pursuit of mere earthly security and leave Heaven out of our reckoning? Shall we lay up treasures that rust and decay or eternal riches? What is your choice? Let us, by faith, lay hold on the realities of the world to come and make sure of our eternal salvation.

Some have been setting time by telling that the 120 years of Noah's time extend to 1964 and will bring the coming of Christ. We could add that 50 years have elapsed since the movement of Reformation began in 1914. But we would like to emphasize that we know neither the day nor the hour for the last events to be fulfilled. But we do know that we must be ready *now*. "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matt. 24:44.

May the spirit of earnest intercession mark your life and mine. The final scenes of the Investigative Judgment are now in progress. Soon the living will be tried. Then only those whose foreheads bear the stamp or seal of divine approval and perfection in Christ will remain in the Lamb's book of life. Where will you and I be found on that

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The Cunning of the Enemy

by S. GUTKNECHT, *Western Germany*

"Now it came to pass, when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and Geshem the Arabian, and the rest of our enemies, heard that I had builded the wall, and that there was no breach left therein; (though at that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates;) that Sanballat and Geshem sent unto me, saying, Come, let us meet together in some one of the villages in the plain of Ono. But they thought to do me mischief. And I sent messengers unto them, saying, 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? Yet they sent unto me four times after this sort; and I answered them after the same manner. Then sent Sanballat his servant unto me in like manner the fifth time with an open letter in his hand: wherein was written, It is reported among the heathen, and Gashmu saith it, that thou and the Jews think to rebel: for which cause thou buildest the wall, that thou mayest be their king, according to these words. And thou hast also appointed prophets to preach of thee at Jerusalem, saying, There is a king in Judah: and now shall it be reported to the king according to these words: Come now therefore, and let us take counsel together." Neh.6:1-7.

WE ARE living today in times of grave danger. The arch-enemy is organizing all his forces to cause the downfall of the very elect in the last dramatic battle—if it were possible. By his cunning craftiness, he often approaches the individual as an angel of light in the effort to win him to his side. Luther says rightfully, "For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe!" In our text, Sanballat fittingly represents the last great enemy. Without a doubt the alarming signs of the times all show that Jesus is soon to come again, and it is for this reason that the devil is trying to hinder us in the important work of saving souls and in the building up of the spiritual Jerusalem. He also seeks to weaken us in our Christian life and endeavor and to overcome us. After Sanballat had neither succeeded by surprise attack nor by threatenings and scoffing to hinder the builders in their work, he now applied a new cunning feat, a new, highly dangerous method of attack, which Satan also loves to apply against us and, sorry to say, often succeeds. It is his act of pretense. The enemy represented himself as a friend who tried to fool Nehemiah by friendly talks and persuasiveness. But the apostle Paul says: "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no

marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." 2 Cor.11:13,14.

After the threatenings of Sanballat were without success and Nehemiah trusted God without fear and in the knowledge that it was the work of God, Sanballat tried to work out his plan of deception by offers of peace. Four times he sent his messengers with the friendly request, "Come! let us sit in some village together and counsel. We will unite with you and do the work together!" Yet Nehemiah did not permit his work to be hindered by the enticing call, "Come!" but answered: "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?" The fifth attempt was made by new policies of intimidation, threats, and the appeal, "Come now therefore, and let us take counsel together!" But the eyes of Nehemiah, anointed by the Holy Spirit, penetrated all the cunning plans of his enemies, and he did not permit himself and his people to be lured into some trap. His counselor and helper was God. In Him he put all his trust, and with His aid he continued this all-important work.

"Come, let us meet together in some one of the villages in the plain of Ono," Sanballat tells Nehemiah. "But they thought to do me mischief." By this appeal the impression was to be given that Sanballat had changed his opinion of enmity and was now willing to make peace. In reality Sanballat had only one thing in mind—to lure Nehemiah away from Jerusalem and to isolate him. Ono was situated about twenty miles from Jerusalem in a nice, enticing valley. How many of God's children, not securely anchored and rooted in His church, permit themselves to be separated from it through similar alluring appeals—away from Jerusalem, away from the church of God! This is the way in which Satan, again and again, even more so today, seeks to weaken young Christians especially and to overcome them. Yes, come away, away from the confining walls of Jerusalem, dear young man and young woman; come to the expanse of the sunshiny, blossoming valley of Ono, into the glorious plains of worldly freedom. And you do not sense for a long time that Satan is standing behind all these alluring appeals, seeking as an angel of light to mirror before you a sense of freedom that he may put you in shackles so much more securely down in the valley. The poet says, "Vice will travel first through meadows green; going forth it brings great peril; and the end is night and horror."

CO-EXISTENCE OR UNITY

In the political world of today much is spoken about co-existence. In the East and the West many attempts have been made to find some way for a co-existence in order to avert the threatening danger of a third world war. On the other hand much is spoken and written in the religious world about reconciliation and re-unification. Humanity has grown tired of political and religious battles. The great masses of the people seek for a soft pillow of rest. Those who still take upon themselves persecution and difficulties, because of religious conviction, are regarded as backward and foolish. Yet, the grave danger of our day lies in unity at the sacrifice of truth, yielding principle when we are called by God to stand unflinchingly, adaptation when the command of the hour demands us to draw a distinct line and be separate. One cannot unite light and darkness. Oil and water cannot be mixed together. In places where a denial of truth and of the church of God is involved, a determined "No!" is called for. A unification can only be accomplished on the basis of the eternal truth of God. Those who have departed from this foundation must first return to it. Whoever is leaving the church of God must humbly and with repentance return to her if he wishes to find grace with God.

MAY WE ENTER UPON COMPROMISES?

This question is outstandingly important. Life and death are involved. For this reason it is important that we receive clearness on this question. How often men, being led by a principle or conviction and under the Spirit of God, are stigmatized as hard and irreconcilable because they will not enter upon any compromise at the price of truth. In this also Nehemiah is a shining example for us. He did not pay any attention to the splendid persuasiveness and attacks of enemy or friends, but sought to walk before God in uprightness and faithfulness.

Satan, as the father of lies, hates all truth and openness, hates all sharply-contested border lines and all decided positions. Satan loves the gloom and fog; he loves border lines that are blurred to the vision. There he can most successfully conduct his ignoble work of destruction. How often he has succeeded in doing this is also shown in the history of this last Reformation. I therefore cry anew to the church of God, "Be on your guard!" It is terrible to behold how Satan masters explaining a sin to us for so long, finding ample reasons, even presenting it as sacred, until darkness appears as light to us. Then during the moment of twilight of internal confusion and departure from the landmarks, he suddenly throws his weight upon us, casts us to the door, and conquers us. This is the curse of compromise.

In reference to the question above, we must give a decided answer and not enter upon any compromises. All men of God, and Christ Himself as our dear Saviour, have revealed a large and loving heart to those living in sin and in the shadow of death, yet who have a desire for redemption and salvation. Nevertheless they were unyielding to hypocrites and Pharisees who were accounted as enemies of truth.

FIRMNESS

A matter is either true, or it is false. This statement, in my opinion, is self-evident; yet there are many who do not think so. The ruling opinion of our day is that a matter may be true or false depending on the viewpoint from which it is observed! Black is white, and white is black, all according to circumstances; and it is of no consequence whether it is taken one way or the other. Naturally, truth is truth; yet they say it would be rather impolite if one would call the opposite of truth a "lie." We must not be intolerant. The school of modern thinking scoffs at the orthodoxy of the reformers, making it a laughing stock and soon will proclaim a magnificent unification of heaven and hell, or rather a merger of both institutions in which "lies" and truth rest closely together, as the lion next to the lamb.

In the last dramatic battle between light and darkness God's children will be tested to the uttermost on their firmness and steadfastness.

Going back to our study of Nehemiah's experience, the last attack of the devil was no longer from without, but from within. A false prophet, who permitted himself to be bought and who went before his own people in the cloak of outstanding piety and kindness, was to accomplish what the pressure from without was unable to do. What terrible danger for the leadership of God's people! Only eyes anointed by the Spirit can detect such vicious schemes in time. Difficulties from within, of which the apostle Paul has already warned us in Acts 20:28-30, are harder to detect because the devil often uses prominent men who have the gift of dissembling to garb themselves in a cloak of righteousness and godliness, that in this manner they may more easily deceive those of credulous hearts. At such time, faced with this great danger, let us flee to God and to church order that we may be saved in the hour of temptation. An example in life may better visualize the blessing of firmness and steadfastness: Some time ago a ship lay outside a certain harbor. It was beaten back and forth by the high waves in a merciless manner. A heavy fog prohibited the penetration of any light, and the captain did not leave the helm for one moment. He did not know the harbor, and no harbor

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God's Method of Saving Souls

by L. V. McSHERRY

“IF WE would humble ourselves before God, and be kind and courteous and tenderhearted and pitiful, there would be one hundred conversions to the truth where now there is only one.” —*Test.*, Vol. 9, p. 189.

The foregoing testimony is of tremendous importance to the people of God. It reveals not only the true attitude of the Christian toward those for whom Christ died but also the condition that we, as reformers, must reveal before we can ever expect the fulness of the latter rain. In this article we want to learn God's method for the saving of the lost, that we might be more effective in saving souls for His kingdom. Not only do we want to learn God's method but also to unlearn our own methods, which we have so often employed, thinking we were doing God a service.

Jesus said, “Learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart.” And that is just what we want to do right now — learn of Jesus. If we will learn His method for saving souls, the secret of His success, I am sure the gospel work will be accomplished in a very short time. And isn't that just what we want as Christians? Haven't we sojourned long enough on this sin-sick earth? Then let us put forth every effort to learn of Jesus. “Let us learn from Christ how to combine a high sense of purity and integrity with sunniness of disposition. A kind, courteous Christian is the most powerful argument that can be produced in favor of Christianity.” —*Gospel Workers*, p. 122. Oh, it takes wisdom and much prayer to be able to present Jesus to the lost in a kind, courteous way, instead of a know-all manner. As we present the gospel to others, may we heed the words of Solomon as he describes our lovely Jesus: “His mouth is most sweet: yea, he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, and this is my friend.” Song of Solomon 5:16. Did you notice the method of Jesus as He chose His words in speaking to those who were hungering and thirsting for righteousness? He chose such sweet words that no one is offended or hurt by what we must tell them. And He is altogether lovely. Christ presents the truth in such a loving way that souls are just simply drawn to Him. This is God's method, and this must be ours. “No other influence that can surround the human soul has such power as the influence of an unselfish life. The strongest argument in favor of the gospel is a loving and

lovable Christian.” —*Ministry of Healing*, p. 470. Did you notice the word *friend* in the verse of Solomon? Jesus becomes the friend of all He is seeking to save. We must come close to the one we desire to draw to Christ. To be able to feel with, encourage, and bless is truly a gift from above. A little boy was asked the meaning of the word *friend*. He thought a moment and then said, “It's a feller who knows all about you and loves you just the same.” As you work for souls and see disagreeable traits of character in their lives, do not become discouraged but be their friend and remember that Christ has died for them.

Hosea beautifully illustrated God's method for saving souls. “Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her.” Hosea 2:14. Here was a woman who truly was steeped in sin. But God was not content with her just having a knowledge of truth. He told Hosea to “allure her.” He was to present Jesus in the truth in such a way that she would be charmed or lovingly drawn to Him. If we were to see a soul in sin, as was this woman, we would be apt to say, “I'll really tell her. I will go down and give it to her straight from the shoulder.” But this is not God's method. He says, “I will give her My love straight from My heart.” “In Christ is the tenderness of the shepherd, the affection of the parent, and the matchless grace of the compassionate Saviour. His blessings He presents in the most alluring terms. He is not content merely to announce these blessings; he presents them in the most attractive way, to excite a desire to possess them. So His servants are to present the riches of the glory of the unspeakable Gift. The wonderful love of Christ will melt and subdue hearts, when the mere reiteration of doctrines would accomplish nothing.” —*Desire of Ages*, p. 826. Brethren and sisters, pray for that heavenly wisdom, so that you can present the gospel of Jesus in such an attractive way as to excite a desire to possess it, remembering the mere reiteration of doctrine will accomplish nothing. “A legal religion can never lead souls to Christ; for it is a loveless, Christless religion.” —*Desire of Ages*, p. 280.

I believe we too often use a pharisaical method in trying to win souls, rather than the method of

Christ. As ancient Israel, we "fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness." Isaiah 58:4. Examine your heart, brother or sister. Is this your way of presenting the truth? If it is, you can mark that missionary visit down for Satan. Jesus said, "For God sent *not* his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved." John 3:17. Have you often, in times past, misread this text to read that God *did* send His Son to condemn? When we condemn a soul who is outside the fold of Christ and who is seeking truth, we are not working as Christ worked. By condemning, we erect a barrier that may never be broken down. And what have we accomplished? Another missionary visit for Satan. "The Lord wants His people to follow other methods than that of condemning wrong, even though the condemnation is just. He wants us to do something more than to hurl at our adversaries charges that only drive them farther from the truth. The work which Christ came to do in our world was not to erect barriers, and constantly thrust upon the people the fact that they were wrong. He who expects to enlighten a deceived people must come near to them and labor for them in love. He must become a center of holy influence." -*Gospel Workers*, p. 373.

The apostle Paul was acquainted with the method of Jesus as he labored for souls. He explained it in his second letter to the Corinthians, chapter 5, verse 18. "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation." Jesus has drawn us out of the world and to the Father through His great love, and He has given to each of us this same ministry. Are we falling short of the mark set for us by Jesus? "How little do we enter into sympathy with Christ on that which should be the strongest bond of union between us and Him—compassion for depraved, guilty, suffering souls, dead in trespasses and sins! The inhumanity of man toward man is our greatest sin." -*Ministry of Healing*, p. 263. It is a solemn time in which we live. A great and important work has been committed to all who have linked up with Christ. We are to be His ambassadors to herald His second coming. Are we fulfilling our God-given duty? "If we would humble ourselves before God, and be kind and courteous and tenderhearted and pitiful, there would be one hundred conversions to the truth where now there is only one." There is only one way in which we can correctly use God's method in saving souls. Our answer is found in Galatians 2:20. "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." If Jesus is abiding in

the heart and we desire and permit the Holy Spirit to take complete control of our lives, we shall be changed into His loveliness. With His traits of character revealed in our lives, we can only labor as He did. "If Christ be in us the hope of glory, we shall discover such matchless charms in Him that the soul will be enamored. It will cleave to Him, choose to love Him, and in admiration of Him, self will be forgotten." -*Test.*, Vol. 1, p. 162.

Not only are we to be kind and tenderhearted, revealing the love of Christ that has been shown us, but we are also to manifest self-forgetfulness. Again, let us first learn of Jesus, for He said of Himself, "I can of mine own self do nothing." John 5:30. Christ realized that His strength and efficiency were in the Father. If Jesus needed the constant presence of God to do the work committed to Him, how much more we, sinful, erring human beings, need His divine companionship. "The first thing to be learned by all who would become workers together with God is the lesson of self-distrust; then they are prepared to have imparted to them the character of Christ." -*Desire of Ages*, p. 250. There are some beautiful illustrations in the Bible revealing this very fact. The experience of Peter at the sea of Galilee, when Jesus told him to let down the nets near the shore after they had toiled all that fruitless night, is heart-rending. After letting down the nets and seeing the multitude of fish, Peter "fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord." Luke 5:8. In the presence of the glory of God, Peter saw himself as he really was, and he was humbled. Just then, in that self-distrustful condition, was the time when Christ could use him the most, as we read in verse 10: "And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men."

What was the testimony of Isaiah after beholding the glory of God? "Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips." Isaiah 6:5. When Isaiah recognized his true condition and humbled himself, then God made a call for laborers to work in His vineyard. Isaiah responded by saying, "Here am I; send me." Verse 8. "The Lord can work most effectually through those who are most sensible of their own insufficiency, and who will rely upon Him as their leader and source of strength. . . .

"If they would cherish true humility, the Lord could do much more for His people; but there are few who can be trusted with any large measure of responsibility or success without becoming self-confident, and forgetful of their dependence upon God." -*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 553, 554. How quickly the work of the Lord could be finished upon the earth if we would only reveal the characteristics of our lovely Saviour.

"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us." 1 John 3:1. In the midst of your cares and anxieties, just pause a moment and consider God's love for you and what He has done for each one of us. As you think of His ministry in your behalf, consider your labor for others. Have you much to unlearn of your own method of labor and much to learn of God's method of saving souls? Remember! "If we would humble ourselves before God, and be kind and courteous and tenderhearted and pitiful, there would be one hundred conversions to the truth where now there is only one." The following statement reveals our duty as Christians and colaborers with Jesus: "It was on the earth that the love of God was revealed through Christ. It is on the earth that His children are to reflect this love through blameless lives. Thus sinners will be led to the cross, to behold the Lamb of God." —*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 334. If we will only learn God's method for saving souls, sinners will be led to Jesus and self will be lost sight of.

The story is told of a little girl living in the city of London. On this particular day she had become lost but was soon found by two policemen. Trying to find the girl's parents and home, they asked her name. She responded, "Patsy."

"Patsy what?" they asked.

"I don't know," she cried, as tears began to fill her eyes.

"What is your father's name?" one policeman asked.

"I don't know," was the answer.

The policemen realized they were getting nowhere, so they decided to drive around the city. Perhaps the little girl would recognize some building and thereby find her way home.

Time passed and still Patsy saw nothing familiar. Then one of the policemen thought of the old cathedral. Turning to Patsy, he asked, "Do you remember the old cathedral and the great big cross on top?"

"Yes, yes!" cried Patsy. "Take me to the cross and from there I can find my way home."

Brothers and sisters, that is all that Jesus is asking us to do today. If we will only learn God's method for the saving of the lost and point them to a crucified and risen Saviour, they will find their way back to God.

A NEW YEAR

From Page 3

great and dreadful day? These are not idle words but are living realities of the most solemn nature. Not one single day should pass without our giving considerable thought to the scenes of the judgment

and eternal salvation. Do not leave the destiny of your soul hanging in the balance. Let us be on the Lord's side when He calls for faithful standard bearers in the conflict right in front of us. In all this remember the precious promise, "As thy days, so shall thy strength be."

Yes, this is 1964 — another year of probation and golden opportunities. How will we use it? What are our resolutions? Are they tending toward God or toward this earth? Let us make heaven our choice today, and 1964 will be a very happy and prosperous New Year!

THE BRETHREN

THE CUNNING OF THE ENEMY

From Page 5

pilot could come near the ship. The anxious passengers urged the captain to gather courage and steer into the harbor. He answered, "No. I have no authority to take such a risk. In this situation a pilot is an absolute necessity; and I shall wait for him, even if I have to wait a whole week."

The one who is truly courageous is he who can endure to be called a coward while doing right. If you cannot hear the foghorn and cannot have a pilot, then waiting is far better than to sail on and run the ship upon the rocks.

Dear brethren and sisters, if you are beset by temptations and the enemy comes and seeks to separate you from the church of God with all kinds of sweet words, take time for prayer. Do not yield to just any proposals, but rather seek God first; then the Captain of your soul, Jesus Christ, will come to you and lead you out of the fog of uncertainty, soul anguish, and trial; and you will gain patience again. Lend not your ear to any deceptive voice. Stand firm! It would be tragic and a loss never to be regained if the devil should cause us to fall and succeed in keeping us from reaching our goal just before the gates of eternity. It is the design of the devil to undermine our confidence in the burden bearers by criticizing and accusing them, which results in weakening our faith. The word of God admonishes us: "Obey them who are your teachers, and follow them, for they watch for your soul, as they that must give an account for it, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you." Heb.13:17. (German trans.).

While the world is organizing its forces and is preparing for the great day of reckoning and the hands on the clock of time are moving toward the hour of decision, Jesus stands before us and says: "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." May God help us to endure.

AMEN

THE SABBATH WATCHMAN