

The Sabbath Watchman



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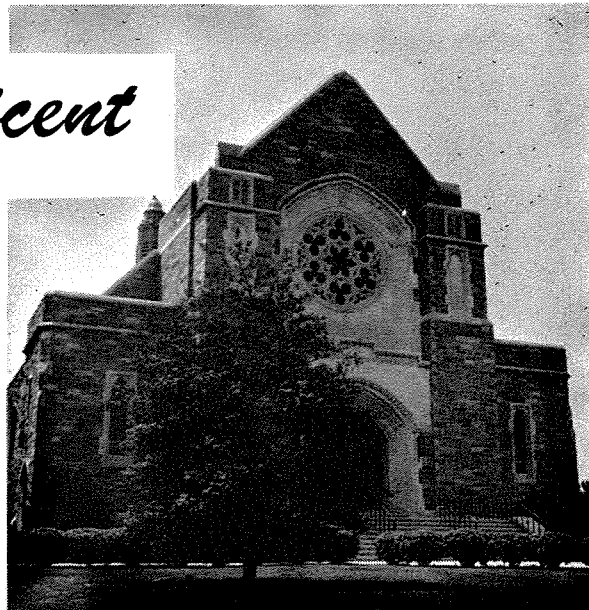
It is when the character-building is neglected, when the adornment of the soul is lacking, when the simplicity of godliness is lost sight of, that pride and love of display demand magnificent church edifices, splendid adornings, and imposing ceremonials.

the knowledge of Christ, according to their progress in spiritual experience.

“Christ hungers to receive from His vineyard the fruit of holiness and unselfishness. He looks for the principles of love and goodness. Not all the beauty of art can bear

comparison with the beauty of temper and character to be revealed in those who are Christ’s representatives. It is the atmosphere of grace which surrounds the soul of the believer, the Holy Spirit working upon mind and heart, that makes him a savor of life unto life, and enables God to bless his work.

Magnificent Church Edifices



Seventh-day Adventist Church
Washington, D.C.

In all this God is not honored. A fashionable religion that consists of ceremonies, pretense, and display, is not acceptable to Him. Its services call forth no response from the heavenly messengers.

“The church is very precious in God’s sight. He values it, not for its external advantages, but for the sincere piety which distinguishes it from the world. He estimates it according to the growth of the members in

land. It may be without the attraction of any outward show; but if the members possess the character of Christ, they will have His joy in their souls. Angels will unite with them in their worship...

“Because they failed of fulfilling God’s purpose, the children of Israel were set aside, and God’s call was extended to other peoples. If these too prove unfaithful, will they not in like manner be rejected?”

The Sabbath Watchman

Official Organ of the
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST REFORMED CHURCH
American Union

Devoted to the Promulgation and Defense of the
primitive principles of the 1844 Advent Movement.

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REDEMPTION IN SONG,
the new songbook introduced at
our last Union Conference,
is now available from our central offices.
It contains 26 old, soul-inspiring favorites
that may be completely new
to some of our readers.
Order yours now! 25¢

BE READY TO WORK

"'BUT ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that
that day should overtake you as a thief.' Thank
God, all will not be rocked to sleep in the cradle
of carnal security. There will be faithful ones
who will discern the signs of the times. While a
large number professing present truth will deny
their faith by their works, there will be some who
will endure unto the end.

"The same spirit of selfishness, of conformity
to the practices of the world, exists in our day as
in Noah's. Many who profess to be children of
God, follow their worldly pursuits with an intensi-
ty that gives the lie to their profession. They
will be planting and building, buying and selling,
eating and drinking, marrying and giving in mar-
riage, up to the last moment of their probation.
This is the condition of a large number of our own
people. Because iniquity abounds, the love of
many waxes cold. To but few can it be said, 'You
are the children of the day; we are not of the night
nor of darkness.'

"My soul is burdened as I see the great want of
spirituality among us. The fashions and customs
of the world, pride, love of amusement, love of
display, extravagance in dress, in houses, in
lands—these are robbing the treasury of God,
turning to the gratification of self the means which
should be used to send forth the light of truth to
the world. Selfish purposes are made the first
consideration. The work of qualifying men to
labor for the salvation of souls, is not considered
of so great consequence as worldly enterprises.
Souls are perishing for want of knowledge. Those
who have had the light of present truth, and yet
feel no spirit of labor to warn their fellow men of
the coming Judgment, must give an account to God
for their neglect of duty. The blood of souls will
be upon their garments.

"The old standard-bearers are fainting and
falling. Our young men have not been educated to
feel their accountability to God; little inducement
is presented for them to labor in the cause, and
they enter the fields that promise the largest
remuneration, with the least toil and responsibility.
As a people, we are not advancing in spirituality
as we near the end. We do not realize the magni-
tude and importance of the work before us. Hence
our plans are not becoming wider and more compre-
hensive. There is a sad lack of men and women
prepared to carry forward the increasing work for
this time....

"'The Lord is at hand be ye also ready,' is no
less the truth today than when we first heard the
message. The dearest interests of the church and
people of God, and the destiny of an impenitent
and ungodly world, for time and for eternity, are
here involved. We are all Judgment bound."
—Testimonies, Vol. 5, pp. 10, 11, 14.

Report of the American Union Conference Session

Held at "Chesley Lake Camp"
Allenford, Ontario, Canada
August 4 to 8, 1965



"O sing unto the Lord a new song: sing unto the Lord, all the earth. Sing unto the Lord, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people. For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised;..." Psalm 96:1-4.

THIS Psalm expresses our sentiments in remembering this year's Union Conference. We, indeed, praise the Most High for the rich blessings bestowed upon us during this holy convocation. From far and near the dear believers came, singly or by carloads, to greet each other again as members of the royal family of God. Yes, it was a great sacrifice for many to travel the nearly 3,000 miles from the West Coast, but we are sure that none ever regretted the effort made. And although cool weather and rain had prevailed up until the Conference date, now the sun came through, smiling upon our camp during nearly all the meetings, for which we thank the Lord in a special way.

Again we met as God's little remnant in the familiar chapel we occupied four years ago. The old motto, "It is Time to Seek the Lord!" had been left as a memorial by the camp management, and again it beautified all our meetings on this occasion. In addition, another scriptural saying was fastened over the rear entrance, reading, "And I

Shall Draw all Men to Myself when I am Lifted Up from the Earth." John 12:32, R.V.

The official opening of the Conference on Thursday morning, August 5, with Elder Doerschler presiding, commenced with the rousing hymn, "I Know that my Redeemer Lives," which is from our new songbook, *Redemption in Song*, the reading of Psalm 100, and opening prayer. The Sacramento young people's group then sang the "Victory" song from the new book, which was very inspiring.

Elder Doerschler, in his address, pointed to the significance of the Psalms of David as indications of the personal experiences of this man of God, whose heart was always filled with praise and gratitude for the abundant blessings he received. Psalm 126 was then read by the entire congregation, expressing the hope of God's children soon to be freed from the bondage of sin and to rejoice in the Lord's salvation. 2 Cor. 4:1-9 also expresses our experience as God's reformatory people in an unfriendly world: "...Troubled

on every side, yet not distressed;...perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed." A word of appreciation was spoken pertaining to those who came from far away and the desire expressed to return the effort by holding our next biennial Union Conference on the West Coast. In order to keep the spirit of revival in our hearts, we must retain the blessings of the Conference fresh in our minds to carry us over the days of struggle that lie ahead.

The report of the Delegates' Meeting, and the results of the Nominating Committee, conducted the day before, gave much reason for joy, for such oneness and unity had prevailed that it reminded all the believers of the fulfilling of Christ's prayer, "that they all might be one." Not one discordant note was heard all during this session, which resulted in the reelection of all the past officers placed in office two years ago:



Baptismal Scene

Only one slight note of disappointment was expressed. It was concerning the absence of a General Conference representative, which was due, according to the word received, to the pressure of the work and other factors. But their well-wishes for the success of our Conference were thankfully acknowledged, as well as the authorization for Elder Doerschler to act in their behalf.

We praise the Lord for the work which has begun in the Philippine Mission Field. Reports received from there indicate that many dear souls have joined the standard of Immanuel in this reformation and that many more will take their stand for truth and righteousness in the days to come. May the work there be an object of our prayers. We also heard encouraging reports, especially from

Portugal, telling of the spread of the message of reformation in other parts of the world.

The Treasury Report, read by the Union Treasurer, was presented to the entire congregation, signifying that we need not be ashamed of our financial standing as a people. The income these past two years exceeded all expectations, in spite of the rising costs of living. Expenses could be well met, leaving a noteworthy balance in the treasury—and all this in the face of mounting costs in the publishing work. We now have a wide selection of literature, both for the world and for our Adventist friends. *The Sabbath Watchman*, as our official church organ, deserves wide circulation everywhere.

This Treasury Report was followed by the Financial Report of the Canadian Field, which also showed the blessings of the Lord in a wonderful way.

All this tuned our hearts to a special thanksgiving to our heavenly Father for His guiding hand in all the affairs of the cause. In his address, Elder Doerschler reminded us that our Captain is still directing the battle. Victory may alternate from side to side at times, yet we are assured that the final victory is ours. The reward is waiting—a crown of resplendent glory, decked with stars symbolizing souls won to the kingdom. When God's church heeds the call for perfect unity, the latter rain will come to reap the harvest of the world. What we need today is greater tenderness of soul and deeper affection, like David and Jonathan showed in their association with one another. We need more moments of rededication, of calls to the altar, like in the days of the Advent pioneers. At that time, they wept and prayed with souls; and meetings often lasted till midnight. We need greater faith. Reasons for doubt are plentiful, for we may be constantly confronted with apparent failure, yet there is no excuse for doubt. We must decide this by the weight of evidence at our disposal. Like Nehemiah, we, too, have no time to come down to compromise with our adversaries. We need the spirit of discernment in order to follow the Lamb whithersoever He goeth. In all our work we must endeavor to reach the heart of honest souls. These and many other thought-provoking presentations highlighted the opening session of our Conference, which was then closed with special singing and prayer.

In the afternoon, we gathered again around the table of the Lord to listen to spiritual discourses by different brethren, one directed to children and juniors in particular, and the other bringing comfort and encouragement to the remaining few reformers of today. In the evening we viewed and heard a presentation on the wonders of nature by means of slide pictures telling us of mountains, oceans,

flowers, birds, etc., and culminating in the wonders of the universe of stars, nebulae, and constellations.

Friday morning found us gathered for a very instructive lesson on the physiology of the human body. This was followed by a highly inspirational service, entitled "Delilah's Scissors." It was a timely presentation, especially for our youth, depicting the pitfalls and the enticing bait presented by the enemy of souls to lure them away from the truth. Samson and his life story present the strong fact that outer beauty of face is very deceptive. His stubborn will in the wrong direction brought him untold misery and an early death. So it is today, especially with the young people. Momentary infatuation soon gives way to a sober awakening to life's bare realities. Young people of today feel that something good is being kept away from them if they are restrained from the ways of sin. So they listen to Delilah's voice, instead of the Lord's, like Samson did. How different the picture is in a New York museum, showing a young Huguenot resisting his Catholic fiancée, who tries to fasten a white scarf around his arm, which would signify he was a Catholic, in order to shield him from a martyr's death. We must remain faithful unto death under all circumstances. This blessed meeting will long be remembered. A special song by the Canadian group closed this discourse.

Something which thrilled our souls in a special way was the presence of one of the mothers of Israel, our dear Sister Charles from England, who, by the leadings of the Lord, came to our camp meeting. She is of quite advanced age, and it was a delight for us to hear her recite a lengthy poem about the blessing a little child brought to a man and his wife. To memorize a poem of this length would be a hard task even for the young. Her dear husband, having been a faithful pioneer in this Reform Movement for many years, shall always be remembered as a stalwart soldier of the cross. Let us remember our dear Sister and the work in England in our prayers.

The afternoon was devoted to a special Young People's program by the Denver, Colorado, group, based on seven mountains in the Bible. While the organ played softly in the background to lend a sacred atmosphere, the young people portrayed one by one the events on Mount Moriah, Sinai, Horeb, Carmel, Olives, Calvary, and Zion, each teaching a lesson of utmost importance. The short talks and poems were interspersed with fitting songs and illustrated by pictures of these mountains behind the rostrum. We all felt the presence of God during this meeting. May we also have a mountaintop experience with the Lord today.

Another inspiring youth program was presented that evening by the Canadian young people. Their theme centered on the materials needed for build-

ing a house, and its spiritual setting. Beginning with the building lot, the hiring of an architect, etc., we followed in spirit the progress of the building to its final completion. But first of all we must count the cost and determine to finish the building. The materials used to build this spiritual temple should be of pure gold, as offered by the Master Builder. Yet, most of all, while building, we must follow closely the blueprints of the law and testimony in order to pass the final inspection. All these lessons were highlighted with appropriate songs.

Aside from our regularly-scheduled meetings, different brethren from the U. S. and Canada served at the morning and evening worship, as well as the Sabbath Vespers. Their studies added much to the daily blessings we received.

Sabbath morning we assembled in Sabbath School to study the wonderful lessons on Faithfulness and Obedience. It was highlighted by special singing and interesting discussions on the topic of giving to the Lord His own. The divine service which followed opened with the rousing hymn, "How Firm a Foundation," and the seeking of the Lord in prayer. After continuing with a special song, Elder Ringelberg presented a fitting topic, entitled, "Not Far from the Kingdom." In it he drew our attention to the danger of pharisaical self-righteousness, which lacks the true fruits of the Spirit. Love must pervade our whole being, often making us blind as to the faults of others. David, for an example, found favor with God in spite of his wicked actions, because of his humble and broken attitude. No man is good; not even God's servants are without fault. But there must be continued progress in sanctification, made possible only by a full surrender to God's will. The special song, "Face to Face," brought a suitable ending to the important subject presented.

Following this, Elder Doerschler led out in a rededication service, in which he referred to the invitation of Jesus to come to Him today, while mercy is still lingering. We must come as we are, not trusting in feelings or yielding to thoughts of doubt. When the altar call was made, nearly all the congregation responded by coming forward in order to indicate a life of rededication to God's service. Our hearts rejoiced exceedingly to see seven dear souls declaring their decision for Christ and their willingness to follow Him and be baptized. With the singing of "Just as I am," and the prayers of three brethren, this memorable service was ended.

The afternoon brought us still greater blessings. First, the children and juniors presented their program with their teachers, which showed their eagerness to follow Jesus. They recited their memory verses and sang happy songs to God's

honor and glory. It touches our hearts to see and hear our little ones take hold of the message in such a joyful manner.

After this, the Sacramento, California, young people gave an inspiring program under the title, "Messengers of God," which was illustrated by a broadside drawing behind the pulpit, which was drawn by a talented youth among them. The different speakers spoke as if they had been contemporaries of seven different personages in the Old and New Testament eras, beginning with Noah and ending with God's late messenger, Ellen G. White. These presentations were beautified by choral and solo singing in keeping with the theme rendered. God has always had faithful servants who will not shrink from duty to declare the unvarnished truth and warn the people of impending disaster. With the strains of "I am a Stranger Here, Within a Foreign Land," this program was concluded. May the messengers presented and the message given inspire us to greater service for the Lord.

That Sabbath evening we gathered once more for a divine service based on the 23rd Psalm. This Psalm conveys an array of thoughts of unfathomable depth. It gives such assurance of divine, loving care, that none need despair, no matter what circumstances may surround them. We were then favored with a special song by the Canadian believers, "From Whence shall my Salvation Come?"

Then, once more, dear Sister Charles gave glory to God by singing for us "We're Marching to Zion," first in the Welsh language and then in English, which was followed by the recitation of a special story in poetical form for the children, which found a responsive cord in the hearts of all who listened.

With this inspiring introduction and the reading of Psalm 150, we entered into a service of praise and thanksgiving. Many were the expressions of thankfulness uttered by the believers; and their praises ascended to heaven as a sweet oblation,

making mention of His tender, unfailing care, His divine protection, and His sustaining grace in all our trials.

After one more blessed devotional service the next morning, which was followed by the examination of the baptismal candidates, we witnessed the solemn occasion of seeing the seven dear souls who had decided to follow Christ buried in the watery grave of beautiful Chesley Lake, to rise to newness of life. May their determination be of an enduring nature, and may they be ready to enter with God's redeemed into life eternal at the coming of Jesus. These dear souls were then extended the right hand of fellowship into the family of God of this Reform Movement.

The sad hour of parting had now come. Once more we assembled for a farewell service and a workers' symposium. The brethren in the work each spoke a few words of encouragement and cheer to the believers, admonishing them to remain faithful and strong in Him who redeemed us through His precious blood. With the strains of "God Be With You till We Meet again," another beautiful Conference came to a conclusion and shall long be remembered by those who attended it as a gathering where sweet unity and love prevailed throughout the ranks.

Our special prayer to Heaven is a prayer of thankfulness for the divine protection of all our dear believers on their extensive journeys to and from the Conference. Also, we praise the Most High for giving His people a willing and cheerful heart of sacrifice to cover the expenses incurred by these meetings. May the Almighty bless His remnant flock in a rich measure, is our prayer. And when that glorious day of redemption shall dawn on us, may we all hear the words spoken by the Prophet of old: "Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in." Isa. 26:2.

THE BRETHREN

Youth for Truth

The Youth at the Conference

"Praise ye the Lord. Praise ye the Lord from the heavens: praise him in the heights. Praise ye him, all his angels: praise ye him, all his hosts. Both young men and maidens;... Let them praise the name of the Lord: for his name alone is

excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven." Psalm 148:1, 2, 12, 13.

THE young people at the American Union Conference, held near Allenford, Ontario, Canada, contributed greatly to the blessings received by all who attended. Three young people's programs were presented, and many special songs helped to enhance the wonderful messages that were given.

THE SABBATH WATCHMAN

On Friday afternoon, August 6, the young people's group from Denver, Colorado, presented an inspiring program on Seven Bible Mountains. We were shown the importance of mountains in the history of God's people. David wrote in the Psalms about the peace one receives in the mountains. Sister White was told to "look a little higher" in order to see the little flock of God's people on the path to the heavenly kingdom. As the speakers told about each particular mountain and the experiences made on that mountain, sacred background music was played; in addition, for a visual aid, illustrations of the seven mountains were fastened on the wall behind the speaker's stand. Through songs and poems, the words spoken were deeply impressed on the minds of the listeners.

The first Bible mountain discussed was *Calvary*, the Place of a Skull, where the Saviour of the world was crucified. We must gather about the cross of Calvary, receive strength from Christ, and live for Him alone. On Mount *Sinai*, God in all His glory spoke the Ten Commandments to His children. He wanted them to be His chosen, peculiar people — a nation devoted to serving Him. Mount *Horeb* is called the mount of deliverance or the mount of God. It was here that Moses saw the bush burning but not consuming itself and was also the place where Elijah witnessed the power of God in the still, small voice. On Mount *Moriah*, Abraham offered his only son to the Master. All of God's children must give the best that they have to Him. Mount *Carmel* was where Elijah was placed opposite the idolatrous priests of Baal and where God revealed Himself as the only true God. The angel of the Lord was near to guide and pro-His Servant. Christ often prayed all night on the sixth mountain, the Mount of *Olives*, in order to gain strength for His difficult work. The disciples received many hours of instruction on this favorite mountain of Christ's. It is upon this mount that the city of God will settle when it descends from heaven. On Mount *Zion*, the last Bible mountain, the hopes of God's people will be fulfilled as they receive a crown of victory. It requires great effort to prove faithful to God, and the Christian can accomplish his goal only through the strength of Christ.

Friday evening, the Canadian young people gave a fine program on Building a House. With talks and songs we were carried from start to finish in building a glorious house. The lessons we receive from building such a structure can be applied to our Christian life and the formation of Christian character. We must remember constantly that our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit and that we are building not for today only but for éternity.

As the program began, we learned that before we can build a house we have to count our *means*

to be sure we have enough for a splendid house. The price of salvation is "all that thou hast," so everyone can afford to build such a house. The poor widow had only two mites, but she gave all she had; and the martyrs of the Dark Ages gave their lives to build this house. Everyone has enough *time* to build, so we must not spend it foolishly but use it wisely in the service of God. For the building *lot*, the Christian must choose the solid rock, Christ Jesus, and not the sinking sands of the world. The *foundation* upon which the house is built must be strong. The Ten Commandments serve as the foundation for the Christian's house. For *building material*, we must use the best available. Therefore, gold must be obtained, and Christ offers this faith and love to all. We must be sure that our gold is pure, for then it will never become dim or tarnished. For the *cornerstone*, the Christian must choose a stone around which the others can be placed symmetrically and in perfect order. This cornerstone is Christ. Our Saviour has shown us how to build our house, for He is the Master *Architect*. If we follow His example and the *blueprints* which He has given us in the Holy Scriptures, our building cannot fail. This building has *eight floors*, and one floor must be built above the other. These floors are described by the apostle Peter and they are, in order from bottom to top, faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness; and at the very top, at the highest point, stands charity, or love, the crowning *dome*, the eighth floor at the height of our Christian experience. Again we were reminded that it is necessary to rely on Christ as we build our temple of Christian character.

The third program was presented on Sabbath afternoon by the Sacramento, California, youth group. Their theme was "Messengers of God;" and by the spoken word and in song they portrayed the experiences of seven messengers God used to bring admonition, warning, and encouragement to His people. A long paper scroll stretched across the wall behind the speaker's stand and depicted the main event in the life of each messenger. Each speaker spoke in the first person, as if he were either a particular messenger or a person who was closely acquainted with him.

A musical trio began this beautiful program with the song, "How Beautiful upon the Mountains are the Feet of him that Bringeth Good Tidings,..." Then, *Noah's* daughter-in-law described the difficulties Noah encountered in preaching to the wicked world of his day and in building the ark which was to save the faithful ones from the great flood. We were admonished to come into the ark of safety before it should be forever too late. Pharaoh's daughter spoke about *Moses'* experiences as the leader of God's people and also about his

faithfulness to God and his reward in being taken to heaven as a type of those who will be raised from death to life eternal at Christ's coming. Another young person spoke as if he were *Elijah*, telling about his experiences in warning Israel of its wickedness, especially pointing to the event on Mount Carmel when he stood alone in defense of Jehovah. As at that time, so today only once to every man and nation does the moment come when they must decide either for God or for this world's perishable goods. *John the Baptist's* mother related the story of her son and the great privilege he received in being able to baptize Christ at the River Jordan and recognize Him as the Lamb of God. John the Beloved described *Jesus* and His great ministry on earth. Not even the disciples, Christ's closest friends, understood His mission or sympathized with His sufferings for mankind; and because of their lack of understanding, they had far more sad experiences than they would have had had they not sought after worldly honor and esteem. The apostle *Paul's* experience on the way to Damascus and his subsequent experiences as one of God's great messengers showed clearly that Christianity would not die out at Christ's death but would be carried to all the world and to the Gentiles. The last speaker brought us down to the present day as she spoke as if she were *Ellen G. White* and described the mission of the last of God's great messengers on earth. Sister White saw many things in vision, and one of the most outstanding was her view of Christ's second coming, the New Earth, and Mount Zion. This hope in Christ's soon return was what sustained her, all the messengers of God, and all of God's children down to the present time. In the closing song, "The King's Business," we were reminded that each one of us must be a messenger of God and do his part in the cause of God.

The programs presented and the many other meetings in which the youth took part were a great blessing to all. We rejoiced also when six young people took their stand with the Lord and were baptized Sunday morning. It is our prayer that they will prove faithful to God and that in the days to come all the youth will be a strength to God's people in the closing work before Christ's second coming.

—Barbara Demarest

Understanding God's Law with Nature's Help

Wonder how many people ever think of how many examples of nature we can find in the Bible that help explain God's law. In Proverbs 6:6-8, we read: "Go to the ant, thou sluggard;

consider her ways, and be wise: which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest." We should also be humble as the ant and try to do all our work without having to be supervised at every step. We should be willing to do what we can to help anyone who needs it; and we should earn all our money, food, and other needs honestly. We should never try to rob or steal anything from anybody.

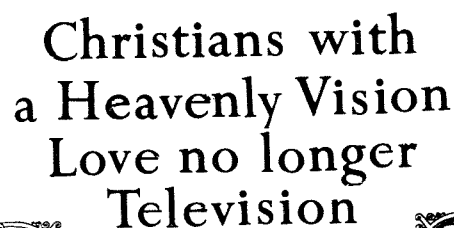
In Matthew 10:16, it says: "Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." This means that we are to be as humble as sheep when we meet with sin and temptation. We should be wise and try to avoid sin and unnecessary trouble when they try to enter our lives. If sin and strife do come into our lives, we should be humble and ask the Lord to help and forgive us. It is our duty to assist and comfort others when they have problems; we must never feel that it is not our responsibility to help others. The poor and needy especially demand our help. We should also try to bring others to the Truth.

It is sinful to try to work and work and never stop just because we are in need of money. We should work honestly, and God will take care of us. If you look in Matthew 6:26, you will read: "Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?" Let us spend our time working for God and then think of ourselves later.

In Matthew 6:28, 29, we find an excellent example of how we ought to live in this world: "And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." This tells us that we should not go around buying all sorts of attire, thinking how good we can make ourselves look. Wear simple clothes, and God will not forget to bless you.

I hope that all of us will think of these important lessons from the Word of God and that they may help us lead a better Christian life.

—John Sattelmaier, *Richmond, Virginia*



Christians with
a Heavenly Vision
Love no longer
Television

Our Homes and Our Health

HYGIENE

by E. G. WHITE

HYGIENE OF THE HOME AND PREMISES

"Dwellings, if possible, should be built upon high and dry ground. If a house be built where water settles around it, remaining for a time and then drying away, a poisonous miasma arises, and fever and ague, sore throat, lung diseases, and fevers will be the result....

"If every family realized the beneficial results of thorough cleanliness, they would make special efforts to remove every impurity from their persons and from their houses, and would extend their efforts to their premises. Many suffer decayed vegetable matter to remain about their premises. They are not awake to the influence of these things. There is constantly arising from the decayed substances an effluvium that is poisoning the air. By inhaling the impure air, the blood is poisoned, the lungs become affected, and the whole system is diseased....

"Stubborn fevers and violent diseases have prevailed in neighborhoods and towns that had formerly been considered healthy, and some have died, while others have been left with broken constitutions to be crippled with disease for life. In many instances their own yards contained the agents of destruction, which sent forth deadly poison into the atmosphere to be inhaled by the family and the neighborhood. The slackness and recklessness sometimes witnessed is beastly, and the ignorance of the results of such things upon health is astonishing. Such places should be purified, especially in summer, by lime or ashes, or by a daily burial with earth." —*How to Live*, pp. 64, 60, 61.

"Rooms that are not freely ventilated daily, and bedding that has not been thoroughly dried and aired, are not fit for use. We feel confident that disease and great suffering are brought on by sleeping in rooms with closed and curtained windows, not admitting pure air and the rays of the sun.... The room may not have had an airing for months, nor the advantages of a fire for weeks, if at all. It is dangerous to health and life to sleep in these rooms until the outside air shall have circulated through them for several hours and the bedding shall have been dried by the fire. Unless this precaution is taken, the rooms and bedding will be damp. Every room in the house should be thoroughly ventilated every day, and in damp wea-

ther should be warmed by fires.... Every room in your dwelling should be daily thrown open to the healthful rays of the sun, and the purifying air should be invited in. This will be a preventive of disease.... If all would appreciate the sunshine, and expose every article of clothing to its drying, purifying rays, mildew and mold would be prevented. The confined air of unventilated rooms meets us with sickening odors of mildew and mold, and the impurities exhaled by its inmates. The emanations from damp, moldy rooms and clothing are poisonous to the system." —*Health Reformer*.

HYGIENE OF THE PERSON

"Strict habits of cleanliness should be observed. Many, while well, will not take the trouble to keep in a healthy condition. They neglect personal cleanliness, and are not careful to keep their clothing pure. Impurities are constantly and imperceptibly passing from the body, through the pores, and if the surface of the skin is not kept in a healthy condition, the system is burdened with impure matter. If the clothing worn is not often washed, and frequently aired, it becomes filthy with impurities which are thrown off from the body by sensible and insensible perspiration. And if the garments worn are not frequently cleansed from these impurities, the pores of the skin absorb again the waste matter thrown off. The impurities of the body, if not allowed to escape, are taken back into the blood, and forced upon the internal organs....

"The ten commandments spoken by Jehovah from Sinai cannot live in the hearts of persons of disorderly, filthy habits. If ancient Israel could not so much as listen to the proclamation of that holy law, unless they had obeyed the injunction of Jehovah, and had cleansed their clothing, how can that sacred law be written upon the hearts of persons who are not cleanly in person, in clothing, or in their houses? It is impossible. Their profession may be as high as heaven, yet it is not worth a straw.... All who meet upon the Sabbath to worship God should, if possible, have a neat, well-fitting, comely suit to wear in the house of worship. It is a dishonor to the Sabbath, and to God and His house, for those who profess that the Sabbath is the holy of the Lord, and honorable, to wear the same clothing upon the Sabbath that they have worn through the week while laboring upon their farms, when they can obtain other." —*How to Live*, pp. 60, 59.

ENTIRE CONSECRATION

by A. W. DOERSCHLER

“Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 2:5.

AS we view the history of reformations in the past, we find that the Lord used only men and women who had consecrated their lives entirely to Him.

“The work of restoration and reform carried on by the returned exiles, under the leadership of Zerubbabel, Ezra, and Nehemiah, presents a picture of a work of spiritual restoration that is to be wrought in the closing days of this earth’s history. The remnant of Israel were a feeble people, exposed to the ravages of their enemies; but through them God purposed to preserve in the earth a knowledge of Himself and of His law. They were the guardians of the true worship, the keepers of the holy oracles. Varied were the experiences that came to them as they rebuilt the temple and the wall of Jerusalem; strong was the opposition that they had to meet. Heavy were the burdens borne by the leaders in this work; but these men moved forward in unwavering confidence, in humility of spirit, and in firm reliance upon God, believing that He would cause His truth to triumph.” —*Prophets and Kings*, p. 677.

We see from the Spirit of prophecy that the work of reform carried on among ancient Israel “presents a picture” of the reformation in this our day. Again the Lord expects His remnant people to bring an entire consecration. There is a two-fold reason connected with this call for an entire consecration in this special work of reform—spiritual restoration. First, we must realize that God’s remnant people are “a feeble people,” “an afflicted and poor people,” and that they must bear heavy burdens and carry on the work under strong opposition. Second, it is the will of God that, through an entire consecration, His remnant people may be sanctified. No selfish person should touch the work of God until he is converted and the spirit of consecration and holiness dwells in him. Says the Spirit of prophecy:

“True holiness is wholeness in the service of God. This is the condition of true Christian living. Christ asks for an unreserved consecration, for undivided service. He demands the heart, the mind, the strength. Self is not to be cherished. He who lives to himself is not a Christian.” —*Christ’s Object Lessons*, pp. 48, 49.

When converted, we surrender to God the bad things in our life that He cannot use; when consecrated to God, we surrender all the good things we have to Him to be used in His service.

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” Rom. 12:1.

“There is a picture representing a bullock standing between a plow and an altar, with the inscription, ‘Ready for either,’ ready to toil in the furrow or to be offered on the altar of sacrifice. This is the position of the true child of God—willing to go where duty calls, to deny self, to sacrifice for the Redeemer’s cause.” —*Ministry of Healing*, p. 502.

Having consecrated all, we are henceforth to make an effort to keep all upon the altar, continually consecrating and consecrated.

CONSECRATION OF TIME

“Our time belongs to God. Every moment is His, and we are under the most solemn obligation to improve it to His glory. Of no talent He has given will He require a more strict account than of our time.” —*Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 342.

Every true Christian will consecrate his time to God. We are living in a very solemn hour, and we should improve every opportunity in our work for those who are lost in sin. We have no time to waste, no time to devote to selfish pleasure, no time for the indulgence of sin. Only a short time remains in which we can perfect a character that will stand in the day of judgment. We should thank God that probation is still lingering and make good use of the few precious moments which are left for our individual preparation. The word of God admonishes us to redeem the time. The only way in which we can redeem the time is to make good use of that which remains. The day is soon coming when God will require a strict account of our time. Dear brother or sister, have you fully consecrated all your time to God? This is the question which we shall all have to meet in the judgment. Let us search our own hearts and see whether we cannot improve the little time that is left to better advantage than we have done in the past. Let us make the perfection of a Chris-

tian character and the work for the salvation of souls supreme in our lives.

A CONSECRATED TONGUE

"The power of speech is a talent that should be diligently cultivated. Of all the gifts we have received from God, none is capable of being a greater blessing than this. With the voice we convince and persuade, with it we offer prayer and praise to God, and with it we tell others of the Redeemer's love. How important, then, that it be so trained as to be most effective for good."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 325.

Dear reader, have you consecrated your lips to God's service? The lips are the whole man. Unless they are consecrated, nothing is truly consecrated. The apostle James tells us, "If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body." James 3:2. To verify our entire consecration, our conversation must be rightly ordered in the family, in private conversation, and in the meeting for prayer, praise, and testimony. The words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts must be acceptable in the sight of the Lord. We must speak as the Holy Spirit gives utterance.

Persons with wholly consecrated lips are exceedingly careful to order their speech rightly, to speak in the spirit of meekness and love; their conversation is such as becomes the Gospel of Christ. They are never fretful, overbearing, unduly excited or censorious. Consecrated or sanctified lips are never employed in joking, jesting, or foolish talking, which are not convenient; but they are used, rather, in giving thanks, in praising God, uttering words of soberness, modesty, humility, and grace to their hearers. Everyone whose lips are wholly consecrated feels and knows that by his words he is justified and by his words he is condemned. He knows that for every idle word he shall speak he "shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." Brethren and sisters, are your lips thus sanctified, set apart for God's glory? Is your heart so entirely sanctified, made so holy, that every word that proceeds from your lips is dictated by heavenly wisdom, by the Spirit of Christ? There is no surer test of the true state of the heart as to whether it is sanctified or un-sanctified than the ordering of the lips, "For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

1) Do not ever speak words of anger. Such words are unbecoming to a disciple of Christ.

2) Do not speak words of levity. Men who are about to be tried for their lives have no occasion to jest.

3) Do not speak evil of any man. Such is the imperative command of the Bible. (Titus 3:2.) We may never speak the faults of others except when necessity compels.

4) Do not take up a reproach against your neighbor. (Ps. 15:3.) He may be entirely innocent. Be governed by the great precept, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," and by the golden rule: "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets." Matt. 7:12.

5) The backbiting tongue shall never ascend into the hill of the Lord. (Ps. 15.)

6) Some men can never speak even of sacred things without using some coarse word, some irreverent expression, or even some indecent language. Such persons need a new conversion.

7) Finally, we must be circumspect in our words. The eyes of sinners are upon us. We cannot afford to trifle. We must adorn the doctrine of Christ, and the best way to adorn His doctrine is to live as He lived. By our words, we shall be justified; or by our words, we shall be condemned.

A CONSECRATED INFLUENCE

"This is a responsibility from which we cannot free ourselves. Our words, our acts, our dress, our deportment, even the expression of the countenance, has an influence. Upon the impression thus made there hang results for good or evil which no man can measure. Every impulse thus imparted is seed sown which will produce its harvest. It is a link in the long chain of human events, extending we know not whither. If by our example we aid others in the development of good principles, we give them power to do good. In their turn they exert the same influence upon others, and they upon still others. Thus by our unconscious influence thousands may be blessed."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, pp. 339, 340.

God has laid down in His word principles which are sufficient to govern us perfectly. The Holy Scriptures are able to make a man "perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." Then they must extend into every department of life and furnish a perfect guard and guide to our influence, if they are obeyed. We may, therefore, expect to find in the Bible something regarding the subject of influence. Does it allow a compromise with the world, a conformity to part of their ways so that they may conform to God in the remainder? Let us look at the example of Jesus. He set a perfect Christian pattern. Do we read anywhere that Jesus conformed to the world? No, never! His words, His acts, His dress, and His deportment were such as to have an influence for good. O, that the example of Christ may inspire us to take a decided, uncompromising position on the side of truth and the whole truth; let us allow nothing to draw us from the least point of God's will, as far as we understand it; then what influence we have will be felt for the truth, for holiness, while a

wavering or half-hearted work could accomplish very little for our Redeemer.

There is a peculiar grace and dignity to be seen in the life of those who walk with God. The tenderness of feeling, the amiability of temper, the carefulness not to injure others, the benevolence and sympathy of feeling, the glow of piety, and the aim to promote the happiness of others are traits which no mind can behold without respect and admiration. "Like begets like." And the one who holds daily intercourse with God in meditation and prayer will come to reflect the beauty and excellence of Christ. What a lustre there was to the face of Moses when he came down from the Mount! He had seen the Lord, had communed with Him face to face, had caught some of His glory, and his face shown when Israel beheld him. The same experience will be ours if we are constantly in close fellowship with our beloved Master.

It is good to be with one whose life is hid with Christ in God—one whose whole being is subdued, molded, chastened, adorned, and enriched by the grace of God. The life of such an one is from heaven—his speech is of heaven; and the power of his attraction and influence draws you toward heaven.

"The silent witness of a true, unselfish, godly life carries an almost irresistible influence. By revealing in our own life the character of Christ we cooperate with Him in the work of saving souls. It is only by revealing in our life His character that we can cooperate with Him. And the wider the sphere of our influence, the more good we may do." —*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 340.

Everything we do has its influence on the general character of our lives; and though we may not see our growth from day to day, we are growing in one way or another, advancing in God's favor or in the ways of evil. And while I bid you be watchful in all things, so I bid you always to pray, that your life may be so molded by the Holy Spirit that it will be an influence for good upon all those with whom you come in contact.

CONSECRATION OF OUR MEANS

"God also entrusts men with means. He gives them power to get wealth. He waters the earth with the dews of heaven and with the showers of refreshing rain. He gives the sunlight, which warms the earth, awakening to life the things of nature and causing them to flourish and bear fruit. And He asks for a return of His own." —*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 351.

The great plan for the salvation of lost man was founded upon a sacrifice of infinite value. No greater sacrifice could be made than the gift of the Son of God for our sins. The spirit of sacrifice that was manifested in God the Father, and Jesus Christ His Son, must be seen in the lives of those

who profess to be His children. Our only safety lies in the total consecration of all we have to Christ. Throw your heart wide open to Jesus. Give Him full and exclusive possession. Invest for Him all your powers of body, mind, and heart. Then you will verify in your happy experience the truth of His own words: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." You must often renew your dedication to God and to Jesus, the great Benefactor. Be not content with giving money. Place yourselves and all that you have upon the altar of God. Is it not most seemly and suitable that the Christian's life should bear a close resemblance to that of his glorious Master? Have you always remembered in every sacrifice you have made that He bought you with His own precious blood? Is there any sacrifice too great to be made for Him? Do you think that your own soul would stand justified, while others are lost because you refused to give your means to carry the light to them? Maybe you have thought that the Lord does not require you to sell your large farms or other worldly possessions. If you profess that your life is dedicated to God and His service, you will be willing to place your all upon the altar of sacrifice. The spirit of sacrifice is what we need and what we must have if we are ever to fulfill the mission God has given us. Never has there existed a people from whom greater sacrifices should be expected. We should not look upon the tithe as the limit of our liberality. As we are continually receiving the blessings of God, so are we to be continually giving. We are sustained every moment by God's care and upheld by His power. Surely, goodness and mercy attend us at every step. Let us with joyful hearts bring to our Creator liberal offerings.

WOULDST THOU?

*Wouldst thou an erring soul redeem,
And lead a lost one back to God?
Wouldst thou a guardian angel seem
To one who long in guilt has trod?
Go kindly to him, take his hand,
With gentle words, within thine own,
And by his side a brother stand,
Till thou the demon sin dethrone.*

*Scorn not the guilty then, but plead
With him in kindest, gentlest mood,
And back the lost one thou mayst lead
To God, humanity, and good.
Thou art thyself but man, and thou
Art weak, perchance to fall as he;
Then mercy to the fallen show,
That mercy may be shown to thee.*

—Sel.