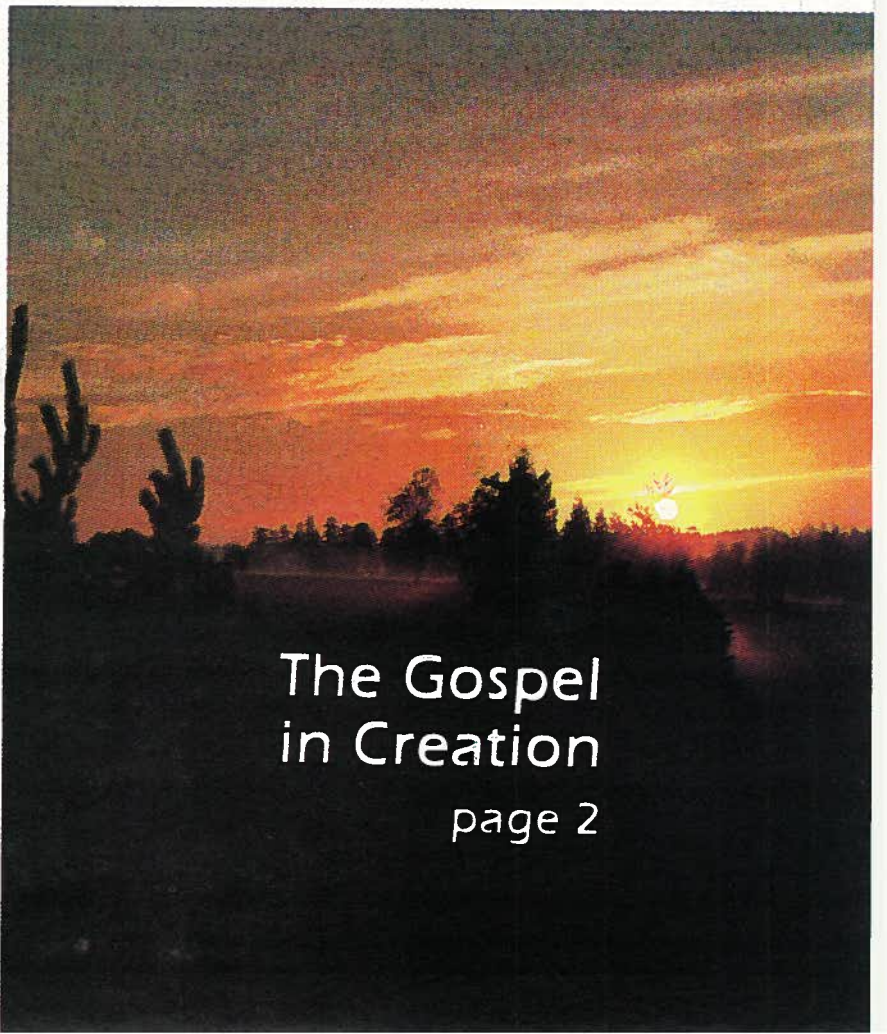
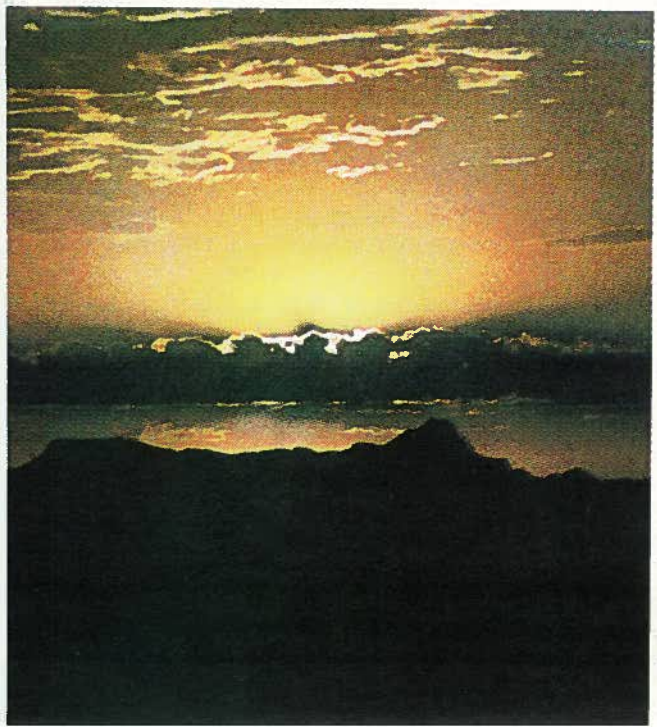
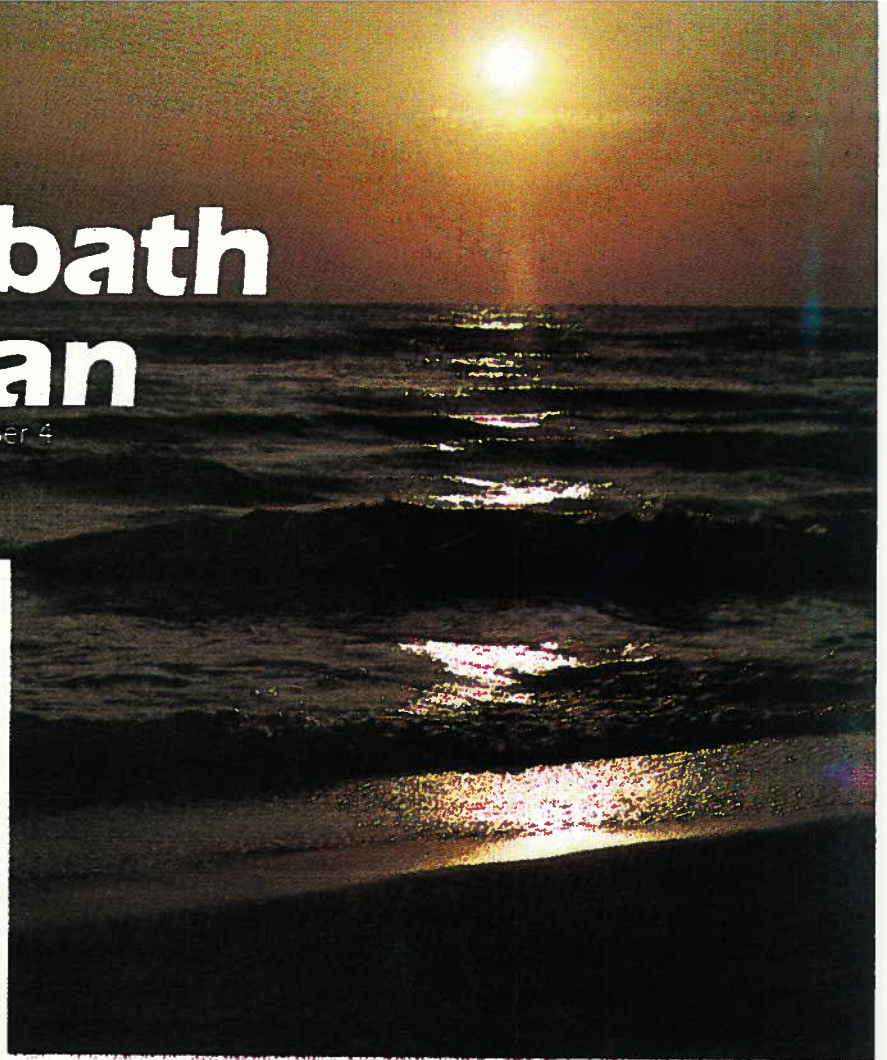
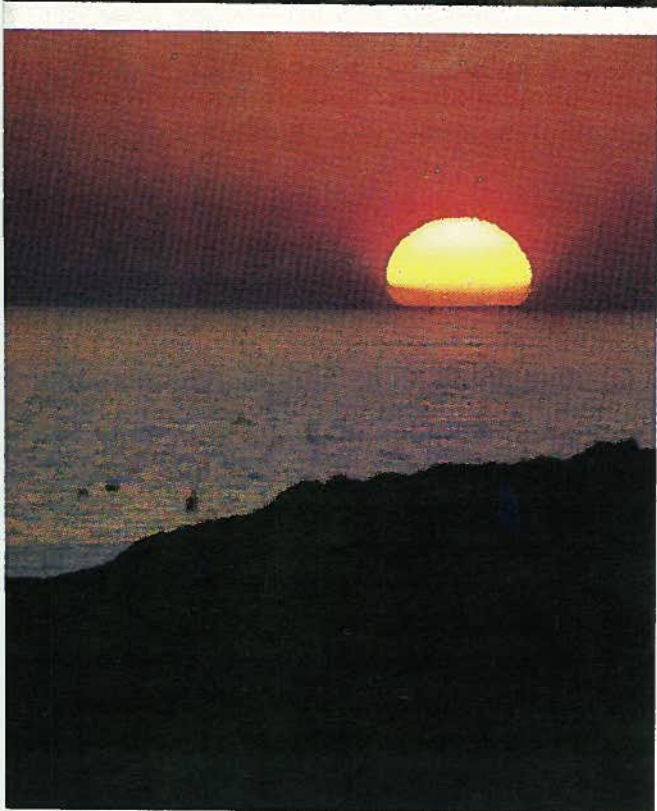


The Sabbath Watchman

July-August 1987 • Volume 62, Number 4



The Gospel
in Creation

page 2

The Sabbath Watchman



Beacon of hope, faith, truth in a confused world.

We believe:

The Bible to be infallible truth.

God the Father to be the one Creator and upholder of heaven and earth through His Word.

Jesus Christ to be God's Word made manifest and the world's only Saviour, who taught love revealed by obedience.

His coming to be imminent, visible, victorious over His enemies and rewarding to His children of faith.

The Holy Spirit to be His representative on earth, through whom we overcome a literal devil, Satan, the untiring instigator of evil.

The Ten Commandments to be the foundation of all enduring reform and obedience to be the result of genuine faith in the righteousness of Jesus Christ.

THE SABBATH WATCHMAN is published by Religious Liberty Publishing Association, a subsidiary of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Reform Movement, North American Union, International Missionary Society. World War I saw responsible men of the Seventh-day Adventist Church publicly declaring it to be the duty of all Adventist men to defend their respective countries with weapons in hand, even on the Sabbath. Hundreds of staunch believers protested this stand; but their protest was not heeded, and they were disfellowshipped against their wishes. All attempts to reunite on the old platform of truth failed. This was the birth of the Reform Movement, which today is represented in all major countries.

General Conference Office

Missionshaus "Salem"

Friedrich Ebert Strasse 17

D-6950 Mosbach/Baden, West Germany

The Sabbath Watchman also contains articles translated from *Der Sabbatwächter und Herold der Reformation*, the official organ of the General Conference.

Correspondence

Correspond with the General Conference by using the above address. Correspondence with the American Union should be sent to:

Seventh-day Adventist Church
Reform Movement, North American Union
International Missionary Society
 6380 63rd Street
 Sacramento, CA 95824 U.S.A.

Yearly Subscription Price

\$8.00 U.S.A. and Canada

\$10.00 foreign surface rate (U.S. funds only)

\$20.00 foreign air mail rate (U.S. funds only)

All contributions, names and addresses and correspondence regarding *The Sabbath Watchman* should be addressed to:

Religious Liberty Publishing Assn.
 9999 E. Mississippi Avenue
 Denver, CO 80231, U.S.A.

Literature Committee

Larry D. Watts

Berniece Hindmarsh

Michael Swenson

English-speaking Countries

AUSTRALIA: P.O. Box 54, Toongabbie, N.S.W. 2146

CANADA: P.O. Box 401, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 3H8

ENGLAND: 25 Pengam Road, Aberbargoed, Bargoed,

Mid Glam., CF8 9FT

GREECE: Adrianou 7, Athens, GR-105 55

INDIA: C/o M. Karunakaran, 115 Seruvamgi-avenue

Nager Gudiatham-N. Arcod District, Tamilnadu

INDONESIA: P.O. Box 183, Menado

JAMAICA: 2 Rousseau Road, Kingston 5

PHILIPPINES: P.O. Box 31, Legaspi City

SO. AFRICA: P.O. Box 74169, Turfontein 2140,

Johannesburg

SRI LANKA: 44 Kuruknegala Road, Chilaw

Other countries around the world

COVER: Sunsets around the world.

The Gospel in Creation

By E.J. WAGGONER, *Compiled from the Book, ca. 1891*

IN the fifteenth chapter of Romans and the fourth verse, the Spirit of God, through the apostle Paul, sets the seal of approval upon the whole of the Old Testament, in giving the object for which it was written. He says, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."

The reason why we find comfort and hope in the Old Testament is plainly revealed by Christ when, in His reply to the Jews, He gave the divine sanction to it, and especially to the writings of Moses, saying, "Ye search the Scriptures, because ye think that in them ye have eternal life; and these are they which bear witness of Me." "For if ye believed Moses, ye would believe Me; for he wrote of Me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe My words?" John 5:39, 46, 47, R.V. We may find comfort and hope in the Scriptures, because Christ is in them.

The spirit of the Old Testament is the Spirit of Christ. We read of the ancient prophets that they searched "what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow." 1 Peter 1:11.

Not only so, but the Old Testament contains the gospel. In the verse following the one last quoted we read, "Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven." That is, the prophets, Moses among them, ministered the very same things that were preached by the apostles, namely the gospel. Since the gospel of God is "concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 1:1-3), and the Jews would necessarily have believed in Jesus if they had believed Moses, because Moses wrote of Christ, it follows that what Moses wrote was the gospel.

The first thing that Moses wrote, through the inspiration of the Spirit of God, was the story of creation. That, therefore, is one of the things through which we are to receive hope and comfort. Why is it that we can receive hope and comfort through the story of the creation? Because that story contains the gospel. The declaration of the apostle, that the gospel "is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" (Romans 1:16), is familiar to all who have ever heard the gospel preached. The gospel is the manifestation of God's power put forth to save men. The same thing is stated in substance by the apostle Peter when he speaks of the inheritance reserved in heaven for those "who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation." 1 Peter 1:5.

But what is the measure of the power of God? Wherein is it seen in a tangible form? Read Romans 1:20, where we are told that ever since the creation of the world, the invisible things of God, even His eternal power and Godhead, are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made. It is in creation, therefore, that the power of God is to be seen by everybody. But the power of God in the line of salvation is the gospel. Therefore the works of creation teach the gospel. The tangible power of God is also declared in Psalm 19, where we read, "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth His handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge. There is

no speech nor language; without these their voice is heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world."

No matter what language a people speak, all can understand the language of the heavens. Their message can be read much more easily than if they uttered an audible sound; for all people on earth cannot understand the same articulate speech, but all who have reason can read the simple language of the works of God.

The gospel is the power of God, and the power of God is manifest in the things that He has made; therefore the psalmist is speaking of the gospel, which the heavens teach. That this is so is shown by the apostle Paul in Romans 10:15-18: "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaiâs saith, Lord who hath believed our report? So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the end of the world." The apostle is here speaking about the gospel, which, he says, all have not obeyed. Then he declares all have heard, and as proof that they all have heard, he quotes from Psalm 19: "Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world." Their words concerning what? Why concerning the gospel, of course. Thus we have a plain statement that the heavens do preach the gospel. There is no man so illiterate that he cannot read the gospel; no man so deaf nor so isolated that he cannot hear a gospel sermon.

Creation and redemption—the first day

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Genesis 1:1. In this brief sentence we have the whole of the truth of the gospel summed up. He who reads aright may derive a world of comfort from it.

In the first place, let us consider who it was that created the heaven and the earth. "God created." But Christ is God, the brightness of the Father's glory, and the express image of His person. See Hebrews 1:3. He Himself said, "I and My Father are one." John 10:30. He it was who, representing the Father, created the heaven and the earth. "In the beginning was the Word; and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made." John 1:1-3. And again we read of Christ, that "by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him and for Him: and He is before all things, and by Him all things consist." Colossians 1:16, 17.

The Father Himself addresses the Son as God and as Creator. The first chapter of Hebrews says that God has not at any time said to any of the angels, "Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten thee." "But unto the Son He saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Thy kingdom." And He has also said to the Son, "Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of Thine hands." Hebrews 1:5, 8, 10. So we are well assured that when we read

in the first chapter of Genesis, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth," it refers to God in Christ.

Creative power is the distinguishing mark of divinity. The Spirit of the Lord, through the prophet Jeremiah, described the vanity of idols, and then continues, "But the Lord is the true God, He is the living God, and an everlasting King: at His wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide His indignation. Thus shall ye say unto them, The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, even they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens. He hath made the earth by His power, He hath established the world by His wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by His discretion." Jeremiah 10:10-12. The earth was made by His power, and established by His wisdom. But Christ is "the power of God, and the wisdom of God." So here again we find Christ inseparably connected with creation as the Creator. Only as we acknowledge and worship Christ as the Creator do we acknowledge His divinity.

Christ is Redeemer by virtue of His power as Creator. We read that "we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins," because that "by Him were all things created." Colossians 1:14, 16. If He were not Creator, He could not be Redeemer. This means simply that redemptive power and creative power are the same. To redeem is to create. This is shown in the statement of the apostle that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation; which statement is immediately followed by another to the effect that the power of God is seen by means of the things that have been made. Romans 1:16-20. When we consider the works of creation, and the power manifested in them, we are contemplating the power of redemption.

Many have thought that redemption is a greater work than creation. Such speculation is idle, because only infinite power could perform either work, and infinite power cannot be measured by human minds. But while we cannot measure the power, we can easily settle the question of which is the greater, because the Scriptures give us the information. Neither is greater than the other, for both are the same. Redemption is creation. Redemption is the same power that was put forth in the beginning to create the world and all that is in it, now put forth to save men and the earth from the curse of sin.

The Scriptures are very clear on this point. The psalmist prayed, "Create in me a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within me." Psalm 51:10. The apostle says, that "if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature" (2 Corinthians 5:17), or a new creation. And again we read, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained, that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:8-10.

Compared with God, man is "less than nothing, and vanity." Isaiah 40:17. In him "dwelleth no good thing." Romans 7:18. Now the same power that in the beginning made the earth from nothing, takes man, if he is willing, and makes of him that which is "to the praise of the glory of His grace." Ephesians 1:6.

The creative word

Having seen that Christ the Word, is the Creator of all things, and that He redeems by His creative power, let us now learn what the Bible says as to how He created. Here is the answer: "By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: He layeth up the depth in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. For He spake, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast." Psalm 33:6-9. It is very simple, and most wonderful because of its very simplicity. Well may we all exclaim, "What a word is this!"

"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." Hebrews

As soon as the sinner believes, . . . a new life is thus begun in him, . . . a life of obedience . . .

11:3. How do we know how the worlds were made?—By faith. Faith gives knowledge. That is its special work. Knowledge gained by faith is not vague and uncertain, but is the most absolutely certain of any knowledge. In fact, there is no real knowledge that does not spring from faith. Knowledge that comes in any other way is speculation. The unbelieving soul regards faith as folly, but the faithful soul knows that faith makes for it a solid foundation. Whoever will *believe may know*.

Now, just as the child learns the alphabet, so we learn the truths of God. Whoever receives the kingdom of heaven must receive it as a little child. By faith we learn to know Jesus Christ, who is the Alpha and the Omega—the entire alphabet of God. He who believes the simple statement of the Bible, concerning creation, may know for a certainty that God did create the heaven and the earth by the power of His word. The fact that some unbeliever doubts this, and thinks that it is foolish, does not shake his knowledge, nor prove that he does not know it, any more than our knowledge of the alphabet is shaken or disproved by some other person's ignorance of it.


"By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them *by the breath of His mouth*." In the breath of God there are not only the forms, but the very living things themselves, for He is the living God, and with Him is "the fountain of life." When He speaks, the word which names the thing, contains the very thing itself. Whatever the word describes exists in living form in that word.

This is indicated by the words of the apostle Paul concerning God that He "callesth those things which be not as though they were." This is an attribute of Divinity alone. If a man calls a thing that is not, as though it were, it is a lie. But God does so, and He cannot lie. How is this? Simply because that when He calls a thing by name, or says that a thing will be, it already exists, even though it cannot be seen. The thing is in His word.

When He names a thing that previously had no existence, that instant the thing exists, for His word forms it as it names it. When He says that a thing will be, then it is as sure as though it had already appeared, because it does really exist in the word that has been spoken. It is for this reason that so much of prophecy is in the perfect tense, as though already accomplished. So when the worlds were to be brought into existence, God spoke, and there they were. They were formed by the breath of His mouth.

Now see how firm a foundation is given the believing one who knows that all things were created by the word of God, and that when God speaks, the thing named exists, full of life. The psalmist says, "I will hear what God the Lord will speak: for He will speak peace unto His people, and to His saints." Psalm 85:8. "He speaks peace through the Divine Word, for He is our peace." Ephesians 2:14. But peace means righteousness, for we read, "Great peace have they which love Thy law: and nothing shall offend them" (Psalm 119:165), or cause them to stumble. And again, "O that thou hadst hearkened to My commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea." Isaiah 48:18. Then it must be that God speaks righteousness when He speaks peace. And so it is, for again we read:

"But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; being justified [made righteous, or doers of the law] freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; whom God hath set for to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; to declare, I say, at this time His righteousness: that He might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus." Romans 3:21-26.

Notice that man is declared to have no righteousness: "There is none that doeth good, no, not one." Romans 3:12. No one has anything in him out of which righteousness can be made. Then the righteousness of God is put, literally, *into* and *upon* all that believe. Then they are both clothed with righteousness, and filled with it, according to the Scripture. In fact, they then become "the righteousness of God" in Christ. And how is this accomplished? God declares His righteousness upon the one who believes. To declare is to speak. So God speaks to the sinner, who is nothing, and who has nothing, and says, "You are righteous," and immediately that believing sinner ceases to be a sinner, and is the righteousness of God. The word of God which speaks righteousness has the righteousness itself in it, and as soon as the sinner believes, and receives that word into his own heart by faith, that moment he has the righteousness of God in his heart; and since out of the heart are the issues of life, it follows that a new life is thus begun in him; and that life is a life of obedience to the commandments of God. Thus faith is indeed the substance of things hoped for; because faith appropriates the word of God, and the word of God is substance. (To be continued) 

Christ in the Old Testament

By JAMES WHITE, 1880

WHEN all was lost in Adam, the plan of redemption through Jesus Christ was immediately instituted; hence He is represented as the "Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." Revelation 13:8. In the patriarchal and Jewish ages, Christ was slain in figure. In the Christian age He is slain in fact. The Scriptures reveal but one plan by which fallen men may be saved. It is true that in the development of the plan of grace through Christ there has been in each dispensation an increase of light. But in all the Bible there is no intimation of three plans, one for the patriarchal age, one for the Jewish, and one for the Christian age.

Jesus Christ is the Redeemer of sinners in all the ages of human probation. "Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12. We protest, in the name of reason and revelation, against the vague heresy that the law of the Father and the gospel of the Son are opposed to each other, the one designed to take the place of the other; as if the men of former dispensations were saved by the law, without the gospel, and those of the present dispensation are saved by the gospel while disregarding the moral law. It was not possible for sinful man in the ages past to secure a fitness for the inheritance of the saints in light by the divine law alone. There is no ability in law to redeem the transgressor. It is not the province of law, human or divine, to pardon the transgressor of law. The moral law is a perfect rule of action, condemning the transgressor, and holding him as such until he shall suffer the penalty. The divine law can do no more for the sinner. It is the gospel alone that offers pardon and salvation. And without the gospel of the Son of God none of the men of the patriarchal and Jewish ages could be saved.

The gospel is the *joyful message* of redemption through Jesus Christ. We inquire, How early in the sad history of the fallen race was the gospel proclaimed? Was it first given in the days of Christ? of Moses? of Abraham? or of Adam? We distinctly trace the faith and hope of the gospel of the Son of God in that early denunciation of wrath upon Satan, that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head. Genesis 3:15. In this decree against the author of sin and death, we hear the gospel of the Redeemer as verily as in the song of the angels over the plains of Bethlehem, to the shepherds as they watched their flocks by night. Luke 2:8-14.

And when the first sons of Adam brought their offerings to the Lord, Cain in unbelief brought of the first-fruits of the ground. But Abel, in faith of the great Sacrifice for sin to be manifested in the distant future, brought of the firstlings of his flock. Through that lamb, Abel saw the Lamb of God, the Redeemer of the world, and set his hope upon Him. In the blood of that firstling, Abel saw the blood of Jesus Christ as truly as we see the dying Saviour in the broken bread and the fruit of the vine at the Lord's supper. In these emblems we see Christ shedding His blood on the cross for our sins. Abel saw the same in the bleeding, dying firstling which he offered.

"And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering; but unto Cain and to his offering He had not respect." Genesis 4:4, 5. The sacred narrative states that while Abel's act of faith in the Redeemer to come, sealed his righteous character, cost him his life, and placed him at the head of the holy martyrs of Jesus, Cain's infidelity was regarded as sinful, and was the stepping-stone to the high crime of the

murder of his brother, which sealed his character as a vagabond in the earth.

The eleventh chapter of Hebrews places Abel at the head of the faithful worthies. Paul speaks, in these emphatic words, of his righteous act of faith in offering to the Lord in sacrifice the type of the Redeemer to come: "By faith, Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts, and by it he being dead yet speaketh." Abel laid hold of the hope that was set before him of the Redeemer to come, and in type embraced Christ. And, as he set the seal to his faith, in presenting before the Lord the most fitting emblem of the dying Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world, high Heaven bestowed the signal witness that he was righteous. And for six thousand years this eminent preacher of the gospel, though dead, has been speaking of his faith in Christ.

The beloved John, in contrasting the infidelity and murderous spirit of Cain with the confiding faith, pure love and obedience of those who revere the commandments of God, and lay hold of the faith of Jesus Christ, says, "Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous." Abel formed a righteous character, not only in laying hold of the Redeemer to come, by faith through the figure of the firstling of his flock, but by perfecting that saving faith in the act of presenting the sacrifice before the Lord his God.

We pass down the sacred record of the fallen race to Abraham, and there we find the joyful news of redemption through Jesus Christ, to be extended to the nations of the earth, proclaimed to the trusting, obedient patriarch. Paul speaks of it thus: "And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed." Galatians 3:8. The apostle here quotes from Genesis 12:3. See verse 7, chapters 13:14, 15; 17:7, 8; 26:3; 28:13, where this promise is extended to Abraham's seed.

The gospel of the Son of God was proclaimed to Abraham in this promise, in that it is really a promise of Christ, as argued by the apostle in Galatians 3:16: "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, and to thy seed, which is Christ." The promise to Abraham, that in him all the families of the earth should be blessed, embraces Jesus Christ as the only hope of salvation for men of all nations, as stated by the apostle in verse 14: "That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ." The faith of Abraham embraces Christ as its glorious object. This is seen in Christ's reply to the Jews, who boasted in Abraham as their father. "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day; and he saw it, and was glad." John 8:56.

The gospel was preached to the children of Israel in the days of Moses. In his epistle to the Hebrews, Paul states: "Unto us was the gospel preached, as

well as unto them; but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it." Hebrews 4:2. That the gospel was preached to their fathers in a former dispensation, the apostle treats as a well-known fact, and states that it was preached in his day as well as then, making it appear that the gospel of the Son of God was alike common in both the Jewish and the Christian age. He also testifies of the Hebrews in the wilderness, that they "were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and did all eat the same spiritual meat, and did all drink the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ." 1 Corinthians 10:2-4.

Moses and the believing Jews had the faith and hope of the gospel. Through the blood of the sacrificial offerings they saw Christ, and by faith embraced Him. Their hopes of the future life were not in the law, but in Christ. The typical system was the shadow of good things to come, of which Christ, as a sacrifice and mediator, is the center. These good things are the body that casts its shadow back into the Jewish age. The bleeding sacrifices of the former ages were but the shadow, while Christ bleeding on the cross was the great reality. The blood of beasts offered by the Jews, understandingly, and in faith, as clearly pointed forward to the blood of Christ, as the Lord's supper and baptism point back to His sufferings, death and resurrection.

Christ was with Moses and the children of Israel in the wilderness. The Angel that went before them was the Lord Jesus Christ. Exodus 23:20, 21, 23; 14:19; 32:34; 33:2, 14; Numbers 20:16; Joshua 5:13, 14; Acts 7:37, 38. The record states that Joshua was by Jericho, and that "he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? And He said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the Lord am I now come." Joshua 5:13, 14.

We must not understand by this declaration of the angel that he had come to supersede Joshua in the command of the armies of Israel. Joshua was still commander, as is seen by chapter 6:2; "And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valor." But the Angel had come to Joshua's aid, as Captain of the heavenly host of loyal angels.

The Captain of the host of the Lord is the head over angels, or the Archangel of Jude 9, and the Lord Himself of 1 Thessalonians 4:16. And while it was appointed to Joshua to lead the armies of Israel around Jericho, a portion of the priests bearing the ark of God containing the ten commandments, and seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of God, the Son of God was to lead on the invisible armies.

As archbishop is the head over bishops, so Archangel means the head over angels. Christ stands at the head of all the holy angels, and thus He is the Captain of the host of the Lord. The Reve-

lation, referring to the time when sin was first introduced, says: "And there was war in Heaven: Michael and His angels fought against the dragon." Chapter 12:7. And as Captain of the Lord's host, the Son of God is represented in chapter 19:11-16, as riding forth from the opening heavens on a white horse, and the armies of Heaven following Him.

Joshua had no battering rams by which to break down the walls of Jericho. At his command "the armed men went before the priests that blew with the trumpets, and the rereward came after the ark, the priests going on, and blowing with the trumpets." In this simple display there was no manifestation of physical force. The work of casting down the massive walls of Jericho was left to the invisible hands of the heavenly host led on by the Son of God.

The day was gained. "So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets. And it came to pass when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat so that the people went up into the city every man straight before him, and they took the city." Joshua 6:20. And it is an exceedingly interesting fact to those who keep "the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus" under the third message, Revelation 14:12, that prominent among the united agencies employed to achieve that grand victory, away back in the days of Joshua, were the ten commandments in the ark, and the leadership of the Son of God.

And it is not a common angel that is spoken of in Exodus 23:20, 21: "Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. Beware of Him, and obey His voice, provoke Him not; for He will not pardon your transgressions; for My name is in him." Such language can be applied to no other than the Son of God.

Christ is the Angel that was with Moses in the Mount Sinai. In that last address of the holy martyr, Stephen, he bears this important testimony. The words in brackets express our convictions relative to the persons meant in Acts 7:38: "This [Moses] is he that was in the church in the wilderness with the Angel [Christ] which spake to him [Moses] in the Mount Sinai, and with our fathers, who received the lively oracles to give unto us." The conclusion seems irresistible that the Son of God spoke the ten commandments from Sinai.

The children of Israel were called from Egyptian servitude to a land where they would be free to serve the living God. And before they should enter that good land, it was necessary that they should be impressed with the precepts of the moral code, and also with the typical service, which was the gospel of the Son of God in figure. These were represented by the Father and the Son on Mount Sinai. But it was the Son, as Mediator between God and man, who spoke the ten commandments from Mount Sinai in the hearing of Moses and the Hebrew fathers.

The work of emancipating, instructing and leading the Hebrews, was given to One who is called an

Angel. Exodus 13:21; 14:19, 24; 23:20-23; 32:34; Numbers 20:16; Isaiah 63:9. And this angel Paul calls "that spiritual Rock that followed them," and he affirms, "That Rock was Christ." 1 Corinthians 10:4.

The eternal Father is never called an angel in the Scriptures, while what angels have done is frequently ascribed to the Lord, as they are His messengers and agents to accomplish His work. It is said of Him who went before the Hebrews to deliver them, "My name is in him." In all the stupendous events of that deliverance, the mind of the Father was represented in the Son.

The typical system was given to Moses by the Son of God in the Mount Sinai. Jesus Christ, the minister of the "true tabernacle," showed Moses patterns of it, and of the vessels of the heavenly sanctuary, that he might know how to form the typical. And as Moses is instructed relative to the tabernacle, even the several parts of the golden candlestick, Exodus 25:31-40, the boards and bars, chapter 26:15-30, and the altar with its staves, pans, shovels and other particulars, chapter 27:1-8, he is charged, as quoted by Paul, Hebrews 8:5, "See that thou make all things according to the pattern showed to thee in the mount."

The church of all the ages is the church of Jesus Christ. He is the world's only Redeemer. Those who shut themselves up to the New Testament, and have the foundation of the church laid at the resurrection, or at Pentecost, are building too narrow a structure. The apostle states the foundation of the true church in these words: "Now, therefore, ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner-stone." Ephesians 2:19, 20.

When the angel said to John in Patmos, "The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy," he meant more than expositors generally suppose. His words reach far back to the days of fallen Adam, when the plan of redemption was instituted, and embrace the entire prophetic word of both Testaments.

Once man walked with God in Eden. With open face he beheld the glory of the Lord, and talked with God, and Christ, and angels in Paradise, without a dimming veil between. Man fell from his moral rectitude and innocence, and was driven from the garden, from the tree of life, and from the visible presence of the Lord and His holy angels.

When all was lost in Adam, and the shades of night darkened the moral heavens, there soon appeared the star of hope in Christ, and with it there was established a means of communication between God and man. In his fallen state, man could not converse face to face with God, and with Christ, and with angels, as when in his Eden purity; but through the ministration of holy angels could the great God speak to him in dreams and visions. "If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make Myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream." Numbers 12:6.



The manifestation of the Spirit of Prophecy was designed for all dispensations. The sacred record nowhere restricts it to any particular period of time, from the fall to the final restitution. The Bible recognizes its manifestation alike in the patriarchal age, in the Jewish age, and in the Christian age. Through this medium, God communed with holy men of old.

When sin had separated man from God, the plan of redemption made Christ the connecting link between the offended God and the offending sinner. Then could the great God communicate His will to the fallen race through His beloved Son. And He has spoken to the children of men through Christ, because He could not commune directly with sinners. Christ has been a mediator between God and man during all the ages of human probation. The order of communication from God to man, as set forth in the preface to the Revelation, has doubtless been the same in the patriarchal, Jewish, and Christian ages: "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto Him, to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass; and He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John." Revelation 1:1.

Christ and His angels are the connecting link between God and fallen man. Here is the order by which prophetic truth is communicated from the throne of heaven to the children of men. God gives it to Christ. Christ gives it to His angel. The angel shows it to the chosen prophet of God. And the prophet reveals it to the people.

The plan of salvation by which man is reconciled to God and God to man, was devised by both the Father and the Son. And in carrying it out, the counsel of peace is between them both. Zechariah 6:13. But it was given to the Son to reveal this plan in the several stages of its development to the fallen race in the several ages.

All things pertaining to the grand scheme of redemption, whether in the figures of the former dispensations, or in the facts of the present, were revealed to the fallen race by our adorable Redeemer. He is therefore no more the author of the Christian than of the Jewish system. And those who contrast Moses with Christ, and the Jewish with the Christian system, are virtually arraying Christ against Christ.

The Spirit of Christ inspired the prophets of the former dispensations. It testified through them of Christ's sufferings at His first advent, and of the glory that should follow at His second coming. The apostle, speaking of the great salvation which had come to the church through Jesus Christ, says that the prophets "inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you; searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow." 1 Peter 1:10, 11.

In this is seen the harmony of both Testaments, that the Spirit of Jesus inspired the writers of both. And while the blind Jew shuts himself up to the Old,

and the equally blind Christian virtually shuts himself up to the New Testament, we thank God for a whole Bible. In the writings of both Testaments we see the entire plan of salvation in all stages of its development, in the several dispensations, and the Spirit of Christ inspiring the divine whole.

The Spirit of Christ was in Enoch, the seventh from Adam, testifying through him: "Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him." Jude 14, 15. And so extended was the range of his prophetic vision, and so minute, that he could look down over long ages, and describe the coming of the Lord, and the execution of the last judgment upon the ungodly.

The Spirit of Christ was in Abel, testifying of the sufferings of Christ through the blood of the firstling of his flock. And the Spirit of Christ was in Moses, testifying of the sufferings of Christ through the blood of those beasts, which was typical of the blood of the Son of God.

The Spirit of Christ was in Daniel, testifying in his prophecy of the sufferings of Christ in the midst of the seventieth prophetic week: "And after three-score and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off." "And in the midst of the week He shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease." Chapter 9:26, 27. The Spirit of Christ in the prophet also testified of the glory that should follow, in these words: "I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of Man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. And there was given Him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom." Chapter 7:13, 14.

The blessed Christ of the New Testament had the supervision of giving this important prophecy to Daniel. In proof of this proposition, we first cite the statement of the angel that appeared to Daniel in his vision of the tenth chapter: "There is none that holdeth with me in these things but Michael your prince." Verse 21. There were only three persons connected with the giving of the prophecy: Daniel, Michael and another, which chapter 8:16, shows to be Gabriel. "And I heard a man's voice between the banks of Ulai, which called and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision." This command to Gabriel to further instruct the prophet Daniel came from Michael, as no other held with Him in the things of the prophecy. Hence, Michael, or the Son of God, having received the great things of the prophecy from the Father, shows them to the angel Gabriel, with the order for him to reveal them to the prophet Daniel.

There is a striking similarity in the manner in which the prophecy of this book was given in the Jewish dispensation, and the manner in which the last book of the New Testament was given in the Christian dispensation. Both came from the Father to the Son, and both were shown to angels by the Son, to be revealed by them to Daniel and to John,

for the benefit of the servants of God. The object of one was to show "what shall be in the latter days," (Daniel 2:28) and the object of the other is to show the "things which must shortly come to pass." Revelation 1:1.

The Spirit of Christ was in Isaiah, testifying of the sufferings of Christ in these words: "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief." "He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed." Chapter 53:3, 5. The Spirit of Christ in Isaiah also testifies of His glory: "Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon His kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth, even forever." Chapter 9:7.

We might continue these quotations to almost any length. The whole ground, however, is briefly covered by these remarkable words of the Saviour: "All things must be fulfilled which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the Psalms, concerning Me." Luke 24:44.

Moses was a prophet. The Spirit of Christ was in this leader of the tribes of Israel, and testified, as quoted by Peter: "A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me." Acts 3:22; Deuteronomy 18:18. The phrase *like unto me*, in the above passage, has reference to Christ and Moses as prophets or teachers. In many respects Moses and Christ were unlike; but as prophets they were alike. The principles which they declared to the people came from Him who has said, "I change not." God spoke through them both. Neither Moses nor Christ were law-makers. Christ disclaims having anything to do with legislation. "My doctrine is not Mine, but His that sent Me." John 7:16. "I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father hath taught Me, I speak these things." Chapter 8:28. "The word which ye hear is not Mine, but the Father's which sent Me." Chapter 14:24. And speaking of the Son, the Father says, "He shall speak unto them all that I shall command Him." Deuteronomy 18:18.

In their efforts to hold before the people the Jewish and Christian dispensations in as wide contrast as possible, certain religious teachers would make it appear that the doctrines and principles taught by Christ were unlike those taught by Moses. But *like* means *like*, and not *unlike*.

In the development of the plan of redemption through Jesus Christ in all the ages, from the time that hope first dawned upon fallen Adam to the crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension of Christ, and the glory of Pentecost, there have been degrees of light and glory. Hence the comparison of the dispensations. The great plan is one, unfolding with degrees of increased light and glory in the successive ages. Paul's comparison of the two ministrations is worthy of special study. Mark well the clearness and strength of his expressions, which we here give side by side, not for contrast but for comparison.

JEWISH MINISTRATION

But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious,

For if the ministration of condemnation be glory,

For even that which was made glorious had no glory in this respect,

For if that which is done away was glorious,

CHRISTIAN MINISTRATION

how shall not the ministration of the Spirit be rather glorious! 2 Corinthians 3:7, 8.

much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory. Verse 9.

by reason of the glory that excelleth. Verse 10.

much more that which remaineth is glorious. Verse 11.

The typical system did not originate with Moses. It came from Heaven. It originated with the God of love, and the merciful Christ of the New Testament. The first covenant, of itself, in its time, was glorious with blessings to the obedient. It is an impeachment of the character of God as a changeless being of love and wisdom to say that any part of His plan to redeem fallen men is defective and bad, whether it be in figure in the first covenant, or in fact in the second.

The unqualified strength of Scripture expression in a few instances in both the Old and the New Testament seems at first reading hardly to agree with the position here taken. But these texts must be viewed in a comparative sense in harmony with the general scope of Scripture testimony, the character of God, and the special comparison of the apostle in declaring the ministration of the Jewish age glorious, while that of the Christian age is simply more glorious than the one that preceded it.

And why should the two ministrations be held in contrast? They both came from the same Divine Source, in behalf of the same race of sinners, to perfect that holiness of character in all the saved from all the ages, necessary for the same holy heaven. Hence John in prophetic vision, looking forward, saw them all gathered to the immortal shores, from the time of the holy martyr Abel down to the last ransomed sinner near the close of the Christian age, "a great multitude which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues." He heard them all unite in the same acclamation, "Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb." Revelation 7:9, 10.

Why should there be a wide contrast between ministrations under which the unit family of the immortal world finds eternal redemption? Why? God is the one Father of all the adopted sons and daughters of grace from all the ages, and Christ is their only Saviour and Redeemer. Angels that excel in strength are the holy guardians of the obedient and faithful of every age, and the Holy Spirit is their sanctifier. The pious dead of all the ages sleep in the one Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:17, 18); and His voice will awaken them all at His coming. John 5:28, 29. They will all be caught up together to meet the Lord in the air, and, upon the sea of glass, all will receive the crown of glory and the palm of victory from the hand of Jesus. Then why should there be a wide contrast between God's moral government of fallen men in the Jewish and Christian ages?



Jehovah

By OSCAR VALLES,
Hayward, California

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is ONE LORD." Deuteronomy 6:4; Mark 12:29. "ONE LORD, ONE faith, ONE baptism, ONE GOD and Father of all." Ephesians 4:5, 6.

THESE texts state that there is only ONE LORD, and ONE GOD.

And on this earth there are approximately 70,000 Christian religions, all claiming to be serving the "ONE LORD" and "ONE GOD." Some say they serve "JEHOVAH" GOD, the Father, and that Jesus is a god, while others say that the Father and the Son are one. But GOD has given us His Holy Word so we can know what is true.

The name "Jehovah" is a very holy name. It was the name that Israel was instructed to know Him by, thus distinguishing Him from all false gods. Exodus 3:13-15.

It is interesting to note that, before Israel came to know Him by this name, their forefathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, knew Him only by "God Almighty." Exodus 6:3. He was also known as the "I AM." Genesis 15:1. To the ancient fathers, "I AM, God Almighty" was enough for them to recognize that GOD was the Eternal One. Israel came to know Him as "Jehovah," and we today know Him as the "Everlasting God." The Lord has always been known to His people and has always been with them from the beginning of creation. The true child of God need not be confused as to the true identity of his Saviour.

But to know God has never been the will of God. Let me explain. The verb "know" has two meanings, though at times they crisscross. *Roget's Thesaurus* brings this out in a most interesting way as concerning our Lord:

1. Knowledge—to be aware of, conscious of, etc.
2. Belief—to be convicted, assurance of faith, truth.

One day I was canvassing in my area, and I came to a house where the owner stood at the door. He was telling me how he had lost most of his stomach in the Vietnam War and how he had suffered much. His words expressed horrible, terrible thoughts. So I led him to see how God is so good to us, how He desires for all to be saved and that He has gone to prepare a place for all His people. Even though man has never seen what God has in store for him, living faith keeps many hoping. Well, he said to me that he did believe in God, but he could not even imagine a place on earth where peace could exist.

Dear reader, by this experience can you understand the meaning to "know God"? The Lord does not want to be known as Jehovah only, but He wants His people to be convicted that He is their only hope and shelter, that by His strength we can be overcomers and that by His righteousness we can become like Him in every way.

Like the man I met, many know God by knowledge

This word, rarely repeated by the ancient Jew out of reverence for God, expresses His infinite greatness and calls to mind the power of His presence. In its history lies the story of God revealing Himself to humanity.

but are not convicted in their hearts that He can do anything for them and offer them a better place.

But that is how Abraham, Isaac and Jacob knew Him. They were convicted in their minds and hearts that the "I AM" was the Everlasting God. Let us take a closer look at the words "I AM." In Exodus 3:14, we find this name given three times. Moses was to instruct and tell Israel of the Hope to come and to rely wholly upon Him, "the Self-Existing One." The Lord does not depend on anyone for His existence, but all creation depends upon Him. The "I AM" means an Eternal Presence. The forefathers knew and trusted this to be. "GOD ALMIGHTY" means powerful and strong. Putting it all together, we have God, who is self-existent, who will never forsake those who know (are convicted of) Him and who is powerful to subdue all our enemies and will give us the strength to have victory over sin.

Remember when Israel was to be released from the chains of Egyptian bondage and they needed to have complete trust in God—that He could free them. Faith was necessary. "During all the years of servitude in Egypt there had been among the Israelites some who adhered to the worship of Jehovah. These were sorely troubled as they saw their children daily witnessing the abominations of the heathen, and even bowing down to their false gods. In their distress they cried unto the Lord for deliverance from the Egyptian yoke, that they might be freed from the corrupting influence of idolatry. . . .

"The elders of Israel endeavored to sustain the sinking faith of their brethren by repeating the promises made to their fathers. . . .

"Some would listen and believe. Others, looking at the circumstances that surrounded them, refused to hope." —Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 259.

In Exodus 6:2, 3, God announced to Moses that Israel was to know Him as "Jehovah." It is also interesting to note that in the Jewish Holy Scriptures (the Old Testament) in verse 2, His name is substituted by the word "Lord," meaning "Adonoy," ruler, master; but in verse 3 they do not use "Lord" nor write out "Jehovah" but use the letters of their Hebrew alphabet.

Bible translators used different words to describe God's holy name. For instance, the Catholic Douay version, copyright 1914, uses "Asonoi" instead of "Jehovah" in Exodus 6:3. Yet in the Hebrew Bible of 1917, "Jehovah" is never written nor found in the manner explained in the previous paragraph. But in the King James Version, it is written four times as "Jehovah." Exodus 6:3; Psalm 83:18; Isaiah 12:2; 26:4. Here it seems to emphasize the great and holy character and power that He alone possesses. Now, if you take a Spanish Bible, you will find "Jehovah" repeated many, many times.

Words can be used to bring out the meaning of what the writer wants to say. As an example, let us use the word "giant." To a child, it would be someone or something very big and even mean looking. To us who are older, it may mean tall or enormous in size, or perhaps famous. But the Bible describes this word in Genesis 6:4 and Numbers 13:33 as bullies or tyrants. Though tall in size, they were also rash, forcing others to do their will or die; and because of this sinful behavior, the Lord decided to destroy them by a flood. The German and Hebrew translations use "tyrants" in place of "giants." So you see, emphasis is placed to show the importance of the word's meaning.

Psalm 83:18 tells us that there is none like Him. He is self-existent, "Men of the greatest intellect cannot understand the mystery of Jehovah. . . . Could men fully understand the ways and works of God, they would not then believe Him to be the Infinite One." —Ellen G. White, *S.D.A. Bible Commentary*, vol. 3, p. 141.

This same Infinite One came to us in human flesh, Immanuel, God with us. Jesus Christ is the same Jehovah. Isaiah 9:6 says that He is the "everlasting Father." Jesus is Himself "God." John 1:1; 10:33; 20:28; Romans 9:5; Colossians 1:16; 2:9; 1 Timothy 1:17; Hebrews 1:8; 1 John 5:20; Jude 25. Thus, neither Jesus Himself nor the Scriptures leave any possible doubt as to the nature of Jesus' person. Why not accept the record just as it is? If He was only a good man, He can do nothing for us except set us an example. If He was really God, He can be to us a Saviour as well as an example. We will now take a closer look at Jesus' name and character. At the same time, we must not forget that had it not been for God the Father's permission, His Son would never have come to save us. So all our praises are to be directed to Him, as well as to Jesus. He tells us in John 17:21, 22 that He and the Father are ONE, and Philippians 2:6 says He is equal with the Father. 1 John 5:7 describes the Father, Son and Holy Spirit as ONE.

Every Christian knows that the name "Jesus" means Saviour, as found in Matthew 1:21, but His name derives from another name. Does "Jehoshua" have a ring to it? The Hebrew name would be "Yehôwshûwa (using the shortest form of pronunciation) which has two very important names in it. The first is "Yehovah," meaning Jehovah, self-existent, and Yâshâ, meaning Saviour, to deliver, help. So what we come up with is Jehovah our Saviour. Still curious? Turn to Psalm 106:21. The word "Saviour" here (as throughout the Old Testament) is "Yâshâ" which is part of Jehoshua, which is Jehovah. This verse repeats His name twice, yet with two meanings bringing it into one meaning and name. Philippians 3:20 tells us to keep our communion in heaven, that we look for the "Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ." The key words, "Saviour," "Lord" and "Jesus" are all originally from "Jehovah." To verify the matter, Paul clearly stated in Philippians 2:11 that Jesus is Lord.

There is a religious organization that claims Jesus as a god. I like the way they emphasize John 1:1—"the word was a (god)." That only strengthens our position as followers of God as to who Jehovah is. If the claim that Jesus is a god has value, then why even take His words as salvation to our souls and believe our hope is that only through Him? This organization asks, Are not

Buddha and Mohammed gods also? Why not take their words of wisdom for salvation? According to this claim, Jesus would be just another god of the imagination. How invalid, blasphemous, and satanic this doctrine is. Again I repeat, the true child of God need not be confused as to the true identity of His Saviour.

"Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Moses understood the gospel. These holy men of old held communion with the Saviour who was to come to our world in human flesh; and some of them talked with Christ and heavenly angels face to face. Christ was not only the leader of the Hebrews in the wilderness—the Angel in whom was the name of Jehovah, and who, veiled in the cloudy pillar, went before the host—but it was He who gave the law to Israel. It was Christ that spoke to His people through the prophets. In His teachings while personally among men Jesus directed the minds of the people to the Old Testament. He said to the Jews, 'Ye search the Scriptures, because ye think that in them ye have eternal life; and these are they which bear witness of Me.' John 5:39." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 381.

Is it any wonder "that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow" (Philippians 2:10) and in verse 11 it says, "that every tongue should confess that Jesus is Lord"? And how is it written in Isaiah 45:23? "That unto Me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear."

He is our God and Maker; and the prayer "Our Father" tells us His name is to be hallowed, or His name is sacred.

"True reverence for God is inspired by a sense of His infinite greatness and a realization of His presence. With this sense of the Unseen the heart of every child should be deeply impressed. . . . Never should that name be spoken lightly or thoughtlessly. Even in prayer its frequent or needless repetition should be avoided. 'Holy and reverend is His name.' Angels, as they speak it, veil their faces. With what reverence should we, who are fallen and sinful, take it upon our lips!" —Ellen G. White, *Education*, pp. 242, 243.

Returning to Isaiah 45, carefully notice verses 18 and 21: "I am the Lord; and there is none else." "And there is no God else beside Me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside Me." All these names fit Jesus as the only Jehovah, the only Creator of heaven and earth. We have but one Saviour. In the wilderness, the snakes were biting the Israelites as punishment, and "much people of Israel died." Numbers 21:6-9. The brazen serpent was lifted up, and all Israel was to look up to it and live. The people knew that in itself the serpent had no power to help them. It was a symbol of Christ. Jesus spoke to Nicodemus about this in John 3:14, 15: "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." This same Jesus said in Isaiah 45:22: "Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else." Again it must be repeated that we worship only one God. How could God Himself say to look up to Him and be saved and Jesus say to look up to Him and be saved? Listen to what Paul says about this whole matter: "For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in Him, which is the head of all principality and power." Colossians 2:9, 10.



"For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." Matthew 24:24.

A Warning Against False Revivals in the Last Days

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears: And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry." 2 Timothy 4:2-5.

By M. FRIEBE, West Germany

MOST people today are fascinated by the sensational. Almost every newspaper or magazine carries huge headlines. No field is untouched by this, be it politics, efforts for world peace, medicine, and even church affairs. If something is to get a response, it must be something out of the ordinary. Even terrible events tend to be forgotten after a few days, leaving no lasting influence on the general public. And because indifference manifests itself in so many aspects of religious life, many churches, fellowships and sects use methods that bear no semblance of true Christianity.

With what message did Jesus begin His ministry? "From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matthew 4:17. This simple exhortation was similar to that of the prophets several hundred years before who exhorted the people to turn from their evil ways and serve the Lord with earnest hearts. "If anyone will follow after Me," Jesus said, "let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me." Here is no sensational, overbearing message but a "positive truth" pointing to the highest heavens. Jesus clearly says in Mark 3:35: "For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is My brother, and My sister, and mother." And how great was His success? At times, it seems that not even one small fruit was produced. John reported that "many of His disciples went back, and walked no more with Him." John 6:66. Many left the Lord because His speech was too hard for them. They turned away from Him, and many never returned. But the message was divine and in time brought forth fruit. Consider the experiences of the apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 1:23, 24: "But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God."

What did people like hearing at that time? "For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell or to hear some new thing." Acts 17:21. Exactly like today, something sensational! Few felt the need of truth and righteousness. This was a bitter disappointment to Paul, but he still worked on in faith. "We preach Christ," he said, no matter if it is an offense to the Jews and a foolishness to the Greeks. What we preach is truth, as we talk about the secret, hidden wisdom of God. "Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory." 1 Corinthians 2:6, 7.

Here is the secret of genuine, true faith. It is to faithfully serve the Lord without the noisy propaganda, theatrics, loud music or revelry which too often characterize today's "Christianity." The pretended Christianity of many modern preachers uses ungodly things to pull people into their net and keep their followers. Many are heart and soul for such things. Yes, even those who have been taught the truth are enthusiastic about them. Here we must take these words to warning: "And they will turn their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." 2 Timothy 4:4.

Where is the true gospel? Is it with those who stand before the people with superficial piety so they may deceive and pull souls away from the truth? We have firm foundations upon which to rest our feet: "If ye keep My commandments, ye shall abide in My love; even as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love. . . . Ye are My friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." John 15:10, 14. "He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me: and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father,

and I will love him, and will manifest Myself to him." John 14:21. Here are the unchangeable principles of Jesus Christ. No matter how eloquently the words of Jesus are repeated, if the Sabbath commandment is not included, every hour spent in listening to such is wasted.

Jesus, our Redeemer, knows humanity and has warned us that false christs would come in His name and deceive those who have not fallen upon Him, the Rock, with a full heart. Yes, Satan would even clothe himself as an angel of light to carry out his deceptions. "And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works." "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ." 2 Corinthians 11:14, 15, 13. This is why we must "test the spirits." The church has a watchman's high office transferred to it by Christ. Jesus accordingly told His disciples that many false prophets would try to deceive people, and exhorted them to be alert to such deceptions.

From the beginning, the Christian church has been exposed to various spiritual trends. Paul told his listeners to "take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears." Acts 20:28-31. "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them," Romans 16:17.

Furthermore, John urged the Christian church not to believe "every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world." 1 John 4:1. In our own time there is no lack of people who feel called by the Lord to perform a great task. The question to be answered is, "By which lord were they called?" For this reason, the gift of discerning the spirits is needed. But here, regrettably, the viewpoints of men often differ widely. A number of years ago, a movement arose in Germany in the Adventist Church. Much was made of this movement, and one of our former leading brethren enthusiastically endorsed it. But the whole thing disappeared in the course of time, and not until later were the errors and potentially fatal consequences recognized.

Thinking about this, I recall another movement in Basel, Switzerland. We came from a discourse and were waiting for the train when a middle-aged man came down the street repeatedly crying: "Glorious it was, glorious it was." We asked him what was so glorious. At first, we thought he was intoxicated, and he was—spiritually. He had been attending "revival meetings" and was still "full of the spirit." He wanted to know nothing about the true fruit of faith—obedience to God or the keeping of His commandments.

Some time ago, I came to a family with our literature. They asked if I had the gift of speaking in tongues. I

asked them what was more important—doing the will of God or speaking unintelligible words. About keeping the commandments of God they, too, would hear nothing. Speaking in tongues appeared at the end of the last century. Even well-known evangelists fell for this movement, but strong differences of opinion developed, resulting in division.

Doctor Walter Michaelis, a renowned professor of theology, writes strikingly about this. In his book *Realization and Experiences from 50 years of Gospel Service*, pp. 157, 158, he wrote: "The Pentecostal movement was let loose by the Berlin Proclamation of the Fellowship Movement. Seither introduced it to hundreds of Pentecostal fellowships that have branched off in eight to ten different groups, and partly fought among themselves by their prophetic voices. . . . Now humanity, through the terrible shakings of contemporary time, has reached a spiritual condition that makes it susceptible to charismatic movements. People's feelings have been turned upside down and put to confusion, and those who are unstable have weakened nervous systems. These things make people responsive to sensationalism, to manifestations from the invisible world and to those things which grab the attention, rather than the simple, humble things. Thus it is no wonder that a spirit of religious feeling rather than principle is prevalent—speaking in tongues, revelations and prophesyings."

The ability to discern spirits is a gift of the Holy Spirit. It is a gift that manifests itself in being able to perceive the spiritual position of a man. The apostle Peter showed this gift in his dealings with Ananias and Sapphira and Simon the sorcerer. Paul showed it in his dealings with Elymas and the woman from Philippi. "But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith. Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him, And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?" Acts 13:8-10. The Bible says that Paul was filled with the Holy Ghost. Nothing but the power of God enabled the disciples of Jesus to be led in all truth and recognize the spirit guiding a man.

Let us consider what Pastor E. Buddeberg writes about the manifestation of the Holy Ghost. "He [the Spirit] does not fall on everybody, as does the strange spirit, which all of a sudden seizes the dervishes and fakirs that lose their minds and make all sorts of strange sounds. Man is not a stringed instrument without a will on which the Spirit of God suddenly starts to play. If He speaks to men and uses them as His tools, He does not switch on the powers of spirit and soul. It is not like the condition of a possessed person, where the strange spirit seizes control of a soul without his or her consent, or like the condition of the spiritualistic media or those who are hypnotized, who have to act out the will of someone else without their knowing or willing." —*Zungen (Tongues)*, p. 35.

Another confession comes from a pastor who stayed in the charismatic movement until his death but wrote about it a half year before his death. "I can no longer deny realization that (1) What we greet exultingly is 99% of the time nothing but sheer natural expression, exposed

to mere human errors, most of it even sickly and sickening; (2) The outbreak of my sickness in the spring of 1911 was for the most part a consequence of the upsetting Pentecostal meetings here and there, even if it may have been hidden in me in an earlier time. We have moved on a track from which we must get off as soon as possible, if we do not want to get hurt even more." —*Zungen*, p. 80.

Before His ascension, Jesus promised that the Comforter, the Holy Spirit, would be sent; and He also told His function: "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." John 14:26. Further, "Having brought conviction of sin, and presenting before the mind the standard of righteousness, the Holy Spirit withdraws the affections from the things of this earth and fills the soul with a desire for holiness. 'He will guide you into all truth' (John 16:13), the Saviour declared. If men are willing to be molded, there will be brought about a sanctification of the whole being. The Spirit will take the things of God and stamp them on the soul. By His power the way of life will be made so plain that none need err therein." —Ellen G. White, *The Acts of the Apostles*, pp. 52, 53.

Spiritualism has made great inroads in society, but rather than dwelling on this, our focus should be to become completely familiar with the full scope of present truth. "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand." Revelation 1:3. That includes not only the book of Revelation but all of the books of the Bible. Sister Ellen G. White exhorted: "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. The Lord calls upon all who believe His word to awake out of sleep. *Precious light has come*, appropriate for this time. It is Bible truth, *showing the perils that are right upon us. This light should lead us to a diligent study of the Scriptures*, and a most critical examination of the positions which we hold." —Ellen G. White, *Gospel Workers*, p. 299.

We must be thoroughly familiar with the Scriptures, or else we will be sure to fall a prey to one false teaching or another. "There are roving personalities who call themselves preachers sent of God. They preach the Sabbath from place to place, but mix up the truth with errors and pour a multitude of opposing viewpoints over the people. . . ." —*Erweckung, was dann?* (*Revival, what then?*), p. 56. *Plain Truth* magazine falls into this category. It advocates Sabbath and the tithe, but its topics are presented with a great deal of sensationalism. Gross and dangerous errors are propounded that cannot be supported by the Scriptures. When truth and error are so finely and closely spun, it may take a trained Bible expert to recognize the deception. One issue stated that Jesus was the owner of a house and that His family likewise owned considerable property. But Jesus Himself said: "The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man hath not where to lay His head." Matthew 8:20. The parents of Jesus were so poor that they could only sacrifice a pair of turtle doves when Jesus was presented at the temple. That was the

very smallest temple gift, and it was only brought by the poor. Such erroneous teachings deceive many people. This literature is "unclear and untrue"—not plain and not truth!

In another area, the beat of many "Christian" songs has more to do with the pagan jungle dances than the honor of God and are not heavenly melodies. People seem to always want something new, or else they are not interested. But the truths of the Scriptures and their messages are, in my opinion, so exciting and packed with sensation that our hearing and sight fail! "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness. Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?" 2 Peter 3:10-12.

We know what wars have done, but what awaits us in a time not far distant? God's word says that the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night. The heavens will perish with a great noise and the elements will melt and all the works of earth will burn up. Is that not sufficient to awaken our interest? Our task is to proclaim the simple truth of the three angels' messages. Jesus said: "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Revelation 22:17. The Lord calls everyone, but we are not to count on huge success. The parable of our Lord shows the results of the invitation to the great supper.


"Then said He unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper." Luke 14:16-24.

Everybody made excuses—and so it is today, too. But the Lord says: "Go into the alleys and country roads and behind the fences." "Those who are under the influence of the Spirit of God will not be fanatical, but calm and steadfast, free from extravagance in thought, word, or deed. Amid the confusion of delusive doctrines, the Spirit of God will be a guide and a shield to those who have not resisted the evidences of truth, silencing every other

voice but that which comes from Him who is the truth." —*Gospel Workers*, p. 289.

Pastor Buddeberg stated: "Oh, that the church of God today had enlightened eyes of understanding and trained common sense to discern between the work of the Holy Ghost and the work of spurious demon spirits! If the ability to test the spirits were more among the people of God, then fewer would be blinded by every new appearance in Christian life." —*Zungenreden (The Tongues Movement)*, p. 103.

May the Lord grant us grace to accept the counsel

of the Faithful Witness in Revelation 3:18 to buy eyesalve so we will not fall prey to the distortions and confusions of religious fads which are nothing but the masterful temptations of Satan. May God help us to plant our feet firmly on the rock of eternal truth and have consciences aflame with the words of Jesus: "Sanctify them through Thy truth: Thy word is truth." John 17:17. The building of character is the work for today. Once this is done, we will be allowed to go home with the redeemed and dwell in the eternal haven of rest. May we all receive grace from the Lord for this. 

100 YEARS AGO . . .

Signs of the Times, July 14, 1887

By Their Fruits Ye Shall Know Them

By ELLEN G. WHITE

"He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk even as He walked." "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His." 1 John 2:6; Romans 8:9.

WE are each of us building for ourselves a structure which will one day be scrutinized by the Judge of the whole earth. This structure is our individual character; and every act of our lives, every thought and word, is a stone in the building. The words of inspiration warn us, "Take heed how ye build." See to it that the foundation is sure. If we build on the Rock Christ Jesus, the structure will grow into symmetrical proportions, and will be a fair and holy temple for God.

Our minds are given us; but our characters we make; they are the result of the lives we lead, the thoughts and principles that we cherish. When we see persons firm in principle, faithful in the performance of duty, zealous in the cause of God, yet humble, gentle, and patient toward all, ready to forgive, manifesting love for souls for whom Christ died, we do not need to ask, Are they Christians? They give unmistakable evidence that they are learners in the school of Christ. But when they show the opposite traits of character; when they are proud, vain, frivolous, worldly-minded, avaricious, unkind, censorious, we need not be told whence the spirit comes that they are cherishing. They may not believe in witchcraft; but they are holding communion with an evil spirit, and its influence is poisoning heart and life.

Trifles reveal character. One who is selfish, self-sufficient, and self-caring will be exceedingly unhappy. It is not unreasonable to be suspicious of persons who are always complaining that they are not treated well. It will generally be found that they have exalted ideas of their own merits, and think everybody else should respect them accordingly.

There are some who are ever looking out for slights. In the family, some unfortunate word is said, and they take offense, feeling sure it was designed to hurt and disparage them. They meet a friend who is so occupied with business or other cares that he does not greet them as ardently as they desire, nor have so much time to visit, and they feel that they are personally insulted. The offender, wholly innocent of any design or thought of hurting them, is astonished to find himself treated with suspicion and coldness, and soon the charge reaches him that his poor, unhappy neighbor feels that he has been neglected and abused. But the unhappiness was in him, waiting for some excuse to show itself.

Life is what we make it. While we are in the world, we shall meet with all kinds of persons; but our life takes its bias and coloring from our own traits of character. It is our privilege to learn daily in the school of Christ meekness and lowliness of heart; and when a selfish, haughty spirit is overcome, and we are willing to be as was our Master, we will make our surroundings pleasant. We will pass over many slights and not see or feel them, because we have the love of Jesus in our hearts, and are trying so hard to be like Him that these little matters do not affect us.

Strife and contention cannot exist among those who are controlled by the Spirit of God. A truly Christ-like character cannot be subverted. Envy, jealousy, malice, and persecution may be hurled against those who bear the divine impress; but it only serves to strengthen that which it cannot overthrow.

That which commands respect and wins appreciation is true goodness. Real merit must be won by patient industry and energy, by untiring application and effort. Thousands fail of securing the love and respect that they covet because they desire what they do not merit. They would rather be weak than to put forth the exertion necessary to subdue their wrong traits, and gain strength of character.

Christ is our refuge; and it is only through faith in Him that we can form characters that God can accept. We may add knowledge to knowledge, strength to strength, and virtue to virtue, and yet fail in the soul-testing conflict just before us, because we do not make Christ our strength and righteousness. No outward forms can make us clean; they cannot take the place of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. All who have not experienced the regenerating power of the Spirit of God are chaff

among the wheat. Our Lord has His fan in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor. In the coming day He will discern "between him that serveth God, and him that serveth Him not."

The Spirit of Christ will be revealed in all who are born of God. The Lord has not closed heaven against His people; but their own course of continual backsliding, of bickering, envying, and strife, has separated them from Him. Pride and love of the world live in the heart; and few are alarmed or astonished at their want of spiritual power.

The warnings of God's word, and the influence of His Spirit, have alike been neglected. The sins that destroyed the antediluvians and the cities of the plain exist today—not merely in heathen lands or among avowed unbelievers, but among professors of Christianity. The result is apparent in the deplorable condition of the church. Impurity is widespread, even among those who profess to be the followers of Christ. Many are eagerly participating in worldly, demoralizing amusements which God's word forbids. Thus they sever their connection with God, and rank themselves with the pleasure-lovers of the world. If God should present their sins before them as they appear in his sight, they would be filled with shame and terror.

And what has caused this alarming condition? Many have accepted the theory of religious truth, who have not been converted to its principles. There are few indeed who feel true sorrow for sin; who have deep, pungent convictions of the depravity of the unregenerate nature, and are trying to walk even as Christ walked. The heart of stone is not exchanged for a heart of flesh. Few are willing to fall upon the Rock, and be broken.


What surpassing love and condescension, that when we had no claim on divine mercy, Christ was willing to undertake our redemption! But our great Physician requires of every soul unquestioning obedience. We are never to prescribe for our own case. Christ must have

the entire control of our will and action, or He will not undertake in our behalf.

Many are not sensible of their condition and their danger; and there is much in the nature of the Christian religion that is averse to every worldly feeling and principle, and opposed to the pride of the human heart. We may flatter ourselves, as did Nicodemus, that our lives and our moral character have been correct, and think that we need not humble our heart before God, like the common sinner; but we must be content to enter into life in the very same way as the chief of sinners. Self must die. We must not trust to our own righteousness, but depend on the righteousness of Christ. He is our strength and our hope.

Genuine faith is followed by love—love that is manifested in the home, in society, and in all the relations of life—love which smooths away difficulties, and lifts us above the disagreeable trifles that Satan places in our way to annoy us. And love will be followed by obedience. All the powers and the passions of the converted man are brought under the control of Christ, His spirit is a renewing power, transforming to the divine image all who will receive it.

To become a disciple of Christ is to deny self, and follow Jesus through evil as well as through good report. It is to close the door to pride, envy, doubt, and other sins, and thus shut out strife, hatred, and every evil work. It is to welcome into our hearts Jesus, the meek and lowly One, who is seeking admittance as our guest.

"He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk even as He walked." Jesus is a pattern for humanity, complete, perfect. He proposes to make us like Himself—true in every purpose, feeling, and thought—true in heart, soul, and life. The man who cherishes the most of the love of Christ in the soul, who reflects the image of Christ most perfectly, is, in the sight of God, the truest, most noble, and most honorable man. But he that has not the Spirit of Christ is "none of His." 

OVERCOMING SIN



Can I safely "put it off" 

Compiled by BRIAN and RHODA LOWE, Hamilton, Montana

When is the day of salvation?

"... If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new ...

"We then, as workers together with Him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.

"(For He saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold NOW is the accepted time; behold, NOW is the day of salvation.)" 2 Corinthians 5:17; 6:1, 2.

Salvation is being saved from what?

"... Thou shalt call His name JESUS: for He shall save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:21.

"Through the gospel, souls that are degraded and enslaved by Satan are to be redeemed to share the glorious liberty of the sons of God. God's purpose is not merely to deliver from the suffering that is the inevitable result of sin, but to save from sin itself." —Ellen G. White, *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, pp. 60, 61.

Shall we wait for a magical change to come upon us?

"... Those who are waiting to behold a magical change in their characters without determined effort on their part to overcome sin, will be disappointed." —Ellen G. White, *Selected Messages*, vol. 1, p. 336.

"Wait not for some magical change to be wrought in you, without taking the requisite steps yourself." —A.G. Daniells, *The Righteousness of Christ*, p. 108.

Will the falling of the Latter Rain rid us of our sins?

"... If God's people make no efforts on their part, but wait for the refreshing to come upon them and remove their wrongs and correct their errors; if they depend upon that to cleanse them from filthiness of the flesh and spirit, and fit them to engage in the loud cry of the third angel, they will be found wanting. The refreshing or power of God comes only on those who have prepared themselves for it by doing the work which God bids them, namely, cleansing themselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." —Ellen G. White, *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 619.

Is just wishing and sighing enough?

"... Wishing for a healthy religious experience without making earnest, self-denying effort, will be ... useless. Sighing over your ignorance of divine things will never make you wise unto salvation. There are ten thousand sluggish tears and sighs toward heaven that will never win one smile of approval from Jesus. Do not think that a Christian experience will come to you of itself. When you make up your mind to do something on which your heart is set, you do not give up for difficulties, but try again and again." —Ellen G. White, *Sons and Daughters of God*, p. 322.

Can temptation be so strong that we cannot help but fall?

"God has made ample provision for His people; and if they rely upon His strength, they will never become the sport of circumstances. The strongest temptation cannot excuse sin. However great the pressure brought to bear upon the soul, transgression is our own act. It is not in the power of earth or hell to compel anyone to do evil. Satan attacks us at our weak points, but we need not be overcome. However severe or unexpected the assault, God has provided help for us, and in His strength we may conquer." —Ellen G. White, *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 421.

How do we then choose NOT to sin?

"God has given us the power of choice; it is ours to exercise. We cannot change our hearts, we cannot control our thoughts, our impulses, our affections. We cannot make ourselves pure, fit for God's service. But we can choose to serve God, we can give Him our will; then He will work in us to will and to do according to His good pleasure. Thus our whole nature will be brought under the control of Christ." —Ellen G. White, *The Ministry of Healing*, p. 176.

Is it ever safe to sin?

"My brethren, we are living in a most solemn period of this earth's history. There is never time to sin; it is always perilous to continue in transgression; but in a special sense is this true at the present time. We are now upon the very borders of the eternal world and stand in a more solemn relation to time and to eternity than ever before. Now let every person search his own heart, and plead for the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness to expel all spiritual darkness and cleanse from defilement." —Ellen G. White, *Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers*, p. 147.

What, then, is safe ground?

"Your only safety is in coming to Christ, and ceasing from sin this very moment. The sweet voice of mercy is sounding in your ears today, but who can tell if it will sound tomorrow?" —Ellen G. White, *Signs of the Times*, August 29, 1892.

What is our part in the work of overcoming and what is God's part?

"Human effort avails nothing without divine power; and without human endeavor, divine effort is with many of no avail. To make God's grace our own, we must act our part. His grace is given to work in us to will and to do, but never as a substitute for our effort." —Ellen G. White, *Prophets and Kings*, p. 487.

What happens when we continue in known sin?

"It is a perilous thing to allow an unchristian trait to live in the heart. One cherished sin will, little by little, debase the character, bringing all its nobler powers into subjection to the evil desire. The removal of one safeguard from the conscience, the indulgence of one evil habit, one neglect of the high claims of duty, breaks down the defences of the soul and opens the way for Satan to come in and lead us astray." —*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 452.

"There are few who form evil habits deliberately. By frequent repetition of wrong acts, habits are formed unconsciously and become so firmly established that the most persistent effort is required to effect a change. We should never be slow in breaking up a sinful habit. Unless evil habits are conquered, they will conquer us and destroy our happiness." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 654.

On the other hand, what happens when we resist sin?

"The power of self-restraint strengthens by exercise. That which at first seems difficult, by constant repetition grows easy, until right thoughts and actions become habitual. If we will, we may turn away from all that is cheap and inferior, and rise to a high standard; we may be respected by men, and beloved of God." —*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 491.

What are some other helps to aid us in forming right habits?

"Persons who have not acquired habits of close industry and economy of time should have set rules to prompt them to regularity and dispatch." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 411.

"Do you desire to form correct habits? Then seek the company of those who are sound in morals, and whose aim tends to that which is good." —Ellen G. White, *Messages to Young People*, p. 415.

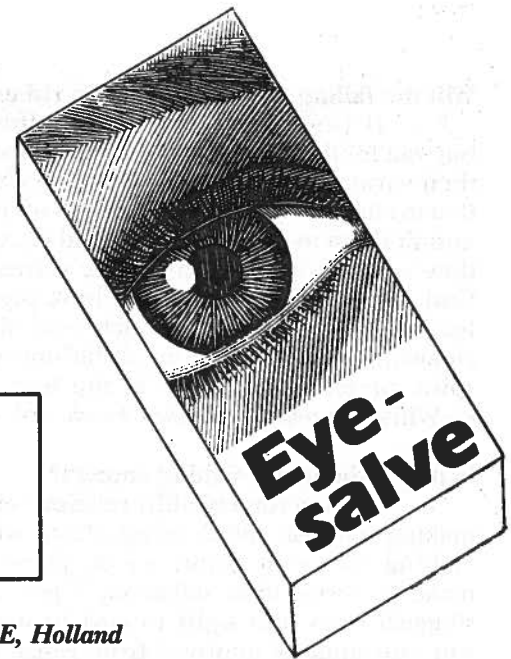
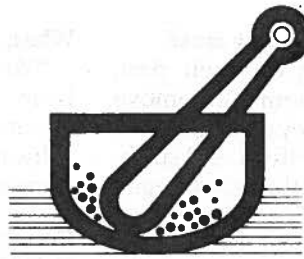
In Conclusion:

"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? ... For he that is dead is freed from sin. ... Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness." Romans 6:1, 2, 7, 18.

"Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, *To day* if ye will hear His voice, Harden not your hearts, . . .)" Hebrews 3:7, 8.



Eyesalve



"I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see." Revelation 3:18.

By COR DE JONGE, Holland

THE message to the last church on earth is a threefold warning, to buy gold, to be clothed with white raiment and to apply eyesalve for the eyes. Gold is faith, working through love, and the white raiment is the righteousness of Christ; but why does this church, whose members live in our time, need eyesalve?

We live in a rebellious age, perhaps more so than at any other time. Apostasy from God and the teachings of Jesus has reached a climax, making it necessary to proclaim in intensely earnest tones the message of salvation for those who wish to be saved. In our time it is very difficult to discern right doctrines, for there is great confusion. Paul, in his letter to the Ephesians, wrote: "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ." Ephesians 4:13-15. Paul here declares that the members of the last church need to come to perfection and be no more children, who don't know how to find right principles embodied in the present truth.

Investigation of the Bible and Testimonies

With every "wind of doctrine" blowing, we need eyesalve in this time of confusion. Therefore, we need to study our Bibles and the Testimonies. Our foe, the devil, comes with all cunning craftiness to confuse our minds, for he wants to destroy us, and sadly he has success with many people of God. In the free world today, we have liberty of conscience. No one forbids us to investigate our Bibles and Testimonies for ourselves, but what are we doing? Few read and study these valuable books for themselves. Many other things attract our attention, while this most important thing is disregarded.

The necessity of personal investigation

This is the eyesalve. The servant of the Lord writes about this: "And eyesalve, which is the grace of God, and which will give clear discernment of spiritual things

and detect sin. These attainments are more precious than the gold of Ophir." —Ellen G. White, *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, p. 254. We also read in this message that the church is blind, in a spiritual sense. When our eyesight is threatened, we go to see a specialist, a physician. He investigates the cause of our ailing eyesight and prescribes what we need to do to prevent further loss of sight and effect a cure if possible. Perhaps he will tell us to eat lots of carrots and take Vitamin A. Sometimes this will help. Or perhaps he will give us a special eyesalve. If we take his advice and are cured, we won't walk into the lamppost any more.

It is just like this with our spiritual eyesight. We have to do what the great Eye Physician says. To receive and maintain keen eyesight, it is necessary to live a healthful life, and I don't mean just eating carrots but spiritually enjoying all those things which are healthful—as we have often seen published in this magazine. If we don't, not only our bodies will grow ill, but our spiritual eyesight will diminish until we become "as children" spiritually, just as Paul declared the unstable to be. If we desire the eyesalve Jesus prescribes for our day, we must live as healthfully as possible.

This is what Daniel did. "To Daniel and his companions at the very outset of their career, there came a decisive test. The direction that their food should be supplied from the royal table was an expression both of the king's favor and of his solicitude for their welfare. But a portion having been offered to idols, the food from the king's table was consecrated to idolatry; and in partaking of the king's bounty these youth would be regarded as uniting in his homage to false gods. In such homage loyalty to Jehovah forbade them to participate. Nor dared they risk the enervating effect of luxury and dissipation on physical, mental, and spiritual development." —Ellen G. White, *Education*, pp. 54, 55.

Daniel and his companions then had two reasons for not eating the king's meat: It would show disrespect to God—idolatry—and it would waste and abase their spiritual sight. Under the circumstances—being captives in a heathen land—it was difficult for Daniel and his friends to do differently than all the others, but what were the results? "And at the end of ten days their

countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat." "As for these four children God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams." Daniel 1:15, 17. So we see just how good their eyesight was!

This was not an easy thing for them to do. The apostle Paul declared, "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent." 1 Corinthians 1:18, 19.

A solemn, important time

"We are living in a most solemn, important time of this earth's history. We are amid the perils of the last days. Important and fearful events are before us. How necessary that all who fear God and love His laws, should humble themselves before Him, and be afflicted and mourn, and confess the sins that have separated God from His people. That which should excite the greatest alarm is that we do not feel or understand our condition, our low estate, and that we are satisfied to remain as we are. We should flee to the word of God and to prayer, individually seeking the Lord earnestly, that we may find Him. We should make this our first business." — *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, p. 534.

When we drive a car in heavy traffic, we must be attentive; but if we are driving with defective eyesight, we are putting ourselves in grave danger of having an accident. Today, spiritually speaking, we are in heavy traffic with all sorts of vehicles passing on the left and right. We need to be on the lookout for strange and false principles. It is a serious thought that "those who despise the warning will be left in blindness to become self-deceived. But those who heed it, and zealously go about the work of separating their sins from them in order to have the needed graces, will be opening the door of their hearts that the dear Saviour may come and dwell with them. This class you will ever find in perfect harmony with the testimony of the Spirit of God." — *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, p. 257.

If we despise the warnings of God, we will be left in blindness and that is exactly what we must not do if we are to be saved. We need to treasure and read earnestly the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, for "if you lose confidence in the Testimonies, you will drift away from Bible truth." — *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 674.

This very thing happened to a man in the early years of the Advent message. He embraced the truth, was baptized and for some time was a member of the church. After a while, he felt so reproved by the Testimonies that he came to despise them. Sister White knew of this and sent him a personal letter; but when he received it, he refused to read it. Coming home, he threw it in an old trunk and from that time on, he was an opponent of the Testimonies and the truth. Twenty-eight years later, he picked up and read an article in the *Review*, and said: "That's the real truth!" Then he read the name of the author. It was Sister White. He was reminded of that old trunk into which he had thrown the unopened letter and knew that he must read what it had to say. Upon

finding it, he read the message that told him what was going to happen to him if he rejected the reproofs of the Lord. It described exactly the past terrible twenty-eight years of his life without the Lord. He came back to the Lord, regretting that it had taken him so long to read that letter.

Many of us have valuable books on our bookshelves with messages for us. It is true that our names are not mentioned there, but they are still letters to us. The letter in that old trunk was unopened and unread. So it may be with many of the wonderful books on the shelves of our homes.

The hidden treasure

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man found, he hideth, and for joy thereof, goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field." Matthew 13:44. We might ask, Is it worth the trouble to read and search for eyesalve? Remember the man of the object lesson. He sold ALL in order to be able to buy earthly treasure. After a time, he grew old and died and took none of his treasure with him. Nevertheless, he was willing to spend all for that field because it held great riches.

In contrast to that treasure, Jesus offers us His eternal riches when we do what He says. Paul wrote about this: "But as it is written, Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him. But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." 1 Corinthians 2:9, 10. With respect to this, the servant of Jesus wrote: "I would never name the name of Christ, or I would give Him my whole heart, my undivided affections. We should feel the deepest gratitude that Jesus will accept this offering. He demands all. When we are brought to yield to His claims, and give up all, then, and not till then, will He throw around us His arms of mercy. But what do we give when we give all? A sin-polluted soul for Jesus to purify, to cleanse by His mercy, and to save from death by His matchless love. And yet I saw that some thought it hard to give up all. I am ashamed to hear it spoken of, ashamed to write it." — *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 160.


The treasures of the Klondike

I remember reading a story in the *Reader's Digest* about the discovery of gold in the Klondike. Klondike is a town in Alaska. Many years ago, a sailing boat landed at the pier in San Francisco. Many rich people were on board who had come from Alaska. They had found gold there. This story went through San Francisco like wild fire, and so many were ready to set sail for the Klondike that there were not enough boats to carry them all and many had to travel on old, creaky ships. When they arrived in Alaska, they found bitter cold and a long trek between them and their dreams. There was no paved highway either but a small dangerous path over rugged mountain passes. Of course, they took food, cooking utensils and pans, and those who could afford them took horses. I cannot relate everything that happened, but it was an agonizing journey. Nevertheless, everyone was willing to endure it. Were not riches at the end of their journey? Some died

on the way, and horses were lost. When the survivors arrived in the Klondike, they were disappointed. Very few found riches, but nearly all had to work hard and received little gold; and many grew ill from the cold.

When I read this story, it reminded me of the way the world strives for riches. With only a promise before them, they are willing to endure immense suffering to gain supposed riches. When compared with what the lovers of Jesus one day hope to acquire, we ask, What are they willing to endure? Is it any wonder that the servant of the Lord exclaimed: "I am ashamed to hear it spoken of, ashamed to write it"? Again she asks, "Can heaven cost us too much?" Why are many loath to give it all up? "I have been shown that the greatest reason

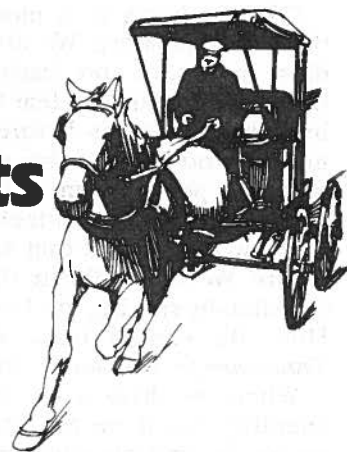
why the people of God are now found in this state of spiritual blindness, is that they will not receive correction." —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 3, pp. 254, 255.

What have we learned from all this? That we spend too much time and energy striving for that which is of little value and thinking about the things of this earth, which will soon be consumed at Jesus' coming. Let us consider what we are losing when we do this. The Lord says: "I counsel thee. . . ." Let us accept these kind words from the Lord our Saviour, who gave His life for us. Let us anoint our spiritual eyes with eyesalve and investigate the Bible and Testimonies daily so we may live healthful spiritual and physical lives. Then we will not be deceived but stand ready to meet our Lord. 



The Way of the Adventists

By W. EGERTER, West Germany



1900

An earnest call to repentance

“OUR Redeemer sends His messengers to bear a testimony to His people. He says, ‘Behold, I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to Him, and will sup with Him, and He with Me.’ Revelation 3:20. But many refuse to receive Him. The Holy Spirit waits to soften and subdue hearts, but they are not willing to open the door and let the Saviour in, for fear that He will require something of them. And so Jesus of Nazareth passes by. He longs to bestow on them the rich blessings of His grace, but they refuse to accept them. What a terrible thing it is to exclude Christ from His own temple! What a loss to the church!” —Ellen G. White, *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, p. 262.

1901

An important session of the General Conference

When in 1901 it was suggested that there be a reorganization, what happened was, unfortunately, very different from what has been claimed in recent years. There was no change in the work pertaining to the organization as such; only the mechanisms of cooperation within the branches and the work in general were affected. It is interpreted that a change took place in the leadership of the work. If this had been the case, it would not have been possible for Sister White to be a delegate to the General Conference meetings. She would have spoken against the elections of 1901. So we see that this idea is not correct, especially since every organization has a “head” which is active even in the non-prophetic movements of today.

We read early in *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 5, p. 534 (1885): “One point will have to be guarded, and that is individual independence. As soldiers in Christ’s army, there should be concert of action in the various departments of the work.”

And in 1895 Sister White wrote: “O How Satan would rejoice if he could succeed in his efforts to get in among this people and disorganize the work at a time when thorough organization is essential, and will be the greatest power to keep out spurious uprisings, and to refute claims not endorsed by the word of God! We want to hold the lines evenly, that there shall be no breaking down of the system of organization and order that has been built up by wise, careful labor.” —Ellen G. White, *Gospel Workers*, p. 487.

The result of this was described in *Life Sketches of Ellen G. White*, pp. 385-387, as follows:

Reorganization

“In order that the cause of God might prosper, it was imperative that the administration of affairs be such as to permit the widest possible development in all lines of service. ‘God desires His work to be a rising, broadening, enlarging power,’ Mrs. White declared during a council meeting held the day preceding the formal opening of the Conference session. ‘But the management of the work is becoming confused in itself. . . . God calls for a change.’

“On the opening day of the Conference, Mrs. White spoke further regarding these matters: “‘Greater strength must be brought into the managing force of the Conference. . . . God has not put any kingly power in

our ranks to control this or that branch of the work. The work has been greatly restricted by the efforts to control it in every line. Here is a vineyard presenting its barren places that have received no labor. And if one should start out to till these places in the name of the Lord, unless he should get the permission of the men in the little circle of authority he would receive no help. But God means that His workers shall have help. If a hundred should start out on a mission to these destitute fields, crying unto God, He would open the way before them. . . . If the work had not been so restricted, . . . it would have gone forward in its majesty. It would have gone in weakness at first, but the God of heaven lives; the great Overseer lives. . . .’

“There must be a renovation, a reorganization; a power and strength must be brought into the committees that are necessary. . . .’

“The Lord God of Israel will link us all together. The organizing of new conferences is not to separate us. It is to bind us together. The conferences that are formed are to cling mightily to the Lord, so that through them He can reveal His power, making them excellent representations of fruit bearing.’ ”

Thus we see that a new order of things was made and new conferences (districts and unions) were created, but all was done “in harmony with the light given.”

Therefore the report given in the following years was:

“In later years, as these plans were carried out more or less fully by brethren in responsibility, Mrs. White on many occasions rejoiced in the success that was crowning the efforts of an army of workers whose preparation for service had been gained in strong training centers in North America, Europe, and Australasia. . . .

“As God opened the way in fields that in former years had been difficult to enter, she urged the brethren in responsibility to do all in their power to cooperate with the heavenly agencies manifestly at work in the dark places of earth. At the same time she continued to encourage those having to do with institutional work, . . . Thus the home land, whether in America, in Europe, in Australasia, or in other favored lands, was to be linked closely with the regions beyond; and all the agencies established for the advancement of the cause of God were to cooperate for the accomplishment of one purpose—the preparing of a people for the coming of their Lord.” —*Life Sketches*, p. 387.

For a further explanation and presentation, so that everyone can understand the need for “reorganization” at that time and the contrary explanations spread in our time, we quote from the appendix of the book *Rise and Progress of Seventh-day Adventists*, which has been retranslated from a newer German edition.

“The main topic during the last General Conference, which convened in April 1901 at Battle Creek, and which was so heavily attended that even the large tabernacle, which can seat 4,000 people, at times could not hold all the hearers, was a reorganization of the denomination which would better coincide with the growth of the work and would advance it even more in all its branches. Already in times before the necessity was realized . . . to line up a further member between the Conference and the General Conference by dividing the United States into six Districts, also Europe and Australia into two more,

and placing the remaining fields subject to the Mission Board. Along with this, District Presidents were appointed which, with the presidents of the local unions, watched over them and made the work of the President of the General Conference easier. But now one further step was taken by converting these districts into Union Conferences, having their own sessions and committees, and acquiring their own corporate rights in order to take over and manage the institutions themselves which heretofore were held by the General Conference Association. In like manner, special committees were created for the German and Scandinavian work in North America to watch over them. . . . In this the General Conference became relieved of all the local matters which were pending between and within the different conferences, as well as of the financial responsibility and management of the many institutions in the different Union Conferences. In future sessions, the General Conference could occupy itself more with the work as a whole, and turn its attention completely to the vast mission fields which had hardly been touched in the past.”

1902

Fire in Battle Creek—further calls for repentance

“The Lord has blotted out two of our largest institutions* that were established in Battle Creek, and has given warning after warning, even as Christ gave warning to Bethsaida and Capernaum. There is a necessity of giving earnest attention to every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.” —Ellen G. White, *Testimony Treasures*, vol. 3, p. 414.

What were the reasons for these catastrophes? On January 5, 1903, Sister White wrote a letter to the brethren at Battle Creek, as follows: “At the General Conference, held in Battle Creek in 1901, the Lord gave His people evidence that He was calling for reformation. Minds were convicted, and hearts were touched; but thorough work was not done. If stubborn hearts had then broken in penitence before God, there would have been seen one of the greatest manifestations of the power of God that has ever been seen. But God was not honored. The testimonies of His Spirit were not heeded. Men did not separate from the practices that were in decided opposition to the principles of truth and righteousness, which should ever be maintained in the Lord’s work. . . .

“It has been asked if I have any advice to give. I have already given the advice that God has given me, hoping to prevent the falling of the fiery sword that was hanging over Battle Creek. Now that which I dreaded has come—the news of the burning of the Review and Herald building. When this news came, I felt no surprise, and I had no words to speak. What I have had to say from time to time in warnings has had no effect, except to harden those who heard; and now I can only say, I am so sorry, so very sorry, that it was necessary for this stroke to come. Light enough has been given. If it were acted upon, further light would not be needed. . . .” —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, pp. 97-99.

*The two institutions referred to were the Battle Creek Sanitarium, destroyed by fire on February 25, 1902, and the Review and Herald factory, which burned on December 30, 1902. [White Trustees.]

She continued on January 7, 1903: "We have all been made very sad by the news of the terrible loss that has come to the cause in the burning of the Review and Herald Office. In one year two of our largest institutions have been destroyed by fire. The news of this recent calamity has caused us to mourn deeply, but it was permitted by the Lord to come upon us, and we should make no complaint, but learn from it the lessons that the Lord would teach us.

"The destruction of the Review and Herald building should not be passed over as something in which there is no meaning. Everyone connected with the office should ask himself: 'Wherein do I deserve this lesson? Wherein have I walked contrary to a "Thus saith the Lord," that He should send this lesson to me? Have I heeded the warnings and reproofs that He has sent? or have I followed my own way?' . . .

"God's people have departed from Him; they have not followed His instruction, and He has come near them in correction, but He has not brought extinction of life. . . ." — *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, pp. 101, 102.

"God's design in the establishment of the publishing house at Battle Creek was that from it light should shine forth as a lamp that burneth. This has been kept before the managers. Again and again they have been told of the sacredness of God's office of publication and of the importance of maintaining its purity. But they have lost true understanding, and have united with the force of the enemy by consenting to print papers and books containing the most dangerous errors that can be brought into existence. They have failed to see the evil influences of such erroneous sentiments on typesetters, proofreaders, and all others engaged in the printing of such matter. They have been spiritually asleep.

"By some of the outside work brought into this institution the science of Satan has been presented to the minds of the workers. The printing of such matter is a dishonor to God. It has done its part in deteriorating the minds of the workers. The managers have agreed to print it at a low figure. The gain would have been lost if the very highest figure had been asked for the work.

"I have received a letter from Elder Daniells regarding the addition of another building to the Review and Herald Office. The answer I make to this is, No, no, no. Instead of making any additions to the buildings already erected, cleanse the office of the trash of satanic origin, and you will gain room in every way. . . .

"The presses in the Lord's institution have been printing the soul-destroying theories of Romanism and other mysteries of iniquity. The office must be purged of this objectionable matter. . . .

"You have given matter containing Satan's sentiments into the hands of the workers, bringing his deceptive, polluting principles before their minds. . . .

"It is high time that we understood what spirit has for years been controlling matters at the Review and Herald Office. I am horrified to think that the most subtle face of Spiritualism should be placed before the workers, and that in a way calculated to confuse and perplex the mind. Be assured that Satan will follow up the advantage thus given him.

"The Review and Herald Office has been defiled as

the temple was defiled, only the result has been tenfold more disastrous. . . . Worse even than the defilement of the temple has been the defilement of the publishing house by the printing of matter which should never have been placed in the hands of the workers in God's institution.

"God's law has been transgressed, His cause betrayed, and His institution made a den of thieves. The work of printing and circulating stirring appeals for the truth, which should have been placed first, to which the time and the talent of the workers should have been devoted, has received little or no attention. . . .

"Some have so long sacrificed principle that they cannot see the difference between the sacred and the common. Those who refuse to give heed to the Lord's instruction will go steadily downward in the path of ruin. The day of test and trial is just before us. Let every man put on his true colors. . . . Show your colors to men and angels. We are safe only when we are committed to the right. Then the world knows where we shall be found in the day of trial and trouble.

"If the work begun at the General Conference had been carried forward to perfection, I should not be called upon to write these words. . . .

"Unless there is a reformation, calamity will overtake the publishing house, and the world will know the reason." — *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, pp. 90-92, 96.


The acceptance and heeding of the extremely important message of "Righteousness by Faith," which would have caused a complete return, could have prevented all this. Instead of opening the way for a reformation and preparing the path for it, the enemy was permitted to bring "the soul-destroying theories of Romanism and other mysteries of iniquity" into the ranks of the Advent people. By the "reading material of Satan" his principles were brought before the souls, and we can understand very well why the apostasy that came in in spite of all warnings and corrections, continued.

Sister White wrote: "When the Battle Creek Sanitarium was destroyed, . . . God was appealing to His people to return to Him. And in the destruction of the Review and Herald Office, . . . He makes a second appeal to them." — *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 8, p. 102.

"'Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.' I am instructed to say that these words are applicable to Seventh-day Adventist churches in their present condition. . . .

"God calls for a spiritual revival and a spiritual reformation. Unless this takes place, those who are lukewarm will continue to grow more abhorrent to the Lord, until He will refuse to acknowledge them as His children." — *Review and Herald*, February 25, 1902.

1903

The book *The Coming King*, p. 168, described the situation at that time, extending a serious warning to the readers: "Today Europe is a vast camp, and the young men of the nations are withdrawn from peaceful pursuits, where in the wicked life of the camp they receive a training distinctly cruel and unchristian." (To be continued) 

Radioactivity

By **JERRY EATON**, *Vancouver, B.C., Canada*

WITH all the concern today for radioactivity in the air we breathe, water we drink and the earth from which our food comes, it is good to know that there are natural means to lessen the effects of radiation poisoning. The Three Mile Island near-catastrophe in the U.S. a few years ago and the recent accident at Chernobyl in Russia, show us that we need to be ready with natural means (and great faith) to combat the effects of radioactivity in as natural a way as possible. Most importantly, the shield of faith can quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. Ephesians 6. As Christians and health reformers, we need to combine works with faith, realizing that faith must produce actions.

"Worldwide nuclear tests and explosions have now contaminated the whole globe with toxic Strontium 90 (the type of radiation that actually stays in the environment and affects our health). Scientists say that everyone already has dangerous amounts of radioactive Strontium 90 in his bones. It stays in the body through the lifetime, emitting radioactive rays, like x-rays.

"Anemia, leukemia, sarcoma of the bones (bone cancer) and many other cancers are believed to be caused by Strontium 90." —Paavo Airola, *How to Get Well*, p. 173.

Protection

1. **Algin.** Extracted from giant brown Pacific kelp, this non-toxic substance can effectively remove radioactive Strontium 90 from the body. Algin, or Sodium Alginate, another extract from kelp, are believed the best short-term agents against exposure to radiation. They bind the radiation in the body so that it can be excreted.

2. **Pectin.** This also binds radioactive Strontium in the intestines and reduces its absorption and deposition in the skeleton. The Pectin derived from sunflowers was found especially effective. Plenty of raw sunflower seeds daily could be advisable in case of exposure. Apples also contain large amounts of Pectin; grate or mash two or three of them and eat three or four times daily. If using Pectin tablets, chew up and swallow a dozen of them three or four times daily.

3. **Calcium and Magnesium.** Both help your body to pass off Strontium 90. When choosing your mineral supplement, be sure to look for chelated minerals because this amino-acid banding process makes the minerals much easier to assimilate (in some cases, the mineral is completely unabsorbed without chelation). Avoid all bone-meal or other animal supplements, for it is very likely that they are already contaminated with Strontium 90.

4. **Yogurt,** from active yogurt or bacterial cultures only. All the other yogurts on the market are not really yogurt but are made with gelatin and other binders. Yogurt helps

to neutralize the radioactive chemicals in the intestines and excrete them safely from the body.

5. **B-Complex vitamins** (especially B₆, to control nausea, and Pantothenic Acid) and/or Brewer's Yeast.


6. **Kelp.** Kelp itself has been proven to help the body's immune response to radioactivity (probably because of Kelp's excellent quantities of Iodine).

7. **Lecithin.** Lecithin in the diet daily can counteract the effects of radiation. (It has large amounts of Inositol, the B-vitamin shown also to be effective on its own against radiation.)

8. **Vitamins F** (essential Fatty Acids), E and C. Vitamin F is present in all crude, cold-pressed vegetable oils. It provides protection against the harmful effect of x-rays. Vitamin E oxygenates the tissues and protects the lungs and other tissues from damage by polluted air. Vitamin C, best taken in easily assimilated form like Calcium Ascorbate, can help strengthen the cell structures within the body to counteract the destructive force of the radioactive rays. Vitamin C has been shown to be most effective taken together with all the Bioflavonoids but especially Rutin (which strengthens capillary walls and reduces hemorrhaging caused by x-rays). Lemon or lemon peel concentrate is an excellent source of Bioflavonoids.

9. **Bee Pollen.** In a Germany study published in 1975, the findings were that Bee Pollen increased the whole blood cells, serum protein and gammaglobulins (oxygen-carrying cells in blood) and thus decreased radiation poisoning side effects.

Whether radiation comes from Strontium 90 (the longest lasting form of radioactivity), Radioactive Iodine (Iodine 131) or x-rays (the most prevalent in our modern "technological environment"), there can be little doubt in anyone's mind that the effects are harmful. Since the first nuclear tests before the explosions at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, there has been an ever-increasing number of cancerous tumors, birth defects and health-destroying diseases. Perhaps we cannot say radiation has caused all of these threats to man's well-being, but certainly it has contributed.

There is no doubt in any Christian's mind that Satan is the one we can trace all of man's woes back to. He is the author of every sin, sickness and woe. And he is multiplying the ways man can destroy himself in these last days. May God help His people to avoid all these deadly traps and their effects. 

The information presented here may not be in accordance with the current consensus of the medical profession and is not intended to be prescriptive. The author makes no claims to offer any cures, but desires to encourage a way of life in keeping with God's laws of health.

The publisher assumes no responsibility for the improper use or interpretation of this information and recommends that anyone desiring help with medical problems to first consult his medical doctor.

Your comments, experiences, and contributions are welcome. Write to: Tidbits, c/o RLPA, 9999 E. Mississippi Ave., Denver CO 80231-1927, USA.



God is working in East Africa

[Letter No. 1]

Dear brother,

In the name of Jesus Christ, cordial greetings to you with Revelation 2:25. ["But that which ye have already hold fast till I come."]

By the grace of God, I am writing you for my first time. My name is Andrew Mangwe. I am a member in the IMS of SDA Church Reform Movement since 1974 from the SDA. By the grace of God, I was called to join all co-workers in the Reform Church . . . as a servant to the spiritual office of Minister in 1980 in Tanzania, East Africa. During this period, I have been working in different countries, Tanzania, Malawi, Kenya and Zambia. I praise my dear Lord to say that in my missionary activities I was the first to enter Malawi in 1981 and open the work of God there. During this period, I have worked with different missionaries from the General Conference, such as Brother S. Gutknecht, Brother Raul Escobar, Brother G. Cabrera, Brother H. Hietkamp in Malawi 1984, Brother O. Welker and Brother Erick Gutknecht.

Now, according to the plan of General Conference regarding the work of God in Central Africa, I was appointed to come here to Kenya from Tanzania to lead the work of God in these missionary fields [Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi]. Therefore I am here in Nairobi from Dar-es-Salaam with my dear family since December 1986. . . .

Here in this big city the work has just begun with many interested souls . . . and we have a plan to open the work of God in Uganda, Burundi and Rwanda. We have already sent one Bible worker to Burundi with the help of the General Conference. . . .

[Letter No. 2]

Dear brother,

In the precious name of Jesus Christ our Lord, I warmly greet you with John 12:26. ["If any man serve Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there shall also My servant be: if any man serve Me, him will My Father honour."]

By the grace of God, we have been blessed in the work of God. The merciful God has opened the way to us. We had been invited to go and preach the message of mercy to another church, . . . "The Voice of Spirit" Church. This church, some years back broke from the Seventh-day Adventist

Church and formed their own organization. . . . They keep Sabbath as usual. Their pastors gave us a chance to preach the third angel's message of mercy. These people were moved by the Holy Ghost, and they all decided to join the Reform Movement. There are about 1,800 people, with their buildings and offices. We reported this matter to the General Conference. Therefore, dear brother, pray for these new souls.

Today, I will end here, hoping to hear from you soon. I am very thankful that God is still with us also here in the poor African countries, though we are not yet advanced like other countries. But He loves us too and is willing to save us to life eternal. May God in His mercy keep all of us faithful until that great day of our dear Lord Jesus. Many dear greetings to you all there in America, and we pray especially for the work of the publishing in America. My dear co-worker, as well as my dear wife, have sent their best regards to you all.

[Letter No. 3]

Dear brother,

In the precious name of Jesus Christ, peace and grace of God be unto you with my regards. By the grace of God we are all well and we hope the same of you. Many greetings with John 6:52-59, 65. ["The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us His flesh to eat? Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth My flesh, and drinketh My blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For My flesh is meat indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. He that eateth My flesh, and drinketh My blood, dwelleth in Me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent Me, and I live by the Father; so he that eateth Me, even he shall live by Me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever." "And He said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto Me, except it were given unto him of My Father."]

I am very thankful to write you again, hoping that at the moment you might have received my last letter. From this letter of today, I thank you very much to

send me some spiritual materials e.g. two S.W. and two S.S. Lessons. May God bless you as well in the work for God which you are doing. We also pray you to remember us in the future, hoping you will be sending us the S.W. and S.S. Lessons in the future.

Brother, today we request of you to send us some lessons, etc. Reformation Study Course and Know Your Bible Course. Here in the East African countries, we do not have them. Yesterday I wrote to brother Di Franca in West Germany about these lessons; meanwhile we write you once, since there is a call everywhere here, hoping that you will do your best to help us with these very important lessons.

We also praise God for the wonderful miracle He has wrought for us. When I first came from Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania) to Nairobi (Kenya) according to the General Conference, we reported to the immigration office for a permit. On March 6, we received the reply that our application was rejected and that we could prepare to go back to Tanzania. When we informed the General Conference about this hard situation, Elder S. Gutknecht sent me a special letter signed also by Brother G. Cabrera. This letter was addressed to the principal immigration officer in the Kenya Government. From March to June, we made a wonderful experience.

We were not allowed to be in a foreign country without a permit. Upon our passports was written FINAL, and this final expired on 15th June. When it was 10 June, I went again to see the boss in his office. He said to me, "Your letter from West Germany has already been sent to the Principal Immigration Officer. You should wait for two weeks more and you will get your answer, if he will accept or reject." But we had only 5 days before we had to leave Kenya for Tanzania. However, with much prayer in my heart, I could explain my situation to this man. I said, "Sir, may I ask your favorable help, since my days to stay in Kenya have expired." The Holy Ghost found the heart of this man, and he said, "Come to check with me on Friday, 12th June." In my hand I had *The Sabbath Watchman*, and I gave it to him to read.

During all these days, night and day, we had been in prayer to God; on Friday we prayed for the last time to God. My little daughter, Charity, who is about four years old, could also pray together with us.

When I left home for the Immigration Office, my dear family were still praying. We had already prepared ourselves to go back. When I arrived at his office, the boss was not in. While I was thinking what to do, I prayed at the door outside of his office.

Meanwhile, the man came out from the next office. The minute he saw me from a distance, he shouted, "My friend, your permit has been approved!" Oh! dear brother, how happy I was in my heart. I ran toward him and immediately embraced him in his shoulders and shook his hands.

He said, "You have been given three years to stay now in Kenya and preach the gospel of Jesus." I prayed my dear Lord to open the door for us. The letter which came from the General Conference to the Government of Kenya was really like an angel from heaven to open the way to the work of God. On Monday, 15th June, the last day for us to be found in Kenya, the same day, we got the letter from the Principal Immigration Officer.

For this short report we praise the Lord for His wonderful miracles. Many people think that the miracle of God is just to heal the sick ones or those who suffer because of different sicknesses. But we people of God, we often can learn in different ways the wonderful deeds of God to His beloved children.

We reported to the General Conference and now we're just looking forward from them to send us a check of the same amount of KSHS 2,000 as fee for our permits (myself and my dependents). Dear Brother W., hoping that you will also join us to rejoice and praise God. For all this we thank God in Jesus. Amen. Be faithful to the Lord. Jesus will soon come. Let us prepare ourselves for His coming. Let us be ready to receive the latter rain. Let us search ourselves in order to receive daily the seal of God. Many greetings to you all in the publishing house. May God bless all of you to work harmoniously with each other.

Your brother in Jesus Christ,
A. MANGWE

NOTE: The General Conference is aware of the ongoing work in this area of Africa. On July 1, 1987, we received these instructions from Brother Antonino Di Franca, Secretary of the General Conference: "To Brother Andrew Mangwe, P.O. Box 55765, Nairobi, Kenya, send please the following as soon as possible: 150 Know Your Bible Correspondence Course, lessons 1-25, 150 Reformation Study Course lessons 1-20, 15 Bible Study Handbooks, 20 Reformation Handbooks, 10 Church Manuals, 10 Principles of Faith. There is a need of literature presenting the precious truth for our time, therefore we must do all possible to send it as soon as possible. Please send the bills to us. . . ."

Remember this work also in your prayers.

Personal work in Germany

Dear L.,

I hope this letter will find you and your family in a good condition, healthy and strong in the Lord.

We live in unsettled times, and the prophecy is being fulfilled in front of our eyes. The United States and the Vatican have already shaken hands, the love of many is waxed cold, and there is no longing for God's word anymore. The church is being shaken always. Everything looks like a sinking ship. But we know that it must be in this way. The Bible and the Testimonies of Sister White tell us so. Our Lord is still waiting only a short time until the last soul is found and sealed. Everybody has to work according to the talents they have received from the Lord. This is what we try to do.

N., U., P. (instead of H.) and I try to guide the hearts of the people to the love of Christ through music. We don't sing only for conferences and weddings anymore, but we make concerts and invite people who are interested in music. During the concert we give short statements about the love of God, and we tell some of the experiences we passed through.

And now, we were asked to record a cassette, and for the cover we would like to use the picture of the three angels who get the power of the other angel to give their messages to the world. We put it on the cover of our little record we made together in '78. I saw it also on one of your leaflets.

Could you please send me a reproducible layout of this picture. A friend of mine is a graphic artist and is helping us with the design. It would be great if I could get the picture within this month to finish the draft of the cover.

Thank you for all your help. We hope that we can be a light for the Lord our Father and Jesus Christ, who loves us so much that He gave His life that we can live. See Hebrews 12:2.

Many greetings to everybody who still knows us, and very special greetings to you and your family.

Your brother in Christ,

HELMUT HAUG

Blessings in Montana

Dear Believers,

Greetings in the name of our blessed Saviour with 1 Peter 1:2-5, 7-9. "Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again

unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see Him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls."]

Thank you for your generous offerings and many prayers we know have been given in our behalf.

Jeff is doing well. He has been taking an herb tea for weeks that aids the process of bone healing. His back has done very well. The last doctor's visit the shoulder had not done as well, though. If the healing process wasn't far enough along by June 24, they would have to take a bone graft from the hip and place it in the shoulder. We pray that won't be necessary and leave it in the Lord's hands.

G. was in the hospital four days, plus being without work for weeks, so we've helped them out with some of the money sent. God bless you for your help. Please pray for a friend of Jeff's, called John. Jesus is work on hearts in this little valley. Praise His holy name.

Please pray for R., and also H. and E. in Spokane. While I was visiting them last Sabbath their friend P. stopped by. I was able to give him some literature. He needs prayer.

Dear friends, we must work while we can. Time is short. The Sunday law is just before us. Our blessed Jesus is listening, hoping to hear the words, "Here am I, Lord, send me."

It won't be long, and we'll be going home. But first there's a work to be done in our hearts and in our towns. There are dear souls waiting to hear about Jesus and His truth—your friend, your neighbor, your doctor maybe. Jesus loves them all.

A poem by Francis H. Rowley says:

*I will sing the wondrous story
Of the Christ who died for me,
How He left His home in glory
For the cross on Calvary.*

*I was lost, but Jesus found me,
Found the sheep that went astray;
Threw His loving arms around me,
Drew me back into His way. . . .*

God bless and keep you every one.
Yours in Christ,

MAUREEN KRUMMES

From the AMERICAN UNION NEWSLETTER

"God has given us our intellectual and moral powers, but to a great extent every person is the architect of his own character. Every day the structure is going up. The word of God warns us to take heed how we build, to see that our building is founded upon the eternal Rock. The time is coming when our work will stand revealed just as it is. Now is the time for all to cultivate the powers which God has given them, that they may form characters for usefulness here and for a higher life hereafter." —Ellen G. White, *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 4, p. 656.

Canadian Field and American Union Conferences

Many who are planning to attend the Union Conference may also want to attend the Canadian Field Conference and see the beautiful city of Toronto. The Union Conference site is only 400 miles south of Toronto.

About 160 persons have already sent in their reservations for the upcoming American Union Conference.

IMPORTANT NOTE—IF FLYING, INCLUDE THE AIRLINE AND FLIGHT INFORMATION.

Jamaica

"The work continues to strengthen in Montego Bay as the Lord has secured a proper place of worship. Because of its very prominent church sign, many people have been made aware of the church of God. Let us pray for those who have shown interest and especially for those prospective members." —Morris Lowe.

Beginning on May 29th, the Kingston church began three days of spiritual revival. This series ended with an open air street meeting on the streets of Kingston.

July 5-August 1 has been set aside for an evangelistic crusade in Montego Bay. Let us not forget our brethren throughout the Caribbean as we continue to hold them up with our prayers.

Los Angeles update

Every Sunday since possession of the new building in Los Angeles, members and friends have gathered to prepare it for services. Funds are still needed, however, to meet the short term needs, which include more than \$12,000 to complete the remodeling (all funds for

the remodeling are being obtained through the members in Southern California), and the long term needs for those funds borrowed from within the church from the Union and the General Conference. The General Conference has set aside the fourth quarter 1988 Sabbath School Offering to help defray the long term indebtedness of this facility. The members of the Los Angeles and Riverside churches are united in their dedication and donations of funds and labor and thank all who have donated to help make possible this worthwhile project.

In the midst of the remodeling, the Los Angeles church is still actively doing missionary work. "On June 21, 1987, three souls joined the church of God through baptism. They were Sister Elida Portillo, who received Bible studies from Brother Thomas Ramirez and Brother Cholic for about six months; Sister Denora Castro, a close relative of Brother Raul Macias who became interested in the Reform after having been invited to the church some time ago by her family; and Sister Linda Visnjec, who responded to a call by Brother Cholic after a very spiritual service that those interested in being baptized should come forward. We pray that the Lord will continue to bless these souls, and that they will be faithful to their commitment to the Lord unto the end. . . ." —Your brother in Christ, William Ferrer.

Tentative conference schedule

As of publication time, the following times have been established for the following important conference events:

Delegates' meetings begin at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday afternoon, August 25.

The opening of the Youth Conference is currently scheduled for 3:00 p.m., Tuesday afternoon, August 25. The morning will be for registration and recreation.

The opening of the American Union Conference is currently scheduled for 2:00 p.m., Thursday afternoon, August 27.

(No further information will follow in *The Sabbath Watchman*, as this will be the last issue until after the Conference. Any consequential changes will be announced in the *American Union Newsletter*.)

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

Asleep in Jesus

On Thursday night, February 19, 1987, the shocking news was given me that our dear Brother Angel Craviotto had suddenly passed away late in the evening on February 18, 1987, at 75 years of age.

After visiting at the conference in Chile, we said good-bye to him and his wife on Monday, February 16, in Mendoza. None of us imagined that this would be our last farewell, following 36 years of warm, harmonious working together.

There was a hearty embrace and a warm handshake, and I still see the happily married couple affectionately waving, until they disappeared from view. "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." "Lord, make me know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is: that I may know how frail I am. Behold, Thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before Thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity." Psalms 90:12; 39:4, 5. We don't know when, where and how our last hour will be.

Brother Angel Craviotto was born on October 8, 1912. On March 18, 1931, he made the sacred covenant with his God and Saviour in baptism, and immediately began his service for the Lord. In November 1938, he was ordained to the ministry, and on January 8, 1941, he married Ruth Kozel. From that happy marriage came two children.

Brother Craviotto was called very early to fill a leading position in God's work. He led the South American Division for many years and was a Vice President of the General Conference since 1983.

The death of our dear Brother Craviotto leaves a large gap not only in his family but also in the South American continent and the General Conference. We will sorely miss his wise counsel and his friendly cooperation.

The only comfort for his dear wife, his children and his parents in law, who have reached the age of 87 and 97 years respectively, is the soon return of Christ, in which he fervently believed, for which he hoped and for which he worked for over half a century.

With thankfulness and profound sympathy from all the co-workers at the General Conference and all around the world.

SIGMUND GUTKNECHT

Effect of Novel Reading

ON the romantic borders of a beautiful river, in one of our Northern States, there is situated an elegant mansion. Spacious grounds surround the dwelling, and, what is not usual in this country, it has a terraced garden. This is a hill, situated at the side of the house, presenting a mass of living verdure. You ascend gradually, step by step, each platform, as it were, richly embroidered with brilliant flowers.

In this retreat of elegance and retirement, lived Mr. and Mrs. M., their daughter, and a French governess. No expense or labor had been spared to make this daughter an accomplished woman; but not one thought was ever bestowed upon the immortal interests of her soul. At the age of sixteen, she was beautiful and intelligent, but utterly destitute of all religious principle. Enthusiastically fond of reading, she roamed her father's spacious library, and selected whatever books best pleased her. Of an imaginative turn, earnest and impassioned, hers was the very mind that required the strong, controlling hand of a matured judgment. Yet it was left to feed at will upon the poisoned fruits that lie scattered around. She naturally turned to the novels that stored the library shelves; and at sixteen was as much at home in the pages of Bulwer as she was in her French grammar. The ridiculous romances of Mrs. Radcliffe were laid aside with disgust, and Bulwer, James, and others, took their place. But she descended a step, many steps lower, and, supplied by the governess, eagerly devoured the very worst fictions of Eugene Sue and George Sand. Next she was heard discussing and excusing the most heinous crimes of which human nature can be guilty.

Her parents heard with horror her freely expressed sentiments, and wondered where she had inhaled such lax ideas. They never thought of looking into her library for the cause, or at the unprincipled governess. The poison began to do its work; she could no longer live this tame life; she must have something more exciting, more exhilarating. The resolution was formed; with a beating heart she collected her mother's jewels; took one long look at her indulgent parents; bade a silent farewell to the scenes of her happy childhood, and left the house forever. No warning voice implored her to return; no hand was stretched out to save. On, on she went, until she reached the far-off city. Its lights dazzled her, its noise confused her, but she never regretted the peaceful home she had so culpably deserted. Her plan was to go on the stage, and become a renowned actress, like the heroine of one of her French novels. But this was not so easily achieved as she imagined; and after a most unsuccessful attempt, she was compelled

From *Bible Readings for the Home Circle*, a reprint of *Sabbath Readings for the Home Circle*. A limited number are available from RLPA for \$9.95.



to act only in subordinate parts. She had lost home, happiness, and respectability, and had not gained that fame for which she had sacrificed so much.

But it would be too painful to follow her through all her wretched life, and tell how each succeeding year she grew more degraded and more miserable, until at length having run a fearful career of vice she sank into a dishonored and early grave. No mother's hand wiped the cold death-dew from her brow; no kind voice whispered hope and consolation. Alone, poor, degraded, utterly unrepentant, she will appear before the judgment-seat of Christ; we pause; for we dare not follow it further.

The sound of her name never echoed through the halls of her childhood. Her father, stern and silent, buried all memories of his guilty child deep within his heart; whilst the mother, wan, broken-hearted, hopeless, wept in secret those tears of bitter agony whose fountain was perpetually welling afresh.

It is "to point a moral" that we have opened these annals of the past; and we would have the young ponder well the lesson that this history teaches. There is a danger in novel reading; it vitiates the taste, enervates the understanding, and destroys all inclination for spiritual enjoyment. The soul that is bound in fetters of this habit, *cannot* rise to the contemplation of heavenly things. It has neither the inclination nor the power. We knew one who, even with death in view, turned with loathing away from the only Book that could bring her peace and salvation, to feed greedily on the pages of a foolish romance. It matters not that some of the finest minds have given their powers to this style of writing; that bright gems of intellect flash along their pages. The danger is so much the greater; for the jewels scattered by Genius, blind even while they dazzle. "Some of the greatest evils of my life," said a remarkable woman, "I trace to the eager perusal of what are called 'well-written novels.' I lived in a world of delusion. I had no power to separate the false from the real. My Bible lay covered with dust; I had no desire for its pages." Oh, then, if the young would reach a heavenly haven; if they would be guided unto "the still waters" of everlasting bliss, let them avoid the dangerous rock of novel reading, upon which so many souls have been shipwrecked and utterly lost.



IN THIS ISSUE

THE GOSPEL IN CREATION page 2

Which is greater—the work of creation or that of redemption? This question is addressed, along with the way to salvation for all generations. The truths of creation have a wonderful relationship to the process of redemption.

CHRIST IN THE OLD TESTAMENT page 5

Was there a difference between the way those under the old covenant received righteousness and the way to righteousness today? Who inspired the writers of the Old Testament? Was it the same Spirit who inspired the New Testament writers?

JEHOVAH page 10

"Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Moses understood the gospel. These holy men of old held communion with the Saviour who was to come to our world in human flesh; and some of them talked with Christ and heavenly angels face to face." Is this the Saviour we worship today? How do we relate to God the Father?

A WARNING AGAINST FALSE REVIVALS IN THE LAST DAYS page 12

Sensationalism marks much of the religious world today. Why is this? How should we consider manifestations of excitement?

By Their Fruits Ye Shall Know Them page 15

Life is what we make it. The true child of God will pass over many slights and not see or feel them, because he has Jesus' love in his heart and is trying so hard to be like Him that such small matters do not affect him.

OVERCOMING SIN—CAN I SAFELY "PUT IT OFF"? page 16.

Quotations from the Spirit of Prophecy answer questions such as, "Can temptation be so strong that we cannot help but fall?" and "What happens when we continue in known sin?"

EYESALVE page 18

With every wind of doctrine blowing, we need eyesalve in this time of confusion. Our foe, the devil, comes with all cunning craftiness to confuse our minds, for he wants to destroy us; but there is a way to escape his deceptions.

THE WAY OF THE ADVENTISTS, Part 9 page 20

From 1900 to 1903 a reorganization was effected in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. What kind of a reorganization was this? How are we to view the burning of the Battle Creek Sanitarium and the Review and Herald offices?

TIDBITS page 23

Radioactivity.

LETTERS page 24

God is working in East Africa. Personal work in Germany. Blessings in Montana.

NEWSNOTES page 26

From the American Union Newsletter.

CHILDREN'S CORNER page 27

Effect of Novel Reading.

RLPA, 9999 E. Mississippi Avenue, Denver, CO 80231, USA.

PUT YOUR NAME HERE
Subscribe to:
The Sabbath Watchman
For details see page 2