Bible Study and Notes

COME OUT OF HER MY PEOPLE! (LESSON 25)

Bible Study

- Where are God's people to come out from? Revelation 18:2-4
- What does God encourage people to do? Hebrews 10:25
- If someone gets sick, who are people to turn to and where are they found? James 5:14-15
- How many people would be saved in the last days?
 Matthew 7:13-14

- 5. What word describes the faithful? Romans 11:5
- What specific message is to go around the world in the end of time? Matthew 24:14, Revelation 14:6
- How many faithful folds does Jesus have? John 10:14-16, Ephesians 4:4

Him in the air? **Ephesians 5:27**

people be who finally meet

9. How obedient will God's

10. According to Revelation 12:17, God's people would have the testimony of Jesus Christ among them. According to the Bible, what is the testimony of Jesus Christ? **Revelation 19:10**

 What are the requirements of a true worshipper? John 4:23-24

What Group of People Does the Third Angel Reveal?

Revelation 14:12 says, "Here is the patience of the saints: here [are] they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." God has saints and will have saints right up to

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and including the second coming (Revelation 14:14).

Where can they be found? Revelation 18:2-4 tells us, "And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her. and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ve receive not of her plaques." Babylon, representing all types of confusing and false doctrines started in literal Babylon and has been passed down through spiritual Babylon by the vehicle of the Antichrist. Many Protestant churches have kept these practices and further constitute Babylon. As a result, in these last days the world has especially fallen so far from the Word of God, yet are unified in the name of Christ, but only in the name.

Yet, the angel cries, "Come out of her My people!" God's people are in Babylon, which is to say that they are scattered in every denomination and beyond. But God tells His people to leave all of that and come out, but as literal Israel did not want to leave the comforts and delicacies of literal Babylon, people today are quite hesitant to leave spiritual Babylon. Part of the warning is "that ye receive not of her plagues." Numbers or the size of the congregation is not the concern. It should be avoiding those plagues.

A couple hints at what constitutes Babylon is found inside the verses. From the lesson Antichrist and 666. we discovered the definition of "the hold of every foul spirit" (Revelation 18:2) is spiritualism. Further "the habitation of devils" makes it clear that although the Protestants, Catholics, and religionists appear to be worshipping God or a god, in reality they are considered of the "synagogue of Satan" as defined in the following verses: Revelation 2:9 says, "I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and [I know] the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but [are] the synagogue of Satan." Revelation 3:9 reveals. "Behold. I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee." These are people who worship along side the real worshippers and call themselves Jews (signifying Christians as studied in Revelations' Two Witnesses) but are not.

Headlines show how the whole world has now even embraced Darwinism and evolution. Today, nations are made rich by Babylon and have enjoyed the benefits of supporting this system. They have become so drunk with her teachings that they can no longer see clearly. Governments march through the king of confusion, the papacy. Businesses or merchants of the world march through, and even all religions and denominations march through. The Vatican is central to it all with businesses, governments, and religions, just as predicted by the Bible.

Who are God's people? To the contrast of those living in Babylon, God's people are described in 1 Peter 2:9, which tells us, "But ye [are] a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people: that ve should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light." They are going to stand out from the rest of the crowd. They are going to be actively involved in leading people to the light. These are people who are willing to follow a "Thus Saith the Lord."

Does God Encourage Going to Church?

Acts 2:21 says, "And it shall come to pass. [that] whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." It is true that we are individually saved. but does God encourage people to remain home and not become members of a church? Hebrews 10:25 says, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some [is]; but exhorting [one another]: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." We are not to give up on assembling together, in fact, as we get closer to the second coming, we should assemble more often.

Further, if God did not mean for church assembling, then why have the following church positions? According to 1 Corinthians 12:28, the Bible says, "And God hath set some in

the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues." And what is the purpose of a pastor as well as these other positions? Ephesians 4:11-16 tells us, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 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: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." The saints are churchgoers who listen to sermons preached by preachers and who listen to teachers in class sessions so that all may be unified in the doctrines of Christ (2 John 1:9) and not just any doctrines, which will affect their characters being purified by the Word of God (John 17:17). Additionally, most listened to evangelists and missionaries (apostles) as they came into the church. These are used to build up the church. It is

through both church service and classroom meetings that more truth is revealed. In fact, believe it or not, there are even more details to learn about God's Word than what are contained in these study guides. The other details are not to be "of any private interpretation" (2 Peter 1:20) either. That means that by coming together, these things can be addressed. Remember, God is calling us out of darkness (1 Peter 2:9), which includes ignorance.

The concept of people coming together of like understanding and mission is further supported in the following verses: Proverbs 11:14 says, "Where no counsel [is], the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors [there is] safety." Proverbs 15:22 states, "Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established." Proverbs 24:6 tells us. "For by wise counsel thou shalt make thy war: and in multitude of counsellors [there is] safety."

Besides, what makes a denomination? Doctrine. There are only two doctrines in the world: the Bible properly speaking for itself (Isaiah 28:10 - "For precept [must be] upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, [and] there a little") and everything else. This is evident in 2 John 1:7-9, which says, "For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever

transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son." If a person has the doctrines of Jesus Christ they are in Christ, if they do not, they are in Antichrist no matter what doctrines are in common or different. Even Revelation 19:15 tells us that it is the Word of God, which is the two-edged sword that separates us. Either we are following it or we are not.

And remember the protection of assembling with God appointed church leaders and continuing in the doctrine that is taught instead of staying secluded until death or the Lord returns: "*That* we [henceforth] be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of <u>doctrine</u>" (Ephesians 4:14).

The counterfeit to God's calling people out of Babylon to a people following the last day message is to create independent and nondenominational churches. Hardly heard of before the 1950's, but now there has been an explosion of them. That alone should raise a red flag. It sounds harmless but keep in mind, being in Christ is about doctrine. Claiming to be Christian is the first doctrine. Saved by His blood is a second doctrine, etc. And we did not even hit the big ones yet, but have eliminated 7 billion people already (6 billion that are not Christian and the 1 billion that do not accept Jesus' blood alone for salvation yet call themselves Christian). Further, we are to "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and

of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, Io, I am with you alway, [even] unto the end of the world. Amen" (Matthew 28:19-20).

But how can the hundreds of Protestant denominations be wrong? Simply, how can everyone be right when there is only one God and so many divisions? Besides, it was prophesied. Isaiah 4:1 tells us, "And in that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying, We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel: only let us be called by thy name, to take away our reproach." In many previous studies, we have found that women represent churches, either God's people (comparing Jeremiah 6:2 and Isaiah 51:16) or those in apostasy (Revelation 17:5). BREAD is defined as doctrine (Matthew 16:12). The only man any church would take hold of is Christ. The only apparel that a church would wear is righteousness (Revelation 19:8). Substituting these literal words into the verse now, Isaiah 4:1 basically should be read as: "And in that day" CHURCHES "shall take hold of" CHRIST, "saving, We will" make our own doctrines, "and wear our own" RIGHTEOUSNESS: "only let us be called" CHRISTIANS, "to take away our reproach", which is to say, guaranteed to be saved.

But to uplift denominationalism sounds a lot like the cry from the Corinthians: 1 Corinthians 1:12-13 states, "*Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ* divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?" To remain a Methodist, Lutheran, Episcopalian, or whatever knowing full well they are in error or contain many errors along with some truth is to be of the church founder and not of Christ. But to be part of a group that allows the Bible as their guide is to follow "every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4) is to be of Christ.

Speaking of church positions, since God does not change (Malachi 3:6) and people have gotten sick from time to time, notice the provision God has made in James 5:14-15: "*Is any* sick among you? let him call for the <u>elders of the church</u>; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him."

Further, Jesus tells us that "as it was in the davs of Noe. so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man" (Luke 17:26). It was already addressed that people of then lived in great violence (Genesis 6:11), which would be repeated at the end of time. They also were excessive in eating and drinking as well as abusing the marriage relationship (Matthew 24:38). Further, Noah preached a long time (Genesis 6:3). Now for additional insight, 1 Peter 3:20 tells us. "Which sometime were disobedient, when once the lonasuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved

by water." Noah preached something very specific: "If you want to be saved, get in the boat." And that use of "*saved*" encompasses both spiritually and physically.

Are we sure? Hebrews 11:7 states, "By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith." So, the same message would be preached again. If you want to be saved, get in the boat, which is the church today. Does the Bible substantiate that? Acts 2:47 says, "Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." The reason God states this is for several reasons:

- 1. A single individual or even a family may have their own interpretation of the Bible and are not allowing the Bible to interpret itself.
- 2. Individuals or families sharing their insight helps others gain more knowledge.
- 3. God's church is informative and aware of last day events and will be the first to understand the movements leading up to the second coming. You will not get that staying where you are, in fact, this is why God says to come out. He knows that even if you believe all the truth and want to practice it, over time, being pummeled with error, it would lead to giving up the truth.
- 4. Fellowship in churches

teaching blatant error leads to death especially if they teach things such as the wrong understanding of the state of the dead, proper day of worship, false manifestation of the gifts of the Spirit, and much more.

And of course, there are many more reasons, but these serve as a good foundation.

Do the Majority of People Ever Follow God All the Way?

To answer this question, let us examine history.

- How many were saved at the time of the flood? Eight (Genesis 6:10, 7:7). Noah and his family.
- How many were saved when Sodom was burned? Three (Genesis 19:15, 26). Lot and his two daughters. His wife looked back and was lost.
- Jesus preached for three and a half years. How many were gathered on the day of Pentecost? One hundred twenty (Acts 1:15).

Jesus even stated a prophecy. Matthew 7:13-14 says, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide [is] the gate, and broad [is] the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait [is] the gate, and narrow [is] the way. which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." God says that His church is a strict, strait church, a church that has standards, and a church that teaches the narrow way. And notice that only a few find it, and that many will be lost. What will

be their plea? Matthew 7:20-23 tells us, "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." Notice how the saved group is identified. "By their fruits you shall know them" and as those that "do the will of the Father in heaven."

God does not say to check out their choir. God does not say to check out how eloquent the preacher is. God does not say to check if your family or friends attend there. God says to check their fruits. What are they teaching? Are they teaching a *"Thus Saith the Lord"* and are they willing to follow the Lord in all He says?

Who are the few? Deuteronomy 7:6-7 identifies them as: "For thou [art] an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that [are] upon the face of the earth. The LORD did not set his love upon you. nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye [were] the fewest of all people." God is not looking for large numbers; rather He is looking for those who are consecrated to Him. He is looking for those who, like the early Christians, especially the Apostles and the reformers, are

willing to go to their death for the Word of God if necessary.

Now, God has a name for this small group. Haggai 1:12 tells us, "Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people. obeyed the voice of the LORD their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the LORD their God had sent him. and the people did fear before the LORD." And, let us look in the New Testament for that name. Romans 11:5 states. "Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace."

Now God knew that in the last days Satan would try to pull off a great deception in this area, even a counterfeit of the true teachings, by raising up hundreds and hundreds of other groups. He knew that Satan's goal was to get people to the point that they would become complacent and believe that there is error in every church allowing them to feel that they are just fine anywhere they choose to worship or even to not fellowship at all. Sounds a lot like the lukewarm attitude that is brought out in Revelation 3:14.

How Is the Remnant Identified?

According to *Webster's New World Dictionary*, the definition of REMNANT is:

- 1. What is leftover, remainder, residue.
- 2. A small remaining part, quantity, or number of persons or things.

- 3. A trace, last remaining indication of what has been.
- 4. A piece of cloth, ribbon, etc. left over or unsold, as at the end of a bolt.

So, if I have a piece of purple cloth with double blue stripes and a single white stripe in the middle and I need more of that material, what would I buy?

- Would I buy a red piece of cloth with black stripes and an orange stripe in the middle? No of course not.
- Would I buy a purple piece of cloth with black stripes and an orange stripe in the middle? No of course not.
- Would I buy a purple piece of cloth with a large white stripe? No of course not.
- Would I buy a purple piece of cloth with a large blue stripe? No of course not.
- Would I buy a purple piece of cloth with two white stripes and a blue stripe in the middle? Well. It looks pretty close. But looking back at the original, it is not identical. So the answer is No.
- Would I buy a purple piece of cloth with two blue stripes and a white stripe in the middle? Yes! Because it is identical to the original.

God's remnant church should teach the exact same things as the original.

God goes a step further. He specifically tells us in the Bible how to identify the remnant. Revelation 12:14-17 clearly states, "And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the

wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time. from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed. which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." In our great history lesson, we find that the woman (church) fled to America where she was able to practice religion freely. From this, how is the last day remnant identified?

- 1. They began in America.
- 2. They have come out of the nominal churches that refuse to continue the protest of straying from God's Word.
- They have come out even further to stand alone as a smaller group.
- 4. They are the ones who adhere to all of God's Holy Ten Commandments including the fourth.
- 5. They also have the testimony of Jesus.
- Revelation 1:9 goes on to identify the remnant by saying, "I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ." Not only do they follow the Law, but they follow a "Thus"

Saith the Lord."

- 7. Revelation 19:10 further says, "And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See [thou do it] not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." They also have the manifestation of the gift of prophets among them.
- 8. Matthew 24:14 tells us, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations: and then shall the end come." They will take the gospel around the world before the end comes. Which gospel? There are so many voices today claiming different versions of the gospel. Let us not guess nor speculate. Notice how God just answers such questions leaving no room for human interpretation. Revelation 14:6 explicitly states, "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." We have found the specific gospel that is to be preached to the entire world.
- 9. What does the last day gospel contain? Revelation 14:7 says, "Saying with a loud voice, Fear God." They will uphold God and His Word, a "Thus Saith the Lord," over any teaching and tradition that man has even over the fear of offending man. They will realize that God means what He says

and says what He means. They will realize that He is about to move any day now, and if one is caught in a state described as Laodicean, they will be lost.

- 10. "And give glory to him." We found out according to 1 Corinthians 6:20, it says, "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." They will be careful of what goes into the bodies and abstain from unclean meats as well as drugs such as caffeine, alcohol, and tobacco. Additionally, how bodies are presented and fed affects their spiritual life. They will restrict the type of music listened to as well as the watching of television, movies, and video programs. They will not wear that which attracts the attention of people.
- 11. "For the hour of his judgment is come." They will understand what God revealed about the judgment, how it is conducted, and when it is conducted. We are under an investigative judgment period and every word, action, and thought will be used to render a verdict.
- 12. "And worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." This is a direct quote right out of the fourth commandment calling us to come back to the true Sabbath, which is the seventh day that begins sundown Friday and ends sundown Saturday. So, the remnant will be keeping the

Sabbath of the Lord and not a manmade day.

- 13. Revelation 14:8 goes on to say, "And there followed another angel, saving, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." The remnant will know who is Babylon, where the great city is located, what is the wine (false doctrines), and will take that message to every nation. That great city of Rome has fallen away from the truth of the Word and even the socalled "Protestant" churches are fallen. By labeling and identifying it, we need to search out her doctrines to find the source of the teachings. If they are based on paganism, then we must have the courage to forsake it.
- 14. Revelation 14:9 further states, "And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast', which God has clearly identified through the numerous points in Daniel, Revelation, and other books of the Bible. The remnant will know who the beast is, know the activity of the beast, and be warning the world to avoid it. They will have the courage to believe God's Word over popular Christian views.
- 15. "And his image." The remnant will know what the image is, how it is erected, and when it is erected. The reason popular Christianity cannot see the identification of the beast clearly is because they themselves

have been creating an image to the beast. They are holding on to the same pagan practices and are trying to join church and state together. We need to follow a *"Thus Saith the Lord."*

- 16. "And receive [his] mark in his forehead, or in his hand." The remnant will know what the mark is, how to avoid the mark, and when it will be enforced. Do we or do we not realize the whole thing comes down to who we are going to worship? The beast, who has his mark of authority being Sunday sacredness, or God, who asks us to partake of His Sabbath blessings on the seventh day and be sealed.
- 17. Revelation 14:10-11 continues on to tell us. "The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God. Which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image. and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name." God is serious! God's people will know specifically that the wrath of God is -- the seven last plagues (Revelation 15:1). They will know how to avoid the plagues and the purpose of them.
- 18. Revelation 14:12 concludes with, "Here is the patience of the saints: here [are] they

that keep the Commandments of God. And the faith of Jesus." The remnant will have a proper balance between faith and works. God's people will follow all of God's Ten Commandments and not follow any manmade ones. This is not to be saved, but because they love God and are saved. It is a result of being saved. Further, 1 John 1:9 tells us that Jesus is faithful to forgive us of our sins for all have sinned, that is, have transgressed God's law (1 John 3:4).

Is There Only One True Church?

John 10:14-16 states, "I am the good shepherd, and know my [sheep], and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me. even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, [and] one shepherd." Notice that the desire of Jesus is to have one fold and one shepherd, yet there are hundreds and even thousands of different shepherds and folds today.

What is Jesus' fold based upon? 1 Timothy 3:15 tells us, "But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, <u>the pillar and ground</u> <u>of the truth</u>." This verse identifies two things. First, it tells us that buildings are to be erected for worship unto God meaning it is a physical church. Second, His church has truth and not error. in other words, every teaching is based upon a "Thus Saith the Lord." That does not mean that the believers are perfect. They are coming to church to be perfected (Ephesians 4:12). Further. Satan is at work planting "tares" (Matthew 13:39) both in the pews and in the pulpits and this is why everyone still needs to search the Word for themselves. "False prophets" (Matthew 24:24) or teachers inside the church should not develop a conclusion that all churches are corrupt, but rather, check the books. What does the church as a whole teach? Is it **Biblical?**

Does God really have a church that is based upon a "Thus Saith the Lord"? Matthew 16:18 says, "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Jesus prophesied to Peter that Jesus would build His church upon Himself, the Rock, and that hell would not prevail against it. And through history, it had looked as though Satan would gain the victory, yet God prevailed in every case. So, to say that there is no body of believers following God's truth today is to say that Jesus is a liar. But at the same time, all of the hundreds of churches cannot be following the truth since many have doctrines that contradict each other. This is evident in Ephesians 4:4-6 "[There is] one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who [is] above all, and through all, and in you all." God has only

one body of believers following the truth. That means the other bodies are following some form of truth mixed with error, and Satan does not care if we are following 90% truth and 10% error or 95% truth and 5% error or 99% truth and 1% error. It is still error and that error could kill.

It makes sense. There is only one God and one Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ who is the *"Truth"* (John 14:6) and not Truths, and there is also one Bible, then why so many different teachings? They must not be following the only Bible study method (Isaiah 28:9-10).

That is why in the last days, God sends such an urgent message to call His people out of all the different bodies mixing error with truth into the one body based on the pillar of truth. This also means that in every church. there are sincere people who are living up to all the light they have and God wants them to come out in these last days and not partake of the plagues, which soon will be poured out. Though God winks at ignorance. there will be a time when the Mark of the Beast will be enforced, and people will have to make a decision. Today and everyday is the day to prepare to make that choice. And it is a lot easier to make the choice now than under the pressures that "if [it were] possible, they shall deceive the very elect" (Matthew 24:24).

Does God mind if we follow a little error? John 4:23-24 tells us, "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the <u>true worshippers</u> <u>shall worship the Father in spirit</u> <u>and in truth</u>: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God [is] a Spirit: and <u>they that</u> worship him must worship [him] in spirit and in truth." God is quite clear. If we are considered to be the elect, the true worshippers, we "<u>must</u> worship Him in spirit and in truth."

How many pure women are found in Revelation? Revelation 12:1 identifies such by saving, "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars." This woman represents the single nation of Israel in the Old Testament and the single church of the New Testament. Various names have been applied to the New Testament church as one group dropped the torch and another picked it up.

Further, Jesus is soon coming back for His bride, is that not right? Just how many brides will Jesus marry? One. And how does she look? Ephesians 5:27 says, "That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish."

How many compromised or harlot women are there in **Revelation? Revelation 17:4** identifies this as well by saying, "And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication." It looks like a single woman who has compromised but notice the next profound verse. Revelation 17:5 tells us, "And upon her forehead [was] a name written. MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT. THE MOTHER OF

<u>HARLOTS</u> AND

ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH." According to this verse, she would spawn off daughters. And daughters take after their mothers in some sense, in other words, they will pass off one or more teachings not substantiated by the Bible.

What Does the Bible Reveal About the Beginning of the Remnant Church?

In the lesson *The Longest Time Prophecy,* a study of Revelation 10 was conducted. Now here are the specifics.

According to Revelation 10:1-2 an angel has a message for the whole world contained in the little Book of Daniel, which was previously sealed (Daniel 12:4) and now is opened.

In Revelation 10:3-6, despite a thundering warning, Daniel 8:14 because of Daniel 8:19 would be looked upon as predicting the specific year of Christ's return. This message is what helped to fulfill Revelation 12:17, when the seed of the church came out during the great awakening to see Jesus in 1844. These people were known as Millerites.

Now the Millerites received their name from one preaching the return of Jesus in the 1840's. William Miller was a man who desired to study the whole Bible from Genesis to Revelation using the method of the Bible interpreting itself; he began in Genesis and would not move off of a verse until it was satisfactorily studied. He eventually entered the book of Daniel and into chapter 8 verse 14. He calculated that 1843 had to be the fulfillment of the 2,300day prophecy, and according to the surrounding verses, it appeared to depict the time the earth would be cleansed by fire, and he knew that such fire was associated with the second coming. He did not share it with many fearing that he may be wrong, but when events such as shooting stars covering the night skies like figs tossed were being fulfilled, he began to gain more courage in his findings.

The shooting stars by the way, occurred in 1833 as the following periodicals reveal: "Meteoric Shower of Nov. 13, 1833: ...not until about the beginning of the 19th century was the extraterrestrial origin of meteors and meteorites generally accepted. Serious study of the subject was really initiated by the great meteor shower of Nov. 13, 1833, which was seen all over eastern North America. Hundreds of thousands of shooting stars were observed in one night, some leaving persistent trains, but none reaching the earth." Encyclopedia Britannica, Vol. 15, page 332, 1962 edition. "We pronounce the raining of fire which we saw on Wednesday morning last an awful type, a sure forerunner, a merciful sign, of the great and dreadful day which the inhabitants of the earth will witness when the sixth seal shall be opened. That time is just at hand." Connecticut Observer, Nov. 25, 1833. "The most sublime phenomenon of shooting stars (Nov. 13, 1833) ... COVERED NO **INCONSIDERABLE PORTION** OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE ... covering the entire vault of heaven with myriads of fire balls

resembling skyrockets." Geography of the Heavens, p. 157.

He still hesitated until he began to wrestle with God. One day out in the field he prayed about it and uttered words such as: "God, if you want me to preach this message, provide an opportunity to do so." He thought he took care of God. He went back home and went about his business when a relative came up the street racing in the front door and said, "William, our minister is sick and we have no one to preach at our church service. Will you come and share your findings?" So, William Miller reluctantly accepted. He preached that the second coming would occur in 1843, but he was not alone. Without knowing or hearing of others preaching this message, each of the following were independently inspired to preach the same thing.

- Dr. Wolff (a Jew who converted to Christianity) preached the message to Jews, Turks, Parsees, Hindus, and many others according to *Journal of the Rev. Joseph Wolff.*
- There were 700 ministers of the Church of England preaching the same message.
- Gaussen, a student of Farel and Calvin, preached the message in France and Switzerland.
- A Tatar priest held a similar belief.
- Lacunza, a Spaniard and Jesuit, in South America had the same message using the pen name Rabbi Ben-Ezra.

• Bengel, a Lutheran minister, also preached the same message. *Encyclopedia Britanica*.

Later, Samuel Snow pointed out a calculation error. Miller allowed for a zero year, which did not exist. Instead of 1843, it should have been 1844 and he even picked the day that Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) fell on which was October 22.

What else does God reveal? Revelation 10:7-10 revealed that the message would be sweetly tasted but end in a bitter disappointment. When Jesus did not appear in 1844, there was a great disappointment.

But the prophecy does not stop there. Notice the last verse. which is very significant. Revelation 10:11 tells us, "And he said unto me. Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings." The message of the 2,300 days must be properly taken to every nation. Today, there is only one body of believers that know and understand this prophecy. Others simply ignore it or have a distorted view that makes no sense.

The correct message is that the heavenly sanctuary is being cleansed, that is, in 1844, Jesus entered the Most Holy place of heaven and is performing what is known as the investigative judgment. He is cleaning up the books of record in Heaven.

Now, as prophesied, a remnant of the seed was still holding onto the hope of seeing Jesus coming again, and so they searched the scriptures more intently to see what happened. All of it was prophesied in Revelation 12:17. Those that were left over after the great disappointment who would discover the Bible teaching on keeping all ten of God's commandments is "*the remnant.*"

Who is part of the remnant? Revelation 14:12 states, "Here is the patience of the saints: here [are] they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." The name of God's people appears in deciphering these words.

First, "They that keep the commandments of God' and are separated from the rest of the world by one commandment. It is not the last six commandments and all agree on the first commandment. Other than the Catholic Church. all agree on the second as well. And all agree on the third one too. So, it is the fourth one that sets them apart. It is the one about the Sabbath. Is the word Sabbath what sets them apart? No. Many Christians believe there is a Christian Sabbath, which is Sunday. But when is the Biblical one? The seventh day! Therefore, all who keep Sunday for all the reasons given are actually keeping the commandments of men over God's commandments.

Looking at the second identifying mark, the remnant also have the "the faith of Jesus," even right before Jesus returns in verse 14. What concern did Jesus have when He returns? Luke 18:8 says, "I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, <u>shall he</u> find faith on the earth?" Revelation 14:12 is the answer to Jesus' question. There will be faith when He comes. What is the context? The context is the second coming or advent. And people who believe in the Second Advent are called Adventists. Substituting the words now with what we learned, Revelation 14:12 would read "*Here is the patience of the saints: here [are]*" Seventh-day Adventists.

What Does History Reveal?

During the reign of the papacy, we know that it cast down the truth (Daniel 8:12), but did you know that as it led people stepby-step into darkness, God pulled His people step-by-step back out of darkness?

- The first major step of compromise was in accepting the pagan day of Sunday for the Sabbath.
- The second major step was declaring souls to be immortal.
- The third step was the substitution of sprinkling for baptism.
- The fourth step was adopting a pagan style of dress, even a worldly style.
- The fifth step was bringing in incense, holy water, holy days and seasons, processions, and even the ring in marriage according to John Henry Cardinal Newman.
- The sixth step was salvation by works.
- The seventh step was veneration of Mary.
- And the eighth major step

was the infallibility of the Pope.

Now watch how God has led the people back to worship the true God step-by-step in exact reverse order.

- First, the Greek Orthodox church challenged the infallibility of the Pope.
- Then God inspired the Episcopalians to challenge the worship of Mary.
- Martin Luther was inspired to reveal that "*the just shall live by faith*" (Romans 1:17).
- The Presbyterians and Congregationalists focused on the Christian style of worship, removing the pomp and circumstance.
- It was the Methodists who brought people back to godly appearance and to not partake of worldly attractions.
- The Baptists brought out baptism by immersion.
- George Stores, a Millerite, brought attention to the mortal state of a soul.
- And it was the Seventh-Day Baptists who brought attention to the proper day of worship.

But people put their eyes on man instead of God. When one reformer died, so did many of his followers spiritually. They did not want to move on to more truth. Luther had light, but Calvin had more light, yet when Luther died, his followers stopped learning. And the same is true right down the line and that is how we have so many denominations today. It is for that reason plus in fighting causing divisions.

Where do the Seventh-Day Adventists fit in? They were raised up to incorporate all these teachings and even replace the mass of the Catholic Church with the fact that Jesus is our true High Priest in the heavenly sanctuary. They organized in 1863 as the Seventh-Day Adventist Church although they struggled because they did not want to become just another denomination. They felt a burden to carry the message to the whole world. Every member would be active in taking the message forth. This would be a lay movement more than a minister movement. But God works better when organized and so reluctantly, they did organize, and today we see their fear coming true.

This is why we are in the church time frame called Laodicea or lukewarm and is a rebuked church. Many in the church are not on fire to take the message forth. Most of the members are just playing church. They are relying on ministers and church leaders. If every member were to catch the fire and finish the work, we would all be in glory in a matter of months.

But just because God's named church has fallen asleep, there are active members that are true disciples and it is linking up with them that gives true new members the reason to be part of this denomination.

Who Wants to Be the Enemy of the Antichrist?

On page 286 in Malachi Martin's

book, *Keys Of This Blood*, it is stated that there is a church that is the enemy of the Vatican. It is none other than the SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST!

Additionally, the following appeared in the Pastor's page of the Saint Catherine Catholic Church in Algonacon Michigan, May 21, 1995: "Perhaps the boldest thing, the most revolutionary change the Church ever did, happened in the first century. The holy day, the Sabbath, was changed from Saturday to Sunday, 'The Day of the Lord' was chosen, not from any directions noted in the scriptures, but from the Church's sense of its own power. The day of resurrection, the day of Pentecost, fifty days later, came on the first day of the week. So this would be the new Sabbath. People who think that the Scriptures should be the sole authority, should logically become 7th Day Adventists, and keep Saturday holy." This was to show church authority over God's Word. If you believe that, then stav as a Sundav keeper. but if you believe God's Word has authority over man's words, then become a Seventh-day Adventist. Those are the only options.

What Did Jesus Commission His Church to Do?

Matthew 28:19 says, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." God told His church to go teach and baptize them. When one is baptized, it is not just a formality thing. It is being baptized into the teachings of God.

Acts 2:38-42 tells us. "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, [even] as many as the Lord our God shall call. And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added [unto them] about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." Notice that they continued in the doctrines that were taught and continued to fellowship. It is even more evident a few verses later. Acts 2:46-47 states, "And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house. did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." When one is baptized, they are added to the church. It makes sense. God has a very important mission. that is, the everlasting gospel of Revelation 14:6-12 must be preached to the whole world. God is only going to best accomplish this through organization.

Revelation 18:4 specifically alerts us, "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying,

Come out of her, my people, that ve be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." This is serious. A person cannot stay in a false church system, and they are not to just be left to themselves. They are to come out of all the erroneous churches and become part of the last day movement which is evident in Revelation 22:17, which states, "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." Will you join His fold? Will you join in the organized body that has one work and one work alone and that is to proclaim the messages of the three angels?

May we submit to God leading us completely out of Babylon and into His body, His fold. May He calm your fears and remove your doubts and strengthen your faith even more.

Is There a Prophet in The Last Day Church?

Revelation 12:17 tells us, "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed. which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." By Bible definition, what is the "testimony of Jesus Christ?? This is what I love about God's Word. If we are in need of a definition. He gives it to us. Revelation 19:10 tells us clearly, "And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See [thou do it] not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: <u>for the</u> <u>testimony of Jesus is the spirit of</u> <u>prophecy</u>." The last day church will be guided by prophecy, specifically the Holy Spirit will pour out the gift upon the church as we have plainly been told by a "Thus Saith the Lord."

With that understood, the Seventh-day Adventist church believes that the gift of prophecy was poured out upon Ellen G. White. One significant factor is that it follows the pattern that God set forth for the use of prophets and events especially in times of judgment.

Now who was Ellen G. White? She received only a third grade education because a jealous girl threw a rock at her and broke her nose, thus resulting in a serious wound and a severe head injury. With only a third grade education, many feats were performed that no ordinary human has ever accomplished. such as, no other woman author has ever produced as much published religious material as Ellen G. White. She experienced over two thousand visions opened unto her. She has written over 50 books, numerous magazine articles, tracts, and pamphlets, personal letters of counsel and advice and reproof --messages God had shown her to share with His people throughout her lifetime. Her writings include counsels on: victorious Christian living, diet and health, prenatal care, drugs, family life, child guidance, education, and much more.

What do non-Adventists have to say?

 Dr. Clive M. McCay, the late professor of nutrition at Cornell University, stated: "The writings of Ellen G. White have been cited because they provide a guide to nutrition that comprehends the whole body." *Natural Food and Farming, May 1958.*

- 2. Back in 1946, W. E. Bemont, who at the time was an official in the Library of Congress in Washington, DC, was asked which book in that vast library on the life of Christ he felt was the most outstanding. "My preference or choice would be guided by what I wish to get from the book or books to be read, but let me put it this way: I would put the Desire of Ages, by Ellen G. White, first for spiritual discernment and practical application."
- George Whorton James wrote about Ellen White in his book, *California, Beautiful and Romantic*, p. 319. "This remarkable woman, though almost entirely self-educated, has written and published more books in more languages which circulate to the greater extent than any other woman in history."

What did she write about? In 1864 when tobacco was popular and even suggested as a cure for ailments she wrote, "Tobacco is a poison of the most deceitful and malignant kind... It is all the more dangerous because of its effects upon the system are so slow, and scarcely perceivable." *Spiritual Gifts, v. 4a, p. 128.*

Before the medical phrase was used she wrote, "People are continually eating flesh that is filled with tuberculosis and <u>cancerous germs</u>... and other fatal diseases are thus communicated." *Ministry of Healing*, p. 313, (1905). Then the medical field released the following for the first time 51 years later. "Dr. Wendell Stanley, University of California virologist and Nobel Prize winner went so far as to state without qualification that he believes <u>viruses cause most of</u> <u>all human cancers</u>." *Newsweek*, June 18, 1956.

She once held a 17-pound Bible outstretched for a half-hour during a vision. Many have attempted to repeat the feat including some men who have been crowned Mr. Atlas, but no one has yet been successful or even come close. In addition, during the vision, she was flipping through the Bible pointing her finger to a verse, reading it and expounding on it without looking in the Bible, and then she would move quickly to the next verse. A man in attendance decided to get a ladder and verify the verses. Every one was right on target.

The following provides some evidence that Ellen G. White had the gift of prophecy:

- All of her encounters with God were either by visions or dreams.
- 2. All of her predictions are 100% accurate.
- Her writings are 100% in harmony with Biblical teachings and are not set forth as an addition to the Bible, in fact, she states that she is but a lesser light leading to the greater light, just like John the Baptist was a lesser light leading to the greater light.
- 4. She never exacted a fee for her predictions.

- 5. She never tried to reinterpret another prophet's message.
- She never took credit upon herself; in fact, she referred to herself as simply a messenger of God.
- 7. Her messages make a direct appeal to the heart, and have improved thousands of lives with the transforming power, and an inspiration to Christian service.
- 8. Her testimony was deeply Christian in its emphasis and evangelistic in its outreach with a continuing desire to warn the world about the activities of Satan as well as the soon coming day of judgment.
- Her testimonies saved the church from potential mistakes.
- 10. Her experience in receiving unique messages from God resembled those of the Bible prophets.
- 11. Her personal life conformed to the standards of the gospel of Christ.

Now let us address the mud that has been slung at Ellen White and her writings. One is that she is accused of being a plagiarist especially regarding the medical applications. If that is the case, she must have been moved by God to copy the right material because all of her medical writings still hold true today. In fact, even the American Medical Association has come to accept her writings regarding diet and health. Remember, when she wrote these medical books, it was popular to treat problems with leaches, tobacco, heroin, cutting a person to drain the "bad" blood, and many other

things that have since been done away with.

Another accusation leveled at her is that of being the Seventhday Adventist's pope. Unlike the pope, Ellen White has never created new things called sin nor has removed from the Bible things that are called sin. It is true that she has been stern and it is understood by Seventh-day Adventists that to disobey her writings, or any prophet, is as to disobey God. The reason is that the writings are Bible based simply applying to the twentieth century. For example, adultery in any form is still wrong but the Bible mentions nothing of the specific advances in technology, so when she wrote sternly against looking at pictures of naked women and called it a sin, she was referring to the fact that man is not to even lust upon a woman in his mind (Matthew 5:28).

One more thing that is leveled at Ellen White is that someone has calculated that her name adds up to 666. Even if it were true, keep in mind that many names add up to 666 but there is only one that fulfills the 666 identifying mark and the other 49+ requirements of who the antichrist is. Further, recall that one cannot take an American name and use Roman numerals to see if a name adds up to 666. Revelation 12:18 states only that the name adds up to 666 and does not state that the Roman numeral system is the standard. Simply look at the name of the person, and if in that native language the numerical system is contained in the alphabetical system, then start calculating. If it is separate, as in America, all the names add up to zero.

It also is not a requirement for church membership to believe that Ellen White is a prophetess. We are reminded of the words in 1 Thessalonians 5:19-21, which says, "Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things; hold fast that which is good." To just dismiss it is to go against a "Thus Saith the Lord."

Will You Make a Move for Christ?

May we in these last days receive the light from God to discern between true and false prophets as well as between true and false manifestations of the Spirit.