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Our Firm FOUNDATION

*The Immutable Law of God • Christ Our Righteousness • The Seventh-day Sabbath
The Three Angels' Messages • The Non-Immortality of the Soul • The Sanctuary*

The Four Angels' Messages

Getting Ready for the Pure Message

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Often we don't realize how fortunate we are as Christians to live in this country where freedom of belief is allowed. Recently I have been reading a book entitled "Though the Heavens Fall" by Mikhail P. Kulakov, Sr.

During the communist reign in Russia under Stalin and Kruschev, Christians were persecuted under the atheistic communist state. Such was the situation for the Kulakov family. Several of their members suffered time in prison camps, interrogations and other various forms of persecution, but their trust in God remained intact.

Mark Finley visited with these folks in 1982 and provided the forward for this book. "When I first visited Eastern Europe in 1982, the Communist ideology was deeply entrenched in every aspect of society.

When real persecution and danger come, will you be able to stand for your faith?

As I met with numerous Adventist pastors and church members, one single thought impressed me repeatedly. Their lives reflected a depth of Christianity forged in the crucible of suffering that was rare in the democratic West....Mikhail's faith was not the sugar-coated faith of the wealth-and-prosperity gospel so prevalent today. It was not a superficial faith commanding God to do what he wanted; it was a constant seeking after what God wanted with his life. His faith was a confident trust in a God who was with him every moment of his life."

We, too, shall have our day. "They shall put you out of the synagogues (churches): Yea, the time cometh,

that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service. And these things will they do unto you, because they have not known the Father, nor me." John 16:2, 3. "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33.

"And this is life eternal, that they might know the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." John 17:3.

We know that we shall have a "time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation....and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt." Dan. 12:1, 2.

In the Book we read: "During the late 1930's and early 1940's Stalin's anti-Christian forces swept through the Soviet Union with a fervor like Saul's as recorded in Acts 9:1: "breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord." page 121.

How will it be with you, dear Reader? When real persecution and danger come, will you be able to stand for your faith? Will you know your Bible well enough to be able to witness about it without having it in hand? What about the truths from the Spirit of Prophecy?

In the years of persecution in the Soviet Union, many of those persecuted were Seventh day Adventists. Mikhail Kulakov, Sr. was a strong Seventh-day Adventist, as were his father and grandfather before him. They not only stood for their faith while out in the world, but also while in various prison camps. They had a strong influence on

those around them no matter where they were, even among the atheistic communists. They refused to break any of God's commandments even under threat of death.

They were often removed from their family and friends to go to labor camps. Many died while in these labor camps. However, their families behind them, who had been raised to love God more than life, continued to stand for truth.

I, personally, was surprised to see how strong the Seventh-day Adventist church became in such a communistic state under the extreme forms of persecution brought against it.

I know that I must spend more time in studying my Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. The children in Russia were taught to memorize, memorize, memorize. If they didn't have the Bible memorized, they at least had to know what each Book of the Bible was about. God did work on the hearts of many Russian people under extreme circumstances to bring them into the truths of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Will He be able to use us in the time of the last days to reach the non-Christians around us with His beautiful messages of salvation in Christ? Will people be in the earth made new because of our influence? Brother, be faithful, soon Jesus will come!



Clark Floyd, editor of Our Firm Foundation magazine, has been co-host of the radio program Bible Answers with Clark and Lee and is a licensed attorney and an ordained Seventh-day Adventist pastor. He has spoken internationally and makes his home in the beautiful mountains of western North Carolina.

Our Mission:

It is the mission of Hope International and the editors of *Our Firm Foundation* to clearly present Christ and His truth. The days remaining for this world are few, and we must work quickly. We must boldly proclaim the historic truths of Adventism that place us on so firm a foundation in the midst of this troubled world. —Editor

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About Hope International:

We are a lay ministry founded, supported, and operated by Seventh-day Adventists to assist God's Church in the proclamation of the Everlasting Gospel in every way that is consistent with the principles of God as revealed in Inspiration.

Invitation to Writers

We are accepting article-length manuscripts (3,000 words) for possible publication in *Our Firm Foundation*. We prefer that submissions be submitted in Word .doc format as a computer file. Include a digital picture and a short bio. Please address all correspondence to Editor, *Our Firm Foundation*, 151 Ascension Lane, Marshall, NC 28753, or by email to editorial@hopeint.org.

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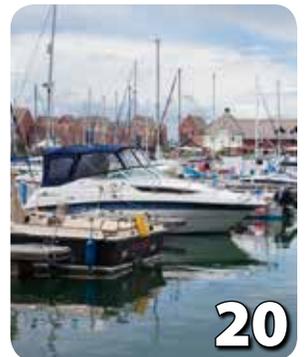
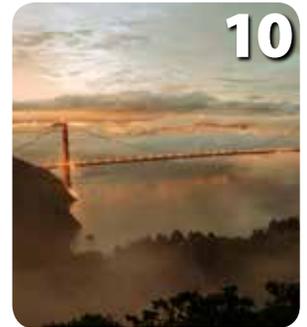
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The Four Angels' Messages

Getting Ready for the Pure Message

By Jerry O'Donnell

Yes, we are a church believing in the Three Angels' Messages, however, I believe we are living in the days in which we can incorporate the fuller understanding of the fourth angel from Revelation 18.

As Adventists, we ought to really know the Three Angels' Messages, and so instead of doing an overview of all the messages contained in them, we are going to embark on a series of articles dealing with each topic individually. No, this is not going to be one long article broken into a dozen or so pieces, but rather we are going to use each of the pieces of the messages to create a dozen or so independent topics. Each article will stand alone and yet at the same time be part of the bigger picture. It is the last-day outline.

So, "Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? [them that are] weaned from the milk, [and] drawn from the breasts. For precept [must be] upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, [and] there a little" (Isa. 28:9-10). It is time to get off the milk of the Three Angels' Messages and into the meat of them. The depths and application and placement of each of the messages "cannot be valued with the gold of Ophir, with the precious onyx, or the sapphire" (Job 28:16). But before we get into the details, take note of the fourth angel. "And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory" (Rev. 18:1). He has great power.



The angels and their power

Now we need to all agree on what angels represent. “The three angels of Revelation 14 represent the people who accept the light of God’s messages and go forth as His agents to sound the warning throughout the length and breadth of the earth” (5T 455). So the people of God with a message is what these angels represent.

Next, we need to all agree on what the power is. Yes, it is the “the power of the Holy Ghost” (Romans 15:13), even what is referred to as the “latter rain” (James 5:7), but so many people claim to be filled with the Holy Spirit. There must be some evidence given then to know who really has the power. Jesus said, “By their fruits ye shall know them” (Matthew 7:20). More directly, under the heading quoting Revelation 18:1, in *Maranatha*, page 218: “There is to be, at this period, a series of events which will reveal that God is Master of the situation. The truth will be proclaimed in clear, unmistakable language. As a people, we must prepare the way of the Lord, under the overruling guidance of the Holy Spirit. The gospel is to be given in its purity.” So the power is in preaching the gospel in its purity.

By the way, “in its purity” has a dual meaning. Right now, among us as a people (what I am about to say is just unbelievable) there is much confusion, as if we are two different denominations under one umbrella. One is pushing for women’s ordination, the other opposes. One is opening the way for homosexuals to take leadership roles, while the

other opposes. One is lax on keeping the Sabbath standards, while the other is more strict. And the list goes on. But here is the point – both sides claim the Bible and even the Spirit of Prophecy as their reason for their position. With such opposing views, something must happen so we can go with the pure version of the gospel instead of a form that states, “Depending how you read the verse...” Nonsense! It’s time to say, “Thus Saith the Lord...” And that is the pure gospel.

But “in its purity” has also a second meaning, and that refers to the giver of the message. We even have a



famous quote that supports the fact we are to be giving it as agents purified. The Bible says, “Be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless” (2 Peter 3:14), and collectively, “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” (Ephesians 5:27). And the Spirit of Prophecy says, “The church may appear as about to fall, but it does not fall. It remains, while the sinners in Zion will be sifted out – the chaff separated from the precious wheat. This is a terrible ordeal, but nevertheless it must take



place. None but those who have been overcoming by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony will be found with the loyal and true, without spot or stain of sin, without guile in their mouths.... The remnant that purify their souls by obeying the truth gather strength from the trying process, exhibiting the beauty of holiness amid the surrounding apostasy.” Mar 203.

The bottom line is that we are to have a pure message given by pure messengers. Now, for those that are waiting for the sinners to leave the church physically and then God’s church will be pure, reread *Maranatha*, page 203. The remnant, in this case, the few that are in the church “amid the surrounding apostasy” tells me that the physical separation is not the intent of the quote. In other words, right now this quote is fulfilling right before our eyes in which so many SDA’s are deceived into apostasy, all the while having the sincerity and love of Jesus but being misguided into the “omega apostasy” for “many will depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. We have now before us the alpha of this danger. The omega will be of a most startling nature.” 1SM 197.

Gathering the pieces

Pausing here for a moment in case you are wondering what I am doing. It seems I am jumping from one topic to another. All I am doing at this point is revealing puzzle pieces. Shortly I will put them all together and you will see the urgency of time. But let us gather some more pieces.

The next piece is in Revelation 15:8, “And the temple was filled





with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.” This describes the close of probation for the world in which, through prayer of confession, such will not be heard during the time of the plagues. And following the plagues of course is the second coming. The reason the prayers of confession will not be heard is because Jesus will not be in the temple in Heaven at the time. “And he saw that [there was] no man, and wondered that [there was] no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him. For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance [for] clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloak” (Isaiah 59:16-17). So there is a worldwide probation closing before the plagues.

And that leads us into another piece. “Judgment must begin at the house of God” (1 Pet. 4:17). Did you catch it? Alright, let us listen to Spirit of Prophecy: “In the typical service only those who had come before God



with confession and repentance, and whose sins, through the blood of the sin offering, were transferred to the sanctuary, had a part in the service of the Day of Atonement. So in the great day of final atonement and investigative judgment the only cases considered are those of the professed people of God. The judgment of the wicked is a distinct and separate work, and takes place at a later period. ‘Judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel?’ 1 Peter 4:17.” GC 480. Now did you catch it? Probation closes first for the church and then for the rest of the world at a later time.



There are two closures to probation.

Now let us piece together a bit of timing, keeping in mind “that day and hour knoweth no [man], no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only” (Matt. 24:36), “But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day [is] with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day” (2 Pet. 3:8). Ellen White ascribed to the 6,000 year theory, as do I. In fact, she stated, “Christ was standing at the point of transition between two economies and their two great festivals. He, the spotless Lamb of God, was about to present Himself as a sin offering, that He would thus bring to an end the system of types

and ceremonies that for four thousand years had pointed to His death. As He ate the Passover with His disciples, He instituted in its place the service that was to be the memorial of His great sacrifice. The national festival of the Jews was to pass away forever. The service which Christ established was to be observed by His followers in all lands and through all ages.” DA 652.

And the reason we ascribe to the 6,000 year theory is because God is a God of numbers, as well as it making sense regarding the coming millennium which will be a sabbatical time for the earth. “Satan’s work of ruin is forever ended. For six thousand years he has wrought his will, filling the earth with woe, and causing grief throughout the universe. The whole creation has groaned and travailed together in pain. Now God’s creatures are forever delivered from his presence and temptations. ‘The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet; they [the righteous] break forth into singing.’ [Isaiah 14:7.]” GC88 673. As a side note, we do know what day Jesus is returning. We just do not know the year but we will know that, too, one day. “Soon we heard the voice of God like many waters, which gave us the day and hour of Jesus’ coming. The living saints, 144,000 in number, knew and understood the voice, while the wicked thought it was thunder and an earthquake. – EW 15 (1851).” LDE 272.

Now about that day; how can we know the day?

We were just told we will not know the day. When Jesus said that we could not figure out the day or the hour, it was not literal because if it were literal, then since He left off week, month, and year, we ought to be able to conclude that, right? Wrong. Basically, we do not know exactly when Jesus will return, but the day has been given to us in Leviticus 23. Read those feast days and match them up. Jesus died on the Feast of Passover; Jesus removed the leaven of sin making us holy on the Feast of

Unleavened Bread; He ascended to the Father on the Feast of First Fruits; He sent the Holy Spirit on the Feast of Pentecost; though undocumented, but more than likely accurate, He inspired the Millerite movement on the Feast of Trumpets; He moved in the heavenly sanctuary on the Feast of Atonement, which at the time was October 22, 1844 without question; then why are we reluctant to say that on the Feast of Harvest, whenever that date will be in whatever unknown year, Jesus will return?

Let us put it another way: it is still true that we do not know the day, for most of us do not track those feast dates on a calendar. It is not always October 22 for the Feast of Atonement, for instance. So the day is still unknown for the most part. But understand this, that when the first plague comes upon the earth, we know “her plagues come in one day” (Rev. 18:8), which is symbolic of the year. And that is inside that year and not necessarily the full 360 days. So seeing that when the first plague strikes, we know that sometime in the autumn, Jesus will come, hence the reason He will not hesitate to tell the 144,000 (please note the phrase “in number”), which means that it is literal, of that day and hour.

This is not date-setting

Now before people get ahead of me and think that I just predicted autumn of 2031, which is two thousand years after the cross, hold on. That is not what I have done. All I revealed was when the 6,000 years close, but when I provide the next puzzle piece, such a conclusion is thrown out the window. “Esaias also crieth concerning Israel, Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved: For he will finish the work, and cut [it] short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth” (Romans 9:27-28). Brothers and sisters, it is going to happen before 2031, for if Jesus shows up after 2031, not only is the work not cut short, but it would

then be extended. Further, if He shows up in 2031, then Jesus is only on time. Besides, “Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones” 9T 11. And now this prophecy has been coming true these past few years, so do we really think we can last another 15 years? Even the current pope states that his reign will be short, with a goal of the day of rest being global by 2020 or sooner, and he is referring to himself as potentially the last pope. That last statement may or may not be an accurate prediction because it did not come from God; Doug Batchelor even states that he really believes that those born in the 1960s will see Jesus come.



So, we have no more than fifteen years to warn the world, but let us take it a step further. Is 2030 really cutting the work short? Although God’s way is not my way, I would like to think along the lines of Abraham when he reasoned with the number of souls in Sodom. There ought to be a reasonable number. Jesus returning in 2029 is still barely cutting it short. How about skipping along to 2025? Now we are in the area of a shorter period. Could it even be 2021? God only knows how short.

Our journey begins

Now that we have these pieces for this first message, our journey begins



with the sense of urgency, for if there is no urgency in the message there will be no conviction, either. However, God also can tell a real conversion from a clock-watching conversion. In other words, what I am about to set in motion is not to cause excitement to conversion for the sake of time, but rather to cause excitement to get busy working saving souls. I am hoping you are already converted.

The sequence of events regarding the plagues is followed by the second coming, but prior to both events will be a worldwide proclamation from Heaven, “He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still” (Rev. 22:11). That means another year can be subtracted to figure out how long we have before our case is decided. And then consider, “As the decree issued by the various rulers of Christendom against commandment-keepers shall withdraw the protection of government, and abandon them to those who desire their destruction, the people of God will flee from the cities and villages, and associate together in companies, dwelling in the most





desolate and solitary places. Many will find refuge in the strongholds of the mountains.” GC88 625.

So, if we are fleeing the cities when Sunday Law is not only present, but oppressive and replacing the Sabbath, between the time Sunday Law comes in and the time of the oppressiveness, we have the following fulfillment of the prophecy, “The great issue so near at hand will weed out those whom God has not appointed and He will have a pure, true, sanctified ministry prepared for the latter rain. . . .” 3SM 385. Therefore, in light of the fact that Sunday Law seems to be creeping in through Climate Change legislation, which the world is fast unifying upon, and teeth are being legislated towards unbelievers, we have some serious last day quotes that need to be brought to light.

We are to be about our Father's business

By piecing the puzzle in chronological order, our church as a whole has appeared to have fallen. The fact that there are still some who are faithful to the truths, despite the apostasy teaming around,



makes the fulfillment that it does not fall. But what is happening is that droplets of latter day rain is falling upon individuals who have ceased to waste their time with various types of relationships, including the arguing going on in church, and have taken it upon themselves to go forth and share the true Three Angels' Messages in the pure form, living holy lives (though they would never claim to be holy), and warning the world starkly of who the Antichrist is, what the Mark of the Beast is, what the role of the United States happens to be, and many more last-day truths.



Once Sunday Law comes, probation for the church will be closed and the full measure of the latter rain will be poured out, then “this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come” (Matt. 24:14), as outlined in the Three Angels' Messages because – and do not let anyone tell you any differently – the Three Angels' Messages are the last-day gospel (Rev. 14:6). The “end” is when we have to flee the cities when Sabbath keeping will no longer be able to be practiced openly. Hopefully, we will not be fleeing on the Sabbath day or in the winter for we should be praying that our “flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day” (Matthew 24:20). Probation will have closed then for

the rest of the world; the plagues will be poured out; and then Jesus returns!

So, like the apostles of old before Pentecost, who were found not huddled in the upper room, but actively in the temple doing a bit of witnessing here and there; and then upon Pentecost, the Holy Spirit added to such human efforts and multiplied it many-fold that people took notice of what was happening, both those that believed and those that resisted; then so today, we ought to stop wasting our time with those in the church bent upon misinterpreting the gospel, “turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness”, and just be about the work. We need no approval from a pastor, conference, union, not even the G.C. We need no human authority because our authority comes from Christ. “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15). Our organization does not consist of loose atoms, for the truth unifies us in our battle against darkness. This is not a call to come out of the organized body, but certainly to do everything with respect, agreeing only as the message “is in the Lord” (1 Thes. 5:12).

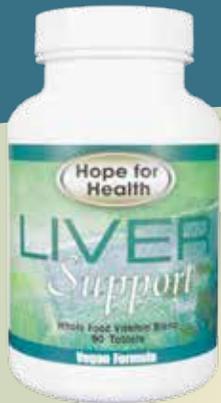
Now that we have established the fact that it is the time for the real Three Angels' Messages to be proclaimed in preparation for the powerful latter rain flood, we will examine further prophecies that relate to other aspects of each of our lives on a more personal basis.

May God's light shine by each of us letting “your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” (Matt. 5:16).



Jerry O'Donnell is the Bible Worker for Hope International and is the author of the book, What Does It Mean for the World to Have

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God's Judgments on the Cities

By Ellen White

A message to Seventh-day Adventists in America and Australia, written June 3, 1906, six weeks after the April 18, 1906, San Francisco earthquake.



The judgments of God will certainly fall upon all transgressors. The terrible earthquake that has visited San Francisco will be followed by other manifestations of the power of God. His law has been transgressed. Cities have become polluted with sin.

Study the history of Nineveh. God sent a special message by Jonah to that wicked city. "Arise," He bade Jonah, "go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me." Jonah was to "cry against" the city, but he was averse to bearing any such message. Instead of obeying, he "rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord, and went down to

Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord" (Jonah 1:2, 3). Read the history.

Jonah seemed to suppose that his reputation as a prophet was injured. Many such messages as his would be given in our age, if the wicked cities would repent as did Nineveh.

Where are the watchmen?

The Lord declares that unless the cities shall change their characteristics, the saloons will be replaced. In the calamity that befell San Francisco, the Lord designed to wipe out the saloons that have been the source of great evils; and yet the officiating guardians, the men who are placed in responsible positions, prove unfaithful to their trust by legalizing the sale of liquor. Poisonous drugs are mingled with the liquor. Men form the habit of using these drugs, and the appetite for such things is very powerful.

Oh, that our cities might reform! Those who are placed in responsibility as guardians of the welfare of the people, should realize the responsibility of their position, and govern in accordance with the orders of God in His Word. God hath spoken plainly—"Thou shalt," and "Thou shalt not"—regarding our reasonable service. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:1, 2).

We have a God who is our Ruler. How can the great Governor of the world behold with any satisfaction these wicked cities full of violence and every type and stripe of crime? Our Creator has given in His Word a law to be obeyed. No one should lightly regard this law. Our courts of justice are perverted, and in the heavenly courts are

condemned. Even eating, drinking, and dressing are carried to such excess as to become crimes. They are specified as last-day signs by our world's Redeemer, who gave His life a sacrifice to save the fallen race.

These men who are in office need the counsel and judgment of One who cannot err. How many seek this wisdom and place themselves under the control of God? The extravagance seen in the erection of buildings, in selfish gratification, in market-places, in unfair managing, creates poverty and distress. The guardians of the marts of trade will have a fearful account to render to God when the Judge of the highest court will take every individual case in hand.

Time, money, and strength that belong to God are wasted in superfluities. High and God-given capabilities are placed under the denominating influence of Satanic agencies who are playing a game of life for souls.

How many who are called wealthy are using their wealth to alleviate the necessities of suffering humanity? Oh, if human agencies could feel the need of placing themselves under the guidance of the Most High God as obedient sons and daughters of His! Then they could carry forward His purpose for them in this world. Shunning pride and extravagance, they would be able to form solid Christian characters and would become laborers together with God.

“Stand as the messenger of God anywhere, in any place”

Just before His ascension, the great Medical Missionary gave the gospel commission to His followers who believe on Him. This was after He had endured the agonies of the cross and died to open a way for every soul, that none need perish, but have everlasting life through believing on Him. “God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

As the crucified Saviour lay in the tomb, guarded by the Roman soldiers, “Behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: and for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men” (Matthew 28:2-4).

“In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulcher” (Matthew 28:1). As they approached, they saw that the great stone was rolled away and that a light was shining about the tomb. The body of Jesus was not there, but soon they saw an angel. [Matthew 28:5-20, quoted.]

I present this wonderful evidence we have of a power that is not created by ourselves, but that is out of and beyond ourselves. To as many as receive Christ, will be granted the privilege of becoming the sons of God, even

to them that believe on His name. And those who are His children will be given the power that is vested in Him.

The risen Saviour was with His disciples forty days, instructing them “of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God” (Acts 1:3). Just before His ascension He declared: “And there was great joy in that city. But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one: To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God. And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.” Acts 1:8-11.

For many months I have been troubled as I have seen how some of our sensible men whom God has used in His cause, are perplexed over the scientific arguments of



Satanic agencies. I have not known what to do. While I was studying over these things Sabbath night a week ago, I had a vision of speaking before a large company, where many questions were asked concerning my work and writings.

I was directed by a messenger from heaven not to take the burden





seen the converting power of God upon the minds of those in error. If the convincing representations and impressions of the Holy Spirit evidenced for the past half century will not be accepted as trustworthy evidence, nothing will hereafter bring them to their senses, because the bewitching guile of Satan has perverted their discernment. They have been convinced again and again as the Holy Spirit has borne witness,

and all that words can say will not be as forcible as the impression made by the Holy Spirit of God.”

Go forward, be of good courage

If the Spirit of God be entertained in the place of the underworking of evil spirits on mind and heart, all who have been working against God will come to their right bearings. A great work is to be done now in convicting souls. The message must in no case be changed from that which has been. As has been foretold in the Scriptures, there will be seducing spirits and doctrines of devils in the midst of the church, and these evil influences will increase; but hold fast the beginning of your confidence firm unto the end.

Let not souls be drawn into Battle Creek. Warnings are to be given. A message similar to that borne by John the Baptist is to be heard. But beware of men; for they will seek to divert the mind from the necessity of heeding the true issues for this time. Carry on the work now for those who need the truth and who have not exchanged evidences of the truth for fallacies and scientific presentations of Satanic origin.

The time has about come when Satan will work miracles to confirm minds in the belief that he is God. All the people of God are now to stand on the platform of truth as had been given in the third angel’s message. All the pleasant pictures, all the miracles wrought, are presented by the enemy in order that if possible the very elect shall be deceived. The only hope for anyone is to hold fast the evidences that have confirmed the truth in righteousness. Let these be proclaimed over and over again, until the close of this earth’s history.

The perils of the last days are upon us. Devote not precious time in trying to convince those who would change the truth of God into a lie. Proclaim the third angel’s message. Bear a straightforward, clear-cut message.

These words I was speaking before a perplexed company just before I called upon them to take their stand on the right side. If someone chooses another position, let him alone. Labor for the class of people who have never had the evidences of truth. So long as men hold fast to men, and believe men in the place of the Word of God, you

of picking up the sayings and doubts that Satan is putting into minds. “Stand as the messenger of God anywhere, in any place,” I was bidden, “and bear the testimony I shall give you. If the Holy Spirit is not received, but rejected, all your words will be as idle tales. Be free. Bear the testimonies that the Lord Jesus has for you to bear in reproof, in rebuke, in the work of encouraging and lifting up the soul; ‘teaching them to



observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world” (Matthew 28:20).

Do not take up the unbelief of anyone in order to try to convince him

When I awakened from the vision, I was praying with great fervor and earnestness, and could not cease praying. My soul was strengthened; for the words had been spoken:

“Be strong, yea, be strong. Let none of the seducing words of ministers or physicians distress your mind. Tell them to take the light given them in publications. Truth will always bear away the victory. Go straight forward. Do not take up the unbelief of anyone in order to try to convince him. If the Holy Spirit is turned from, all your words will not help remove, for the time being, the false presentations. Satan stands ready to invent more. If the evidence that has been given is rejected and falsified, all other evidence will be useless until there is



cannot help them. You are working against principalities and powers, as is represented in Ephesians.

Receive the truth; stand in the truth

Whoever chooses to pursue the course marked out in the scriptures regarding those who shall depart from the faith, cannot be helped by you. All your reasoning will be as idle tales. They have been warned, and further words are useless, for you are meeting Satan through human agencies.

Take the banner of truth and hold it aloft, higher and still higher. The Lord calls for faithful minute men. Go into the cities that need the truth as we have taught it for years. No one feature of our faith is changed, and the unbelievers in our cities need to hear the last message of warning.

It is Satan's plan to produce these variances to keep the mind on dissensions and Satanic problems until the last woe shall have come upon the world. Our time is too precious now to be lost through confusion. Every step we have taken is recorded in the past messages given. Repeat these things to the world.

Gather not at Battle Creek; spoil not the minds of youth, physicians and ministers. Set at work in the cause of God every soul who has heeded the words of warning given. Trust not the men who for years have been denying their faith and giving heed to seducing spirits.

I have been instructed that it is not extravagant display which is now to be regarded as one of the best means of giving the last message of mercy to our world. We must go forth in the simplicity of true godliness. Our sanitariums, our schools, our publishing houses, are to be God's instrumentalities to represent the humble manner of Christ's teaching. In a marked manner the Lord will be the strength and power and verity of the truth for this time. Maintain simplicity and pray in faith constantly. Wherever you are, your only safety is prayer. In living faith claim the promises. Hold fast the beginning of your confidence firm unto the end.

Beware of the leaven of evil

Some souls may never see the truth as it is; for Satan has skillful workers who understand how to lead astray and to deceive. Tares are mixed in with the wheat. Beware of the leaven of evil. Let everyone remember that he is now on

test and trial for life, eternal life.

God now calls upon all who choose to serve Him, to stand on the platform of eternal truth. Let those who have brought about the present state of things, by making the division that exists, stop to consider seriously before going any farther. Change your course of action.

"Choose you this day whom ye will serve." "If the Lord be God, follow Him: but if Baal, then follow him" (Joshua 24:15; 1 Kings 18:21).

Unto all I am commissioned to say, Talk less, criticize less. There is no time to be indifferent now. Should not this terrible earthquake, which has caused almost complete destruction in one of the largest cities of America, awaken a most earnest spiritual interest to seek the Lord while He may be found? Call upon Him while He is near.

Let not our ministers dwell upon commonplace matters in their discourses. Now is a time when there should be a humbling of the heart before God. Seek Him while He is to be found on the pardoning side, and not on the judgment side. Wake up, my brethren and sisters in Australia. You have no time to lose. Call upon the Lord while He may be found.



Ellen G. White, 1827–1915, received the spiritual gift of prophecy, and the fruits of her life and work accord with the biblical tests of a true messenger of God. To this day, her counsels are an incalculable blessing to God's people around the world.

FROM THE HEART

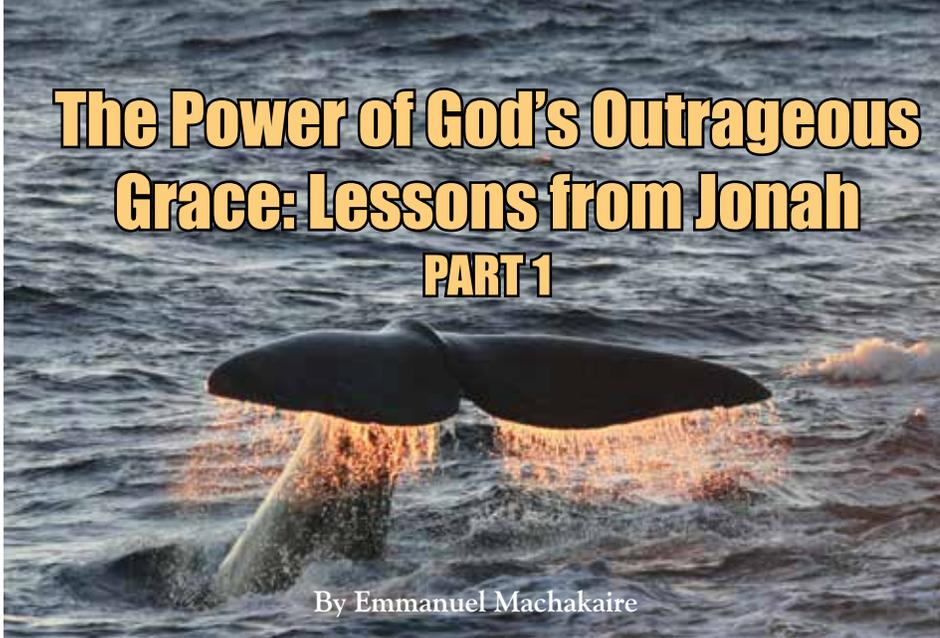
Pretending to be righteous as many often do
Is not what Jesus looks for, but only hearts so true.
The Pharisees were seeking to kill our Savior dear
Because they were self-righteous and truth they would not hear.
We must examine Scripture and practice every word:
We dare not condemn others; our own souls must be stirred.
Seek not to be the highest to rule the church with might:
Be humble, meek and faithful and walk in all the light.
Don't let the devil trick you or pat you on the back:
Give Jesus all the glory and stay on Heaven's track.

—REL



The Power of God's Outrageous Grace: Lessons from Jonah

PART 1



By Emmanuel Machakaire

Is there a better story in the Bible than the story of Jonah? Generations of Sabbath School children have listened with wide-eyed amazement at the story of the fish that caught a man. We love this story, yet for all our telling and re-telling, we barely understand what it means. It is a story about God's outrageous grace.

Grace is the free and unmerited favor, free and undeserved bounty, or beneficence of God. To illustrate this theme, for example, when we have overdue books from the library, we may return them at no charge during a "grace period". It is commonly said that Christianity is supremely a religion of grace. And that is certainly true. We sing about grace, we write poems about grace, we name our children after grace. If you ask us, we certainly believe in grace.

Grace is hard to accept and sometimes hard to believe because we have all been taught that "there's no

free lunch". Grace shocks us in what it offers. It is truly not of this world. It frightens us with what it does for sinners. Grace teaches us that God does for others what we would never do for them. We would save the not-so-bad; God starts with prostitutes and then works downward from there. Grace is a gift that costs everything to the giver and nothing to the receiver. It is given to those who don't deserve it, barely recognize it, and hardly appreciate it.

As I pondered this, a thought hit me in a very powerful way . . . God is more gracious than I am – why? Because He saves people I wouldn't save if I were God. He blesses people I wouldn't bless if I were God. He uses people in his service I wouldn't use if I were God. This is why I'm glad He is God and I'm not. The Bible says that He is "the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness", (Exodus 34:6) and that's good news for sinners everywhere.

Grace asks us to accept two things we don't want to accept:

1. There is nothing we can do to save ourselves.
2. If God doesn't save us, we will never be saved.

The world's worst missionary

Nothing more clearly summarizes the true meaning of grace than the simple phrase found in Jonah 2:9, "Salvation is of the Lord." That statement is both striking and humorous because it comes from the world's worst missionary. As we begin our story of Jonah, based on the first three verses of Jonah, chapter 1, let's clarify one point – Jonah is not the hero of the story, God is! At the beginning he is running from God; at the end he is arguing with God. In between he is praying and preaching. He's no hero. This book is about God. We can see it clearly this way: The fish is mentioned 4 times. The city is mentioned 9 times. Jonah is mentioned 18 times. God is mentioned 38 times.

This book is about God and how great His heart is toward prodigal sons and daughters who run away from him. God never gives up on Jonah, not when he runs away and not when he sits under a vine and pouts. Here is the take-away lesson for all of us: We're so much like Jonah that it's scary. There's a little Jonah in all of us and a whole lot of Jonah in most of us. That's why we need, not just grace, but outrageous grace.

The book of Jonah is one of the Minor Prophets, yet it contains some of the most powerful lessons. We know



that our Lord loved this story because Jonah is the only minor Prophet Jesus mentioned by name (Matthew 12:40).

The story begins this way: “The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai: “Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me” (Jonah 1:1-2). The meaning is, “Jonah, get up and go to Nineveh now.” It’s amazing, isn’t it, how just one sentence can change your life. You can be driving down the highway and get one phone call that changes your life forever. If it’s good news, your life changes one way. If it’s bad news, it changes in another way. Either way, your life can be turned upside down with just one phone call. Life can turn on a dime. That’s what happened to Jonah when God spoke three little words: “Go to Nineveh.” Go to Nineveh and preach against it! Their evil was like a dirty stench to the Lord. The time for judgment had come.

When God said Nineveh was wicked, He wasn’t kidding

Nineveh was the capital of Assyria, the most powerful empire in the world in that day. The Assyrians had a reputation for cruelty that is hard for us to fathom. Their specialty was brutality of a gross and disgusting kind. When their armies captured a city or a country, unspeakable atrocities would occur. Things like skinning people alive, decapitation, mutilation, ripping out the tongues, making a pyramid of human heads, piercing the chin with a rope, and forcing prisoners to live in kennels like dogs. Ancient records from



Assyria boast of this kind of cruelty as a badge of courage and power. The Assyrians had no use for the Jews, and the Jews hated the Assyrians for their bloodthirsty cruelty, for their idolatry and for their arrogance. For a Jewish man to be told by God to go preach to Nineveh was repugnant. As far as Jonah was concerned, Nineveh could go straight to hell.

Nineveh today is the people who hurt you deeply and God says, “Go and give them my message.” Nineveh is a danger to you. Nineveh is a discomfort to you. Nineveh is whoever you hate that God loves deeply. What do you do when God says, “Go to Nineveh”, and you hate those people? You need to think about that because sooner or later, that’s what He’s going to say. When God said, “Arise, Jonah, go to Nineveh and preach against it,” we might expect the next verse to read, “And Jonah arose and went to Nineveh.” But that’s not what happened. Verse 3 says he ran from the Lord and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for

Tarshish to flee from the LORD (Jonah 1:3).

Jonah went “down” four times

It helps to know a little geography at this point. Nineveh was 500 miles north and east of where Jonah was. It was a major city on the banks of the Tigris River. In contemporary terms, that would be in Iraq, about 300 miles north of Baghdad. Archaeologists have found the ruins of ancient Nineveh right outside the city of Mosul in Iraq. Tarshish was almost 2000 miles west in Spain. So we’ve got a 2500 mile “gap” between God’s call and Jonah’s desire. God said, “Go east.” Jonah said, “I’m going west.”

The text says that Jonah went “down” to Joppa. That’s true on two levels. First, to get to Joppa, Jonah had to go “down” to the seacoast to the port of Joppa. Second, by going to Joppa he was going “down” spiritually. If you look at the action in this chapter, you can see that Jonah went “down” four times: He went “down” to Joppa (v. 3). He went “down” into the hold of the ship (v. 4). He went “down” into the sea (v. 15). He went “down” into the belly of the great fish (v. 17). That’s not a coincidence. It’s a statement about what happens when we disobey God’s call. Any time you run from God, you never go “up”; you always go “down”.

Why did the reluctant prophet run from God?

1. He didn’t want to go to Nineveh.
2. He didn’t care about Nineveh.



3. He didn't think God should care about Nineveh.
4. He didn't want them to repent.
5. He didn't want a God who loved people like that.

It was perfectly fine with him if God sent them straight to hell. In fact, that was his preference. Jonah's problem was never ultimately about Nineveh. Jonah's problem was always with God. So Jonah has decided to run from God. He heads for Joppa where he just "happens" to find a boat going where he wants to go. What are the chances? Isn't that an amazing coincidence? It's a long way from Joppa to Tarshish. It's not like they had a boat leaving for Tarshish every day. Think about that. When we decide to disobey God, there is always a boat going to Tarshish. And there is always room for one more passenger. What are the chances that a man would have the money in his pocket to pay the fare for a ship that happened to be going where he wanted to go? When we decide to run from the Lord, Satan is happy to provide the transportation.

So he found a ship and paid the fare with the money he had. There's a lesson here to be considered. Money gives us options. If a man has no money, he can't buy a ticket to Tarshish. If you've got money in your pocket, it may actually make it easier for you to run from the Lord. No one gets a free ride on the Ship of Fools. In thinking about this, I pondered the excuses Jonah might have given for running from the Lord. Here are a few things he might have said: "They need



the Lord in Tarshish too." Or he could have said, "Look at the circumstances. I had the money. The ship just happened to be there. It must be God's will." Whenever we decide to disobey, we can always find an excuse. It's easy to justify wrong-doing by cloaking it in religious language.

Why doesn't God stop us from sinning?

As we stand back and look at this story, a question naturally arises. How far will God let us go in sin? I don't think anyone knows the full answer, but it appears that sometimes the answer is that God will let us go pretty far. He doesn't always stop us quickly. How far will God let us go? Why doesn't he stop us sooner? He could have arranged things so that the ship went to a different port. He could have arranged things so that the ship had no room for Jonah. He could have arranged things so that a thief robbed Jonah of his money. Sometimes the judgment of God is simply that God lets us go on and on in our sin so that we have to face the consequences of our own disobedience. This is the

"severe mercy" of the Lord. That's what Romans 1 means when it repeatedly says that "God gave them over" (Romans 1:24,26,28). When a society decides that it doesn't need God, His response is not always to bring out the lightning and thunder. More often than not, God says, "If you want to jump off the cliff, I have warned you time and again, but if that's what you want to do, I will not stop you."

As we consider the beginning of Jonah's sad story, remember that we can run but we can't hide. God was with Jonah every step of the way. Though Jonah tried to leave the Lord, the Lord never left him. It is the patience of God that allows us to run away. It is the wisdom of God that provides the ship. It is the providence of God that sends the storm. It is the kindness of God that sends the great fish. It is all because of God's grace that He does this for us. If God didn't care, He would let us go on in our sin forever.

It looks like Jonah has gotten away with it

He's run from God, bought a ticket, and now he's on a ship heading for Tarshish. He's a happy camper. So far his plan has worked to perfection. He's so happy that he can even afford to take a nap (Jonah 1:5). But God is not through yet. He's just getting started. "There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death." Proverbs 14:12. As he gets ready to take a nap, Jonah may have thought,





“Things are going so well for me. This must be God’s will.” But if he thought that, he was wrong. The Lord had already made His will clear. No set of favorable circumstances can override what God has clearly said. Down deep he knew God’s will. He just didn’t want to do it.

This article is titled, “The Power of God’s Outrageous Grace.” You may wonder, “Where is the grace of God in this story?” The answer is simple. He let Jonah disobey. He didn’t kill him on the spot. He gave him the freedom to mess up his own life. That didn’t seem like grace at the time, but it was. God works even in the midst of our disobedience to bring us to Himself. Sometimes God lets us go way off course so that when we finally see our sin for what it is, we are ready to return to the Lord.

Meanwhile Jonah’s disobedience looks pretty good so far. “Happy sailing, Jonah, watch out for that big fish.” This is how life really works. Sin looks good for awhile. Jonah experienced the “pleasures of sin for a season”. If sin always brought immediate misery, it would be a lot less attractive to us. Stolen water may be sweet, but it leads you to the gates of hell. Sin is fun for a while. Be not deceived. God is not mocked. Jonah is about to find that out the hard way.

As I wrap up the first part of this message, here are the main lessons to ponder:

1. God is more gracious than I am. Because he saves people I wouldn’t save if I were God. He

bles people I wouldn’t bless if I were God. He uses people in his service I wouldn’t use if I were God.

2. Grace is a gift that costs everything to the giver and nothing to the receiver. It is given to those who don’t deserve it, barely recognize it, and hardly appreciate it.
3. Every step out of the will of God is a downward step. No one has ever disobeyed God and went up. You only go down. Jonah also went, “Down” to Joppa, “Down” into the ship, “Down” into the sea, “Down” in the belly of the great fish.
4. We get away quickly, but we recover slowly. It’s easy to go down, easy to get off the right path, easy to fall into sin. But the road back is difficult and often very painful.
5. Satan can work through circumstances just like God can. Satan has his ships, and he always has room on his ships. His ships always go where we want to go when we’re running from God.

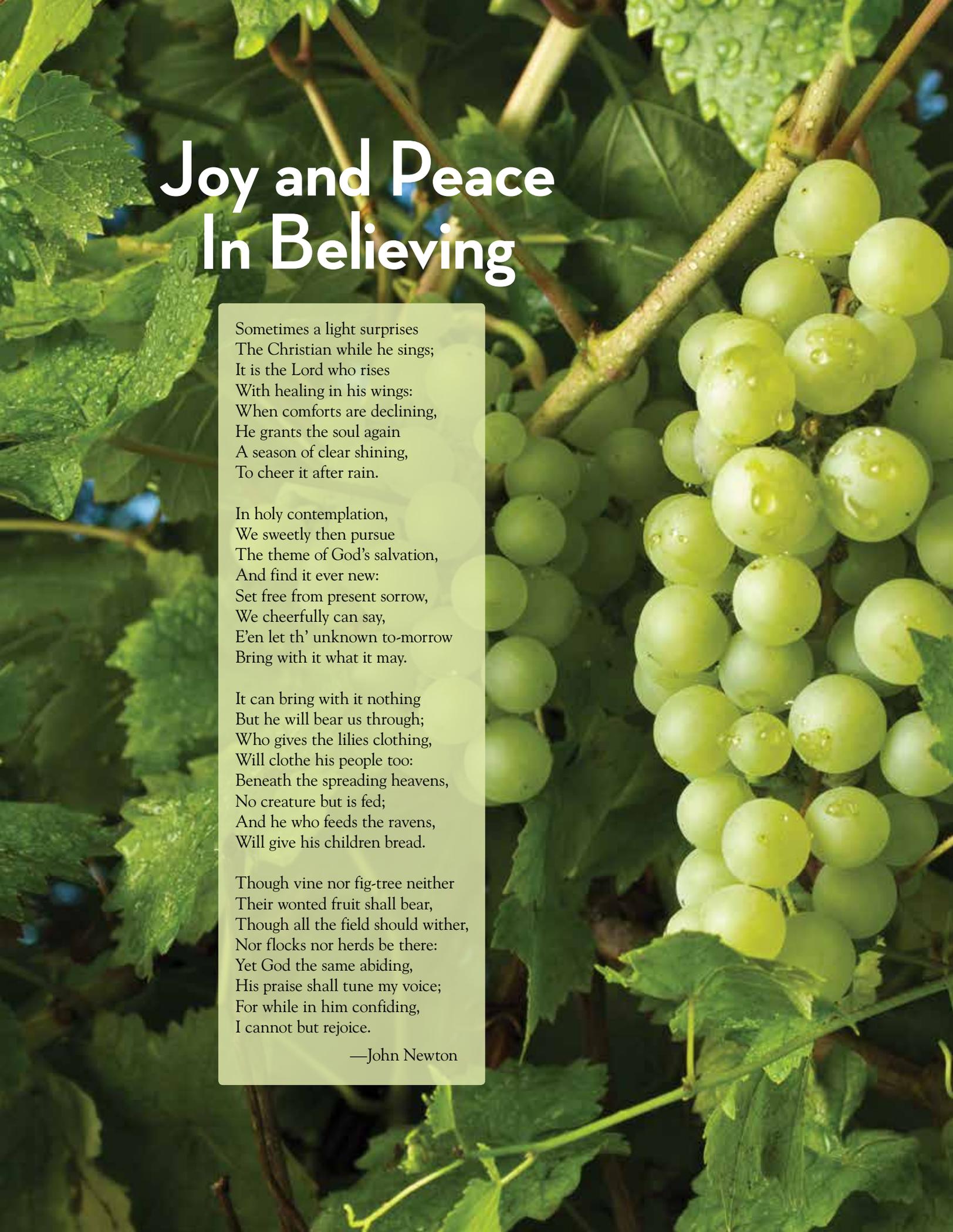
6. Satan can make disobedience look good by means of favorable circumstances, but the bitterness and sadness comes later.
7. No one gets a free ride on the Ship of Fools. We always pay for our sins and face the consequences of our own foolish choices.

If, when the call first came to him, Jonah had stopped to consider calmly, he might have known how foolish would be any effort on his part to escape the responsibility placed upon him. In the charge given him, Jonah had been entrusted with a heavy responsibility; yet He who had bidden him go was able to sustain His servant and grant him success. Had the prophet obeyed unquestioningly, he would have been spared many bitter experiences, and would have been blessed abundantly. (PK 266-267).

Father, we’re glad that Your grace is greater than our sin. We have disobeyed You many times, and just like Jonah we have been running away from Your commissions; may You forgive us, and give us the power to carry out Your work, for there is Power in your Outrageous Grace. Amen.



Emmanuel Machakaire is a(n) SDA writer who is based in So. Africa. He enjoys studying, writing, and sharing Bible truths.



Joy and Peace In Believing

Sometimes a light surprises
The Christian while he sings;
It is the Lord who rises
With healing in his wings:
When comforts are declining,
He grants the soul again
A season of clear shining,
To cheer it after rain.

In holy contemplation,
We sweetly then pursue
The theme of God's salvation,
And find it ever new:
Set free from present sorrow,
We cheerfully can say,
E'en let th' unknown to-morrow
Bring with it what it may.

It can bring with it nothing
But he will bear us through;
Who gives the lilies clothing,
Will clothe his people too:
Beneath the spreading heavens,
No creature but is fed;
And he who feeds the ravens,
Will give his children bread.

Though vine nor fig-tree neither
Their wonted fruit shall bear,
Though all the field should wither,
Nor flocks nor herds be there:
Yet God the same abiding,
His praise shall tune my voice;
For while in him confiding,
I cannot but rejoice.

—John Newton

Brexit and the Global Agenda

By Bruce Telfer

QUOTES OF THE TIMES:

“There is something that binds the leaders of the European Union together, it creates unbreakable ties – we are all Jesuits.” *Herman van Rompuy, president of the European Council. Quoted by, ‘Katholiek Nieuwsblad’ (National Catholic Newspaper, Holland), and Derk-Jan Eppink, Member of European Parliament, Dec. 21, 2012.*

“It is not the EU philosophy that the crowd can decide its fate.” *Martin Schultz, President, EU Parliament.*

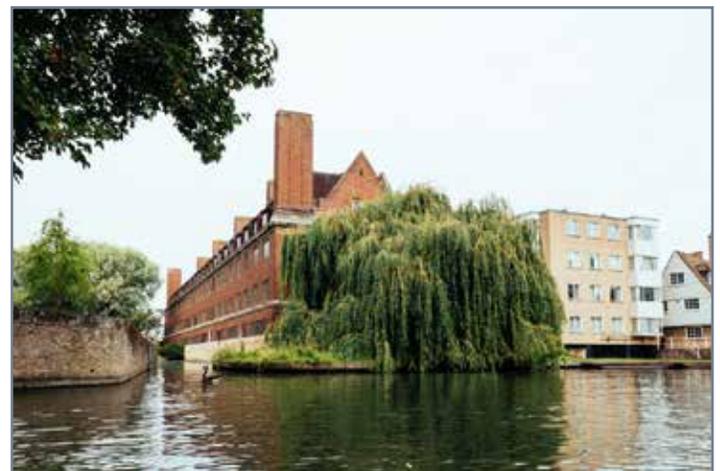
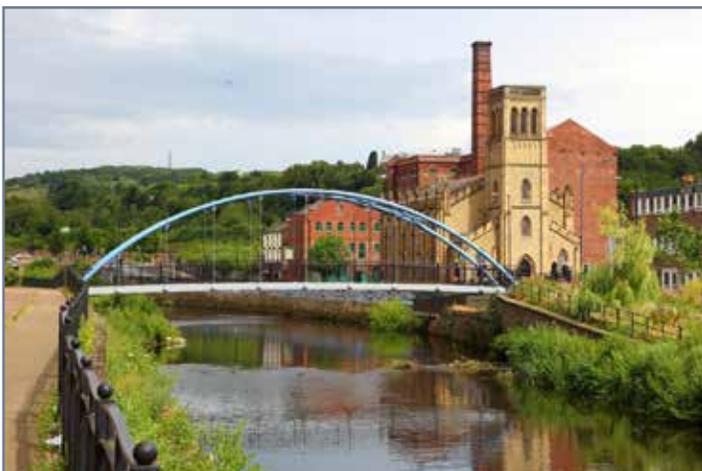
IT'S WAKE-UP TIME

The world is waking up to the fact that there has been a globalist agenda going on for many years, and most people are not happy about it. They are not happy because they have figured out that they are not the beneficiaries of the process, they are the victims. The globalist agenda is becoming more and more evident as it slowly grinds its way towards its goals. The goals are a one world government, and a one world religion (plus the trimmings). People in western countries have been mystified as to why their governments have been allowing their jobs and livelihoods to be exported overseas – now they know! They have been wondering why industries that have been the bread and butter of their nation's wealth have been destroyed (or are currently on life support) – now they know! They have been alarmed about people coming from all parts of the world surging over their borders, straining the very fabric of their societies – now they know why!



REQUIREMENTS OF A GLOBALIST AGENDA

The globalist agenda requires the elimination of nationalism, and nation states. People will soon find it politically incorrect to be a nationalist – to be proud of your country, your culture, your national heritage and history. One way to achieve this is to mix up the populations of the world – this is being achieved through the mass migration of people, right now. The globalist agenda requires that nations be reduced to a common denominator in wealth distribution (wealthy nations down – poor nations up). This is being achieved through corporations shipping their manufacturing operations off-shore where they capitalize on cheap labour. The globalist agenda requires a one world religion. This is being achieved right now with a constant flow of religious leaders making regular pilgrimages to the Vatican where they kiss the Pope's ring and bow at his feet.





A WELL-ORGANIZED MINORITY WILL ALWAYS DEFEAT AN UNORGANIZED MAJORITY

The recent Brexit vote in Great Britain was a counter thrust against this accelerating trend. The majority of British people have seen the light (or some light). They have understood enough to say no thanks, we are leaving. Unfortunately, this will only be a temporary setback for the globalist agenda. The reason is a well-organized minority will always defeat an unorganized majority. In addition, the unorganized majority do not even know who the well-organized minority is. Therefore, even though they recognize the symptoms (and that is what they are reacting too), they do not know what or who the cause is. The unorganized majority can only lash out at who they think are accountable for the globalist agenda (usually their own nation’s politicians), but they will never discover who the true perpetrators are. Even if convincing evidence was laid before them about whom the true perpetrators are, the unorganized majority would never believe it, because the truth has been so long absent from their dinner tables, they no longer recognize it.

TODAY NOBODY EVEN KNOWS WHAT A JESUIT IS

There was a time when many people understood precisely who the perpetrators are. That was the time when it was not compulsory to go to school, there was no TV and people actually read books. Those people knew that the perpetrators are the Jesuits. Today nobody even knows what a Jesuit is, or what he does. But apparently, according to the president of the European Council, Herman van Rompuy, the Jesuits run the European Union. So that’s at least one thing we know about the Jesuits. One English journalist has recognized that there is something strange about the European Union; he couldn’t bring himself to openly admit that it is run by the Jesuits but he has reported that the EU is run like a priesthood: “We are

deciding whether to be guided by a Commission with quasi-executive powers that operates more like the priesthood of the 13th Century papacy than a modern civil service; and

whether to submit to a European Court of Justice (ECJ) that claims sweeping supremacy, with no right of appeal.” *Ambrose Evans-Pritchard, International Business Editor, Daily Telegraph, June 8, 2016.*

DON’T PUT YOUR HOPES IN THIS WORLD

Evans-Pritchard is correct to claim the EU is run like priesthood – because that’s exactly what the Jesuits are – they are the attack dogs for the Vatican; even fellow Catholics are afraid of them. In their tumultuous history the Jesuits have been thrown out of 80 plus countries, for insurrection, political intrigue, treason and assassinations. In 1773 even the Popes of Rome had had enough and they abolished the Jesuits. Now they are back with a vengeance, from being abolished by a Pope – to now, a Jesuit is the Pope. They don’t just run the EU, they also run the Catholic Church. They are the power behind many thrones, and it is this power that they are using to bring about the Global Agenda. Even if the EU implodes, with the exit of Britain, they will not be stopped. They can only be stopped if the unorganized majority becomes organized, but that is never going to happen. Don’t put your hopes in this world, put them elsewhere – this world is dying. But tickets are available to a better world. You know what they are – and you know how to apply for them.



Bruce Telfer was born in New Zealand, baptised SDA in Germany 1978, studied for the ministry in England, pastored in Norway, New Zealand and the South Pacific. Worked as a Literature Evangelist in Germany, England, Norway, New Zealand and South Pacific. Currently retired and working as a lay-pastor in New Zealand.

Health Gem

Men's Health

The spotlight this month is on men's health concerns, particularly prostate issues. The women who love you may also want to take notice as they usually have an active role in the health of everyone in the family.

But before we begin looking at prostate issues, we were surprised while researching this presentation to discover a risk factor for men's health we had not considered – Did you know that men are more than twice as likely to die in a car crash as women? In fact, studies have shown that as many as 73% of all people killed in car accidents are male. Since record-keeping began: male fatalities significantly outweigh female fatalities. Men and women do not drive the same number of miles under the same conditions; men do about 60-65% more driving than women. Studies show that women take shorter trips, and female drivers have a greater number of minor crashes than do men. However, men are still 70% more likely to be in a serious crash! Wow! Please drive carefully! Wear your seat-belt and don't drive when you are tired!

Now back to the prostate info!

With prostate problems affecting 1 in 8 men, chances are, you, or someone



you care about, will be forced to deal with this issue. The good news is that Hope for Health has help for you! To begin, if you are at risk for prostate problems, take charge of your health by making healthier lifestyle choices.

Some examples are:

Don't smoke. This is a difficult habit to break; Hope for Health has ideas for you if you would like our help. Smoking increases your risk for numerous health problems and may lead to prostate issues that could be avoided if you did not smoke. It's also important to avoid exposure to secondhand smoke, air pollution and exposure to chemicals (such as in the workplace).

Eat a healthy diet. Choose vegetables, fruits, whole grains, high-fiber foods and plant-based sources of protein, such as beans and nuts. (All fruits and vegetables contain protein.) Limit foods high in saturated fat, refined sugar and sodium.

Maintain a healthy weight. Losing excess pounds and keeping them off can lower your risk of prostate and heart problems as well as other life-threatening illnesses.

Get moving. Include physical activity in your daily routine. Exercise in any form helps your circulation and increases your ability to ward off serious health concerns. Make exercise fun by working out or playing sports

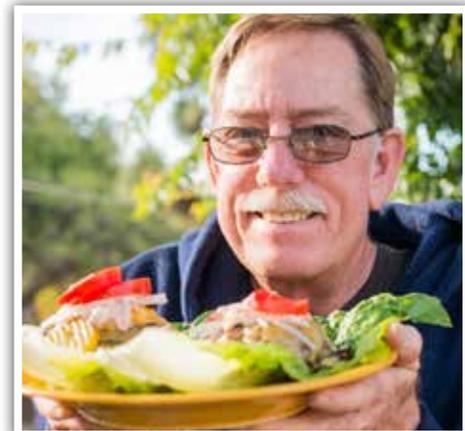
with friends or family!

Manage stress. If you feel constantly on edge or under assault, your lifestyle habits may suffer, and so might your immune system. Take steps to reduce stress – work less and relax more! Spend time in quiet meditation and prayer.

About the prostate

The prostate gland is about the size of a walnut and performs many duties. Its primary responsibility is to enhance the functioning and viability of sperm. It also plays a very important role as the first line of defense against illness and infection for the reproductive organs and urinary system. A central part of the proper functioning of the prostate seems to rest with zinc. Zinc is a mineral that is found in higher concentration in the prostate than in any other part of the body. If your body does not receive enough zinc it may lead to adverse health issues; in particular, prostate issues (and other bodily functions like glucose control or stopping progressive hearing loss for example).

Zinc, in and of itself, is a well-known antioxidant and antimicrobial that likely gives the prostate the ability to ward off infection and stabilize inflammation. Zinc is a critical mineral





for robust testosterone levels, and the cells of the prostate require a very high concentration of zinc to work optimally. To be sure that your body has an adequate supply of zinc, Hope for Health offers **Zinc Chelated**.

Why Chelated? Chelated zinc means that an amino acid is attached to the mineral to enhance its absorption into cells. Chelated zinc shows much improved levels of efficiency and effectiveness when compared to other types of zinc supplement. Research has found that 35% - 45% of adults, age 60 and over, are believed to have a zinc deficiency. Zinc can be your first line of defense – order some today to improve your health tomorrow!

If you have already developed prostate problems and are experiencing symptoms related to these issues, Hope for Health's **Small Flowered Willow Herb** may be perfect for you. Centuries of use tell us it's one of the best herbs known for toning and revitalizing the prostate! As its name suggests, Small Flowered Willow is a small but very powerful baby-pink-colored flower which is used particularly in Central Europe as a folk remedy to promote a healthy prostate and improve the health of the kidneys, bladder, and entire urinary tract. Until recently there had been no official studies to back the tall claims of these folk uses, but as science is shedding more light on the subject, this pretty little plant is becoming known throughout

the natural health world as God's "manna" for the prostate! It has been shown to be a safe and effective way to maintain a healthy and normal prostate (often being effective when nothing else seems to work), and can even help with associated problems such as: incontinence, sexual function, and urinary urgency. Small Flowered Willow causes absolutely **NO** side effects and is one of the most effective herbal remedies for maintaining prostate and urinary tract health.

Small Flowered Willow Scientific Studies:

- A German 3-year study found that taking 160 mg of Small Flowered Willow extract twice daily reduced nighttime urination in 73% of patients and improved urinary flow rate.
- In 1991, an article in the journal, *Plant Medicine*, confirmed Small Flowered Willow's anti-inflammatory effects, and noted that it was "ten times more effective" than another common commercially-available pain reliever.
- In a double-blind trial, 160 mg of Small Flowered Willow extract taken twice daily was shown to help maintain a healthy prostate size just as effectively as its chemical counterpart, but with absolutely **NO** side effects!



- A 2009 article from the journal, *Phytotherapy Research*, showed that Small Flowered Willow extract showed a protective effect against oxidative damage and possessed powerful anti-inflammatory properties.

Small Flowered Willow is not just for men!

While Small Flowered Willow is of great benefit to the prostate in men, it is also an invaluable tool for women who suffer from kidney, bladder, or urinary problems! Many women are affected by recurrent or persistent bladder and urinary issues, yet are unable to find relief. That is, until now!

Small Flowered Willow has recently shown to be a potent anti-microbial and anti-inflammatory agent that tones and protects the entire urogenital system (which includes all of the reproductive organs such as the prostate, along with the kidneys, ureters, bladder, and urethra). The active ingredients present in the Small Flowered Willow plant are not only good for the urogenital system, but also have a significant role to play in blood purification, lymphatic drainage, and boosting the body's immune response! A 2009 study from Montana State University, isolated a compound in Small Flowered Willow called Oenothein B, which is a tannin that activates immune response and can help explain why this herb is so helpful against unwanted bacteria in the urinary tract.



Thanks to Small Flowered Willow, many women are able to find relief from urinary problems that can cause discomfort, irritation, and pain. If that isn't enough, Small Flowered Willow also:

- ✓ Is renowned for its ability to support a healthy prostate without decreasing the libido or causing harmful side effects like many other prostate products may do.
- ✓ Is beneficial to the entire urinary system, including the kidneys and the bladder.
- ✓ Has the added benefit of being a natural analgesic, or pain reliever, that can help with a variety of urinary tract pains.
- ✓ Contains natural anti-microbial and anti-bacterial properties that help strengthen the immune system and protect the urinary tract and prostate from unhealthy would-be invaders!
- ✓ Has been used for centuries to help relieve discomforts such as pain when urinating, difficulty urinating, and inability to fully empty the bladder.

At Hope for Health we strive to give you a number of options for your health needs. This next product can be combined with Small Flowered Willow Herb or taken alone.

Saw Palmetto has been used for centuries to ease urinary problems in

men, which may be rooted in bladder and prostate disorders, including frequent urination, painful urination, the sudden urge to urinate, and inability to urinate. It can also help decrease the need to urinate during the night, increase urine flow, and make it easier to empty the bladder completely.

Benefits Include:

- Supporting prostate health
- Gaining “healthy” weight
- Improving digestion
- Promoting hair growth/regrowth (both men & women)
- Increasing strength/stamina
- Supporting normal hormone levels (both men & women)
- Improving fertility
- Reducing sexual dysfunction

According to American Family Physician, There are no known drug interactions with Saw Palmetto, and reported side effects are minor and rare.

Saw Palmetto is widely used in other countries; for example, it is used in 50 percent of patients in Italy for prostate support and in 90 percent of such patients in Germany. A major benefit of Saw Palmetto is that its effects are generally seen shortly after taking this supplement. Some people report improved prostate health in as little as 30 days! This is an advantage



over some products, which can take as long as 6 to 12 months for effects to be noticed.

Unlike some products for prostate problems, Saw Palmetto has been proven effective, yet without side effects such as: decreased libido, ejaculatory problems, and loss of erection. Another benefit of Hope for Health's Saw Palmetto is that it may strengthen the urinary organs and has been recommended for kidney stones.

If you suffer from hair loss, you will be excited to learn another advantage to taking Saw Palmetto. Saw Palmetto is beneficial for any adult who has thinning or receding hair – yes, both men and women! Hair loss often develops as a result of a hormone imbalance when the level of DHT in the scalp is too high. DHT binds itself to the hair follicles, decreasing the amount of nutrients they can extract from blood. The follicles gradually shrink and the hair growing from them becomes thinner. If nothing is done, the hair disappears completely. For hair loss not to occur, the level of DHT in the body must be decreased.

There are synthetic products designed to inhibit DHT, which block conversion of free testosterone into DHT. But being synthetic, these products often have serious side effects, such as abnormal breast enlargement in males and even erectile dysfunction. Saw Palmetto,

on the other hand, naturally inhibits DHT without causing side effects such as those associated with other products. For healthy hair growth, try Saw Palmetto today!

Here is a Testimonial from a satisfied customer:

"I was having a problem with thinning hair and went through a myriad of testing and found that everything was "normal". Finally someone told me about Saw Palmetto. I was skeptical at first because I had always thought of Saw Palmetto as a "man's" herb. But I tried it and I was really surprised by the results. My hair is starting to grow back normally and I am so happy. I am not sure what was making it fall out but I am sure happy that it is coming back in, thanks to Saw Palmetto!" - A.K

And even more prostate help...

After a certain age, prostate issues or other health problems can lead to sexual issues and lack of energy and stamina. Hope for Health has a wonderful natural remedy, **Maca**, that has been proven to help with all manner of hormone-related problems. Maca works on both the male and female body in accordance with their individual needs.

Maca is a member of the brassica family, which includes broccoli,



cauliflower, and the radish. Maca has been safely used for thousands of years as a food and health-aid to promote endurance and improve energy, vitality, sexual virility and fertility! Maca root grows in the intense sun, wind, and cold of the barren highlands of the mountains of Peru at altitudes as high as 7,000 to 11,000 feet, making it the highest altitude growing plant in the world! According to a study on Maca produced by The International Plant Genetic Resources Initiative, Maca was probably first domesticated in Junin region of Peru between 1300 and 2000 years ago. Maca has been widely cultivated, especially in the 16th and 17th centuries, and was even used as a tax payment to Spanish administrators. It is known as "Peruvian ginseng" (despite the fact that it is not a member of the ginseng family), because of its keen ability to increase stamina, energy, and sexual function!

How does Maca work?

An in-depth analysis of Maca conducted in 1998 by Dr. Qun Yi Zheng showed that Maca contains two groups of particularly interesting compounds, the Macamides and the

Macaenes. These agents are believed to be directly responsible for Maca's libido-boosting powers. To test this idea, researchers conducted a series of controlled animal experiments, the results of which were published in the April, 2000 issue of the medical journal, *Urology*.

Rodents fed Maca extract, which contains a concentration of Macamides and Macaenes, demonstrated greatly increased energy and stamina. The animals also exhibited a striking increase in sexual activity as compared with non-Maca-fed animals, or those fed lesser amounts of Macamides and Macaenes. This same effect has been shown in humans as well!

As we noted, Maca is not just for men. It may help ease anxiety and emotional instability in postmenopausal women, according to a 2008 study from the journal, *Menopause*. For the study, 14 postmenopausal women took 3.5 grams of powdered Maca for six weeks and then took a matching placebo for another six weeks. Study results showed that Maca helped reduce both anxiety and mood problems, as well as improve sexual function.

Maca has long been valued for its ability to enhance fertility in both humans and animals. While it is a member of the brassica family,



or crucifers, it contains far greater amounts of glucosinolates than other members. The fertility-enhancing properties of Maca may be related to these glucosinolates.

Some studies have actually shown that Maca can increase sperm production in men by up to 40%! A four-month study of healthy men aged 24-44 was done to study the effect of Maca on sperm production and motility. Subjects received either 1,500 or 3,000 mg of Maca per day. After four months, semen volume, total sperm count, motile sperm count and sperm motility were significantly increased.

Unlike other chemical products designed to aid libido, Maca does not alter circulation. Its amazing libido-boosting ability is a result of completely natural hormonal balancing. It is a safe and natural product that will boost your libido, increase endurance, and produce a general sense of well-being! In a 2008 study from CNS Neuroscience & Therapeutics, researchers found that 1.5 - 3 grams of Maca daily significantly improved libido, enhanced the feeling of sexual well-being, and even alleviated medication-induced sexual



dysfunction. The study involved 20 people, all of whom were experiencing drug-induced sexual dysfunction. This is particularly interesting, considering the number of drugs today that can cause this problem! Athletes around the world are beginning to notice and enjoy the amazing benefits of Maca. It is an amazing source of energy! Maca is able to do this by supporting and helping to restore the adrenal glands, which produce adrenaline. In fact, recently Maca has been used as an excellent alternative to anabolic steroids among athletes seeking muscle growth. Unlike many other energy and muscle-boosting substances, such as anabolic steroids, Maca contains no chemicals that interfere with, or over-activate, normal endocrine function. So, if you are looking for a healthy and nutritional product to boost your energy and improve endurance, Maca is definitely for you!

Change your lifestyle, change your health!

We have covered some of the health issues unique to men in this presentation; however, men also need to be aware of other health concerns. Your heart health is extremely important; keeping your blood pressure balanced and your cholesterol levels in a healthy range is essential. You will also want to be sure that your blood

sugar levels are not too high or too low. Unbalanced blood sugar levels can lead to a number of serious health problems.

As we noted earlier in the presentation, lifestyle changes will make a huge difference and as you make the transition to a healthier you, Hope for Health has a number of herbal supplements that can help!

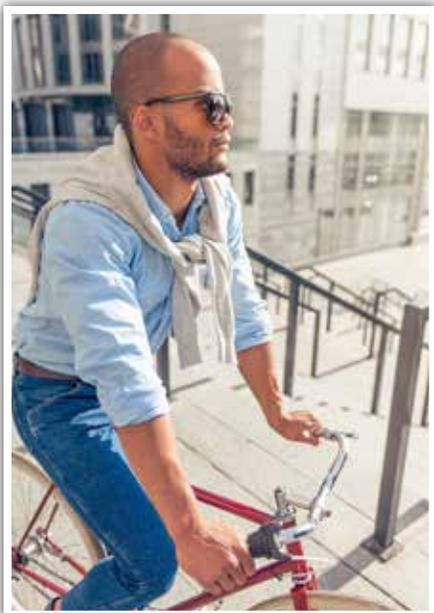
At Hope for Health we are concerned about your total health: physical, mental and spiritual. We spend many hours being sure that we have the absolute best, the absolutely most pure, and absolute vegan products we can find!

Remember, any effort made toward better health – even the smallest – is a step in the right direction. We are here to cheer you on! You can do it! If you are still breathing, there is still hope!

Dr. Kaye Olson and all of the Hope for Health staff are ready and willing to answer any product or health questions you may have. We are also happy to consult with you regarding your diet and lifestyle changes that we know you are inspired to make! Please call 828-649-0278.

If you wish to order or would like a free copy of our informative catalog that includes all the products mentioned in this presentation, as well as all of our Hope for Health products, please call 1-800-468-7884.

Thank you for considering this information and may God bless your efforts at better health!





THE TRUTH *About Angels*

Angels From Sinai to the Taking of Jericho – Part 1

By Ellen G. White

Angels in Israel's wilderness wanderings

Christ was the angel appointed of God to go before Moses in the wilderness, conducting the Israelites in their travels to the land of Canaan.

In all the way of God's leading, they [the Israelites] had found water to refresh the thirsty, bread from heaven to satisfy their hunger, and peace and safety under the shadowy cloud by day and the fiery pillar by night. Angels were ministering to them as they climbed the rocky heights, or threaded the rugged paths of the wilderness.

God manifested His great care and love for His people in sending them bread from heaven. "Man did eat angels' food": that is, food provided for them by the angels.

Israel at Sinai

And now before them in solemn majesty Mount Sinai lifted its massive front. The cloudy pillar rested upon its summit, and the people spread their tents upon the plain beneath. Here was to be their home for nearly a year. At night the pillar of fire assured them of the divine protection, and while they were locked in slumber, the bread of heaven fell gently upon the encampment. . . .

Soon after the encampment at Sinai, Moses was called up into the mountain to meet with God. Alone he climbed the steep and rugged path, and drew near to the cloud that marked the place of Jehovah's presence. Israel was now to be taken into a close and peculiar relation to the Most High. . . .

Speaking out of the thick darkness that enshrouded Him,

as He stood upon the mount, surrounded by a retinue of angels, the Lord made known His law. . . . Arrangements were now to be made for the full establishment of the chosen nation under Jehovah as their king.

"Let them make me a sanctuary"

During his stay in the mount, Moses received directions for the building of a sanctuary in which the divine presence would be specially manifested. "Let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them," was the command of God.

The building [tabernacle] was divided into two apartments by a rich and beautiful curtain, or veil, suspended from gold-plated pillars; and a similar veil closed the entrance of the first apartment. These, like the inner covering, which formed the ceiling, were of the most gorgeous colors, blue, purple, and scarlet, beautifully arranged, while inwrought with threads of gold and silver were cherubim to represent the angelic host who are connected with the work of the heavenly sanctuary, and who are ministering spirits to the people of God on earth.

After the building of the tabernacle was completed, Moses examined all the work, and compared it with the pattern, and directions he had received of God, and he saw that every part of it agreed with the pattern; and he blessed the people. God gave a pattern of the ark to Moses, with special directions how to make it. The ark was made to contain the tables of stone, on which God engraved, with





His own finger, the ten commandments. It was in form like a chest, and was overlaid and inlaid with pure gold. It was ornamented with crowns of gold round about the top.

The cover of this sacred chest was the mercy-seat, made of solid gold. On each end of the mercy-seat was fixed a cherub of pure, solid gold. Their faces were turned toward each other, and were looking reverentially downward toward the mercy-seat, which represents all the heavenly angels looking with interest and reverence to the law of God deposited in the ark in the heavenly sanctuary. These cherubs had wings. One wing of each angel was stretched forth on high, while the other wing of each angel covered their forms.

Satan was busy at Sinai exciting doubt, apostasy, and rebellion

The ark of the earthly sanctuary was the pattern of the true ark in heaven. There, beside the heavenly ark, stand living angels, at either end of the ark, each with one wing overshadowing the mercy-seat, and stretching forth on high, while the other wings are folded over their forms in token of reverence and humility.

Above the mercy-seat was the shekinah, the manifestation of the divine presence; and from between the cherubim, God made known His will. Divine messages were sometimes communicated to the high priest by a voice from the cloud.

When the Lord did not answer by a voice, He let the sacred beams of light and glory rest upon the cherubim upon the right of the ark, in approbation, or favor. If their requests were refused, a cloud rested upon the cherubim at the left.

Through Christ was to be fulfilled the purpose of which the tabernacle was a symbol—that glorious building, its walls of glistening gold reflecting in rainbow hues the curtains inwrought with cherubim, the fragrance of ever-burning incense pervading all, the priests robed in spotless white, and in the deep mystery of the inner place, above the mercy-seat, between the figures of the bowed, worshiping angels, the glory of the Holiest. In all, God desired His people to read His purpose for the human soul. It was the

same purpose long afterward set forth by the apostle Paul, speaking by the Holy Spirit:

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”

At the very foot of Sinai, Satan began to execute his plans for overthrowing the law of God, thus carrying forward the same work he had begun in heaven. During the forty days while Moses was in the mount with God, Satan was busy, exciting doubt, apostasy, and rebellion. While God was writing down His law, to be committed to His covenant people, the Israelites, denying their loyalty to Jehovah, were demanding gods of gold! . . .

The whole universe had been witness to the scenes at Sinai. In the working out of the two administrations was seen the contrast between the government of God and that of Satan. Again the sinless inhabitants of other worlds beheld the results of Satan’s apostasy, and the kind of government he would have established in heaven, had he been permitted to bear sway.

Can we marvel that the “excellent glory” reflected from Omnipotence shone in Moses’ face with such brightness that the people could not look upon it? The impress of God was upon him, making him appear as one of the shining angels from the throne.

Throughout their journeyings, as they [the Israelites] complained of the difficulties in the way, and murmured against their leaders, Moses had told them, “Your murmurings are against God. It is not I, but God, who has wrought in your deliverance.” But his hasty words before the rock, “Shall we bring water?” were a virtual admission of their charge. . . . The Lord would remove this impression forever from their minds, by forbidding Moses to enter the Promised Land. Here was unmistakable evidence that their leader was not Moses, but the mighty Angel of whom the Lord had said, “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; . . . for my name is in him.”

The death and resurrection of Moses

Moses turned from the congregation, and in silence and alone made his way up the mountainside. . . . Upon that lonely height he stood, and gazed with undimmed eye upon the scene spread out before him.

It was not the will of God that anyone should go up with Moses to the top of Pisgah. There he stood, upon a high prominence upon Pisgah's top, in the presence of God and heavenly angels.

The angels also revealed to Moses that although he mourned because he had sinned and could not enter the Promised Land, and although he felt that he had caused the children of Israel to sin, yet it was their own sin, their murmuring and complaining spirit, that had led him to deviate from the right and commit a sin that kept him out of the Promised Land. The angels told him that he was not the greatest sufferer, that he did not feel in his heart the fullest depth of their sin, but that Christ, their invisible leader, was the one against whom they had transgressed. . . .

The heavenly messengers also referred to the sacrificial offerings typifying the crucifixion of Christ, and opened before Moses' mind the events that should take place in the future. . . . When the view of the crucifixion was presented before Moses, what a scene there must have been on Pisgah's summit! . . . He viewed the panoramic scenes passing before him in which he saw the sufferings of the Angel who had led the Israelites through the wilderness, guiding them in their wandering journey from Egypt to Canaan. . . . When he beheld the Saviour's ascension and saw that he himself would be one of those who should attend the Saviour and open to Him the everlasting gates, what a change took place in the expression on his face! . . .

He saw the earth purified by fire and cleansed from every vestige of sin, every mark of the curse, and renovated and given to the saints to possess forever and ever. . . . As Moses beheld this scene, joy and triumph were expressed in his countenance. He could understand the force of all the angels revealed to him. He took in the whole scene as it was

presented before him.

Moses lay down to rest

After he had viewed Canaan to his satisfaction, he lay down like a tired warrior, to rest. Sleep came upon him, but it was the sleep of death. Angels took his body and buried it in the valley. The Israelites could never find the place where he was buried. . . .

Satan exulted that he had succeeded in causing Moses to sin against God. For this transgression, Moses came under the dominion of death. If he had continued faithful, and his life had not been marred with that one transgression, in failing to give to God the glory of bringing water from the rock, he would have entered the Promised Land, and would have been translated to heaven without seeing death. Michael, or Christ, with the angels that buried Moses, came down from heaven, after he had remained in the grave a short time, and resurrected him.

The power of the grave had never been broken, and all who were in the tomb he [Satan] claimed as his captives, never to be released from his dark prison-house.

For the first time, Christ was about to give life to the dead. As the Prince of life and the shining ones approached the grave, Satan was alarmed for his supremacy. With his evil angels he stood to dispute an invasion of the territory that he claimed as his own.

As Christ and the angels approached the grave, Satan and his angels appeared at the grave, and were guarding the body of Moses, lest it should be removed. As Christ and His angels drew nigh, Satan resisted their approach, but was compelled, by the glory and power of Christ and His angels to fall back. Satan claimed the body of Moses, because of his one transgression; but Christ meekly referred him to His Father, saying, "The Lord rebuke thee." Christ told Satan that He knew that Moses had humbly repented of this one wrong, and no stain rested upon his character, and his name in the heavenly book of records stood untarnished. Then Christ resurrected the body of Moses.





Hope for Health

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Just one tablespoon of Living Green Energy is equivalent to eating 2 pounds of nutritious vegetables!

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- Iodine (from Kelp) - Helps to increase energy levels. Improves liver function and boosts the immune system.
- Magnesium - Aids the body's absorption of calcium.
- Zinc - Helps strengthen the immune system and improves your white blood cell count.
- Lecithin (fine powder) - Helps boost energy, physical performance, and cardiovascular health. Also aides in the improvement of diabetes.
- Spirulina (Hawaiian organic) - Helps rebuild healthy intestinal flora.
- Alfalfa Juice - Helps relieve fluid retention, swelling, and arthritis. Also cleanses and purifies the blood.
- Wheat Grass Powder (organic) - Purifies the liver, improves blood sugar levels in the body, and keeps hair from turning gray.
- Plant Based Enzymes - Helps build cells, tissues, and organs.
- Alpha Lipoic Acid - Helps to slow the aging of the brain. Very powerful antioxidant.
- Barley Grass Powder (organic) - Contains enzymes that provide potent antioxidant effects and energy for cells.
- Carrot Powder - Helps maintain healthy skin, teeth, bones, and eyes. Improves liver and immune function.
- Barley Malt Powder - Contains enzymes which help provide natural, sustainable energy for the body.
- Broccoli Powder - Helps block cancer cells before they become deadly.
- Brown Rice Bran - Helps reduce cholesterol and boosts mood.
- Apple Fiber - Aids digestion and is an effective detoxifier.
- Apple Pectin - Helpful in maintaining good digestive health.
- Oat Bran - Prevents heart disease and diabetes.
- Chlorella Powder - Nourishes and detoxifies the blood. It also greatly improves mental function.
- Red Beet Powder - Cleanses the kidneys and promotes regeneration of liver cells.
- Panax Ginseng Root Powder - Lowers blood sugar & cholesterol levels.
- Eleuthero (root) - Has immune-enhancing & anti-inflammatory properties.
- Peppermint Powder - Helps relieve gas and boosts the flow of bile.
- Royal Jelly Powder - Provides essential amino acids.
- Fructooligosaccharides - Enhances the performance of beneficial bacteria.
- Trace Mineral Concentrate - Helps boost stamina and energy.
- Milk Thistle Extract - Protects the liver from damage caused by viruses and toxins.
- Kelp Powder - Helps those with under-active thyroids (hypothyroidism).
- Ginkgo Biloba Extract - Helps maintain the normal function and tone of blood vessels.
- Grapeseed Extract - Helps prevent the formation of plaque in the arteries.
- Bilberry Extract - Helps build strong capillaries and improves circulation throughout the entire body.
- Coenzyme Q-10 - Helps to fight heart disease and increase energy level.
- Stevia Extract (leaves) - Natural sweetener. Has no calories and does not affect blood sugar like many other natural sweeteners.

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RECESSION FORECAST

What does Pokémon Go mean for the next generation of iPhones

When you find a Pokémon, the game shows the creature superimposed on your actual surroundings. Move your phone around, and the animated image moves too, making it appear as though the Pokémon is located in the real world.

This technology of blending the physical world with virtual objects is known as augmented reality, and it's destined to become a huge deal over the next decade. But before it can do that, the technology has to get better. That's partly about better software, but augmented reality won't really come into its own until companies like Apple and Samsung create better hardware for seamlessly merging the real and virtual worlds.



From kami to Caterpie: Pokémon's mythological origin story



Pokémon owes much of its conception to creator Satoshi Tajiri's childhood love of bug collecting, but the mythology and animist religious history of Japan also provided rich inspiration.

Shintoism, Japan's oldest religion, teaches that the world is inhabited by thousands of kami, or gods. When made offerings of food and incense, kami bestow good luck in business, studies and health, but when disrespected, they can turn vindictive.

In many cases, the parallels are clear: the water/ground Pokémon Whiscash bears a strong resemblance to namazu, a catfish who causes earthquakes in Japanese mythology; meanwhile, grass/dark Pokémon Shiftry is clearly a tengu or goblin.

End Time Perspective: "Many place themselves on the enchanted ground by frequenting scenes of amusement where fallen spirits congregate. ... Wherever an influence is exerted to cause men to forget their Creator, there Satan is at work, it matters not how innocent the guise under which he conceals his purpose. Many who cannot be attracted by the allurements of pleasure, are ensnared by the teachings of "science falsely so-called." These are led to extol human reason, above divine revelation; to exalt nature, and forget the God of nature. Is there no magic, no sorcery, going on around us? ST, May 18, 1882 par. 23,24.

1 Tim. 4:1 "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;" "Paul, in his second letter to the Thessalonians, points to the special working of Satan in spiritualism as an event to take place immediately before the second advent of Christ." PP 687.

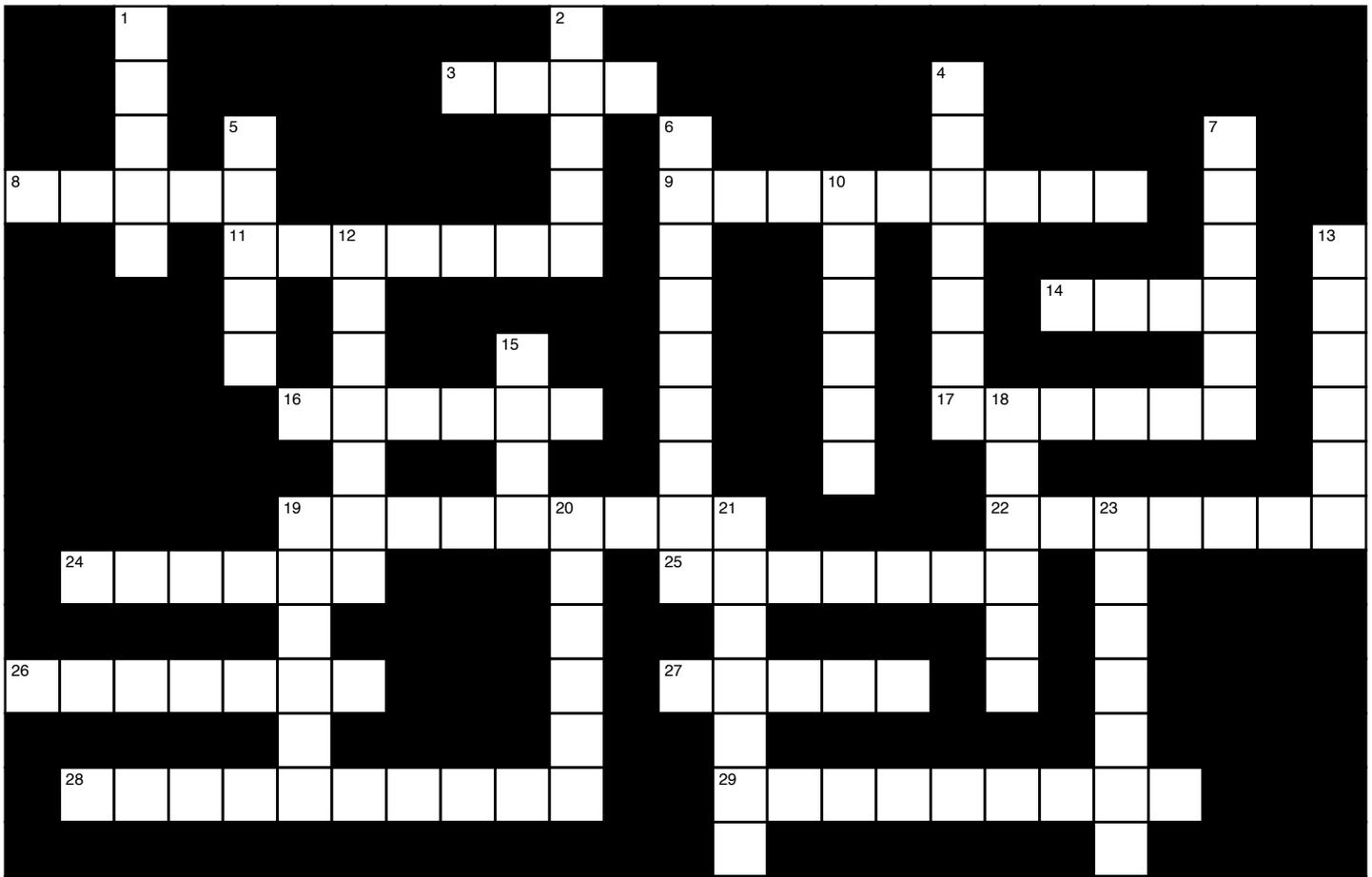
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Christian Crossword



ACROSS

3. Probably the first Gospel to be written
8. The Queen of _____ visits Solomon
9. The husband of Naomi
11. Steward over Ahab's household who saved 100 prophets of God
14. Elimelech took his family to _____, 50 miles from the dead sea
16. Jacob's favorite wife
17. The Hittite from whom Abraham bought the cave of Machipelah
19. Ruler of the synagogue at Corinth
22. Prince who raped Jacob's daughter Dina
24. A race of "Goliaths"
25. One of Daniels three companions in exile at Babylon
26. The angel sent to interpret Daniel's vision
27. He met Jesus first of all through his brother
28. The five beginning books of the Bible are called the _____.
29. Ephesian Christian who went with Paul to Jerusalem

DOWN

1. Who chose to conquer the territory of the people in number six?
2. The name of the husband of Bathsheba
4. A Roman province under Herod's jurisdiction
5. The mother-in-law of Ruth
6. Nebuchadnezzar destroyed _____ in 587 BC
7. The eldest of Jacob's 12 sons who tried to save Joseph
10. The elder sister of Moses and Aaron
12. He took over his father, David's, harem

13. The rebellion of Korah, Dathan and _____
15. Son of Adam and Eve born after Abel's death
18. Priest who put Jeremiah in the stocks
19. Cananite army commander killed by Jael
20. One of Israel's greatest prophets contemporary with Ahab
21. How many were in Jacob's household on entry to Egypt?
23. Paul's assistant: sent to Macedonia with Timothy

Answers from Christian Crossword published in the July 2016 issue of Our Firm Foundation

